



# point of view

BY BILL NIXON

Editor's note: Nixon, an Edenton native, is vice-president of Parker Brothers Newspapers of Aboskie. His column appears weekly in a number of that group's publications.

Before this week ends, we will be entering a new year. All that was 1982 will be left behind, with only memories to remind us of what was.

Like all years before, there are lessons to be learned from the experiences of the past year. To dwell on the successes or defeats of '82 is meaningless. It's time to set our sights on the year ahead.

Most people have their own hopes and dreams for the coming months. My personal hopes are no different. There is much I hope to achieve and there is much I hope will be achieved.

I'm looking to 1983 as a year of turn-about for our nation. I'm looking for unemployment to drop, but not because of 'make-work' programs that only burden the economy further. I'm hoping to see an improvement in the productivity of those persons elected to serve the people, but not because of revelations such as Watergate. I'm looking for values to improve in our churches, our schools, our homes, not because of rule or government regulation, but because that's the way it should be. World peace is a sincere

hope for 1983, but not the kind we've become accustomed to. True peace is all people of all nations living in freedom, living their lives without fear. I'm hoping for a peace brought about by the belief that war will destroy civilization as we know it, not a peace that exists only because one nation may be stronger than another. I will accept peace borne of strength if that is the only way we can have it.

I'm looking for an '83 that will cause us to be kind to our fellow men and for all men to show concern for this earth we live on. Nothing is forever, including this earth we share with all creatures.

While I will be thinking about the year ahead, I'll also remember the years past. I am especially concerned about the future of our political leadership. Have you ever thought about the ill fate of our political leaders over the past two decades?

The charismatic young President, John Kennedy, was felled by an assassin's bullet in the prime of his life. The true details of what really happened that November day are still clouded, and the wounds inflicted on our nation then have still not healed.

Lyndon Johnson, one of the most indomitable per-

sonalities ever to become President, was driven out of the White House, a beaten, whipped man, whose life was to last only a few short months after leaving office. The Nixon years, which I so well remember, produced unprecedented triumph, only to be followed by tragedy. The very future of our nation's political stability was at stake.

Gerald Ford, so well respected as a member of Congress was defeated in his first try for election on his own.

Then came a straight man from Plains, Georgia, full of fresh hope and promise. He too, left office, rejected after a single term, his record and personality discredited.

And now, Ronald Reagan, after serving only half a term, seems to be on a course not unlike his predecessors.

Can we really wonder what happened to all the great men? It is almost as if we elect men so we can enjoy watching them fall.

If you think there are no heroes left in America, you're wrong.

Central Park was dark, and Linda Down's hands were sore when she came wheezing across the finish line, 11 hours, 54 seconds after she began the New York City Marathon. She had spent nearly a half day running and logged the slowest time in any New York marathon, finishing last in a field of 13,528.

When officials were alerted that Down was still running after all other entrants had finished, they stayed in Central Park to hold the ribbon at the finish line. She was later invited to the White House where she was congratulated by President Reagan.

What was so great about this feat? Linda Down, a 25 year old resident of New York, has cerebral palsy and ran the 26 mile, 385 yard race on crutches.

Linda has the type of courage we all need in 1983.

## Conference On Communication Skills Set

RALEIGH—A conference on improving communication skills among students in kindergarten through 12 will be held Thursday and Friday, Feb. 10-11, in Raleigh at the Howard Johnson's at Crabtree Valley.

The two-day conference for school teachers and ad-

ministrators is sponsored by Western Carolina University's Reading Center and division of continuing education.

Entitled "Listening, Writing and Reading: Communication in Action," the

conference will cover such topics as communication through spelling and writing,

dealing with classroom crisis, using computers to teach basic skills, strategies to stimulate reluctant readers and enhancing students' self concepts.

The faculty includes 12 members of WCU's department of elementary education and reading; Jean Blackmon,

coordinator of Principal's Institute for the State Department of Public Instruction; and Milton Sills, a principal in Aberdeen.

Dr. Gurney Chambers, dean of WCU's school of Education and Psychology, will give the dinner speech Thursday evening on "You Can Be A Great Teacher If..." The Friday luncheon speaker

is Patricia McKissack, children's book editor for Concordia Publishing House in St. Louis, Mo. She will discuss "Reading and Writing: Passport to Freedom."

The conference will begin with registration at 12:30 P.M. Thursday and end at 2 P.M. Friday. There will be a banquet Thursday evening and a luncheon at 12:30 P.M. on Friday for all participants.

The conference costs \$49, which includes registration, the banquet and luncheon, refreshments, take-home materials and one unit of Continuing Education Credit. Participants must make their own room reservations.

Registration and fees are due no later than Feb. 2 through the Division of Continuing Education, Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, N.C. 28723, telephone (704) 227-7397.

## Pasquotank Arts Council Planning Variety Show

Plans are underway for a variety show sponsored by the Pasquotank Arts Council.

The show will feature area dancers, singers, actors, and a blue grass group.

Soloists who will appear in the program include Majalene Thomas, Nancy Ferebee, Frances Gaither, Bill Thorn, Roy Askew, Holly Wright, Cliff Harris, Judy Venters, Alice Sue Rousseau, Donna Seymour, and Terry

Owens.

Among the drama groups will be Northeastern High School Drama Club, Currituck High School Drama Club, and the Albemarle Players.

The instrumental part of the performance will feature Blackwell Memorial Baptist Handbell Choir and Jay Harris' Blue Grass Band.

Gene Bittle will lead the dancers of the show with the

lively interpretation of "If My Friends Could See Me Now" and "Fame".

A spirited male chorus line from the Kiwanis Club will provide the comic relief. Phil Donahue is chief dancer.

The "Center Stage Singers" will provide harmony with their rendition of "The Entertainer" and "Morning Has Broken". Additional close harmony will be an added attraction—Jay Harris, Cliff

Harris, Radcliff Reel, and Heywood Houtz who will render several "Barbershop Quartet" numbers.

The production is slated for January 21st, 8:00 at the Sheep Auditorium.

Proceeds from the event will go toward the building fund.

The show is under the direction of Roy Askew.

## The Weyerhaeuser Highlights

Medical Records Update The Plymouth fiber group is in the process of updating health and medical records for its more than 1900 hourly and salaried employees, according to safety director M.M. (Mac) Holliday, who is coordinating the project.

The end result of the survey presently underway will be a complete health and medical profile on each worker; allergies to medicines and other substances, past illness and injuries, and medicines which the employees are required to take or might have taken in the past by prescription.

"Participation in this whole thing is voluntary", Holliday said, adding, "and we've talked to very few people who didn't jump at the chance to get involved. We all understand that the information will be important both on the job and off if medical attention—including emergency situations—is ever required."

In the first phase, company nurse Pat Brabble, RN, and safety secretary Louise Spiewak, are gathering all the data in interviews with the employees. This work is scheduled for completion at the end of March 1983. The data will then be compiled and filed and a card with all the pertinent medical data given to the employee.

"The information on that card and in our file could be a lifesaver," Holliday said. In case of an accident here or away from work, the amount and dependability of health information available can make a difference. That's particularly true if the person's unconscious."

According to Holliday, the health information to be made available to employees and the company health and safety group is the same kind of data used on Medic-Alert bracelets.

Eleven true veterans of the pulp and paper game gathered with current employees at Plymouth on December 20 to share a good meal and stories of the old and the new. The eleven former managers have a total of 415 years service to Weyerhaeuser among them, according to Bill Redd, paperboard production manager, who acted as host.

The paperboard group holds an annual Christmas get-together and each year invites retired salaried folks to join them. This year's guests included one 46-year veteran, three with 44-years, one with 43-years, one with 42-years, one with 41-years and one each at 35-years, 29-years, 27 and 20-years.

The Magnificent Eleven and the jobs they held at Weyerhaeuser are: Russell Owens, mill manager; Dennis Modlin, tech department; Stewart Saunders, NC-2 superintendent; Jennings O'Dell, stock prep foreman; Charlie Windom, machine room foreman; Howard Daniel, technical director and production manager; Gene Basnight, stock prep foreman; Roy Ragland, finishing and sales service; Roscoe Frymier, shipping

superintendent; Charlie Painter, NC-1 superintendent; and Arden Holbrook, area master mechanic.

"If you couldn't run a pulp and paper operation with these guys, then you just couldn't run a pulp and paper operation", Redd said.

Ab T. Windley of Pinetown, who joined Weyerhaeuser Company in August of 1969 will retire at the end of January 1983. Windley is employed in the Resources Group (formerly called Land and Timber).

## Gets Trauma Unit Designation

WINSTON-SALEM—North Carolina Baptist Hospital has been designated a level one trauma center by the North Carolina Department of Human Resources.

The designation recognizes that the hospital meets the level one requirements established by the American College of Surgeons.

Dr. Frederick W. Glass, director of the hospital's emergency department, said that trauma centers offer all of the major services needed in the treatment of patients with severe injuries 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Medical centers, such as the Bowman Gray/Baptist Hospital Medical Center, have trauma teams on hand

at all times through their many house officer training programs.

In order to receive the level one designation, Baptist Hospital was surveyed by a team which looked at all aspects of the trauma team as well as the physical facilities. The survey team also placed considerable importance on the cooperation which is needed between the various people who make up a successful trauma team.



The nearest relative to the hippopotamus is the common pig.

**Notice**

The Chowan County Tax Department will be closed for Christmas and New Year Holidays the following dates: December 24th thru 27th and December 31st. Penalty on unpaid 1982 taxes will begin on January 6, 1983. Dallas L. Jethro, Jr. Tax Supervisor-Chowan County

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