

Public Parade

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long-time faculty member who is widely known for public service activities in Eastern North Carolina. The new director is also well known for her widespread activities within the Democratic party.

But her appointment (with such a strong political background) should come as no surprise. She is just following suit.

The Regional Development Institute serves 32 Eastern North Carolina counties. It was founded by Tom Willis, who just a matter of months before retirement status was dismissed by a chancellor who would have fared better—and probably still been at ECU—had he known something about politics.

Tim Brinn of neighboring Perquimans County held forth from the time Tom Willis left until he himself retired January 31. And Tim is known to have a certain amount of knowledge of politics.

We wish Mrs. Faulkner the best as she leads the Regional Development Institute in its mission of economic development, assistance in community projects and betterment of quality of life in Eastern North Carolina. She and Bob Scott will make a good team as the newest politicians in education.

Education Deteriorating

In spite of all the highfalutin words that educators love to use, studies continue to show that American children are not getting as good an education as they used to.

For example: at Columbia University, 8 out of 10 college freshmen failed to pass a test that, 50 years ago, children had to pass to graduate from elementary school!

Only 20 per cent of the students passed the arithmetic portion of the test, with questions like this: "If one eraser costs five cents, how much will six erasers cost?"

Can you imagine a college student not knowing that the answer is 30 cents?

Here's another example. Comparing 1982 with 1972, the number of students scoring 650 or above on the verbal S.A.T. test has dropped 45 per cent in 10 years! You heard right: 45 per cent fewer students scored 650 or more in 1982 than in 1972.

Such studies show again that it is high time educators cut out the irrelevant trivialities that now plague public schools and get back to teaching our children reading, writing and arithmetic.

Felton's Apartment Destroyed As Village Green Explodes

John Felton of Edenton found himself in a race for his life when the roof of his Village Green Apartment caved in. The explosion which took place March 2nd at 5:45 A.M., pinned several people under the debris for as long as an hour and a half, but John Felton was among the lucky residents who were able to escape the falling debris.

Village Green Apartments, located near East Carolina University, was home for many of the students who attend it.

The blast is believed to have originated in the laundry room when one of the dryers began to leak propane gas and was probably set off by a pilot light of another dryer. A flash fire followed but it had been extinguished by the force of the explosion before fire fighters arrived. Ten of the 61 apartments were totally demolished, including



THE MAGIC OF COURTESY—Dr. Bill Spooner is shown here performing his magic before the 42 "Touch of Magic" award winners along with the students of John A. Holmes High School. An unnamed skeptic is keeping a close eye on him from the shadows.

The Magic Touch Award Winners Announced By The Local Schools

A goal of the Edenton-Chowan Board of Education is students will develop and demonstrate respect for self, school, community, nation and world. Thanks to the enthusiasm of employees in the school system, we have spread courtesy in epidemic proportions throughout our school and community. Posters, contests, signs and a variety of special activities to promote our theme have made Edenton-Chowan Schools the most courteous school system in North Carolina.

We believe that courtesy, respect and manners can be fun and can promote magical effects in our relationship with others. To continue our ongoing "Courtesy is Contagious" program, a special curriculum guide, "The Magic of Courtesy" was written for students. It is intended to stimulate thinking and encouraging creativity toward reaching classroom goals. Important among the outcomes to be achieved are strong moral character, a disciplined approach to the varied responsibilities of life, and thoughtful consideration for the welfare and rights of others.

"The Magic of Courtesy" guide was developed by Edenton-Chowan teachers to enhance the system's "Courtesy is Contagious" theme. A variety of activities appropriate for K-12 students comprise the curriculum component. The guide is

divided into activities for K-6, Junior High, and High School students. An effort has been made to design activities to meet the objectives of the "Courtesy is Contagious" theme, while augmenting the development of skills and concepts in language, math, social studies and the visual arts.

"The Magic of Courtesy" Guide contains sharing the magic of courtesy at home, sharing the magic of courtesy at school, and sharing the magic of courtesy in the community. Sharing the magic of courtesy at home includes sharing responsibilities, developing good habits, assuming responsibilities, and special times with the family. Sharing the magic of courtesy at school includes recognizing good behavior, positive interaction with peers, recognizing services of school staff, establishing rules for the cafeteria, assisting the cafeteria staff, sharing responsibilities for maintaining a orderly classroom, and activities for developing a school-wide clean-up campaign. Sharing the magic of courtesy in the community includes special concerns of senior citizens, recognizing community helpers for their services, and recognizing the value of cultural differences in creating a vital community.

The Magic Touch Award was developed for the English classes of John A. Holmes High School and the Edenton-Chowan Alternative School. The Magic Touch Award is presented to those adults who demonstrate the qualities of caring, honesty, courage and service to others.

From the over 700 nominees, the following Magic Touch Award winners were announced:

John A. Holmes High School gave awards to:

Sandra Phillips, Beatrice Leary, Jay Swicegood, Dorothy Gibbs, Emma Mizelle, Mrs. Jerry Holmes, Mary Raynor, Jack Coffield, Susan Birkhead, Ruth Bass, George Matthews, Rev. S.N. Griffith, Norman Nelson, Janice Taylor, Leora Brown, Ms. Cindy Shealy, Mrs. Margaret Holley, Mrs. Ethel Johnson, Ms. Vivian Drawdy, Mrs. Barbara Leary, Mrs. Mary Walton, Mrs. Edith Taylor, Mrs. Charlotte Skinner, Dennis Evans, Butch Groff, Janice Rollins, Glorius Elliott, Gloria Serwin, Caroline Banks, William Elliott III, Dr. Martin Luther King, William Garrett, Sr., Mrs. Mattie Privott, Mrs. Charlie Riddick, Phyllis Jordan and R.S. Ward.

The Edenton-Chowan Alternative School awarded Lois Dillard, Jessie Rome, Daisy Perry, Fred White, Frances Cox and H.L. Bond with the Touch of Magic Award.

Each winner received a special framed certificate. The certificates were presented at a Magic Show given by Dr. Hill Spooner on March 1st at Holmes and March 2nd at Edenton-Chowan Alternative School. A Magic show depicting the magic of courtesy will be shown in each school of the Edenton-Chowan schools.

The Board Receives "Good Things" Report

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year before last. In the last year she has noticed that her son is losing ground with only the half time teacher.

Sarah Tynch spoke in behalf of Patricia Young's request but also requested a Gifted and Talented Program for children, so designated. She has an eight year old who is classified as gifted and talented and is bored with school.

Betsy Kelly, a concerned parent questioned the excessive amount of time that her children have off.

Victoria Leary, another concerned parent, also questioned the amount of time off and the length of the school year. In closing she requested that the school year be compacted.

Bill Norvell of the Aces Booster Club requested that the School Board agree with the need for equipment and renovation of the weight room at John A. Holmes High School. He noted that such renovations would cost between \$5,000-\$6,000 and that the Booster Club had \$1,500 to put toward that goal. He also stated that the High School was in real need of this equipment if it was to produce a winning team.

Joe Hollowell, a County Commissioner, noted that Mr. Norvell had made the request earlier to the County Commissioners, and that they would not fund the project for the Booster Club but would consider funding it however, if the School Board approved the idea and brought it to them.

The Board voted to give Superintendent Dunn the authority to explore the possibility of funding a weight room along with the County Manager, Cliff Copeland.

The School Board next approved the continuation of Kirt Ficklin as Insurance Consultant.

They next considered changing their building insurance from the Division of Insurance N.C. State Board of Education to Lexington Insurance. The change would save the school \$1,668 and extend the coverage. The main drawback was an increase in the deductible from \$100 to \$1,000. The Board voted to accept the change.

The School Board next voted to approve the acceptance of a 65 ft. craft for training NJROTC cadets. The only expense to the schools being insurance.

Grace Byrum, secretary of North Carolina Association of Educators read a petition from the local teachers requesting a reinstatement of the \$150 that was cut from teachers' salaries in 1980.

Gil Burroughs spoke in behalf of the petition, noting that people in the area pay lip service to education while not actually supporting it. He continued by stating that the temporary cut in salary for the emergency situation in 1980 has become a permanent cut. He also continued to say that the teachers are only requesting to return to where they were two years ago, and that the continuation of the cut is having a detrimental effect on the morale of the teachers.

The School Board approved its minutes, a leave of absence for one of the teachers, an overnight trip, budget amendments, transfer of students, and activity bus drivers.

The meeting then adjourned and reconvened its executive session to discuss personnel matters.

Chowan County District Court Session

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for one year. She has appealed.

James "Milt" Garrett was found guilty of trespassing. He was sentenced to 90 days with two years suspended, fined \$75, cost of court and is not to go on the premises of Cisco Inn for two years.

Roy Rogers Ford was found guilty of simple assault. He was sentenced to 30 days with one year suspended fined \$50, cost of court and is not to assault Willie Junior Ferebee for one year. He has appealed.

Willie Junior Ferebee was found guilty of simple assault. He was sentenced to 30 days with one year suspended, fined \$50, cost of court and is not to assault Roy Rogers Ford for a period of a year. He has appealed.

James Edward Charlton was found guilty of shoplifting. His prayer for judgement was continued. He had to pay cost of court and is to stay off the premises of



OLD, BUT GOOD—This is the 1923 REO Speedwagon, the first truck Edenton received. It still runs today. (Photo by Clay Roberts)

Memories Of Firefighting In The Past And Vehicles Now Retired

By Clay Roberts

Today, people would think it's ridiculous to see several firefighters pulling a hose-reel cart through Edenton. However, in 1904, when the first fire hydrants were laid, the hose-reel carts, like the one in the Edenton Fire Department, were widely used.

The first fire truck to be used in Edenton was in 1923. The 1923 model REO Speedwagon, with its high speed of about 28 miles per hour was in use.

"It still runs good today," said present Fire Chief Lynn Perry.

The large 40 gallon fire extinguisher on the truck used soda-acid (similar to bicarbonate of soda). When mixed with water, it caused the pressure reaction, according to Perry.

The truck, which is also still at the station, could be hooked up to a fire hydrant and pump 350 gallons a minute, whereas, now they pump about 1000 gallons a minute.

The truck has running lights on

the back which had a wick and ran on kerosene. It has a winding siren, but the handle broke off several years ago. It also has a bell which was rung while going to a fire.

Engineer Gary Swanner of the E.F.D. purchased Edenton's 1929 American LaFrance fire truck, which did exceptionally well at pumping 1000 gallons a minute.

In 1945, the E.F.D. purchased their first fire truck which actually carried water, a 400 gallon capacity. It pumps 500 gallons a minute and is full and ready to use for backup. It was also their first ford.

Before 1956, all of Edenton's fire trucks had an opened cab. In 1956, the E.F.D. purchased their first closed-cab truck. It was also a ford and pumped 500 gallons a minute.

The two fire trucks in use are the 1965 and the 1975 fords, more often, the '75 model.

So now, it would be strange to see Chief Lynn Perry pulling a hose-reel cart down Broad Street.

Commissioner Appointments

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only sport that contributed to the expenses of the others was football. The Board voted that the Booster Club had given the athletic program over \$3,500 this year.

Commissioner Phillips said that he felt that the County should not fund an organization but only a part of the government.

Commissioner Hollowell moved that \$4,500 be made available for the weight room subject to the approval of the Board of Education.

The chairman of the Board of County Commissioners, Alton Elmore requested that Commissioner Hollowell retract his motion until the Board of Education had made its decision. Commissioner Hollowell stood by his motion and it was defeated.

Commissioner Hollowell then made the motion that the County Manager, Cliff Copeland, work with John Dunn, superintendent of the schools, to find a way to make up the deficiency in the schools athletic department and to report back to the commissioners. This motion passed.

Earl Moore, highway engineer, reported on the work on several roads in the county.

The County Manager, Cliff Copeland, requested that the County Commissioners consider submitting a CAMA application to fund a

position of County Planner for two years. The commissioners passed the request.

The commissioners were then requested to support a one cent hike in the sales tax to be shared 50/50 locally and state. They voted to lobby for the one cent tax. They also voted to lobby against the Royal Bill which would increase the tax rate by one cent but would stipulate where the localities were to spend the revenues.

The commissioners requested that the County Manager look for funds to purchase a new boat for the rescue squad. In a similar action, they requested that the County Manager look into the renovation of the Rescue Squad's Unit 1 building.

The County Commissioners next voted to sell two sheriff vehicles by sealed bids upon receiving the new ones.

An additional position was funded by the Commissioners in the Department of Social Services. The need for the position was created by the Federal Governments requirement that food stamps be filed for monthly.

The final action taken by the County Commissioners was to approve the work necessary to replace the County's gas tank.

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