

Conference Attended

Asking the Hard Ones

Well, the city council has, at one sitting, amended its land use plan and rezoned a portion of its waterfront property to make way for the construction of a bed-and-breakfast inn, redesigned to meet some objections to the original plan.

Now, we presume, everything will depend on the city's ability to obtain a UDAG grant, from which funds would be made available to the developer to finance the major portion of the cost of construction.

We still don't like it any better than we did at first glance; but, if the city council persists in going through with it, we will all have to live with it. For our part, meanwhile, we will continue to hope the UDAG money fails to materialize and that the city administration undergoes a change of heart.

For one thing, we do not believe enough of the hard questions have been asked up to now. Developer Dwayne Anderson's estimates of benefits to accrue to the community carry with them certain offsets and reasonable doubts as to their ultimate accuracy.

For example, the estimated \$30,000 new revenue to the city from taxes on the project is offset, to a degree, by the fact that there will have to be a new site chosen for the displaced police station. Although of probably lesser value, that site will be removed from the tax lists and, thus, will wipe out at least some of the \$30,000 gain.

No doubt, spending \$2 million in building the proposed inn would produce some 30-to-40 temporary construction jobs and, if done by a local contractor, would leave most of the wages in the community. But there is a big question whether an inn of 36 rooms would sustain a permanent pay roll of 20 people. Even at minimum pay, these people would cost the company \$35 to \$40 a day, including fringe benefits. But certainly some of them would earn more than the minimum, putting the average closer to \$50 a day.

At \$100 a night and with 100 percent occupancy, the inn would have a daily gross of only \$3,600. But, of course, that is dreaming. An occupancy rate of 50 to 60 percent would be considered good, reducing the daily gross to \$1,800-\$2,100, with wages taking \$1,000 or more, not to mention taxes, utilities, insurance and other unavoidable charges.

But, if the city opens the door

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Cadets Join State Drill

By Jack Grove

Navy Junior Officers Training Corps (NJROTC) cadets from John A. Holmes High School will be traveling to Chapel Hill on March 22 to compete in a state-wide drill meet with cadets from ten other units. The Edenton unit is the only one in Northeastern North Carolina according to Lieutenant Commander Jim Ryan, Naval Science Instructor at Holmes.

The drill competition consists of an academic test; running and strength events; team competition in relays; and military drill competition, in platoon and squad size and honor guard.

Ryan said the academic test was taken this week by a team of six cadets, with the exam administered by a civilian teacher. Five of the six team members actually take the exam which is graded by a district office in South Carolina.

The military drill competition at UNC-Chapel Hill is composed of two parts. There will be regulation drill, "straight out of the drill

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By E.N. (Pete) Manning

Mayor John Dowd, Town Administrator Sam Noble and Council Members Herbert Hollowell, Willis Privott, E.N. Manning, Marina Crummey and Steve Hampton were in Washington, D.C. early this week to join with over 3,500 city government leaders in an effort led by the National League of Cities to bring about federal deficit reductions and tax reform through actions that will also maintain important domestic programs.

Officials attending the NLC Congressional-City Conference were told that major urban programs, already cut in half from their 1979 funding levels, are facing another round of 15-20 percent in cuts under the Gramm-Rudman process, or even more if Congress accepts the administration's budget proposals.

NLC President Henry G. Cisneros, mayor of San Antonio, presented a NLC Statement of Priorities that called for a deficit reduction effort that would treat all areas of federal spending comparably, and which would also consider the "tax expenditures" created by various deductions and special allowances.

Rep. Dan Rostenkowski (D-Ill.), chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, and Sen. Nancy Kassebaum (R-Kan.), a member of the Senate Finance

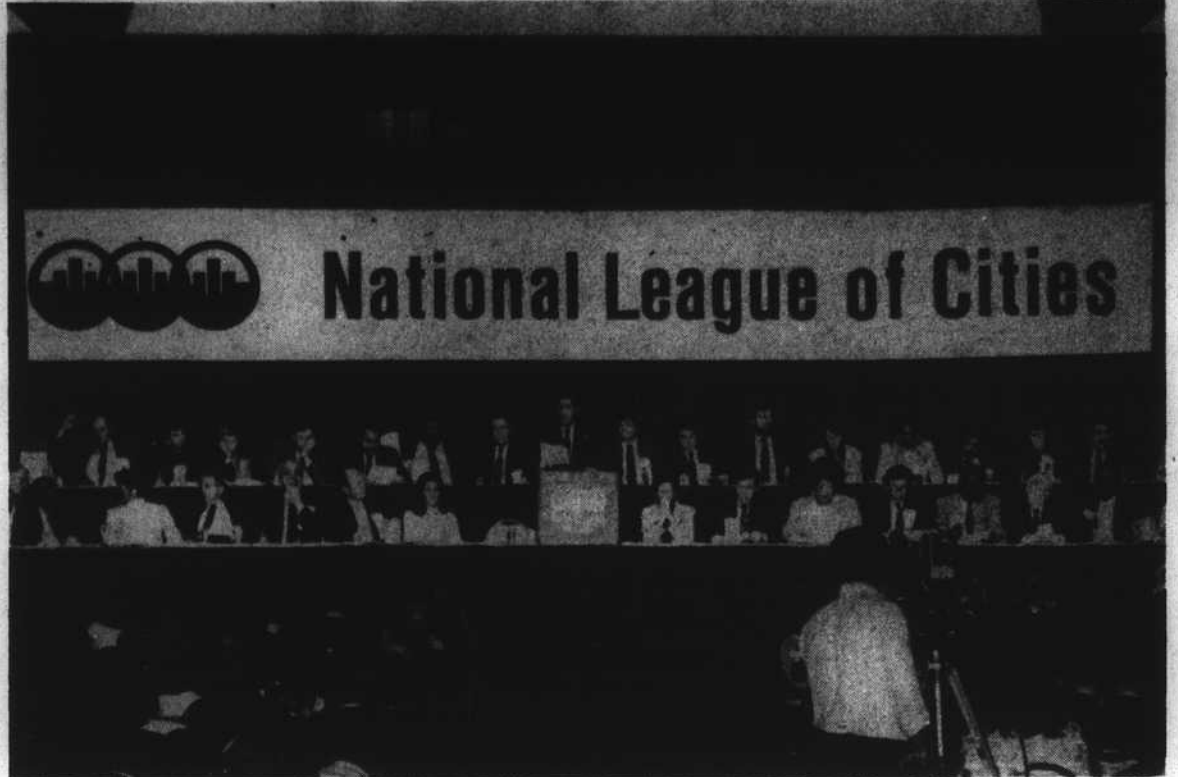
Committee, also spoke to the delegates about tax reform legislation.

A special plenary session on the federal budget led off a full day of workshop sessions on major urban policy issues. Sen. Pete Dominici (R-N.M.), chairman of the Senate Budget Committee; Rep. Butler Derrick (D-S.C.) of the House Budget and Rules Committees; James Miller, director of the Office of Management and Budget; and Rudolph Penner, director of the Congressional Budget Office, outlined the major issues, deadlines and possible outcomes with the budget.

In addition to attending general sessions, Edenton's group of delegates "paired off" and attended workshops on: General Revenue Sharing, Federal Tax Reform I and II, Community Development and Housing, Clean Water Act, and the Current Liability Insurance Crisis.

The workshops were in preparation for meetings on Capitol Hill between the city officials and their House and Senate delegations.

The Edenton group attended a reception honoring the North Carolina Congressional Delegation Monday night after which they had dinner with Congressman and Mrs. Walter B. Jones and Administrative Aide Floyd Lupton.



WASHINGTON MEETING—Edenton Mayor John Dowd, the Town Council, and Town Administrator, Sam Noble, spent three days early this week at the National League of Cities conference in Washington, D.C. A dais loaded with speakers imparted information to the delegates from all over the U.S. (Staff photo by Manning)

New Democratic Officers Elected

New officers have been elected to the Chowan County Democratic Party organization. These officers include: Sarah E. Tynch, Chair; Charles Shaw, First Vice-Chair; Rita Saunders, Second Vice-Chair; Thomas Sharpe, Third Vice-Chair; Judy Rankins, Secretary; and Gwen Hendrix, Treasurer.

Tynch was elected as chair to serve the unexpired term of R.M. (Pete) Thompson who resigned upon filing as a candidate for the N.C. House of Representatives. These officers will serve until April, 1987.

Tynch listed the following events of interest to local Democrats:

*Precinct meetings will be held

Thursday, March 13 at precinct polling places;

*The First District Democratic Ball, to be held at Vaughn Center, Elizabeth City State University on March 22 at 8:30 p.m. Tickets for the ball are available from any member of the Executive Committee or by calling Gwen Hendrix, 482-8928;

*A Democratic Party Rally on April 4 at 7 p.m. at the American Legion Building in Edenton. Candidates for County, District, and State positions have been invited to attend. Tickets for this event, which includes a roast beef dinner, are available from any member of the Executive Committee;

*And, a Chowan County

Democratic Convention to be held on Saturday, April 5 at 1 p.m. at the court house.

Other members of the Executive Committee are Chairs and Vice-Chairs of each precinct. They are: Wardville, Charlie Boyce, Chair and Merline Twine, Vice-Chair; Center Hill, Helen Hollowell, Chair and Bertram Hollowell, Vice-Chair; Rocky Hock, Vonnie Smith, Chair and Herman "Buddy" Sawyer, Vice-Chair; East Edenton, Willis Privott, Chair and Mary Esther George, Vice-Chair; West Edenton, Tom Shepard, Chair and Snooky Bond, Vice-Chair; and Yeopim, Matthew Wills, Chair and Alice Twiddy, Vice-Chair.

(Related picture on Page 4-A)



CHILD'S CHAIR DONATED — Cornelia Privott (left) and Sadie Hoskins are shown with a circa 1820 child's ladderback rocker that is of Chowan County origin. Mrs. Privott donated the chair to the James Iredell House in honor of Mrs. Hoskins' years of service to the Iredell Association.

Iredell House Receives Chair

A child's rocking chair, of Chowan County origin and built around 1820, has been donated to the James Iredell House by Cornelia Jones Privott. Mrs. Privott donated the chair in honor of Sadie Hoskins.

During presentation of the ladderback chair Monday, Mrs.

Privott said that she wished to honor Mrs. Hoskins for her generous volunteer contributions to the Iredell Association through the years.

Mrs. Hoskins' volunteer work at the Iredell House includes 15 years as Chairman of the Furnishings Committee. During this time the committee has purchased numerous furnishings and accessories for the house.

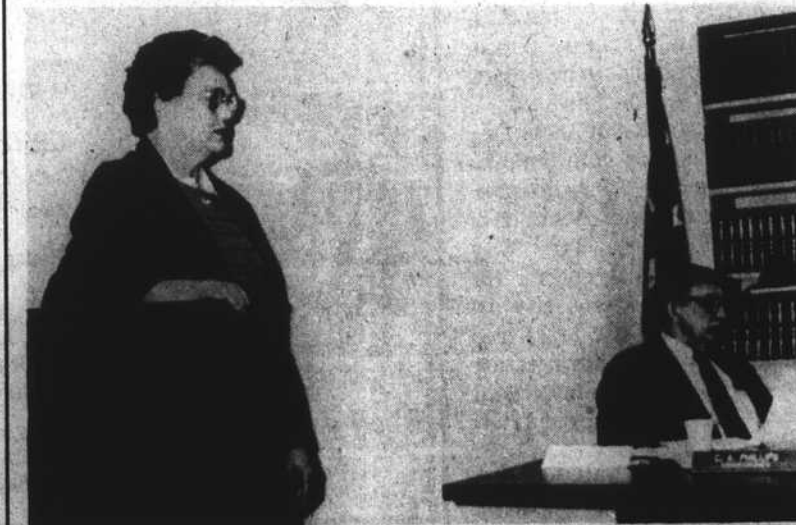
Mrs. Hoskins has also served as Treasurer of the James Iredell Association for many years during a time when the Association administered all grant funds for the site and was responsible for all aspects of site operation and maintenance.

Olympics Saturday

This Saturday morning at 9:30 a.m., the Chowan County Special Olympics will get underway at Hicks Field in Edenton.

The event will mark the culmination of much hard work on the part of many local residents and organizations, including the Edenton-Chowan Recreation Department, the Optimist Club, students from John A. Holmes High School, and countless adult volunteers who helped these very "special" children prepare for their very own Olympics.

Susan Meekins, coordinator for the Chowan County Special Olympics, invites all interested persons to come out Saturday morning and cheer on these youngsters as they compete in their various events. Admission is free, and all are welcome!



IMPACT TOLD — Mary Julia Parrish, Chairman of the Chowan County Extension Advisory Council, describes to County Commissioners how federal budget cuts would affect the county's Extension program.

County Manager Cliff Copeland told the group that the health department had paid three separate visits to Chowan Beach and had found no significant health violations.

The condition of the community's roads were a major concern of many. Bob Riddle told the commissioners that "people that don't belong in there, come in and tear up the roads, reckless drivers, speeders and drunks."

Commissioner Al Phillips said that 20 years ago, there were no ordinances dealing with subdivisions such as Chowan Beach to regulate such growth problems in subdivisions. Property owners were told that while current ordinances call for paved roads in subdivisions, Chowan Beach is not covered.

In outlining options to help residents, it was pointed out that only one, designation of Chowan Beach as a "service district" was really viable. Copeland said that the Commissioners would have to ask the state legislature for special legislation to receive this designation and that it would en-

tail a special tax on that community's residents.

Sally Hardison, a property owner on Roanoke Trail said that she had "already paid for that road." She felt that she shouldn't have to pay for other roads - "We've already paid our share." She said that retirees on a fixed income are "not able to pay more."

One speaker said of raising taxes to fix the roads, "it's nothing, \$30 or \$40 a year." Another felt that it would be illegal to raise his community's property tax rate without raising the taxes of everyone in the county.

A man identifying himself only as Hudson, said, "I bought in 1958. It's been a hard struggle since then. We're not benefitting from the county taxes. We can't sell our property because it's an eyesore," in apparent reference to the roads and other problems there.

Another public hearing was held in the commissioners meeting room to consider a revised ordinance on mobile home parks. Elmore said of the new ordinance,

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CHOWAN BEACH RESIDENT SPEAKS — Wesley Carpenter of Chowan Beach spoke to the County Commissioners on taxes and cows. He was also concerned about some 200 truck tires in the community which he said could provide breeding areas for rats.

Tuesday, March 18, 1986
New Time: 2:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Edenton Jaycee Bloodmobile

at the Chowan Hospital
sponsored by: Edenton Jaycees