

## Head Start accepting applications

HEAD START early childhood program is now accepting applications for fall session 1979 for children between the ages of 3 to 5 years old.

HEAD START offers learning activities and health, nutritional, and social services to all eligible children. Handicapped children are also enrolled.

Please file applications before June 1, 1979 at the following places:

HEAD START main office:  
Duffyfield School, 1200 Myrtle Ave., New Bern, NC 638-3989 or 638-4290, Zion Chapel Church, Hwy. 17 South, Pollocksville, N.C. Bayboro Center, Hwy. 304, Bayboro, N.C. 745-4651  
HEAD START office:  
Carteret County: 402 Pollock St., Beaufort, N.C. 728-4177, 728-4178.  
HEAD START is sponsored by Community Action Agency - Coastal Progress, Inc., New Bern, N.C.



## Youth Center needs youth input

As many Vanceboro area citizens may know, the Vanceboro Area Ministerial Fellowship and a few lay representatives have been diligently planning, creating, and building the framework for a Vanceboro area Youth Center to be located in Vanceboro. The ministers and lay persons have done a fine job. They should be commended for the tremendous advances they have made toward a unified project in spite of denominational differences. The group for the most part has been able to unite under the capable leadership of Rev. Steve Hickie of the Vanceboro Circuit composed of Chapman's, Epworth, and Lane's Chapel United Methodist Churches. One essential ingredient that has been sorely lacking in the planning and building stages is the enthusiastic voice of the YOUTH. Present plans call for the creation of a Youth Council. Its function at present is not clear. Young people who are interested in having a Youth Center should inquire as to what role the Youth Council will play in the development and administration of the Youth Center. Interested Youth

should express their interest to members of the Governing Board and the Ministerial Fellowship or to this paper. Youth should decide what they want in a Youth Center and what they wish their role to be in having one. Many questions concerning policy and program in the Youth Center are still not resolved. These questions need the input of the young people who will be using the Youth Center in the future. Young people should watch the Highlights for notification of meetings of the Youth Center Planning Committees and Governing Board. Young people should attend these meetings and express their ideas. In the final analysis, a vital responsive Youth Center is only possible through the input of those using it--YOUTH.

*Ricky Cannon*

## The Washington Report

by  
Rep. Walter B. Jones

For week beginning March 12, 1979

The House met in short sessions last week concentrating mainly on budgetary matters. Legislation was approved rescinding certain budgetary authority as contained in the President's Budget Message of January 31, 1979, rescinding seven appropriations and borrowing authority items totalling \$703.5 million. Agreed to, however, was an amendment that deletes the rescission of \$20 million in appropriations for capitation grants to schools of medicine, osteopathy and dentistry and the rescission of \$17 million in appropriations for certain nurse training programs.

Approval was also given to certain resolutions providing funds for House Committees to conduct studies and investigations within their respective jurisdictions during the first session of the 96th Congress. The Committee on Standards of Official Conduct was approved for \$500,000; the Committee on Rules for \$519,000 which is a \$104,000 reduction from their requested amount; and the Committee

tee on the District of Columbia was approved for \$315,000 representing a \$10,000 cut from the requested amount. The Committee on House Administration, which considers these appropriations, stated that the reductions in certain committee requests reflect an evaluation of spending levels in the second session of the 95th Congress as well as projected activities for the first session of the 96th Congress.

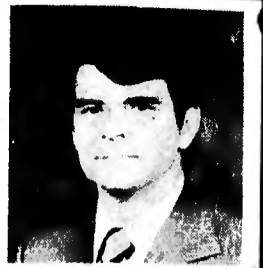
In its first foreign policy debate of the year, the House began consideration of the Administration's recommendations for future informal relations between Taiwan and the United States. The bill states that any armed attack against Taiwan or use of force to boycott or embargo would threaten the peace and stability of the western Pacific and would be of grave concern to the United States. The U.S. will continue to give Taiwan defensive weapons to insure against the possibility of an armed attack. United States laws and programs will continue to apply as if derecognition had not taken place. Finally, the United States will continue its governmental ties with Taiwan through the use of a non-governmental entity instead of through embassies and consular officers. An amendment to restore the mutual defense treaty between the U.S. and Taiwan, which was effectively ended by U.S. recognition of mainland China, was defeated; as was an effort to amend the bill to provide that the U.S. continue an official governmental relationship with Taiwan.

Further debate and votes on this controversial issue will occur next week.

Senator

Joseph E. Thomas

Legislative Report



March 9, 1979

There seems to be no end to the spreading problems of inflation. Just as skyrocketing prices are causing havoc at home for our personal budgets and forcing cutbacks in every possible area, our state government spending is meeting the same fate.

One of the hardest hit of our state agencies is the Department of Transportation which is required by law to spend only monies received through the gasoline tax fund.

These funds (gasoline taxes) are collected at the point of purchase and at nine cents per gallon, the revenue collected has always been at least adequate. In fact, coupled with our share of federal highway funds, North Carolina has been able to build and maintain one of the finest state highway systems in America.

Although I believe the Morehead Tributary Area has yet to receive the attention it deserves from state highway officials, I was still impressed during my two years as a Transportation Board member by the mammoth task performed in maintaining our huge road system. The Department of Transportation has responsibility for the upkeep of over 75,000 miles of roads. Almost 20,000 miles of those roads are unpaved.

The problem now faced by Transportation officials is how to contend with the spiraling costs of repairing and maintaining our present road system while the income through gasoline taxes has leveled off.

For the last two years, the state has been forced to spend over \$30 million per year on winter damage to North Carolina roads: damage caused by unusually heavy snow, ice, and rain.

One solution to the problem has been offered by Representative P.C. Collins. He has introduced a bill that would move the funding for the State Highway Patrol to the general tax revenue fund. Currently, the budget for the State Highway Patrol is paid out of the gasoline tax fund, or in effect, a large part of transportation monies.

The Patrol, of course, is no longer under the jurisdiction of the Department of Transportation, but is instead under the direction of the Department of Crime Control and Public Safety.

Such a transfer in funds would add more than \$35 million to the maintenance of our primary and secondary roads. The law, while it does not require that the money be used only in the maintenance of existing roads, should be earmarked for that purpose. The bill might still be amended to specifically prohibit use of the money in highway construction.

The bill is largely one of bookkeeping mechanics but still offers at least a temporary solution to a problem that is apparent to all of us who drive on state roads.

Personally, I believe it is preferable to any of the various types of tax increases being suggested--especially if we can keep the money in maintenance and not construction.

The West Craven

# HIGHLIGHTS

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