

## ublic Parade

Council Must Be Imaginative

Downtown Edenton is at a crosswalk. The Town Council is regulating the flow of traffic. Whether or not the central business district can survive as an open air mall rests squarely with council and its decision about improvements and beautification within the area.

Beautification is the key word at this time. It is THE word in many respects, but primarily on two fronts. One is whether or not downtown inprovements are to be done properly. The other is whether or not council can turn its back on 50 cent dollars.

In our opinion, the biggest boost to rejuvenation of the central business district—the life-blood of any communi-ty—is improvements to the area with an imaginative beautification program. This would automatically qualify the Town of Edenton for a 50-50 matching grant from the federal government.

To replace downtown sidewalks, a project long overdue, without incorporating underground wiring, trees and shrubs, benches, bicycle racks, water fountains and the like would be pure folly. This is especially true at this time when the overall cost of brick sidewalks and the other items could be accomplished at only a token additional

Downtown merchants have petitioned the town to replace sidewalks and be assessed for their pro rata share. The town will be showing something less than good faith if beautification is not incorporated and the job done properly.

Citizens fight bothersome traffic to drive up to 100 miles in order to shop in an air-conditioned mall. Why? Not merely due to atmospheric comfort, but because developers of malls have found it profitable to make shopping more relaxing.

With the adequacy of our off-street parking in a town with a reputation as a good place to do business, why not take a page from the book of the mall developers? While the downtown area could not be air conditioned, all the aspects could be realized to make shopping here easier on the individual as well as his pocketbook.

A central business district mall for Edenton is not as far out in left field as some would have you believe. It is simply good business and good for busi-

True, the Town of Edenton cannot plead poverty. But this is one time when this isn't necessary to enjoy the benefits of 50-cent dollars. Councilmen should go after them with the same vigor demonstrated in corraling votes.

#### Medicaid Oversight Corrected

The 1971 General Assembly was but one day away from adjournment. It was at work on the 159th day of the session, with each day establishing a new record for longevity.



Discuss Downtown Improvements - James Blount, right, chairman of the Merchants Committee of Edenton Chamber of Commerce, and Mayor George Alma Byrum discuss preliminary sketches of improvements and beautification to the central business district. Council is now considering a plan written by J. N. Pease & Company of Charlotte. (See Public Parade).

# Regional Office To Open

Albemarle Regional Planning and Development Commission will move into permanent headquarters at 102 East Queen Street early next week with a full staff employed.

ARPDC was recently funded by the Economic Development Administration and will be assisted financially by the 10 counties in Northeastern North Ca-

#### Train Hurts Man

Police and railroad investigators are still trying to figure out how a young Chowan County resident escaped serious injury Saturday night when he was run over by a train as he apparently slept between the tracks.

Earl Ferebee, 18-year-old Negro, Route 2, Edenton, was reported to be asleep between the tracks about 3:13 A. M., when twin locomotives and five cars of an 85-car freight train owned by Noriolk & Southern Railroad passed over him.

The incident occurred between Albemarle and Gale streets.

Ferebee was rushed to Chowan Hospital where he was treated for mouth and head injuries.

### Coach Kirby Calls

All boys planning to participate in football at John A. Holmes High School this year are to report to the gymnasium on August 3, at 7 P. M. Physical examinations will be held at 8 P. M. that same night at the Chowan Medical



Huddle In Releigh - Gov. Bob Scott recently invited some 60 local government leaders and personal friends to the Governor's Mansion for breakfast and an informal briefing. Gov. Scott is shown here with the six representatives from Chowan County who accepted his invitation. Left to right are: L. F. Amburn, Jr., Thomas H. Shepard, Gov. Scott, W. B. Gardner, N. J. George, C. A. Phillips, and Mayor George Alma Byrum.

rolina to be served.

Wesley Cullipher, who while with Economic Improvement Council, Inc., spearheaded formation of an economic development district in the Albemarle Area, was recently named executive director. W. B. Gardner, Edenton's town administrator, was named to succeed Cullipher as ARPDC board chairman.

At a meeting in Elizabeth City last Thursday night, the board employed Floyd Spellman of Elizabeth City as planner; Miss June Myers of Cherokee, as human resource coordinator; and Mrs. Arlene Copeland, secretary-book-

Spellman, 51, is a graduate of Norfolk University. He is presently director of manpower for EIC, and says he is really A. M., to 5 P. M. pleased to be chosen for the number two slot in the new organization.

"It's not often that a hometown man can achieve such a position and I hope I can really accomplish a lot for the area-so much needs to be done.'

"I am very pleased to be able to make my home in the Albemarle Area and thrilled to get the job," said Miss Myers who has worked on other EDA projects. She has also been a tribal clerk for the Cherokee Reservation in Western North Carolina and has been associated with the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Washington, D. C.

In addition to Gardner, others from Chowan County on the ARPDC board are C. A. Phillips, N. J. George, both members of the county commissioners, and Dr. J. H. Horton, head of the Good Neighbor Council and a member of Edenton-Chowan Board of Education.

### 2 Offices Moved

Two Chowan County departments have completed their game of musical chairs. The Department of Social Services has moved to the second floor of the County Office Building and the Sheriff's Department has moved from offices off the lobby into the offices vacated by the social services group.

The county has recently completed renovations of offices formerly rented by W. J. P. Earnhardt, Jr., local attorney, along with offices formerly occuied by Chowan County Board of Elections to give the Department of Social

Services adequate quarters.

The county has been in trouble with the state for several years because of the cramped quarters of the depart-

Sheriff Toppin has been housed in a two-office suite formerly occupied by Edenton Chamber of Commerce and more recently by the late District Judge W. S. Privott.

In the new quarters, the Sheriff's Department will have a three-room of-

Chowan County commissioners have indicated that plans are in the works for additional moves

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# Co-Op Asks State Okay Of Sale Days

Albemarle Cooperative Association, Inc., a feeder pig co-op operating in 11 Northeastern North Carolina counties, has progressed to the point of requesting approval of a sale date for stategraded animals.

Marcus McClanahan, manager, Friday wrote Dr. T. F. Zweigart, head of State Veterinary Division, N. C. Department of Agriculture, requesting state designation of the first and third Monday as sale dates. "However, we could remain flexible on this with a proposed early fall starting time," McClanahan wrote.

The cooperative, working with Dr. David Spruill, extension livestock specialist with N. C. State University; Jack Parker, area livestock specialist; and Bill Wilder concerning establishment of a regular feeder pig sale in the area.

The cooperative is now in the process of negotiating for a sale barn site and the construction of sale barn fa-Continued on Page 4

### Bloodmobile Visit

Edenton Jaycees will sponsor a regular visit of the Red Cross Bloodmobile in Edenton Monday at National Guard Armory. Blood will be taken from 11

Roy Forehand, Jaycee chairman for the project, said a quota of 96 units has been set for this visit.

It was pointed out that the local community must continue to reach the quota in order to have the Red Cross blood available for use at Chowan



Neil E. Thagard

### Thagard Named To New Bern Job

Neil E. Thagard, manager of the Edenton office, Employment Security Commission of North Carolina, has been promoted to a similar position in New Bern. Thagard will assume his new duties August 1.

Thagard came to Edenton in November, 1968, from Fayetteville.

In New Bern, he will be responsible for ESC activities in Craven, Jones and Pamlico counties.

Thagard was high in his praise for the spirit of cooperation and friendliness which exists in Edenton and Chowan County. "I sure hate to leave this town," he stated matter of factly. "It has been the best town I have ever lived in."

The ESC official said he had found Edenton and Chowan County to be well balanced in industry and agriculture as well as in leadership.

Mrs. Thagard is director of Family Planning for Economic Improvement Council, Inc. The Thagards will move to New Bern in the near future.



John H. Woolard

Greg Clark

Mrs. Sally Blount

Mrs. Frances Hollowell

### Academy Fills Two Staff Positions

Two important Chowan Academy faculty positions have been filled, according to an announcement made this week by Mrs. Frances Hollowell, headmistress, following action by the board of directors.

Mrs. Sally Blount will be teaching science in Junior High (grades seven, eight and nine) and Gregg Clark will assume the position of physical education director. Clark will also teach ealth and physical education in Junior High as well as coach football, basket-ball and baseball.

Mrs. Hollowell said Clark will also institute a driver education program at the academy, starting in January.

Mrs. Blount received her degree from

Birmington-Southern College in Birmingham, Ala. Since then she has taught in Alabama, Washington, and Green-

ville. For the past two years she taught science at D. F. Walker Junior High She is the wife of James G. Blount:

who is associated with Hollowell's, Inc. Clark attended Kent State University in Kent, Ohio. Last year he was a member of the coaching staff at John A. Holmes High School under Marien Kirby, where he received valuable ex-

He is married to the former Charlene: Smith and they reside at 3 Westover Heights. They have a daughter, Tracy Continued on Page 4