



FLAG DESIGNERS—Place winners and finalists were revealed this week by the Chowan County Flag Committee branch of the Bicentennial Committee. Entries came from students in the Edenton-Chowan Schools. Pictured front row, left to right, are Tommy Earnhardt and Amanda Bunch, finalists. Second row: Vicki Modlin, third place; Nancy Boswell, second place; Sammy Dixon, finalist; and Florence Berryman, first place.

Albemarle District Top In State

The state winners in the Environmental Conservation Education Contest, sponsored by NACD and Allis-Chalmers, was recently announced. The contest, which was held in April, has two parts; one section is for the best teacher in environmental conservation education in the state and the other part is for the Soil and Water Conservation District which has the best overall

More Money Given

Over 500 more hot meals per day will be served to North Carolina's elderly citizens during the remainder of this year.

The N. C. Governor's Coordinating Council on Aging has been awarded an additional \$524,559 for this year's nutrition program in the state. The money has been allocated to seven regions of the state for new nutrition projects and to 24 existing projects.

Albemarle Regional Planning & Development Commission, serving the 20-county Northeastern area, is eligible for a \$3,000 additional allocation and a regional allocation of \$10,000.

In order to obtain the money, each of the designated regions or projects must send a plan to the Council on Aging and must be able to use the funds by December.

According to Robert Beard, executive director of the council, 50 per cent of the allotment for existing projects should be planned for outreach to maintain number of meals served. The remainder must be used for transportation.

Commencement

Commencement exercises for graduates of College of The Albemarle's Individualized Instruction Center at Edenton will be held June 10 at 8 P.M. at the center.

Harold R. Nichols, guidance counselor at John A. Holmes High School, will address the graduates. Student speakers are Mrs. Phyllis Ann Burum and Mrs. Rae Burroughs Knox. Clayton Morrisette, COA director of continuing education, will present diplomas.

The 24 graduates are: Adult High School Diploma - Phyllis Ann Burum, Waverly Ann Copeland, Amy Byrum Davenport, Theresa Williams Goodwin, Rae Burroughs Knox, Angela Bass Lane, Mark T. Long, Victor Dean Parrish and Erma Turner Phillips.

General Educational Development - Glenda Kay Beich, Dorothy Stallings Blount, Donald Bonner, Elsie Hollowell Copeland, Sarah Hollowell Copeland, Doris M. Freeman, Shirley White Hollowell, Carl G. Lane, Ruth Owens Lane, Anna Lane Newton, Nancy Noble Wilson, Faye Proctor, William Michael Riddick, Patricia Jordan Smith and James C. Voliva.

Students, Julie Byrum Bond, Diane Blount, Carol Jones and Pamela Ann Jones, will serve as ushers.

environmental conservation education program in the state for 1974-1975.

Mrs. Irene McIver, a third grade teacher at General Greene Elementary School in Guilford County, has been selected as the best environmental conservation educator in the state. She has been very successful in her efforts to develop a nature trail and some wonderful conservation games.

Albemarle Soil and Water Conservation District was selected as the Soil and Water Conservation District with the best environmental conservation education program in the state.

The Albemarle District, chaired by L. C. Bunch, is made up of Chowan, Currituck, Pasquotank, Perquimans and Camden counties. They have learned that conservation education is the best way to protect and conserve our natural resources.

These state winners will advance to the Southeastern Regional contest where they will represent North Carolina; and then to the national competition if they are regional winners.

Ground Broken

CONWAY—Ground was broken recently for a \$1.5-million hatchery facility for Perdue, Inc. three miles east of here on U. S. 158. And after the ceremonies dignitaries lunched on Perdue chicken shipped from Maryland specially for the occasion and prepared by the Conway Woman's Club.

The Perdue firm grows and processes chickens for sale in northern markets.

Secretary of Agriculture James Graham and Secretary of the Department of Natural & Economic Resources James Harrington were among those attending.

Numerous officials took part in turning the first shovels of dirt signifying the start on construction of the hatchery that is also expected to serve as the

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LITTLE THEATER OFFICERS—Edenton Little Theater announced a new slate of officers for the year Tuesday night at an organizational meeting. Shown above from left to right, they are: Peter Valenti, vice president; John Schroeder, president; Mary Rhea Gardner, treasurer; Gayle Young, publicity; Emily Amburn, general secretary; and Carol Becker, corresponding secretary. Not pictured are Terry Gannon and J. Clarence Leary, Jr., who are trustees. Tom Darby is immediate past president.

No Increase In County Tax Levy

Public Parade

Tax News Good

Taxpayers along the Public Parade will welcome the news this week that Chowan County commissioners will hold the line on the tax rate for the next fiscal year.

Although the budget for the Town of Edenton hasn't been formally released, it is understood that in all probability the town's tax rate will also remain the same.

The town and county budget makers have apparently used sharp pencils in preparing the financial programs for the coming year. With the high cost of doing business and living it is refreshing to have frugal elected officials.

While the annual disagreement between county commissioners and the board of education didn't surface last year, it is apparent from instructions given the Finance Director recently that there will have to be some meeting of the minds about the school budget. The problem is academic and shouldn't develop into a wide breach or adversely affect the tax rate.

The commissioners in the past have demonstrated real understanding with the problem of financing public schools here in a manner to provide the best possible education for our children. And furthermore, they want it done in safe and sanitary surroundings.

While the next year promises to produce continued uncertain conditions it is comforting at least to know taxpayers along the Public Parade won't be digging any deeper to finance local government.

New Campaign

This week we are pleased to join with Edenton Fire Department as well as Cross-Roads Volunteer Fire Department in bringing you the first in a series of items in their "Learn Not To Burn" educational campaign.

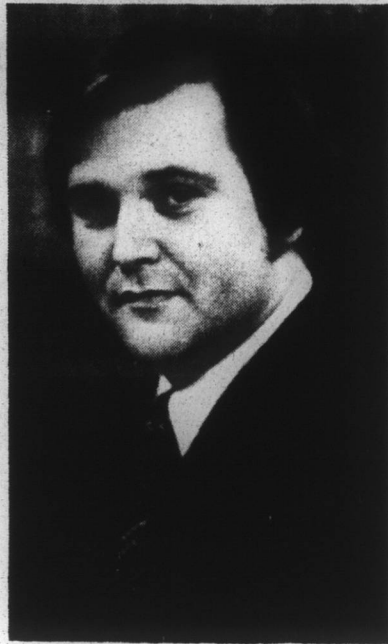
Like everywhere else, the people along the Public Parade often times become careless and fires, started from a multitude of sources, leave their toll.

The National Fire Protection

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Special Help Through Program

Parents and other family members of children enrolled in Access to Mainstream met recently at John A. Holmes High School in Edenton. Those attending the meeting watched two filmstrips on child development and methods for helping young children learn in everyday experiences. "Toys" made from materials found around the house were shown and



RUFUS EDMISTEN

Edmisten To Speak

Atty. Gen. Rufus Edmisten will be keynote speaker at the fourth annual banquet of the Albemarle Regional Planning & Development Commission. The meeting will be held June 13 at the Edenton Jaycee Building on Base Road.

The chairman's reception will begin at 6:30 P.M. and the banquet begins at 7 o'clock.

T. R. Spruill, chairman of Washington County Board of Commissioners, will succeed W. B. Gardner as commission chairman. Gardner, town administrator in Edenton, has held the chairmanship since the commission was organized.

Mayor John Bell of Elizabeth City will become vice chairman and Lester Simpson, chairman of Perquimans County Board of Commissioners, is the new secretary-treasurer.

Wesley B. Cullipher is executive director.

The meeting will be held jointly with the monthly meeting of Albemarle Area Development Association of which Phil Quitley of Manteo is president. AADA committees will meet earlier in the afternoon.

Atty. Gen. Rufus Edmisten is a native of Boone and has served as chief counsel and staff director of former Sen. Sam J. Ervin, Jr.'s Senate Subcommittee on Separation of Powers and for a

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Chowan County commissioners Monday received the first draft of the 1975-76 county budget which calls for expenditures of \$1,385,086.80 and a tax rate of 70 cents per \$100 valuation—the same as this year.

In presenting the draft budget, Mrs. Pansy A. Elliott, finance director, said it includes all the departmental budget requests, except in the case of Edenton-Chowan Schools. She said she has been instructed to budget the same amount as the schools are getting in the current budget.

The Edenton-Chowan Board of Education had asked for \$647,470 but the draft budget includes only \$483,000. At question is \$100,000 in capital outlay funds.

Commissioner N. J. George, a finance committee member, said the school buildings are in good shape and capital outlay funds should be allocated as projects are submitted.

Commissioner David T. Bateman, the other committee member, said capital outlay for the schools should now be re-evaluated.

The draft budget calls for property tax to bring in \$671,650 with \$142,000 being anticipated from the local option sales tax and \$200,000 from revenue sharing. These are the big revenue sources.

Mrs. Elliott based the budget on \$101-million in valuation.

The finance committee will meet later in the week to review the budget with Mrs. Elliott and the commissioners have set a budget meeting for Friday night.

The board has set a public hearing on the budget for 9 A.M. on June 19 in the commissioner's room of the County Office Building.

Roads Money Falls Short

Property owners on Country Club Drive in Cape Colony have the petition necessary to have their road paved in accordance with local legislation passed by the General Assembly. However, Chowan County does not have sufficient Secondary Road funds to meet the county's anticipated cost of \$11,000.

Earl Moore of Plymouth, district engineer for the Department of Transportation,

Named To Board

James Martin, director of utilities for Edenton, has been elected to the board of directors of the statewide N. C. Association of Municipal Electric Systems.

The association represents the towns and cities in the state which buy electric power from private utilities and distribute it to municipal citizens. There are 72 such municipal systems in North Carolina.

Martin joins a board of directors which participates in a program of training, education and research through the organization for the year 1975-76. The association is an affiliate of the N. C. League of Municipalities, which represents all of the state's towns and cities in legislation, information and research.

said the county must hold the matter in abeyance until the allocation is made for the next fiscal year. This will be sometime after July 1.

The local bill, which brought on some heated exchanges at last month's board meeting, was the target of more shelling at Monday's board meeting. Commissioner David T. Bateman, the chief critic, again called it "bad legislation" and said more densely populated areas could use it to use up Secondary Road funds at the expense of other rural areas.

Chairman C. A. Phillips defended it as an opportunity for the county to help existing subdivisions improve roads. He said it must be done, however, on "limited participation" or with property owners paying 100 per cent of the cost.

Commissioners Alton Elmore and N. J. George agreed.

But Moore didn't offer much encouragement for the future. He said: "It is our thinking that DOT will take a long, hard look at any request for a road not already on the state system."

He agreed that the county should establish guidelines for future application of the bill.

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WORK GOES ON—Work on the downtown Edenton improvement project began in the block between King and Water streets this week. Crews were taking up curb and guttering as well as a portion of the sidewalk, as is shown here, while others followed with conduit for underground wiring. Putting down the brick sidewalks will begin June 16. W. B. Gardner, town administrator, said the brick work has been delayed to allow workman to get as many tree wells, conduit and curb and gutter in as possible.

Request Denied By Board Of Education

The Edenton-Chowan board of education termed "burdensome and unreasonable" a request by the finance committee of Chowan County commissioners for a breakdown of all expenditures in the individual schools for the past two years. The board voted Monday night to address a letter to the chairman of commissioners denying the request.

The request was made by letter from N. J. George, county finance committee chairman, to each of

the board of education members.

At a previous meeting approval was given to a budget of \$647,470 and the budget was forwarded to the commissioners. According to the tentative budget for Chowan County as forwarded by the finance committee, the schools would be allocated \$483,000.

In respect to the letter from Commissioner George, the board of education approved a resolution that continued matters be handled through the chairman of the board

of education and the chairman of the commissioners.

Approved was the establishment of a local Advisory Council on Education for Children with Special Needs. The council will consist of five lay persons to be secured by the superintendent, who will serve one year terms.

The board tabled action on T. M. IX dealing with elimination of sex discrimination in public schools until specific guidelines are received.