

Zoning Ordinance Amended By Council

Another First

We want to be among the first to welcome Fiberform officials and dealers from the Eastern United States and Canada to meander along the Public Parade.

This will be the first time the division of U. S. Industries has held an East Coast meeting of dealers and it is unfortunate that we have to share it with Virginia Beach, Va. But Monday will be this area's day to shine and if we beat the luster Gary Garretson's crew out at the plant is putting on the new models we'll have to put in some extra time.

The Fiberform story is fascinating. While Donald K Barnes is the star of the show he has a good lieutenant in Bill Bongers, who is not stranger to the Edenton area.

Mr. Bongers, executive vice president, came to Edenton not quite three years ago when Fiberform purchased the Chris Craft plant on beautiful Albemarle Sound. He put together a solid organizational team that has been the backbone of the firm's success on the East Coast.

Once he had laid the foundation he returned to Spokane, Wash., to let his team do their thing. And that they have done! Garretson, general manager of the local operation, reports that there are now 140 employees at the plant and next month they will be turning out nine boats a day, ranging in size from 17 to 33 feet.

Although Fiberform just this month introduced Executive Yachts into their line they were quick to announce that the big models would be built in Edenton, as well as Spokane. While there has been no announcement as to what this will mean to the local economy and the local plant size a hint can be taken from what happened out in Washington.

The announcement said 50 to 75 new employees would be needed and an 80,000 square foot plant expansion on the west.

Next week's meeting will be a sort of homecoming for Bill Bongers and we feel the beginning of something bigger and better not only for Fiberform and the Public Parade as well.

So, in other words, we're glad that they're glad. Success has a way of filtering down and if a little bit rubs off in the process it is as welcomed as the Fiberform officials and the firm's dealers and their wives.

Petteway Moves Up

On September 1 Dr. S. Bruce Petteway will take on a new challenge. He moves from the presidency of College of The Albemarle in Elizabeth City to head of N. C. Wesleyan College in Rocky Mount.

The announcement of his impending move last week fell like a bomb along the Public Parade and throughout Northeastern North Carolina. It came at a time when he was mustering financial support from COA's seven-county service area in order to apply for a \$2-million federal grant for much needed capital improvements.

The Albemarle Area owes a deep debt of gratitude to Dr. Petteway. He has almost moved mountains to bring improvements in the educational, cultural, religious and community life of

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First Colony Site For Meeting

An afternoon and evening meeting of the Albemarle Area Development Association will be held at First Colony Farms in



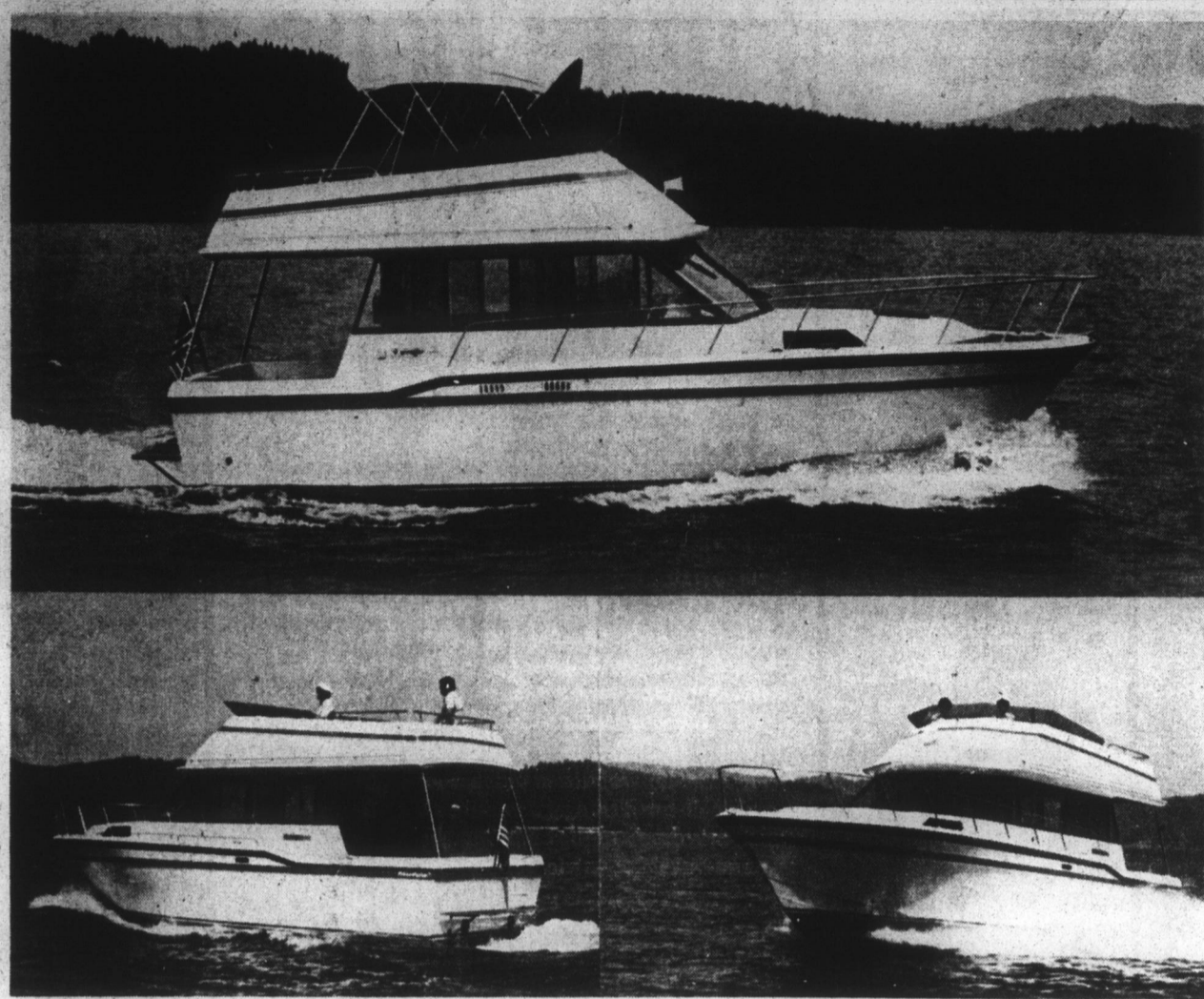
ROBERT W. SCOTT

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FLAGSHIP FOR NEW PLEASURE FLEET—Shown above are three different views of the new 33-foot Executive Yacht being introduced by Fiberform, a division of U. S. Industries. This and some 50 other models in Fiberform's pleasure fleet will be shown during an East Coast dealer meeting in Edenton next week. While the yachts will be built at the firm's local plant beginning next month, the show models are coming by caravan from Spokane, Wash.

Fiberform Dealer Show Opens Next Week

"A Great New Spirit" is the theme for Fiberform's first East Coast dealer meeting next week in Edenton and Virginia Beach, Va. In excess of 200 people, including dealers and their wives from the Eastern United States and Canada are expected for the three-day meeting.

In the past Fiberform dealers east of the Mississippi River attended the West Coast meeting. This year it was decided to hold two meetings since the Edenton plant of the division of U. S. Industries is playing an ever increasing role in the company. "We have grown to the point it is

now necessary to have a second dealer show on the East Coast," stated William C. Bongers, executive vice president.

The dealers and their wives arrive at the Cavalier Hotel in Virginia Beach, Va., Sunday evening. Monday they come via bus to Edenton for the plant visitation and review of the new models for 1976.

There will be water demonstration of 25 water demos on Albemarle Sound and the Chowan River. In addition, another 25 models will form a static display at the plant on the sound.

All of the boats, ranging in size from 17 feet to 33 feet have been made in Edenton, with the exception of the three new Executive Yachts. They are to arrive in Edenton today (Thursday) from the firm's plant in Spokane, Wash.

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ARPDC Support Questioned

Two of the 10 counties in the Albemarle Area have expressed reservations about continuing financial support of the Albemarle Regional Planning & Development Commission.

This was expressed by representatives of Hyde and Dare counties here last Thursday night during a called meeting of the Human Resources Advisory Committee of ARPDC. The committee, after some heated discussion, asked ARPDC to respond to questions raised last month.

Bond Notes Sold

The Local Government Commission in Raleigh sold \$1.9-million in bond anticipation notes for Chowan County on Tuesday. The 90-day notes were purchased by N. C. National Bank at an interest rate of 5.24 per cent.

There were three bids entered and the interest rate ranged up to 6.05 per cent.

The Chowan County issue drew the lowest interest rate of five issues in Tuesday's bidding.

The notes are in regards to construction of the county-wide water system.

Without adequate response it was stated "it will be interpreted as meaning that you and your board of directors do not consider the Human Resources Advisory Board to be of any value and that it should be dissolved."

William A. Miller of Hyde County, committee chairman, and Russell Langley, a Dare County commissioner who is on the advisory committee as well as the ARPDC board, said their counties are "fed up" with the dispute between ARPDC and the Human Resources Division.

Miller said of the ARPDC board: "They do not listen to our suggestions and the whole program is being run by a handful of people. It's the people in Region 'R' who are getting shortchanged."

Murray Ashley of Edenton, former chairman of the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Board, said he would recommend that Chowan County join the others who are considering withholding funds.

Dr. Ed North of Nags Head, a former town councilman and director of one health services program in the region, said he too would "ask the Nags Head board to withdraw financial support until problems are resolved."

Dr. North continued: "I hate to see this because I believe in the regional approach and feel it is the way for us to get things for our region."

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Tractors Stolen

Four lawn tractors, valued at \$7,677, were stolen last Wednesday night from Byrum Implement & Truck Company on U. S. 17 North.

The break-in and theft of the Cub Cadet tractors was discovered Thursday morning.

Police Chief J. D. Parrish said yesterday morning no arrests have been made and the tractors have not been recovered.

Entry to the building was gained by forcing a window open. A lock on an electric overhead door was cut and the rollers removed from the door in order to get it open.

Additional Jail Studies Authorized

Additional engineering and architectural studies for a new courthouse and jail for Chowan County were authorized Monday by the county commissioners.

Everette Fauber, architect of Lynchburg, Va., said in his opinion the block between Court and Broad streets, bound by Church and Queen streets, was a "worthy site for a worthy building". He said while the site might have a history of some flooding he saw no difficulties.

His preliminary sketch calls for two structures with landscaping and parking for 150 cars. Earlier two commissioners had expressed concern over whether adequate parking could be developed on the 3-acre site.

Also, at the suggestion of Chairman C.A. Phillips the board members unanimously agreed to call for a referendum on the project. It was estimated at approximately \$1½-million would be needed to purchase the site

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Workshop Slated

Edenton-Chowan Schools announces a workshop for anyone interested in having his name placed on the approved list of substitute teachers for the 1975-76 school year. This workshop will be held at John A. Holmes High School on Wednesday from 9 A.M. to 4 P.M.

Persons who attended a similar workshop last summer do not need to attend again.

Substitute teachers must hold a high school diploma or the equivalent and must attend a full-day workshop before they can be employed. It is imperative for those persons who wish to substitute this fall, but did not do so last year, to attend Wednesday's session, since the next workshop will be scheduled in January.

According to Don Lassiter, director of instruction, substitute teachers are paid \$20 per day for each day worked. Additional information about substitute work may be obtained by calling the Edenton-Chowan Schools Administrative Office.

Firm To Build New Facility

Albemarle Production Credit has entered into a contract with Gardner Construction Company of Elizabeth City to erect a permanent branch office in Edenton.

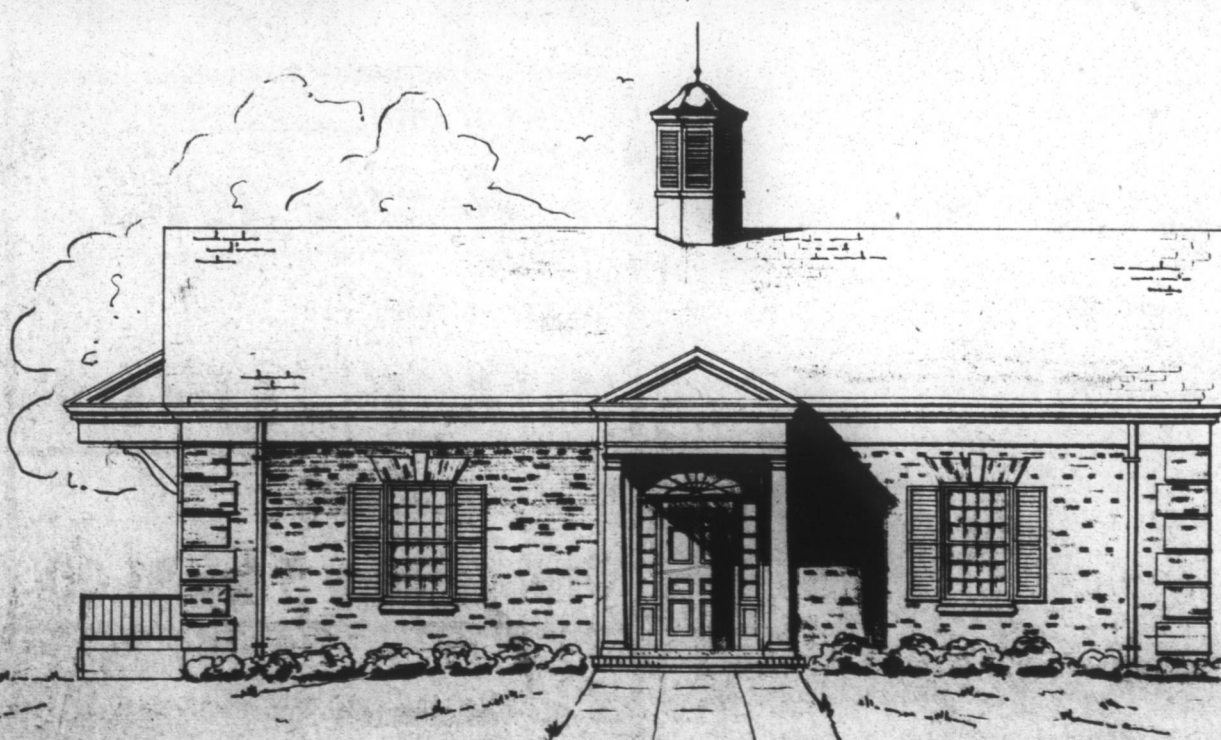
The cost of the 1,900-square-foot structure has been placed at \$80,000. Gardner submitted the low bid and has until January 26, 1976, to complete the building.

Noel N. Coltrane, Jr., architect, of Elizabeth City, designed the structure which will be located at

the intersection of Peanut Drive and U. S. 17 North, in the Industrial Park.

In July, 1974, APC opened a temporary office on the building site to handle accounts with farmers in Chowan and Gates counties. Tommy Long is branch manager and assistant vice president. Roy Miller of Elizabeth City is president.

Long said the office serves approximately 150 farmers in the two counties. Loans outstanding are around \$3-million, he added.



NEW PRODUCTION CREDIT BRANCH IN INDUSTRIAL PARK

Edenton Town Council Tuesday night unanimously adopted an amended zoning ordinance update but split 5-3 in favor of a new zoning map which changed a 10-acre tract of N. C. 32 from R-20 to highway commercial.

Earlier W. J. P. Earnhardt, Jr., local attorney and one of the developers of the Ward property adjacent to U. S. 17 by-pass, said he would withdraw a petition to have the property in question rezoned for a shopping center if the map change was approved by the council.

Councilman J. H. Conger, Jr., made the motion that the property, located 101-feet from that of Ted Burns, be rezoned in approving the new map. Councilman Harry Spruill seconded the motion and they were joined in an affirmative vote by W. H. Hollowell, Jr., Leo Katkaveck and James C. Dail.

Councilmen Jesse L. Harrell, Errol Flynn and James E. Darnell voted against the motion.

During the discussion, where objections were raised by the Burns family, N. J. George and Gil Burroughs, Councilman Harrell asked that at some future date a specific use was proposed for the property could council then rezone it.

W. T. Culpepper, III, who was employed to represent the town since Earnhardt had asked to be relieved as town attorney during consideration of this matter, said that would be "contract" zoning which is illegal.

Mayor Roy L. Harrell alleged that the requirements of the zoning ordinance had not been met by the petitioners. Conger argued the motion on the adoption of the new map with the zoning change was by the council and not by petition.

Then after the vote, Mayor Harrell raised a legal question about a vote when written protests had been made. Culpepper said in his opinion the requirements had been met and the council's action was legal.

"When a person comes up with one-foot over the requirements

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Action Questioned

Mayor Roy L. Harrell said Wednesday morning he had asked W. T. Culpepper, II, attorney to look into the legality of Tuesday night's Town Council action with regards to the zoning map.

He said he had instructed Culpepper to inform W. J. P. Earnhardt, Jr., a developer of the property in question, that the council action could be in violation of the ordinance. "It is possible that last night's action could be resinded," the mayor said.

Mayor Harrell said because of an oversight on his part the matter was considered although it had not been six months since council denied Earnhardt's first request, as required by the ordinance.

The legal question is whether or not the council, by its own motion, change the zoning classification of property when adopting a new zoning map.

Earnhardt, an attorney, said in his opinion the council was correct and legal in their action. "I hope there will be no more controversy with regards to this issue," he stated.