

# Heard & Seen "By Buff"

John A. Taylor, a trustee of the Pettigrew Regional Public Library, was among the congregation at the local Methodist Church on Sunday morning. Whether or not Rev. Richard R. Blankenhorn, the new Methodist preacher, had anything to say about libraries, Friend Taylor put together in his mind the following verse:

**A Library Trustee's Prayer**  
 Almighty God, our Father,  
 Deliver me this day from  
 Smallness of honesty, from  
 Smallness of vision and from  
 Smallness of service;  
 that I  
 May be found worthy  
 of my trust  
 In Thy sight.  
 Amen

Then the following little poem, the author unknown, is well worth reading:

**If You Were**  
 If you were busy being kind,  
 Before you knew it, you would find  
 You's soon forget to think 'twas true  
 That some one was unkind to you.  
 If you were busy being glad  
 And cheering people who are sad,  
 Although your heart might ache a bit,  
 You'd soon forget to notice it.  
 If you were busy being good  
 And doing just the best you could,  
 You'd not have to blame some man  
 Who's doing just the best he can.  
 If you were busy being right,  
 You'd find yourself too busy quite  
 To criticize your neighbor long  
 Because he's busy being wrong.

With the hair on top of the dome gradually disappearing on many of us, a note was seen the other day which read: There are three ways in which a man can wear his hair: parted, unparted or departed.

Then there was this one: Careful grooming and a smooth paint job will take maybe 20 years off a woman's true age. But you can't fool a long flight of stairs.

Just came across a good definition of a pessimist: A pessimist is one who feels bad when he feels good for fear he'll feel worse when he feels better.

Many kinds of beautiful flowers are now in bloom in the Cupola House Garden. I'd like to mention what they are, but just do not know. And here's betting a stumped down good stogie that there are not many folks who can name them all.

According to the calendar, Tuesday was the first day of summer. However, if the past few days is any kind of a sample of hot summer weather, the summer season put in its appearance somewhat ahead of schedule.

Though Father's Day was observed the day before, Edenton, Chapter of the Eastern Star gave

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or so the automatic increases, plus added fringe benefits has made employment in the public sector more and more attractive. The products of "ward healers" has given way to productive governmental employees whose combined compensation has not only kept pace, but exceeded most private employment.

There was a time when composition of a given board could be classified as either business or farm. Now farmers have been required to inaugurate good business practices just to stay afloat and businessmen have had to broaden their base to do likewise.

The business of local government is no different. Therefore, a careful weighing of priorities must be approached. It is no secret that for many, many years the top priority of Chowan County's governing body has been construction of a new courthouse-jail complex. Those in the "ivory tower" have pressed them to the point where they had to fish or cut bait.

Several avenues of public funding, outside a bond referendum, had been sought. There were bright signs, then times of dismay. Almost out of the blue came the Public Works Act which would provide 100 per cent funding for construction with the recipient government providing the site.

Chowan, apparently, was not as well geared for such a program as it would first appear. There were inadequate capital reserves. When the 100 per cent dollars began to flow, it required more cash outlay than had been anticipated. For this reason it was necessary to draw on existing funds to pay for a site which some have said the cost of which will not exceed what the county had obligated itself for a detention facility alone.

North Carolina law requires that no unit of government, from the state on down, can carry forward a deficit. It is necessary, then, for the county to levy for what is considered a "lawful deficit" and replenish the funds.

When one looks at the entire picture it is difficult to bad mouth an elective body that can swap \$500,000 for \$1.8-million, and still keep what they have.

In another sense, the decision of county officials to keep the complex within the downtown area, hasn't cost any more than what might have been assessed to get utilities to another site.

If there is a bright spot on the horizon it is in the fact that the county's top priority, as envisioned by the commissioners, is about to become a reality with 75 per cent of the cost being borne with outside funds. This will give others with priorities—including the board of education—maneuvering room in months and years ahead.

Maneuver, jockey, pressure, etc., still remain as the key words in getting what one wants from the private sector. If the taxpayers are convinced that to pay the freight is worthwhile, then they will respond in the affirmative, rather than the negative. The county commissioners have of late discovered this fact.

All is not lost!

## Owen President Of ALOA

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committee. Mel Bunch of Edenton, ALOA project director, presented gifts to Mr. and Mrs. Spivey.

Mayor Bill Cox of Hertford recognized Chief Ben Gibbs who is retiring. Dare County, with

the "old man" some recognition at its meeting Monday night. Mrs. Margaret Smithson, worthy matron of the chapter, read a very fitting tribute to fathers, and said the men members of the local chapter were the "apple in her eye." And with apples in her mind she had the pages of the chapter present the men present at the meeting with a large red delicious apple. It was a juicy fruit but the pages accentuated the juiciness of the apple with a kiss to every one of us—and there were 14 men who got an apple, together with a kiss.

## People Priority

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 Keeping agencies closer to the people; through

A government "hot-line" program with a toll free number (1-800-662-7952) to call;

A multi-media opportunity day with telephone calls directly to Gov. Hunt;

The creation of community resource centers; and to Assist local governments in valuable programs.

"We are out to find 'community keys' to volunteer their time to assist Gov. Hunt with his program," the speaker stated. "But the governor wants to leave it up to the counties and towns to implement the programs for themselves."

To emphasize the governor's position, he passed out pamphlets which drew from the inaugural challenge with such quotes as: "We have grown strong by doing things for ourselves and for each other in our own communities. We must rebuild it in the same way: not from the top down, but from the bottom up."

R. L. Stevenson of Hertford, AADA president, presided. Jones was introduced by Eddie McDuffie, Gates County manager.

Reports included one from Bill Phillips of Edenton concerning an agri-business tour and plans for recognition of industry.

## Budget

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 throughout the budget. Edenton-Chowan Board of Education would get \$36,000 more or 6 per cent more than the current \$600,000, but much less than requested.

Chairman Phillips said the county will need to put away some money next year for capital projects. "The increase will also be used to satisfy some fund balances... to replace funds used to clear up 'lawful deficits' from the previous year, he noted.

Commissioner N. J. George, chairman of the board's Finance Committee, said he felt the board could satisfy the majority of the taxpayers that it (money for the courthouse-jail site) is money well spent. He said without acquisition of the site the county would have lost \$1.8-million in federal funding. Commissioner Elmore said the cost of the site and the required money to buy-into the Tri-County Jail in Elizabeth City are about equal. In an obvious effort to take the edge off Mrs. Sellers' criticism of putting the current project ahead of capital outlay for schools, he said:

"We have got this behind us and will probably be more receptive to new capital outlay projects in the future."

The county anticipates \$190,000 from Revenue Sharing. It has been budget as follows: Recreation Department, \$18,802; Rescue Squad, \$25,000; Landfill, \$25,000; Department of Social Services, \$92,676; and Health, \$28,521.

Also, \$190,000 is anticipated from the 1 per cent local option sales tax.

The commissioners approved an across the board salary increase of 6½ per cent. The compensation for commissioners was increased from \$30 per meeting to \$50 per meeting.

The budget also reflects participation with the Town of Edenton in the Recreation, Fire and Police departments.

Commissioner Russell Langley as spokesman, recognized Deputy Sheriff Sammy Pledger for saving two lives in February.

In accepting the presidency, Chief Oweris said he is dedicated to reduce crime in North Carolina, and specifically in Region "R". "We must all support the entire criminal justice system," he added.

Garrison Smith, director of the Criminal Control Commission, represented Sec. Phil Carlton of the State Department of Crime Control and Public Safety. Rep. Walter B. Jones of the First Congressional District, attended as did his son, Walter, II, who is a representative of Gov. Jim Hunt.

Mrs. Lena M. Leary, clerk of Chowan County Superior Court, recognized guests attending the meeting.

## District Court Cases Heard

A Negro mother of three waived the probable cause hearing in Chowan County District Court Tuesday on five counts of false pretense involving welfare funds.

Laverne M. Basnight, Route 3, Edenton, waived the hearing through her court-appointed attorney, John Morehead, and the cases are set for trial in Superior Court here next week.

The defendant allegedly received welfare payments from Chowan County Department of Social Services at the same time she was receiving checks from the City of Chesapeake, Va.

Joseph N. Twine, 23-year-old Negro, also of Route 3, was given a nine-month active sentence by Judge John T. Chaffin on a charge of possessing a mass death weapon. Probable cause was found in the felony charge of assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill.

An accessory count against Percy Twine was dismissed.



**ORGANIZE REUNION**—Pictured above are those primarily responsible for arranging the 30th reunion of the N. C. National Guard in Edenton. Left to right are: SFC Carroll Smith, Sgt. Harold Kaupp, PSG Carroll W. Jones, Sgt. Gary Jordan, SSG James Yates, SSG Lloyd Parrish, SSG John Bunch, Jr., and SSG Albert Everson. (Staff Photo by Manning)

## Guard Holds 30th Reunion

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to have an outstanding National Guard unit in Edenton, and their perseverance paid off on May 12, 1947, when the unit was federally recognized.

"But federal recognition was not

enough, for the organizers wanted a unit that not only performed its military function but one that was also an active contributor to the overall welfare of the community, and the Edenton unit has been 'Undaunted' in this for 30 years."

## Democratic

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vice chairman; A. C. Hudson, second vice chairman; Morris Small, Jr., third vice chairman; secretary; and W. T. Culppepper, III.

Leary was elected to the state executive committee while Mrs. B. W. Evans and Wallace Evans were named to the State Senatorial District Executive Committee and Wilbur Pierce and E. N. Manning to the House of Representatives District Executive Committee.

W. J. P. Earnhardt, Jr., and D. F. Walker were chosen for the State Judicial District Executive Committee and Thomas H. Shepard and Mrs. Elizabeth L. Byrd to the State Congressional District Executive Committee.



**SWORN IN**—Three recently appointed members of the Chowan County Board of Elections are shown above being sworn in to office by Mrs. Lena M. Leary, clerk of Superior Court. They are, left to right, Mrs. Sadie Hoskins, Mrs. Opal Kehayes, and Robert S. Harrell. Their duties on the board began Tuesday, with Harrell as chairman and Mrs. Kehayes, secretary.

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