

Chowan County Seeks Disaster Status

Steps are being taken to have Chowan County declared a disaster area because of foul weather, according to R.M. (Pete) Thompson, county extension chairman.

Thompson told Chowan County commissioners Monday morning that the dry weather had "caught up" with local farmers and their crops.

The agricultural specialist made the announcement following an early morning meeting with various farmers throughout the county. The request will be made through the ASCS and Farmers Home Administration.

Thompson said while the conditions in Chowan County remain "general" designation, as a disaster county will benefit those

farmers who are really hurt. "Our corn is really hurt," he stated.

"If we had gotten rain over the weekend it would have helped our crops generally," Thompson added. His prediction is for a 20 per cent reduction in corn yield over the normal yield.

On the brighter side, commissioners agreed with the planning board to have a

dedication of the County-wide water system on September 8 at 10A.M. Site of the affair will be the Valhalla site.

George W. Lewis, planning board chairman, proposed the event and Chairman C.A. Phillips said the commissioners want this to be a "good ceremony." Details are to be worked out later.

Earlier, Dallas Jethro, Jr.,

county coordinator, reported that the county has a backlog of some nine requests for water taps. He said the requests are "continuous" and revenue from the taps last month amounted to \$1,350. At the same time he said collections from the water system exceeded \$16,000 in July.

In other discussion with Jethro, the board questioned payment for the pickup of old tires from businesses dealing primarily in tires. Recommendations will be sought from the landfill committee made up of board members from Chowan and Perquimans counties.

Upon recommendation of Jud Little, county planner, a request was made to the state for additional money for the two-county soils survey.

Commissioner J.D. Peele said state aid could reduce the cost to Chowan County by as much as \$10,000.

A public hearing was called for the September meeting on an amendment to the sub-division ordinance to allow faster review for certain parcels.

Little reported that state traffic engineers had expressed concern over driveways on Board Street for the new Courthouse-Jail complex. It was decided that this would be discussed with the Town of Edenton and the architect.

Commissioner Lester Copeland made a plea to intensify efforts to protect the Chowan River. This was unanimously approved.

Anticipated recommendations from the Finance Committee included no repayment by Murray D. Ashley for salary received during his campaign for register of deeds, and billing third party payees for ambulance services.

Dallas Jethro, Jr., reported that requests had been received for 13 of the 20 CETA slots, paid for by the federal government. Chairman Phillips and Commissioner N.J. George were authorized to fill the remaining slots.



Mrs. Mary G. Horton

Mrs. Horton Is Appointed

Mrs. Mary G. Horton of Edenton is among 15 appointees to the Competency Testing Commission. The appointments were made by Gov. James B. Hunt, Jr.

Mrs. Horton is director of pupil personnel services and testing program in Edenton-Chowan Schools. She is the wife of Dr. J.H. Horton, a prominent local dentist who is vice chairman of the Edenton-Chowan Board of Education.

The Competency Testing Commission was set up through legislation enacted by the 1977 General Assembly to advise the State Board of Education on all matters pertaining to the Minimum Competency Test to be given annually to all 11th grade students in the public schools system beginning in the fall of 1978.

"I want this commission to develop an honest, rigorous testing program that gives the parents of every school child an opportunity to know how well their child is doing," Gov. Hunt said. "The Minimum Competency Test assures us that our high school students will be able to read and write when they graduate.

"With that kind of information, we can see where we need to improve our school system. It can help to assure us that our children are getting the education that our tax dollars are paying for."

The commission is composed of 15 members, all of whom are appointed by the governor, plus the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, who serves as an ex-officio member. Members will serve for a term of four years.

Local EIC Designated

The Economic Improvement Council, Inc. has been designated by the State Economic Opportunity Office in Raleigh as the local administering agency for the Special Crisis Intervention Program.

The program is designed to relieve part of the energy cost burdens of the poor as a result of the recent severe winter and escalating energy prices.

The Special Crisis Intervention Program funds will be used to make payments to utility companies and fuel suppliers on behalf of eligible low-income households which, because of large unpaid fuel or utility bills, have had their utilities shut off or are threatened with the inability to obtain delivery of heating fuel.

The program will make payments of up to \$250 for unpaid fuel bills for eligible participants between October 1, 1976, through April 30, 1977.

Advance payments of \$100 will also be made to utility companies and fuel suppliers for future winter bills of eligible low-income elderly persons who have experienced a financial hardship as a result of the previous winter's fuel bills.

The State Economic Opportunity Office will approve or disapprove all applications after a thorough review of forms and documents. The operation of the program is limited with a termination date of August 31.

Further information on the program is available by calling the EIC, Administrative Office in Edenton, 482-4458, or the EIC Economic Resource Centers.

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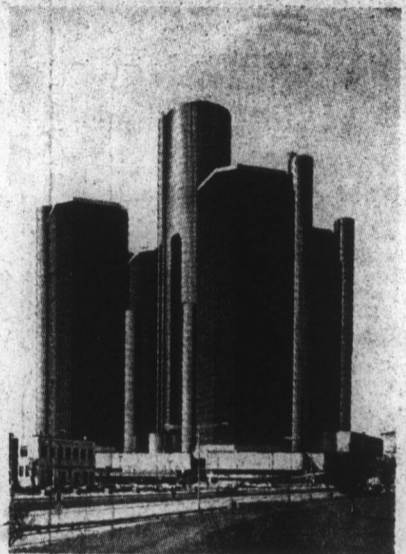
Edenton, North Carolina, Thursday, August 4, 1977

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Public Parade

Not Fast Enough

In this jet age you can fly from Norfolk, Va., to Detroit, Mich., in about an hour and a half, if you don't stop in Washington, D.C. This is about the time it takes to



Renaissance Center

drive from most anywhere along the Public Parade to the Tidewater regional airport.

Even at the rapid speed, when you are going you feel you will never get there. And returning, you feel you will never get back.



Detroit Plaza

This was our reflection on a recent trip to the Motor City.

From a 53rd story room in the Detroit Plaza we could see over the river into Windsor, Canada. From a lower level on the Chowan River we can see into Colerain in Bertie County, something we find more enjoyable from the hammock position.

At a time when Edenton has completed a mammoth downtown project, at little expense to the individual property owner, it is interesting to view the Renaissance Center of Detroit.

In 1971, Henry Ford proposed the redevelopment project along the Detroit River. Two years later it was begun and the 33-acre tract was transformed to a hotel-office building complex.

Now nearing completion, at a cost of some \$337-million, it is the biggest urban development project in the country funded with private capital.

The Detroit Plaza stands some 73-stories tall with four office towers surrounding it. Located just east of the Civic Center, it is a magnificent addition to Detroit's skyline. It is considered the "crown jewel" of the complex.

A delegation from Northeastern North Carolina on an Alliance For Progress trip boarded a bus at the busy Detroit airport and gave the "Plaza" as the destination. "Are you going just to look?" the driver asked. "No, we're staying there," was the answer.

The driver shook his head in disbelief. Four days later we had

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Evaluation Policy Adopted

A teacher evaluation policy stressing improved instruction and morale was approved by the Edenton-Chowan Board of Education, Monday night.

Under the policy, formal evaluation of teacher performance will be handled by the principals of each school. It was emphasized that the policy is intended to be a cooperative endeavor between teacher and principals in locating and dealing with problem areas.

The evaluation report will deal with the areas of classroom planning, implementation of strategies, pupil evaluation, and professional behavior.

Also approved were policies relating to student assignment and reassignment and loss of time due to temporary disability including pregnancy and childbirth.

A lunchroom financial report by Mrs. Etta Hathaway revealed that the food service program now has \$56,051 on hand and approximately \$35,000 are needed each month to operate the programs. She also reported that the only changes in the free and reduced lunches is that higher income levels are now eligible for those programs.

The board of education reserved formal action on the repayment of retirement credits for lunchroom workers on the basis of their being no funds available. It would cost the schools some \$25,000 in reimbursement.

It was agreed that the employees, if they desire, could pay the entire amount of the retirement, due in lump sum.

Six new teacher aide positions were made available to the county through the Governor's primary reading program. Those positions will be used at D. F. Walker School.

Funds for an alternative school proposal were not allotted from 1977 monies. However the board will seek funding for the proposal in October when allotments for 1978 are made.

Net Collections

Net collections from the 1 per cent local option sales tax in June in Chowan County amounted to \$24,915.11 and \$12.5-million in all counties of the state where the tax is collected.

Chowan County 4-H'ers Bring Home State Honors

Chowan County's 38 4-H youth and leaders were much in evidence at the 1977 N.C. 4-H Club congress last week in Raleigh. Honors received included two state demonstration winners, five second place demonstration winners, one third place demonstration winner, four 4-H'ers tapped into the 4-H Honor Club, one state project winner, an outstanding act in the state talent show and one district officer elected.

Chowan County's 10 district winning demonstrations competed with winners from the seven other

extension district for state honors. Bobby Dail, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Dail of Edenton, was named state winner in the Small Engines Demonstration. Bradley Ward, son of Mr. and Mrs. Beecher Ward of Tyner, placed first in the Automotive Skill Driving Contest. Both 4-H'ers will receive expense paid trips to the Eastern U.S. 4-H Automotive Event to be held this fall in Richmond Virginia.

Placing second in demonstration contests were: Debbie Jordan, crop utilization; Leon Rouson, open class; Bob Jordan,

American Business System, individual; Bill Jordan and Carroll Perry, American Business System, team; David Jordan and Greg Brabble, crop production.

Placing third was Jane Parrish in pork cookery. Other demonstration participants were Beverly Twine in automotive skill driving and Al Ward in beef-char-grill.

Ward, former president of Chowan County 4-H Council, was elected vice president of the 15-county Northeastern District. Vanessa Spivey of Edenton was nominated for district reporter.

Cynthia and Harold Jones of Edenton received an outstanding reception for their "Hambone" act in the state talent show on Thursday evening.

One of the highlights of the week was the dedication of the "4-H Fountain of Youth" at the Jane S. McKimmon Continuing Education Center. The fountain, erected with funds raised by 4-H members across North Carolina was filled with water from N.C.'s 100 counties. Debbie Jordan was the water bearer for Chowan County. Jane Parrish attended the dedication breakfast and received a certificate recognizing Chowan County's contribution.

Mrs. Eula Jordan and Mr. and Mrs. Yates Parrish represented Chowan County at the 4-H Leader recognition luncheon on Thursday. Mrs. Parrish is the 1977 recipient of the Northeastern District Outstanding Leader Award, presented by the N.C. 4-H Honor Club.

Randy Copeland of Tyner was recognized as a Development Fund Scholarship winner and Jean Parrish of Edenton was recognized as State Corn Production project winner.

Other delegates from Chowan County participating in activities include: Kelly West, Jean Goodwin, Sue Bunch, Jo Ann Perry, Lynn Gibbs and Kevin Twine. Harry Ward, Sarah Chappell, Alan Dail and Tony Dail also attended.

Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Jordan and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Dail attended special activities during the week.

The Chowan delegation was supervised by Miss Theresa Turner, Mrs. Fran Ward, Murray Goodwin and Maurice England, from the extension office.



STATE WINNER — Bobby Dail, 15-year-old 4-H'er of Route 2 Edenton, won the small engine demonstration at the 1977 N.C. 4-H Congress in Raleigh. At left is Mrs. Yates Parrish, a Chowan 4-H leader, and at the right is Mrs. Fran Ward, Chowan home economics extension agent.



SKILL DRIVER — Bradley Ward, Route 1, Tyner, accepts the trophy he won in the 4-H automotive skill driving demonstration at the 1977 N.C. 4-H Congress in Raleigh. Presenting the trophy to Bradley is O. Roy Harrell of Charlotte, president of the N.C. Motor Carriers Association. At the left is Murray Goodwin, Chowan County agricultural extension agent.