

Construction Funds Dropped School Board OK's Budget



REMEMBER? — This unusual sight, which at one time was a common occurrence, was seen on a recent Saturday morning on Badham Road. Bill Davis used the mule and plow to break land for a garden. It has not been determined as to who tired first, but the latest word was that all bets were on Bill.

A \$100,000 "kitty" for future construction of a new school was stricken from the budget by Edenton-Chowan Board of Education at a special meeting Tuesday night on a 4-3 vote. A budget of \$945,744 was then approved unanimously and is being forwarded to Chowan County commissioners.

The new figure is about 11 per cent higher than the 1978-79 budget of \$837,450. Of the total, \$20,520 is included for capital expenditures at existing schools while the big change is in current expenses.

Mrs. Emily G. Amburn was successful in committee in getting \$100,000 included in the budget and designated for purchase of a site for a new high school. However, when the budget was considered in a "working session" on April 26 her motion to send the budget as presented failed when Chairman Eugene Jordan voted to break the 2-2 deadlock.

At last week's meeting, Wilbur Ray Bunch voted with Mrs. Amburn to retain the capital outlay item. Negative votes, other than Jordan's, were cast by Thomas Paul Griffin and Cecil W. Fry. (Drs. Edward Bond and J. H. Horton were absent.)

When the board met Tuesday night the capital reserve item was the only one discussed. Griffin made a motion to delete the item

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MISCHIEVOUS MARK — The scene was a picture taking session Monday afternoon in the Cupola Gardens. Four pretty hostesses were on hand to pose for a promotional shot, but it was Mark Earnhardt who hammed it up. While the photographer directed Mrs. Robert Bachman,

Mrs. Lynwood Davenport, Mrs. Neil Dirom and Mrs. W. J. P. Earnhardt, Jr., into place, Mark climbed up to get a bird's eye view. These and other hostesses will be at the Cupola Garden party Sunday afternoon but mischievous Mark probably won't make it.

Public Parade

Fishless Chowan

Algae in the Chowan River is rapidly rendering the body of water fishless. While the economic impact the algae problem has caused in all facets can't be totaled, what is happening to the commercial fisherman is disastrous.

The herring harvest has been the darling of commercial fishermen in the Chowan. Prior to the algae bloom of 1972 catches regularly exceeded 1-million pounds annually. In 1978 the total fell to just over 500,000 pounds. This year by April 18 the catch was below 250,000 pounds.

The herring catch on April 18 is an example. On that date in 1978 the total was 30,000 pounds and on the same date this year the total was just over 6,500 pounds. Catfish, perch and rock are declining almost as dramatically.

The fishing industry has a major impact on the economy along the Public Parade. The impact is now negative as the Chowan becomes practically fishless.

Chance To Thank

Edward G. Bond Post No. 40, American Legion, is extremely active along the Public Parade. However, the members are not so busy doing their thing that they fail to remember others who perform valuable public service.

On May 10 the American Legion will sponsor its fourth annual appreciation banquet for Edenton-Chowan Rescue Squad. The time is 7:30 P.M. and the fare is \$6.

This community is fortunate to have a considerable number of volunteers who care about their neighbors and who are willing to train on their own and put the knowledge they receive into practice when necessary.

And all of it is accomplished without it being a burden on the taxpayers.

So, the citizens can show their appreciation for the fantastic job these folks do for the community by participating with the American Legion in this project. All the profit from the banquet will be donated to the rescue squad.

The Census

Those are interesting figures included in a discussion paper on population and housing characteristics in the Town of Edenton. The figures are the direct result of a census taken last month.

While the population increased about 3 per cent the number of housing units increased 24 per cent. This is evidence that the average household size is decreasing.

The town's population is 5,364, 83 per cent of which is non-white. The

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ARPCD Delays Grant Application

Two health related programs in Northeastern North Carolina are being questioned by Albemarle Regional Planning & Development Commission through the A-95 Clearinghouse process.

At a meeting in Hertford last Thursday night, ARPCD's Clearinghouse Committee delayed for 30 days a decision on the grant continuation application of Northeastern Rural Health Development Association as well as Farmers Home Administration's participation in a capital project of Dr. Richard N. Hines, Jr., and Dr. C. Clement Lucas.

Andy Martin, NRHDA executive director, said he would supply the committee with whatever additional information requested. Also, he and representatives of the board of directors of the non-profit association will attend the committee meeting on May 16.

At the board meeting Monday

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To Study Bridge

The State Department of Transportation has employed a consulting firm to study replacement of the Albemarle Sound Bridge which connects Chowan and Washington counties.

Local officials were notified by letter Thursday that Beiswenger Hoch and Associates, Inc., will do the necessary planning studies and prepare an environmental statement, (or negative declaration) on the project on Highway 32, east of Edenton.

"The consultant is to develop preliminary location and structure type alternatives for replacement of the existing bridge," it was stated. A draft report is scheduled for completion in the fall and a public informational meeting and official public hearing will be scheduled.

Hyde To Speak

Sec. Herbert L. Hyde of the State Department of Crime Control and Public Safety will be keynote speaker at the annual Spring dinner meeting of the Albemarle Law & Order Association. The meeting will be held May 11 at the Carolinian Motor Hotel in Rags Head.

More than 200 people are expected to attend the banquet which begins at 7:30 P.M. The social hour begins at 5:30 o'clock.

Glenn M. Hassell, planning director for the association, notes that this will be Sec. Hyde's first major speech in Northeastern North Carolina since he was appointed to the post by Gov. James B. Hunt, Jr.

Sec. Hyde, a former member of both the N. C. House of Representatives and Senate, is from Asheville.

Police Chief W. Clarence Owens of Elizabeth City is president of the 10-county association. Sheriff Troy Toppin of Chowan County is second vice president.

Mrs. Terry Is New Deputy

The Chowan County Sheriff's Department has recently employed its first female patrol deputy. She is Linda Nixon Terry, 25, Route 2, Edenton.

This position was created by funds made available through a Law Enforcement Assistance Administration grant in the amount of \$11,628 for continuation

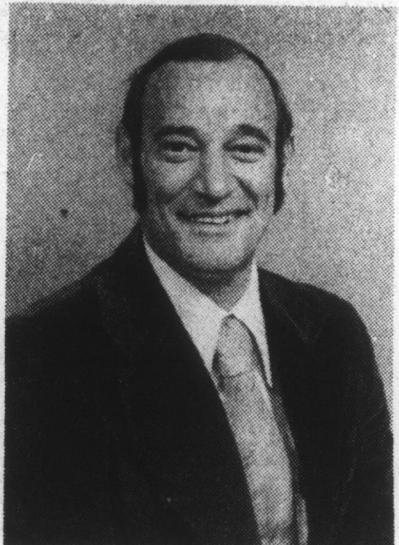
Educators Schedule Banquet

The banquet to honor school personnel and to recognize a segment of the community, which has consistently supported education in Chowan County has become an annual tradition.

The third annual banquet, jointly sponsored by the N. C. A. E. - A. C. T. professional educator's organizations, will be held at 7 P.M. May 10 in the D. F. Walker School Cafeteria.

This year town, county, area and state law enforcement agencies will be receiving special recognition for their services contributed to the school system. Also retiring school personnel and those employees having dedicated 20 years to the education of children will be honored.

Eugene Causby, assistant



Eugene Causby

superintendent for personnel relations and public affairs from the State Department of Public Instruction, will be the guest speaker.

Widely known in educational and other circles for his genial personality, wit, and entertaining talent, Causby has served 22 years in education in positions of teacher, coach, principal, administrative assistant, and associate director of human affairs with the state department to his present position.

The "dutch treat" banquet will feature entertainment by John A. Holmes High School's Chorus, under the direction of Mrs. Shelby Strother.

Discusses River

By Flynn Surratt

Dr. A. M. Witherspoon, NCSU associate professor of biology, told those attending Chowan High School FFA banquet recently that it is ironic American farmers feed over 50 per cent of the world's population, yet share less of this nation's wealth than any other professional.

Dr. Witherspoon, who since 1973 has headed research of the Chowan River algae problem, also remarked that the presence of so many faculty and board of education members is indicative of the spirit and quality of education in Chowan County.

The Chowan River problem, he said, stems from the presence of algae, water plants which like some land plants have the ability to fix nitrogen. Scientists, at present, don't know how the fixing process works, and producers of chemical fertilizers containing nitrogen will not aid in this research for fear of pinching their own pocketbooks.

He added that producers of fertilizer are not solely responsible. Also involved are municipal

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Cupola House Garden Party

Plans are shaping up for the Cupola House Association's Garden Party, scheduled for Sunday afternoon from 3:30 to 5:30 o'clock. (raindate May 13).

Mrs. R. N. Campbell, Ways and Means chairman, reports that a bevy of gracious hostesses will be on hand to serve champagne punch and lemonade in the gardens, and to conduct tours of the National Historic Landmark for those desiring it.

Hostesses will include Mrs. Robert Bachman, Mrs. Terrence Boyle, Mrs. Joseph Conger, Jr., Mrs. Douglas Conkwright, Mrs. Lynwood Davenport, Mrs. Neil Dirom, Mrs. W. J. P. Earnhardt, Jr., Mrs. Clement Lucas, Doris Moreland, Mrs. Adrian Smith, Mrs. Chester Stevens, and Mrs. Joseph Throud.

Flower arrangements in the Cupola House will be created by Mrs. Sandy Rose.

Members of the Cupola House Association are looking forward to greeting all Albemarle Area residents who are able to attend, especially those who may not have had an earlier opportunity to visit this historic property.

'Fun Run' Slated

Organized by representatives of the Edenton Jaycees, Edenton-Chowan Chamber of Commerce, Tourism Committee, and Peoples Bank, a mini-marathon and "Fun Run" will take place May 19 at 10 A.M. To be known as the Herring Run, the event is planned as an annual activity.

Organizers emphasize that this first Herring Run will have the objective of stimulating interest in healthful exercise, rather than in competitive racing. Courses of 10,000 meters (6.2 miles) and 3

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FEMALE PATROL DEPUTY — Mrs. Linda Nixon Terry is congratulated by Mrs. Lena M. Leary, clerk of court, after being sworn in as Chowan County's first female patrol deputy. Sheriff Troy Toppin is at left.



ADDRESSES FFA BANQUET — Dr. A. M. Witherspoon, NCSU associate professor of biology who heads the study of the Chowan River algae problem, was guest speaker for a recent FFA banquet at Chowan High School. He is shown at left above talking with Wilbur Ray Bunch, a member of the Edenton-Chowan Board of Education.