

# Plea For Funds Is Turned Down

Edenton-Chowan Board of Education suffered another setback in a re-organization program Monday when Chowan County commissioners rejected the latest request for additional funds. The result will be the unpopular

placement of the Ninth Grade at Walker School with K-3.

The commissioners voted unanimously to reject the request for \$25,000—spread over two budget years—which would have placed six temporary classrooms on the Holmes High School campus and kept grades 9-12 together. Therefore, it appears that the board of education will have to scrap all options which cost anything at all this year.

At the same time, the commissioners reaffirmed a prior agreement to purchase four new buses which are needed to implement the consolidation plan.

Commission chairman C. A. Phillips said, at the outset there was "no use to get into a debate on the merits" of the request because "we just simply don't have the money."

He added that it was a real strain for the county to come up with \$8,000 in matching funds to pay for a music teacher at Chowan High School after the budget had been adopted. "Our situation has not changed," he declared.

Dr. J. H. Horton, speaking for the board of education, said the basic purpose of the request was to bring about reorganization. He said the first request (for \$150,000) was turned down by the commissioners and when the public "vigorously" objected to housing the Ninth Grade at Walker, the board had an obligation to seek additional funds.

Commissioner J. D. Peele, chairman of the Finance Committee, noted that "only \$16,000 is left" in the county's Contingency Fund. "I see no possible place we can get it (the \$25,000 or any portion thereof) from," he said. He said while there is some additional money anticipated from Revenue Sharing, it is already earmarked.

Mrs. Emily G. Amburn, a school board member, said she was never happy with any other plan other than the first one presented to commissioners after defeat of the school bonds, which carried a price tag of \$150,000. "Parents, teachers and students were not happy with any other plan," she said, but the latest option, while not ideal, is acceptable.

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## Deadline Set

The deadline for entries in the 1979 Christmas Parade has been set for 12-noon on November 30, according to Robert Moore, executive vice president of Edenton-Chowan Chamber of Commerce.

This year's parade will take place on Sunday, December 2, beginning at 2:30 P.M.



**GIVING AND RECEIVING** — The Town of Edenton last Thursday night was one of 77 municipalities in North Carolina to receive the Governor's Community of Excellence Award. Prior to the Raleigh ceremony, Mayor Roy L. Harrell and Councilman Steve Hampton presented Gov. James B. Hunt, Jr., a specially



designed teapot. In the picture at right, Mayor Harrell receives the Governor's Award for Edenton. Below, W. B. Gardner, town administrator, is flanked by Gov. Hunt and Larry Cohick, head of economic development with the State Department of Commerce.

## Governor's Award Presented

Edenton was officially honored as a Governor's Community of Excellence by Governor James B. Hunt, Jr., in Raleigh last Thursday during the Governor's Conference on Economic Development.

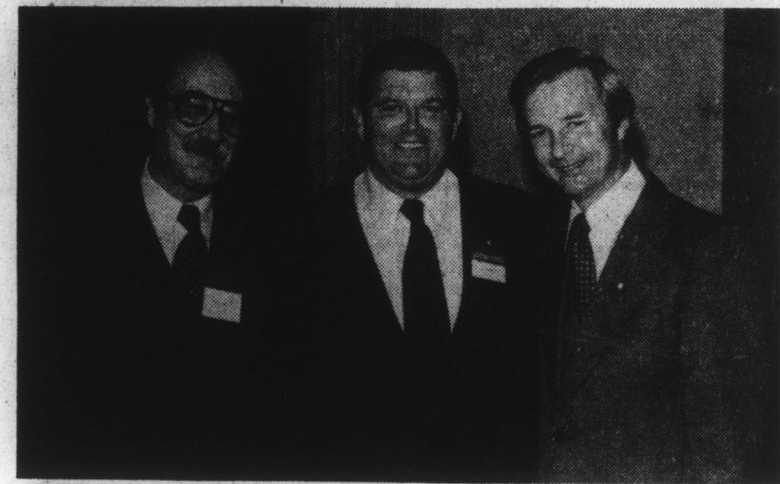
Gov. Hunt presented the award to Mayor Roy L. Harrell.

"I am proud of the progress which communities like Edenton have made during the past year," Gov. Hunt said. "It is an achievement which they can relish

with great pride. The work which has been done in qualifying for this honor also represents a big step toward better job opportunities."

To qualify for the award, Edenton had to meet the basic criteria required by new industry which among other things includes: an organization for putting together and presenting the town's story, adequate labor, industrial sites, financing and access to markets.

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## Public Parade

### Thanksgiving 1979

This marks our 15th Thanksgiving along the Public Parade. These have been the most meaningful years of our life, filled with ingredients of love, joy, accomplishment and receiving. Nevertheless, the years have been tempered with a generous amount of tension, pressure and pain.

While our priorities can be questioned, our motives have always been above reproach. We are, therefore, thankful that we live in a country where "doing your own thing" isn't looked upon as something passe so long as it doesn't infringe on the rights of others.

These are troubled times in the United States and around the world. Yet, those who meander along the Public Parade have more to be thankful for than anyone. This is because of the quality of our people. We have the advantage and disadvantage of a small community, while living close enough to a metropolitan area to enjoy the advantages while not having to adjust to the disadvantages.

Thanksgiving is our favorite season. It is a time for attitude adjustment as we think positive, letting the negative drown in its own soup.

During the past month we have traveled throughout Tar Heelia more than in any other short span in our life. We have grown to appreciate more what we have as we talk with others. What we all have in common is the privilege to live in a country where differences need not be disasters.

Our 47 years have been good ones, years of variety and challenge. We are thankful for this although we hardly deserve it. Nevertheless, we continue to strive to contribute to the solution rather than be a part of the problem.

When we sit down to make a list of things for which we are thankful, it is ever encompassing. It is actually Santa Claus a month

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## Joint Services Set

The Edenton United Methodist Church, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, and Edenton Presbyterian Church, will celebrate a Holy Communion Thanksgiving Service together on November 21; 7:30 P.M., at the Edenton United Methodist Church on Virginia Road.



**AWARD WINNERS AT FARM-CITY BANQUET** — Cam Byrum, center, chairman of the Farm-City Week banquet held Monday night at Edenton Jaycee Community Building, is surrounded by award winners announced at the event attended by more than 325 people. Billy Nixon, left, was recipient of the Outstanding Young Farmer Award; Annette Bunch and Paul Bunch were 4-H corn production winners; and David Bateman took the 1978 Peanut Award. Gary Copeland, a third corn winner, was not present.

## ECHSA Authorizes Review

GREENVILLE — Eastern Carolina Health Systems Agency has authorized a "full review" of supplemental information requested of the Northeastern Rural Health Development Association by the Department of Health, Education & Welfare.

The review meeting will be held November 29 in Greenville.

The additional information was requested after the ECHSA governing board disapproved, in August, NRHDA's proposed use of \$200,000 in federal funds for their second year of operations in Tyrrell, Bertie and Perquimans counties.

The full review process will include a thorough ECHSA staff analysis of the information; publicized opportunity for citizen-requested public hearings; a project review committee review and recommendation; and full governing board review and action.

Suspected duplication of health services, and proposed administrative costs which were not in line with other such Eastern North Carolina costs, led the ECHSA governing body to include concerns in their approval of a \$135,203 fourth-year continuation application submitted by the Outer Banks Medical Center.

At their November 15 meeting in Greenville, the governing body voted to attach the above concerns to their approval of the proposed use of federal funds, as the group

forwarded the application to DHEW for a final decision.

The Tarboro Community Medicine Foundation's proposed use of \$389,817 in federal funds for the fourth-year of operation of their Health Underserved Rural Area-Rural Health Initiative program was unanimously approved.

Two new members were confirmed and welcomed by the governing body at the meeting. New members are: John Willis, a consumer representative and Craven County commissioner, nominated by the Craven County Board of Commissioners; and David Henson, a provider representative and administrator of Chowan Hospital in Edenton, nominated by the Chowan County Board of Commissioners.

## Local Churches Report Thefts

Two rural Methodist churches in Chowan County last week were the target of what may have been professional antique thieves, according to Sheriff Troy Toppin. Two rural, unoccupied residences were also broken into and valuable items stolen.

The first to be hit was Locust Grove Methodist Church, Route 2, Edenton. A communion table and five pulpit chairs were stolen.

Also, during the late night of November 7 or early morning of November 8, someone entered Evans Methodist Church, Route 1, Edenton, and removed the bottom sections of all the leaded stained-glass windows. Several of the sections contain individual "in memory of" panes with names of

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## Indicted For Embezzlement

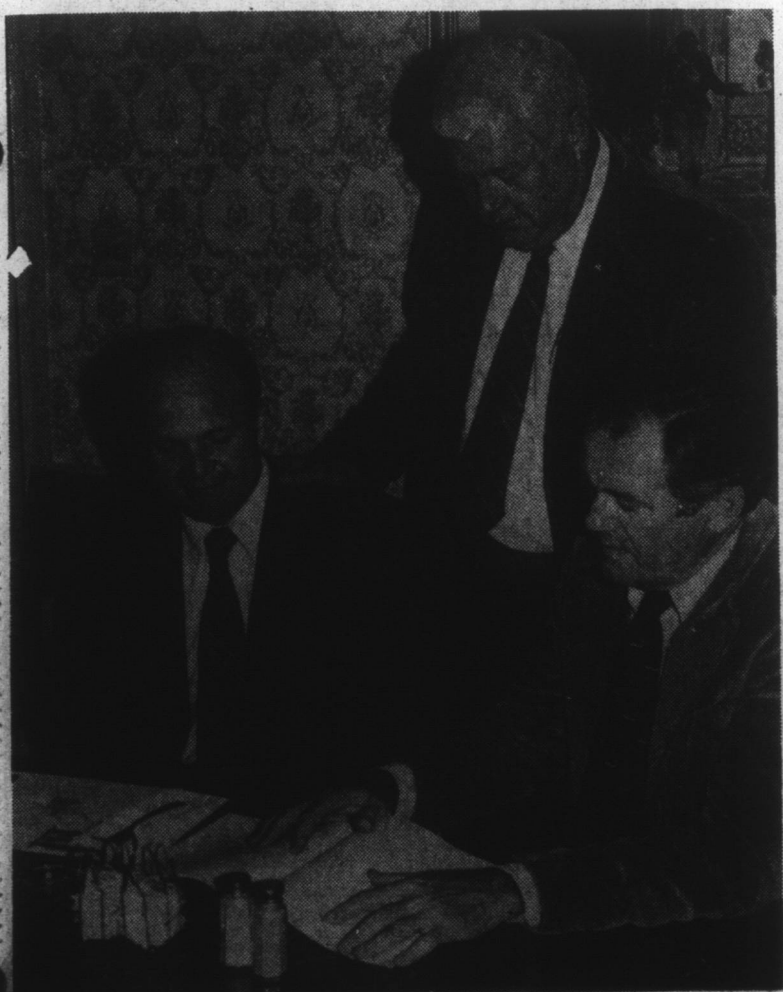
Mike Ervin of Edenton was among four persons indicted last week in what has been described as a "\$500,000 embezzlement scheme" at the Eastern North Carolina Opportunities Industrial Center here. Involved were federal employment and training funds.

Ervin was the center's controller for 11 months prior to accepting a position with Hoke Motor Corp. He was arrested Wednesday afternoon and placed in

Washington County Jail in lieu of \$25,000 bond.

The charges against Ervin include forgery, embezzlement and obtaining property by false pretense.

The others indicted Tuesday in connection with misuse of Comprehensive Employment and Training Act money were: Henry Crews, former center director; Delina Riddick, a secretary; and Audrey Holloway of Raleigh, a former bookkeeper.



**ACTION ON RIVER CLEANUP** — J. Gilliam Wood, right, chairman of the board of Natural Resources & Community Development, and Al Howard, standing, are shown with Dr. Neil Grigg of NRCD at a recent meeting. They are leaders in efforts to clean up the Chowan River.