



Frank A. Stewart

ENC Chamber Names Executive

GREENVILLE—The two-year-old Eastern North Carolina Chamber of Commerce has employed its first full-time executive, it was revealed today.

Frank A. Stewart will become executive vice president of the new organization on April 1, it was announced by Robert S. Hackney of Washington, president of the regional chamber.

Stewart is employed by the U. S. Chamber of Commerce as a membership development representative, and lives in Statesville. He will move his family to Greenville shortly.

"Frank Stewart is just the type of individual our organization needs as it continues its growth in preparation to provide Eastern North Carolina with a strong, unified voice," Hackney said. He reported that the chamber's selection committee chose Stewart from more than 40 applicants for the job. It has been screening the applicants for the past two months.

A native of Illinois, Stewart has a degree from Southern Illinois University with a major in communications. He is 39 years old and during his career has been a newspaper reporter and a radio station manager, after having worked in the radio field for several years.

He joined the staff of the U. S. Chamber in 1978, and since August, 1979, has been serving as a training officer for new representatives being added into the membership development effort of the national chamber.

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Democrats Slate Executive Session

The Chowan County Democratic Executive Committee meets March 6 at 6:30 P.M. at Mrs. Boswell's Restaurant. Democrats who are not members of the committee are welcomed, according to N. J. George, party chairman.

At the same time, George released the 1981 Democratic Calendar. Events include:

March 26 - Precinct Meetings 8 P.M. - Polling Places.

March 27-28 - Young Democrats State Convention Raleigh - Royal Villa.

April 2 - Precinct Meetings Make-up Date 8 P.M. - Polling Places.

April 11 - Jefferson-Jackson Breakfast 10 A.M. - Raleigh - Hilton Inn. Sponsored by Democratic Women of Wake County - \$10. Jefferson-Jackson Dinner 7 P.M. - Raleigh Civic Center - \$25.

April 25 - County Conventions - 1 P.M. - Site to be named by County Chairman.

May 19 - Democratic Women's Spring Fling, Goodwin House, 220 Hillsborough Street, Raleigh.

May 28-31 - Democratic Women's National Convention, Indianapolis, Ind.

July 17-18 - Downeaster, Wilmington - Hilton will be the headquarters. Banquet Speaker on the 18th - the Honorable Charlie Rose.

September 18-19 - Democratic Women's State Convention, Wilson - Heart of Wilson.

October 3 - Vance-Aycock Weekend, Asheville (tentative).

Political Vacancies Measure Opposed By Commissioners

Chowan County commissioners have been angered by a "local" bill for Wake County which has blossomed into a statewide measure in the General Assembly. The legislation authorizes political committees to appoint vacancies in county elected positions.

The measure, which was to be acted on Monday in the House of Representatives, would make mandatory nominations from the Executive Committee of the majority party in a county.

Chairman C. A. Phillips expressed the tenor of the board when he said he was very surprised "our delegation would not have been in touch with us before it (the bill) got this far along." The board, meeting in special session Monday afternoon, adopted a resolution aimed at getting the bill killed in the Senate or at least

having Chowan County exempted.

Phillips said he has been told that Gov. James B. Hunt, Jr., and other ranking Democrats across the state are supporting the measure. He said this is a real surprise since the new administration in Washington is moving toward more home rule.

"This thing started in Wake County," he pointed out. "What was Wake County politics is suddenly a measure with statewide implications," he said.

Commissioner Alton G. Elmore said the present system has worked "very well" and if "the county commissioners are to get the flack then we should appoint."

Commissioner J. D. Peele agreed, adding the measure would be saying the county commissioners "are nothing." Then he noted: "So long as the county commissioners are the governing body they should have the say about filling vacancies in elected positions."

Commissioner George Jones predicted that most counties will want to be exempted after they learn about what is about to happen.

Earlier, Phillips said Raleigh Carver, chairman of the board in Pasquotank County and area board member on the N. C. Association of County Commissioners, was not aware of the measure until it had already gone

Recommendations To Be Revealed

Recommendations for Democratic Party representation on the Chowan County Board of Elections will be announced March 6 at a meeting of the party's Executive Committee. The meeting will begin at 6:30 P.M. at Mrs. Boswell's Restaurant.

Mrs. Janice H. Faulkner, Continued On Page 4



VETERAN CHAIRMAN RETIRES—R. M. (Pete) Thompson, left, retires Friday as Agricultural Extension Chairman in Chowan County. He was recognized last week at a banquet. Here he receives a resolution from David Bateman, chairman, Chowan County Agricultural Extension Advisory Committee. (See Public Parade.)

Public Parade

Roasting Pete

It was billed as a Pete Thompson Appreciation Dinner. What it turned out to be was a meeting of the Wolfpack Club, with a generous amount of free advertisement for Peoples Bank.

The Chowan County Extension Advisory Council and the Extension Homemakers Council—headed by David Bateman and Mrs. Mary Julia Parrish, respectively—put together a fine recognition dinner for Pete Thompson, who retires Friday as county agricultural extension chairman.

Pete has served this community in splendid fashion for 11 years. His good work speaks for itself.

The high esteem in which he is held by his peers was demonstrated by their presence. To have either Dean J. E. Legates of the School of Agriculture & Life Sciences; Dr. T. Carlton Blalock, director, Agricultural Extension Service; Dr. Chester Black, associate director; or Dr. Paul Dew, assistant director, would be quite an honor. All of them were at Friday night's banquet.

Some of those on the program fried more than they roasted. At times even we looked at the program to be reassured the Tar Heels had not been substituted for Friend Pete.

Two people in the audience were particularly interested in some of the things being said. J. Gilliam Wood, who is chairman of the local board of Peoples Bank & Trust Company, and Jim Brown, city executive, soaked in all the free exposure. For those who haven't heard, Pete is joining the bank as an agribusiness consultant.

During our turn on the platform we were compelled to define a consultant as one who blows in, blows off and blows out. The audience recognized right off that Pete fit the description to the tee.

Pete Thompson exemplifies what is good along the Public Parade. His manner of leadership is a quality which many seek but few attain. The community is fortunate that he will remain here.

As he moves up the street to a new challenge we know everyone joins us in wishing him good health, happiness and continued success.

Program Material

There is an abundance of talent along the Public Parade. Some 100 men, women and children were exposed to it Sunday night at a family fellowship supper at Edenton United Methodist

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Murder Charge Is Reduced; Suspect Is Freed On Bond

Bertha Lee Cooper, 35-year-old Negro, Route 3, Edenton, is free on bond after the first degree murder charge against her was reduced Tuesday in Chowan County District Court.

Judge John Chaffin presided at the probable cause hearing. He set bond at \$3,000, after he ruled that the state's evidence failed to meet the elements of first degree murder.

The woman had been in Chowan County Detention Facility since her arrest at 1 A.M. February 11. She admitted stabbing George E. Hathaway, 56, after a domestic squabble. However, Christopher Bean, court appointed attorney, argued it was in self defense and without premeditation and deliberation.

Asst. Dist. Atty. Mike Johnson of Elizabeth City contended that

Miss Cooper's statement to Deputy Glenn Perry contained sufficient incriminating statements to support the charge.

Deputy Perry was the only witness at the hearing. He told of receiving a call at 1 A.M. on February 11. He arrived at the home on the Clarence Lupton farm and found Hathaway positioned on a bed. He said there was evidence of blood on the porch and inside the house.

"Someone had tried to clean most of the mess up," he told the judge.

He said the defendant told him that Hathaway came home about 10:30 P.M. and was drinking. A squabble resulted and she was cut by a knife wielded by Hathaway.

Miss Cooper related that she took the knife away from him and

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Commissioners; School Board Members Tour USS Edenton

Eighty miles south of Virginia Beach, Va., lies the Town of Edenton, the namesake of USS Edenton (ATS 1), homeported at the Naval Amphibious Base, Little Creek in Norfolk. On January 19 the two Edentons met as six members of the board of education and five county commissioners from Edenton visited the Amphibious Base for a tour of USS Edenton.

Escorted by Capt. M. S. Schuman, NJROTC Area Five Manager, the group boarded the ship at approximately 1:30 P.M. They were conducted on an hour-long tour of USS Edenton by Lt. Cmdr. Bill Stillmaker, commanding officer; Lt. Tom Service, executive officer; and Ens. John Sepulveda, diving and salvage officer.

As the tour began, Lt. Service explained that USS Edenton is the first of a new class of salvage tugs fitted with new and improved equipment. Providing rescue, salvage, and towing facilities to the fleet, the ship is able to assist and take in tow damaged ships or to conduct major diving and salvage operations.

USS Edenton has an overall length of 282 feet and eight inches, a beam of 50 feet, a full-load draft of 14 feet and six inches, and a full-load displacement of 2,929 tons. Her designed complement is eight officers and 92 men, and her designed speed is 16 knots.

The salvage tug Edenton is the third ship of the fleet to bear the city's name. The first Edenton (No. 3696), a cargo ship, was built

for the United States Shipping Board during World War I by Skinner and Eddy Corporation in Seattle, Wash. It was launched November 9, 1918, and was acquired by the Navy on December 5, 1918, and commissioned the same day. The

second Edenton was built as a submarine chaser by Albina Engine and Machinery Works in Portland, Ore. It was launched July 29, 1942, and was commissioned December 14, 1942, as USS PC-1077. The third Edenton was built by Brooke Marine, Ltd.,

Lowestoft in Suffolk, England; its keel was laid April 1, 1967. The salvage tug was launched May 15, 1968, and was commissioned January 23, 1971.

The Town of Edenton, incorporated in 1722, was named in

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EDENTONIANS ABOARD 'EDENTON'—Refreshments were in order recently as members of Chowan County Board of Commissioners and Edenton-Chowan Board of Education toured the USS Edenton. Lt. Cmdr. Bill Stillmaker is joined in cutting the ceremonial cake by C. A. Phillips, right, and Eugene Jordan, chairmen of the commissioners and school board respectively. At left is Commissioner J. D. Peele. (More Pictures On Page 7-A.)

Shop In Edenton Every Friday Night 'til 9 o'clock