



NEW OWNER — John Dowd stands with Kathy House (left) and Dawn Whitt (right) behind the counter of his new business.

## Dowd Heads Forehand Agency

The R. Elton Forehand Insurance Agency in Edenton changed ownership recently. The new owner is John Dowd. Ann Burroughs will continue as a producer in the agency.

After graduating from East Carolina with a degree in Business Administration, Dowd taught at

John A. Holmes High School for 8 years. In addition, he served as football coach and DECA advisor.

Dowd has 3 years of experience in the insurance business with Prudential. With his new business, he will strive to give the best service possible and will continue to represent Prudential.

## Vepco Approves Termination

In connection with efforts by 36 North Carolina cities belonging to N. C. Municipal Power Number 3 to purchase their own electric generating capacity, Vepco has agreed in principle to early termination of its contracts to provide electricity to 14 of those cities.

The others are now served by Carolina Power and Light Co.

In return, Vepco will receive \$16.5-million, subject to adjustment to reflect the actual amount of generating capacity purchased by the Agency, the number of cities that participate in the Agency's plan and other factors.

This payment will compensate Vepco for carrying costs on the investment made to serve the North Carolina cities. As a result, termination of Vepco service to the cities will have no adverse effect on Vepco retail customers or stockholders.

Vepco has also agreed in principle to continue transmitting electricity to the 14 cities over Vepco facilities. The electricity will be produced by portions of generating units that the Power Agency plans to purchase from Carolina Power and Light Co. During a two-year transition period beginning in December, 1981, Vepco would also continue to provide electricity to the cities it has served to supplement the generation produced by these units.

The board of the Power Agency has met and details of the final agreement between the Agency and Vepco are still being negotiated.

The purchase of generating capacity by the Power Agency will be financed by the issuance of tax-exempt bonds, thereby shifting part of the cost of capital to the Federal taxpayer and lowering the financing cost of the Power Agency. The municipalities

acknowledge that any cost difference is due primarily to the Agency's ability to issue tax-exempt bonds which carry lower interest rates than taxable securities issued by the utility. The Power Agency also is not subject to Federal income tax.

Vepco President William W. Berry said "I regret the impending loss of these customers, especially since it is based on the availability of Federal tax preferences rather than any true economic savings. We will, of course, be pleased to continue to provide service to any of the cities that choose not to participate in the Agency's plan."

Vepco now provides the cities with about 300,000 kilowatts of power under contracts that would continue through 1985.

Rates for the transmission service to the cities that participate in the Power Agency's plan, like present wholesale rates, are regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

The final agreement reached between Vepco and the Power Agency will become void if the Power Agency does not reach agreement with CP&L by December 1981.

## Tarheel Bank

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North Broad Street and Coke Avenue. John H. Woolard is chairman of the local board and serves on the general board. Other board members in Edenton are Dr. Richard N. Hines, Murray Tynch, and T.B.H. Wood.

## 4-H Groups

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Congress a few weeks ago. Others attending 4-H Congress were Debbie Jordan, Mike Pippins, Dwight Bonner, Mr. and Mrs. Evans and Fran Ward.

## Social Services Dept. Receives \$1,389 Grant

RALEIGH — County social services departments across the state have been allocated their share of \$650,000 to continue permanency planning program for foster children begun this past fiscal year.

Chowan County's share is \$1,389. N. C. Department of Human Resources Secretary Dr. Sarah T. Morrow redirected federal child welfare funds during the past fiscal year to county social services departments to begin permanency planning programs. Seventy-two local departments accepted their allocation which required no county matching funds and began permanency planning for their foster children based on state guidelines.

"We have been deeply concerned for a long time," Dr. Morrow said, "that far too many children have been placed in foster care when they could have remained with their natural parents with adequate supportive services. We also have been concerned that many of those have been placed in foster care have been allowed to 'drift' from one foster home to another for most of their lives without any plans being made for them to have a permanent home of their own."

She said that last year's funds were allocated to the 72 counties to get a permanency planning program started. "Progress has certainly been made in getting the programs started and we feel that the financial assistance being provided again this year will do the same this year and that some of the other 28 counties that opted not to last year plan to start programs this year.

Counties had until July 27, 1981, to accept their allocations. No local matching is required.

## Special Meeting Is Called

The Chairman of the Board of Commissioners of N. C. Municipal Power Agency Number 3 has called a special meeting of the Executive Committee, together with the Negotiating Committee, to be held on July 30 at 2 P. M. in City Hall in Wilson.

Further notice is given of the previously called special meeting of the Board of Commissioners of North Carolina Municipal Power Agency Number 3 to be held at 4 P. M. in the same place on the same date.

The purpose of these meetings will be for the taking of action with respect to the proposed acquisition, operation, fueling, and financing of undivided ownership interests by N. C. Municipal Power Agency Number 3 in facilities for the generation of electric power and energy and the provision of other services, including but not limited to, the adoption and authorization of all agreements, resolutions, and other actions incident or related to.

It is further noted that, in addition to these two official meetings noticed above, there will be a public meeting in the Moose Lodge in Wilson beginning at 7:30 P. M. on July 30, which all officials of all member municipalities are urged to attend, at which a summary of the proposed acquisition and financing of said generation facilities will be presented. The Moose Lodge is located on Forest Hills Road between Highways 42 and 301, west of Wilson.

The special meeting at 4 P. M. is for the purpose of taking final action on the project and it is absolutely essential that each municipality be represented by its Commissioner or Alternate Commissioner.

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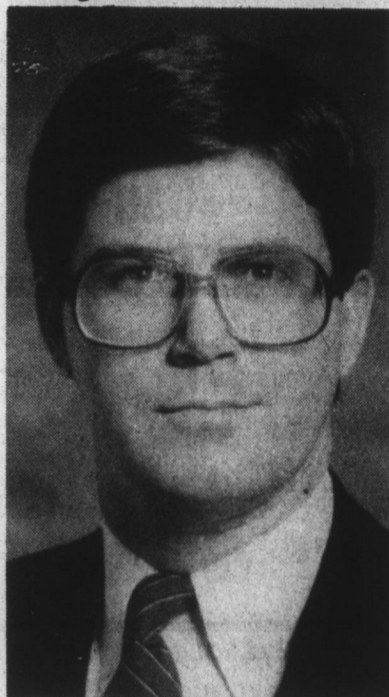
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GRAND OPENING — July 16 marked the opening of TG&Y and Shoe Show, both located in the Edenton Village Shopping Center. The ribbon is being cut prior to the opening of TG&Y.

## Coastal Waters Facing Serious Algae Threat

North Carolina's coastal rivers and sounds face serious threats of fish kills and algal blooms as a result of the long spell of extremely hot and dry weather which has occurred during the spring and summer, according to the Division of Environmental Management.



Rep. Charles D. Evans

## Evans Is Appointed

## To Seafood Authority

RALEIGH — Rep. Charles D. Evans of Dare County was appointed to the N. C. Seafood Industrial Park Authority today by House Speaker Liston B. Ramsey.

The authority is developing a seafood industrial park at Wanchese to promote the seafood industry in the region.

"The Seafood Industrial Park has great potential for the development of the Dare County area and I am glad to have the chance to appoint a person of Charles Evans' ability to the authority," Speaker Ramsey said.

Rep. Evans, an attorney and resident of Nags Head, represents the First House District made up of Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Dare, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Tyrrell and Washington counties.

He is chairman of the House Governmental Ethics Committee.

## College Credit

## TV Course Set

Continued from page 1

week, and using a text and study guide, students can receive three hours of curriculum credit in General Psychology when they complete the requirements for the course. Mid-term and final examinations will be given at John A. Holmes High School in Edenton.

Judy Earnhardt, county coordinator for COA, will be the course manager. She will conduct a one-hour orientation session at the high school at 7 P. M. on August 19 and August 20.

Interested persons may register from August 3 through August 28. Mrs. Earnhardt will have registration forms available. She may be contacted by writing her at 107 Blount Street, or by calling 482-2546.

The total cost of the telecourse is \$39.50. This charge includes: tuition, \$9.75; text, \$21.00; and study guide, \$8.75.

In the Pamlico River, oxygen depletion has resulted in the death of hundreds of thousands of fish and eels. A bloom of blue-green algae has already occurred on the Neuse River. Conditions are right for blooms on the Chowan and the Pamlico.

## Low Oxygen Threatens Fish:

River flows are low from lack of rain. This, coupled with the lack of wind, has caused the waters to become layered or stratified. This stratification has prevented the waters from mixing and transferring oxygen from the surface to the bottom. High temperatures have reduced the capacity of the waters to hold oxygen, so there is less oxygen available to be mixed when conditions allow.

Masses of salt water have moved far up coastal rivers and settled to the bottom, further contributing to the stratification problem. This "saltwater wedge" pushes freshwater fish farther upstream and allows saltwater species to move farther inland. Fish are killed when high temperatures and stratification result in oxygen depletion, or through salinity shock when a sudden addition of fresh water dilutes the wedge or causes it to move to the surface.

The saltwater wedge is exerting its influence far up the coastal rivers. In the Chowan, the wedge has reached Colerain. On the Roanoke it has reached the highway N. C. 45 bridge near Plymouth. The wedge has traveled up the Pamlico to Washington and up the Neuse to the Weyerhaeuser plant above New Bern.

Relief from low oxygen levels and the stratification of coastal waters comes with a change in the weather. Lower temperatures will allow the water to store more oxygen. Rain or wind will stir up the waters and break up the saltwater wedge. However, coastal weather patterns offer no basis for optimism. These adverse conditions could disappear and reappear throughout August and September, as thunderstorms bring temporary relief from hot, dry and still conditions.

## Conditions Are Perfect For Algae:

Coastal rivers also face serious threats from algal blooms. Sunlight, warm weather, low flows and nutrients — nitrogen and phosphorus — are the key ingredients for a bloom. Current weather and flow conditions are perfect for blooms. The final ingredient, high nutrient concentrations, comes from overland runoff and treatment plant discharges throughout these river basins. Nutrients carried from the

land by rainfall provide a base level in the rivers. Treatment plant discharges add to this base and become a more significant source of nutrients under low flow conditions.

Algae interfere with the beauty and recreational enjoyment of any body of water. Some species produce a chemical toxic to fish and mammals as a by-product of their metabolism. Blooms can result in fish kills when algae rid the water of its oxygen. This depletion can occur during daily cycles or in the decomposition of dead algae.

The best method for controlling blooms is to reduce the nutrients which feed the algae. Current sampling shows that nutrient levels are so high in coastal rivers that it is too late to use this control method this year. For the balance of the summer North Carolina's coastal rivers will face an almost continuous threat of algal blooms.

## FHA Housing Loans Available

The Farmers Home Administration in Hertford has housing loan funds available at an interest rate of 13 1/4 per cent. Applicants could possibly qualify for either the subsidized loan program or the nonsubsidized loan program. Funds are now available to all qualified applicants.

Prime candidates for subsidized loan funds are persons with a Total Annual Family Income in the range of \$8,000 to \$12,500. Prime candidates for non-subsidized loan funds are persons with a Total Annual Family Income in the range of \$14,000 to \$16,000. Applicants, for either form of loan, should have a minimum debt level.

FmHA's housing program tries to assist person who can not obtain the necessary credit from other sources for housing purposes.

Persons who are interested in FmHA's rural housing loan program should contact the Farmers Home Administration County Office in Hertford for detailed information. The phone number is 426-5733.

Farmers Home Administration loans are determined without regard to race, creed, color, sex, age, marital status, or national origin.

## NEWS VIEWS

Thomas P. O'Neil, House Speaker:

"The president truly in my opinion doesn't understand the working class, middle America..."

## The Chowan Herald (USPS 106-380)

P.O. BOX 207, EDENTON, N.C. 27932

Published every Thursday at Edenton by The Chowan Herald, Inc., L.F. Amburn, Jr., Editor and Publisher, 421-425 South Broad Street, Edenton, North Carolina, 27932.

Entered as second-class matter August 30, 1934, at the Post Office of Edenton, North Carolina, under Act of March 3, 1879.

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### Subscription Rates

One Year (outside N.C.)	\$10.00
One Year (in N.C.)	\$9.36
Six Months (outside N.C.)	\$6.50
Six Months (in N.C.)	\$6.24

Edenton, North Carolina, Thursday, July 30, 1981