

Chowan County Is An Excellent Example Of Cooperation

Farmers Home Administration has some \$16-million in loans outstanding in Chowan County where the agency has one of the lowest loss rates in the entire State of North Carolina. Furthermore, FmHA has poured more than \$1-million in outright grant funds into the state's first countywide

water system, which is located here, and a two-county sanitary landfill.

These facts were highlighted Monday night as some 350 people gathered at the annual Farm-City Week banquet at Edenton Jaycee Community Building on Base Road. Paul Parks, chief, Community

Programs Division of the FmHA in Raleigh, said this county's water system is the flagship for the 22 now operating in North Carolina. The county's example has been copied many times over, he continued, as communities moved to do "something about or avoid crossroads water systems."

Parks and Melvin Howell, FmHA director in Chowan County, helped pioneer the system. Howell was commended by Parks for the loss rate of about 1 per cent on agency loans in Chowan County. "This shows the quality of the man," Parks said of Howell.

The speaker pointed out that health care and housing are two areas in which rural communities lag behind urban counterparts. He said safe drinking water is important and "you have done something about it here."

He pointed out that in the 1970s, for the first time in 160 years, rural growth was larger than that in urban areas. And North Carolina must continue to think about the rapid growth in the rural areas.

Parks said the areas are getting new residents who don't demand much at first and enjoy the low tax

rates. "But this just doesn't last," he noted. "The new tax base created by this population growth doesn't go up as fast as demand for services."

Chowan County and the Town of Edenton are examples used throughout the state for excellent cooperation among governments and citizens, he added. "This is what this observance this week is all about," he concluded.

Parks was introduced by Mike Williams, Chowan County Agricultural Extension Service chairman. Williams said through cooperation of the speaker the county has received more than \$1-million in FmHA grants for the water system and the landfill shared with Perquimans County.

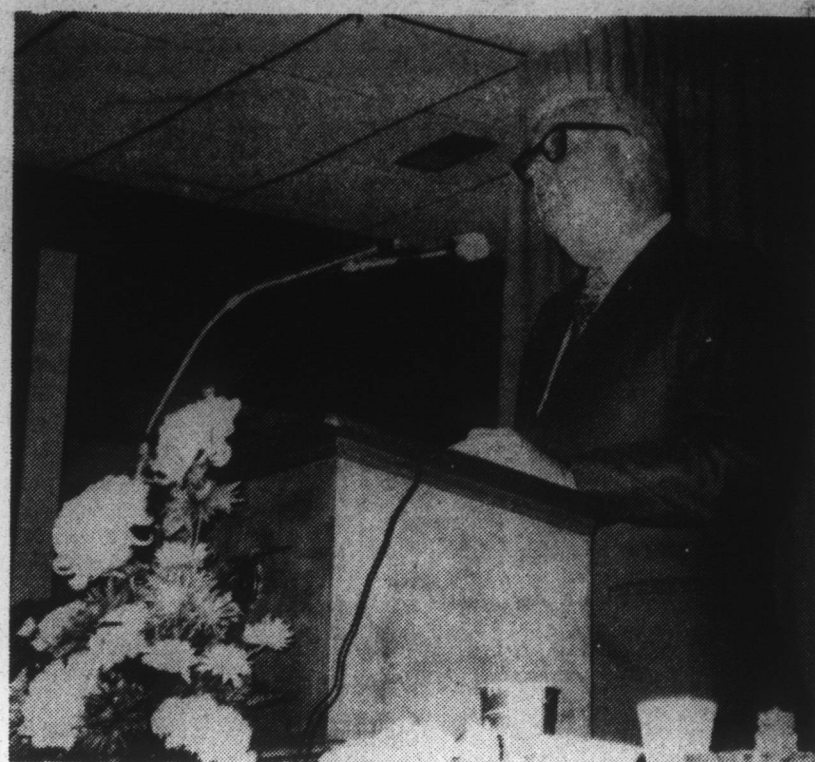
Emmett Winborne was named recipient of the Outstanding Young Farmer and Rancher Award presented by Edenton Jaycees. Making the presentation was Allen Mills, club president.

David Bateman was cited as winner of the 1981 Peanut Award. His yield of 5,700 pounds per acre took top honors in the contest conducted by the Edenton-Chowan Chamber

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BANQUET PRINCIPALS—Paul Parks of Raleigh, center, was principal speaker Monday night at the annual Farm-City Week banquet here. Parks is an official of the Farmers Home Administration. Shown with him are, left, Mike Williams, county extension chairman; and Wesley Chesson, chairman of the observance.



SPEAKS TO CONSERVATION DISTRICT—Captain Al Howard, Chairman of the Chowan Regional Task Force spoke at the Area Five North Carolina Soil and Water Conservation Districts meeting.

Meeting Held To Show Concern And Dedication To Conservation

The Area Five North Carolina Soil and Water Conservation Districts held their annual meeting in Edenton on Tuesday, November 9. The Soil and Water Conservation Districts met to show their concern and dedication to the conservation of soil, water and other related natural resources in the region.

The attention of the Districts is directed to all areas of soil and water conservation and the problems related to the conservation of these natural resources. Water quality, however, was a major concern to the Districts at this meeting.

Captain Al Howard, chairman of the Chowan Regional Task Force, was on hand at the meeting to address the water quality issue for the Districts. He outlined his talk around the history of the Chowan Regional Task Force.

It all began according to Howard in 1972 when the Chowan River filled with unsightly algae blooms. The blooms were unsightly, problematic and served as a signal that the River was on its last legs. Something had to be done because as the blooms continued they created a decreased harvest of fish from the Chowan River and made the river undesirable for the recreational industry.

In 1972 several good suggestions were made as to the cause of the blooms and what should be done to solve these problems. In '72, however, it was decided that more research should be done to study the problem. No action was taken until 1978 when the Chowan River experienced its largest algae blooms.

It was then that the problems faced by the Chowan River became so desperate that Gov. Hunt started the Task Force and declared the Chowan River and its tributaries as a major resource to be cleaned up.

Captain Howard said that the Task Force has defined the two major sources for the nutrients which cause the algae blooms. The first is point sources which include cities and factories. The second is non-point sources like farms and the like.

The point sources for the nutrients are slowly being resolved as cities turn to land application of

sewage and factories take voluntary steps to cut the amount of nutrients they release into the Chowan River. There are some factories however like Union Camp, a paper products company in Virginia who still refuse to change their dumping of waste products into the Chowan River.

Captain Howard was quick to point out that, "Paper mill effluent is a problem for other rivers in North Carolina." Howard continued that the paper mills in North Carolina should have as much pressure put on them by the state as it has put on Union Camp.

Non-point sources of nutrient discharges into the Chowan River are also beginning to come under control as farms in the north-eastern part of North Carolina put into use the Best Management Practices. The Best Management Practices are a number of conservation and farm management techniques. They tend to, in addition to reducing nutrient discharge into the River, reduce the operating cost of the farm and increase its profits.

After all the efforts to control nutrient discharge into the Chowan River over the past decade "one would be led to believe that the eutrophication problems (the rivers dying process) have been solved. Not so," Howard stated, "The eutrophication continues to spread." The river will not recover completely until water quality plans are implemented and rigidly enforced.

Also at the meeting several awards were given. James W. Manson and his family received the conservation farm family of the year

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Public Parade

Something Missing

There is something missing from the "Letter To The Editor" which is on Page 3-B of today's edition of The Herald. It is an Editor's Note. The letter from Rep. Walter B. Jones of the First Congressional District was written to Mrs. Lueta Sellers, chairman, Chowan County Democratic Executive Committee. Rep. Jones, wanting the entire community to know how pleased he was with the election results, sent a copy to The Herald for further exposure. This fact was pointed out in an Editor's Note that was omitted when the letter was put into the paper.

Not only do we want to set the record straight, but we want Mrs. Sellers to have proper credit for her work.

Token Tar Heel

Well, we spent some time early last week up in Raleigh City. It is always an interesting place to visit, if for no other reason it makes one more appreciative of meandering along the Public Parade.

Tuesday of last week was a historic occasion for the State Agricultural Extension Advisory Council. It was the first meeting with an expanded council. Gov. James B. Hunt, Jr., by executive order, increased the membership from 10 to 20 members.

As chairman of the council for three years we promoted a larger group. The council has made great strides in a short period of time, but to continue to make progress some of the burden of responsibility and leadership needs to be spread around. At the meeting it was reported that more than 20,000 people are now engaged in the Lay Leadership System of the Agricultural Extension Service in Tar Heel. The various committees held nearly 5,000 meetings in the past year. All for free!

Now as chairman of the National Extension Advisory Council, which has representatives in 41 states, we participate with 1.5-million volunteers who last year donated time conservatively valued as being worth \$1.5-billion.

The Agricultural Extension Service Staff Conference was held at the McKimmon Center, adjacent to the campus of the West Raleigh Branch of The Greater University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. A highlight was Tuesday night's awards banquet where tenure awards were given.

Fran Ward, home economic extension agent along the Public Parade, was recognized for 20 years of extension work. Mrs. Mary Cowper of Gates, who formerly worked here, was given similar

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SPONSORS ANTICIPATE BEST PARADE EVER—The Christmas Parade sponsors are anticipating the best parade ever this year. Pictured above are representatives of the two sponsoring organizations: R.J. Hendee, Executive Director of the Edenton Chamber of Commerce; Allen Mills, President of the Edenton Jaycees; and Les Fagan, President of the Edenton Chamber of Commerce.

Good Will To All Men Inspires Local Parade

Sunday, November 28 at 2:30 P.M. will mark Santa's visit to Edenton in the Annual Christmas Parade. The Edenton Jaycees and the Edenton-Chowan Chamber of Commerce are anticipating one of the best parades ever. This year's theme "Good Will to All Men" is expected to provide inspiration for a number of beautiful floats from churches, clubs and local businesses. As in previous years, the parade is to be held on Sunday afternoon to allow the whole family to attend. Participants will gather on Water Street then proceed up Broad to the Edenton Village Shopping Center.

Court Calendar Is Released

Judge Richard B. Allsbrook of Roanoke Rapids will preside over a criminal term of Chowan County Superior Court which opens here Monday. Asst. Dist. Atty. Michael D. Johnson will prosecute the docket.

Mrs. Lena M. Leary, clerk, has released the calendar which includes 12 cases for Grand Jury action.

Arraignments and motions are also set for Monday.

The trial calendar for Tuesday consists of 22 cases with 16 defendants calendared to be heard on Wednesday.

A Thanksgiving Prayer

Let us pray that strength and courage abundant be given to all who work for a world of reason and understanding, that the good that lies in every man's heart may day by day be magnified.

That men will come to see more clearly not that which divides them, but that which unites them.

That each hour may bring us closer to a final victory, not of nation over nation, but of men over his own evils and weaknesses, that the true spirit of this season, its joy, its beauty and its hope, and above all its abiding faith may live among us, that the blessings of peace be ours, the peace to build and grow, to live in harmony and sympathy with others, and to plan for the future with confidence.

To thank God for the blessing he has blessed us with through the year.

Preston Cayton, Minister

Heman Clark Issues A Plea For Safe Holiday Driving

The fall holiday season begins today (Thursday) with the annual observance of Thanksgiving. This is a general holiday observance recommended by the Merchants Committee of Edenton-Chowan Chamber of Commerce and a vast majority of business establishments and offices will be closed.

The Shepard-Pruden Memorial Library will be closed for the Thanksgiving Holiday on Thursday and Friday, November 25 and 26.

They will reopen on Saturday, November 27.

With this year's Thanksgiving holiday period scheduled to run from 6 P.M. November 24 through midnight November 28, Crime Control and Public Safety Secretary Heman R. Clark issued a plea for all motorists to drive safely.

"Last year, 17 people died on

North Carolina highways during the Thanksgiving holidays," Clark said. "The loss of life is tragic at any time, but to lose a friend or loved one at this time of the year during one of our most family-centered holidays is especially sad.

"I ask all citizens of this state to join with the State Highway Patrol and other law enforcement agencies across the state in a concerted effort to make this Thanksgiving one of the most accident free holidays in history."

Colonel John T. Jenkins, commander of the State Highway Patrol, identified excessive speed and driving under the influence as the two leading causes of traffic deaths. "Troopers are aware of the seriousness of these two violations, and they will be out in force to protect highway users during the holiday period," Jenkins said. "If

everyone will observe the speed limit and have a friend...a sober friend...drive when the operator of the vehicle is impaired by alcohol, we can have a safer and more enjoyable Thanksgiving holiday," he said.

Jenkins also pointed out that in addition to their enforcement duties, troopers will be on the lookout for motorists experiencing car trouble and assist in every way possible.

Overall, fatalities in the state are running behind last year and we are optimistic and hope that this year's accidents will be fewer than usual.

The majority of the driving population have heard the dreadful statistics time after time, but the fact remains that the intoxicated driver is responsible for more highway deaths than any other

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Frances M. Ward

Ward Receives Tenure Award

Frances M. Ward, Chowan County home economics extension agent, has been recognized for 20 years of extension work.

Mrs. Ward was among those receiving tenure awards Tuesday (Nov. 16) at a state conference of the N.C. Agricultural Extension Service on the North Carolina State University campus.

A graduate of the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and Peace College, Mrs. Ward joined the Chowan staff in 1962 as assistant home economics agent.