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On Growing Old Everybody along the Public Parade is getting older every day. The trouble is that not all of us can tell exactly when it happens.

Really being old is not something that begins for everybody at 65, although there was a time when we thought 35 was middle age and 50 was ancient. So it is necessary, in our case at least, to develop a method of knowing when you are getting old - the ability to recognize the signs as they appear along the way.

We have come to recognize quite a few:

You know you are getting old when you have to feel your toothbrush to remember whether you have washed your teeth in the morning.

You know you are getting old when you go down town to do two things and forget the second thing was.

You know you are getting old when your doctor asks for a specimen "from midstream."

You know you are getting old when you are five miles on your way to the beach and remember you forgot to turn the lawn sprinklers off.

You know you are getting old when you change pants and forget to change your pocketbook, then have to go back to retrieve your driver's license when stopped at a checkpoint. It's a cinch when you are caught twice within a few weeks.

You know you are getting old when you can recall the distant past with clarity, but not something you read two weeks ago.

There are, of course, many other signs along the way. If you recognize too many of those we mentioned, then you can be reasonably sure you are getting old. But don't worry, you may be old, but you won't be alone. There are thousands of others in the same fix.

Pet Highway Peeves

When you do a lot of highway traveling-as we have been doing



FEATURED MUSICIANS- The Red Clay Ramblers will be featured musicians at this Saturday's May Play Day festivities to be held at the Rocky Hock Community Center. The group, formed in 1972, has travelled throughout the U.S. and Canada, with occasional forays into Europe. (Photo; Lauren Deutsch)

May Play Day In Full Swing Saturday

This Saturday, beginning at 10 o'clock in the morning and continuing until 11 o'clock at night, area residents and visitors will treated to an annual potpourri of artistic talent and expression. May Play Day will be in full swing at the Rocy Hock Community Center, approxiamately 8 miles north of Edenton, off Highway 32. Come early, stay late, and enjoy all the exciting elements of May Play Day-friendly faces, neighborly chats, happy children, good food, sunshine, dance, art, crafts, games, clowns, train rides, and MUSIC.

Music lovers of whatever style and taste are challenged to leave May Play Day without hearing something they really like. Beginning with the clogging tunes that accompany the Buck Swamp Kickin' Cloggers and ending with "top 40's" songs by L.P. and Com-

Area District **Court Session**

Chowan County District Court was in session April 30; the Honorable Grafton G. Beaman presiding over the criminal calendar. Vernon Lee Rome pleaded guilty to a charge of injuring personal property. He was sentenced to 10 days suspended for 1 year on the condition he pay court costs and make restitution of \$16 for the benefit of Ernestine Stanley.

classical, contemporary, folk, gospel, bluegrass, and novelty musicians in between.

Highlighting this year's musical offerings will be the Red Clay Ramblers, whose unique brand of music is difficult to fit into any particular category. The following is taken, in part, from a piece in **Bluegrass Unlimited**, February 1984, in which writer Al Steiner describes the group.

"The Red Clay Ramblers are not a bluegrass band, and they do not play 'Rocky Top'. You may see them on occasion picking away on an old-time square dance number with a lineup of fiddle, mandolin, banjo, bass and piano, but they're not exactly an old-time band either. Pinning any laber on this band is difficult. Some call

pany in a special four-hour even- their work 'new-time music. One ing concert, the day will feature reviewer dubbed the Ramblers 'America's premier 'whatzit' band'.

The Ramblers got their start in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, in 1972. Tommy Thompson, who plays banjo and guitar, formed the band along with fiddler Bill Hicks, and Jim Watsom, who plays mandolin, bass, and guitar. Late in 1973, Mike Carver, pianist and guitarist, became a Rambler. Jack Herrick officially joined the band in early 1976 as a bass player, and he now handles trumpet, pennywhistle, harmonica, and a little bit of Irish styled bouzouki. In 1981, Bill Hicks chose to give up touring, and Clay Buckner became the Ramblers' fiddler.

After initially getting their true professional start in the off-Breadway musical, Diamond Studs - The Life of Jesse James, in 1975, The Ramblers, still basing themselves in Chapel Hill, North **Continued From Page 1**

Mulberry Auction Donations

Mrs. R.N. Campbell, Jr., cochairman of the Edenton Historical Foundation's Mulberry Hill Gala, reports a wide variety of desirable acquisitions for the auctions to take place during the May 4th fund-raiser.

Many generous donors have come forth with such offerings as 100 sq. ft. of white cedar panelling; a ball post four-poster bed; crystal chandelier; cashmere sweater; Chinese Silk wall hanging; wood chest with 40-piece cutlery set; Civil War period musket and pistol; tickets to a Redskins home game; several fine art oils, water colors, pastels, and a dye-transfer art photograph by Michael deCamp; golden retriever puppy; weekends at cottages in a variety of locations, shore to mountains; and full week at an 18th century fully equipped and staffed plantation home in Virginia; cake and beverages for a children's birthday party; a dinner cruise on the James River. and several opportunities for sailing parties with all the trimmings; a quail hunt with guide, dogs, and lunch; cups, saucers, plates and bowls, hand-made pottery by Frances Inglis; trip to New York City, air tickets and hotel; dove shoot for 10-12 people on Hayes Farm; your portrait in oil by John Becker; 18th century English pub table and chairs; a



Lucille Stalls was elected president of the North Carolina National Guard Ladies Auxiliary during the 25th annual National Guard Association Convention held in Charlotte April 25-27.

Active in both the local and state auxiliary, Stalls has served as president, vice-president and chaplain of the local auxiliary. She has also served as secretary and both first and second vice president of the state auxiliary.

She is married to LTC Kenneth L. Stalls, Commander of the 1st BN (M) 119th Infantry with headquarters in Ahoskie.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Stalls are employed by the Edenton-Chowan School system. They have a daughter, Karen, who is a junior at John A. Holmes High School.

Continued On Page 4

Unemployment Rate For March Dropped In County

ment rate for March dropped to helping to lower the unemploy-February, according to statistics released by the North Carolina Employment Security Commission.

reflected a statewide trend as Rowan, 3.4; Forsyth, 3.7; Union, most North Carolina counties 3.9; and Guilford, 4.0. showed a significant drop in the unemployment rate for March.

Bob Campbell, "The North compared to the February revis-Carolina economy is responding ed rate of 6.7 percent.

Chowan County's unemploy- positively to seasonal influences 5.1 percent from 6.8 percent in ment rate in most counties across the state.'

Among the counties with the lowest unemployment rates were: Orange, 2.1; Durham and Wake, The drop in the county's rate 2.3; Mecklenburg and Gates, 3.1;

The March statewide seasonally unadjusted unemployment rate According to ESC spokesman, of 5.6 showed a significant decline

Byrum Farms: State Peanut Yield Winner Byrum Farms, Chowan County, should recognize top manage- Local extension staffs in five

ment,'

said Dr. Sullivan. "Get- counties in Virginia and fifteen in

for the past several years-you come to develop a set of pet peeves that return to rankle you time and time again.

We have a long list of them and, for the record, want to set some of them down.

Perhaps our most special pet peeve is the driver who violates the speed limit in heavy traffic to pull around you just in time to duck into the exit leading to an interchange. Sometimes he figures it so close that you drop out of cruise control to keep from locking bumpers.

Another is the truck driver who passes you at the foot of a long hill, then pulls back into the right lane just as soon as his rig clears your front bumper and slows down. He will often do this if there nobody **Continued On Page 4**

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Edward Lee Daniels was found guilty of reckless driving. He was fined \$50 and cost of court; he appealed.

Hilda M. Phelps pleaded guilty to four counts of violating Employment Security laws. The four cases were consolidated for judgement and she was sentenced to 90 days supended on the condition she pay court costs in each case and make restitution to the Employment Security Commission.



Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth Word Kenneth Word New Pastor

Edenton Baptist Church recently called Dr. Kenneth E. Word as pastor. A special service of welcome will be held for Dr. and Mrs. Word at the 11 o'clock worship service on Sunday (May 5). A native of South Carolina, he is

a graduate of Presbyterian College of Clinton, South Carolina, and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary of Wake Forest, North Carolina. He was granted the Doctor of Divinity degree by the Baptist College at Charleston, South Carolina.

Having been pastor of First Baptist Church, Hampton, South Carolina, for the past 16 years, he has also been very active in many areas of Southern Baptist ministers. Dr. Word, as well as his wife, have served terms as trustee of The Baptist Courier (state Baptist publication of South Carolina) and both have been on the Nominating Committee of South Carolina Baptist Convention.

Other denominational activities of Dr. Word include being a member of the General Board of South Carolina Baptist Convention; member of the Board of Advisors for North Greenville Junior College, and Baptist College at Charlston; writer of Sunday School lessons for The Baptist **Continued On Page 4** has been named state winner for Chemical Virginia/North Carolina Peanut Yield Contest for 1984.

Winners of the contest are chosen on the basis of total production on all planted acres, said Dr. Gene Sullivan, extension peanut specialist at North Carolina State University. A point formula is used in determining overall yield. The system prevents growers with only a few prime acres from winning each year.

"We feel that the yield contest

North Carolina in Uniroyal ting a 4,600 pound yield on 100 North Carolina select individual Company's acres, for example, usually requires a higher level of management than, say, getting 4,800 pounds on five acres." Byrum Farms averaged 4,975 pounds on 85.7 acres.

> "In addition, we also seek information through the contest that helps to identify those management pratices which produce the highest net profit," added Allen H. Allison, peanut specialist at the Tidewater Research and Continuing Education Center, Suffolk, Virginia.

county winners in the yield contest and from these, overall state yield chan os are named.

Uniroyal Chemical, manufacturer of Kylar Growth Regulant, assumed sponsorship of the contest this year. The company also sponsored the North Carolina Peanut Seed Production Contest for the last twelve years.

Each state winner and spouse received an expense-paid trip to Nassau according to Dr. A.B. "Benny" Rogerson, Uniroyal regional sales manager, Raleigh.



STATE WINNER- Carroll Byrum (third from left), Byrum Farms, Chowan County, North Carolina, received the state winner plaque and tickets for a trip to Nassau during the Virginia/North Carolina Peanut Yield Contest recognition banquet. With Byrum are Dr. A.B. Rogerson, Uniroyal Chemical regional sales manager, Raleigh, North Carolina, Mike Williams Chowan County Cooperative Extension Service (second from left) and Dr. Gene Sullivan, North Carolina State University Extension Peanut Specialist. Uniroyal sponsors the peanut yield contest.

NEW OFFICERS — Bruce Wackelin was installed as president of the Edenton Jaycess for 1985-86 and Susan Small became the new presi-dent of the Jaycettes at a joint installation banquet held at the Eden-ton Jaycee Community Building on April 25.