



### This Is On Us

By now Bill Myers and his crew should be making some progress in the building restoration work being done at the Chowan Herald, although most of it will not yet be visible from the outside.

As usually happens, what started out to be a little project has turned into a major undertaking.

To begin with, we simply wanted to put in a water-based central heating and cooling system. We found that, to do that, it would be necessary to bring the electrical wiring system "up to code" in the 90-year-old building. That then became the first big step.

Next we found that we were unable to locate a well-drilling outfit willing to undertake sinking a well alongside the alley back of the Chowan Herald building. So we had to go with conventional heating and cooling units.

That necessitated building a deck over the press room roof on which to locate some of the heat pump compressor units.

So far, so good. But one of the basic reasons for wanting to put in central air conditioning was that it would enable us to pull out the window units which have disfigured the front and rear upper story of the building. That led naturally to the next project — the restoration of the outer faces of the building to their historic beauty and integrity.

We engaged an architect so that end and he is busy preparing specifications for that purpose.

Meanwhile, General Manager Pete Manning was getting in some suggestions about things he would like to see done inside the building — such things as a new tile floor in the shop, complete with lowered ceilings and new light fixtures, rearranged machinery and all that. Not to mention new toilets, which, heaven knows, were needed.

That led to suggestions — coming from the architect, no less — that the front office ceiling be raised to its original height so as to make the transoms over the doors and windows functional. We went along with that, too.

Having agreed to do those other things for the comfort and convenience of others, we decided to do something for ourselves. We decided to put a small apartment in a part of the upstairs area, using one of the street-level doors for a private entrance. That gives us a place to stay when we are in Edenton.

Put it all together and you are talking about a sizable sum. As we told Bill Myers, for the same amount of money we could have gone into one of the shopping

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## Jobless Rate Rose In July

RALEIGH—Although unemployment in North Carolina rose almost one percent last month, the state continues to have one of the lowest unemployment rates in the nation.

The July figures, released by the U.S. Department of Labor, show North Carolina's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for last month was 5.4 percent, up from the June rate of 4.6 percent.

Bob Campbell, public information director for the N.C. Employment Security Commission, said the reason for the increase in the state's unemployment rate is "due part to layoffs in manufacturing, primarily the hard-hit textile and apparel industries. Imports from foreign countries continue to plague these large industries in our state."

Among the 11 largest states in the nation, only Massachusetts—with 4.4 percent—had a lower rate than North Carolina. Michigan continues to have the highest unemployment rate in the country with 10.9 percent.

The Department of Labor figures for July show North Carolina with a labor force of 3,069 million. There were 2,903 million employed North Carolinians in July, with 166,000 unemployed. Those figures represent an increase of 18,000 unemployed for the month.

## Subdivision Road Improvement Requested

Mary Maxwell, president of the Chowan Beach Recreation Association, along with ten other Chowan Beach residents, appeared before the Chowan County Board of Commissioners Monday asking for help in improving roads in the subdivisions.

Maxwell said that the area was developed about 25 years ago, no provision was made for maintenance fees of roads and the park area. She said that when the subdivision incorporated as Chowan Beach Recreation Association in 1978, association members were told by their lawyer that they could not legally assess each property owner a maintenance fee.

"With the influx of more permanent residents as opposed to

weekenders, our problem of erosion of the roads has been greatly magnified," Maxwell told the commissioners.

She said that although the area has two state maintained roads - Chowan Trail (unpaved) and Roanoke Trail (paved) - "the access roads are becoming almost impassable, particularly at the corners where the sand runs to that point."

Maxwell said her organization was asking the commissioners for help in providing a way to assess each property owner a maintenance fee in order that the roads may be upgraded with the intent of having the state eventually take over maintenance of the roads.

"We have 236 property owners,

with approximately 50 owners donating voluntarily to the organization. I want a way to assess each and every one," she said.

Although the commissioners could not take any action on the request Monday night, County Manager Cliff Copeland is looking for ways to maintain the roads.

"We're exploring many options to upgrade the facilities at Chowan Beach and are working with the landowners to identify some approaches," Copeland said on Tuesday morning.

Copeland has written a letter to Tom Richter, North Carolina Department of Natural Resources and Community Development and has asked Richter to evaluate alternatives in improving the con-

ditions at Chowan Beach. Those alternatives are:

1. the enactment of deed restrictions for all lots located in the subdivision;
2. the establishment of a service district whereby district taxes could be used to generally upgrade roads and drainage;
3. the establishment of a drainage district to improve drainage in the area;
4. zoning this one particular subdivision;
5. the feasibility of obtaining a CDBG grant for the subdivision; and
6. any other options that might be available to the County and Chowan Beach.

## Criminal Calendar

Chowan County District Court was in session on August 6; the Honorable J. Richard Parker presiding over the criminal calendar.

Douglas Louis Hill was found guilty of DWI. He was sentenced to 90 days suspended for 2 years on the condition he pay a fine of \$200 and cost of court. He is to perform 72 hours of community service and surrender his drivers license. Hill was also found guilty on a charge of failing to yield right of way and fined \$25.

Willie Percy Perry was found guilty on charges of having no motorcycle endorsement; reckless driving; failing to stop for a blue light and siren; speeding in excess of 55mph to elude arrest; and driving without a license. The charges were consolidated for judgement and Perry was sentenced to a minimum of 10 months, maximum of 12, suspended for 2 years on the condition he pay a fine of \$300 and cost of court. He is to surrender his drivers license and serve an activer

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RONALD McDONALD HOUSE—(from left to right) Edenton Jaycee members Leigh Ambrose, Cathy Leary and Susan Small are pictured in front of a model of the future Ronald McDonald House of Eastern North Carolina with Kathy Brown, coordinator, Children's Services of Eastern Carolina. The women were photographed at groundbreaking services for the house held in Greenville on August 1.

## Jaycee Members Attend Ceremonies

Three members of the Edenton Jaycees traveled to Greenville Thursday, August 1, to represent Edenton and Chowan County at groundbreaking ceremonies for the Ronald McDonald House of Eastern North Carolina.

The Jaycees - Leigh Ambrose, Cathy Leary and Susan Small - want to see a "Chowan" bedroom in the house and they and their club have begun working on a fund raising campaign. Their goal is to raise \$5,000, the approximate cost of furnishing a room in the house.

But even though the Jaycees are planning a special Gospel and Choral Show in November to raise money for the project, they are not relying on themselves to raise the entire amount.

"The Jaycees would have a hard time raising the money alone; we're counting on other clubs and donations from businesses to provide the rest of the money," said Leigh Ambrose,

chairman of the Jaycees' Ronald McDonald Gospel Show.

Ambrose said the money would go toward furnishing one bedroom in the house from the carpet up, but none of the money would go toward actual construction of the room.

The Ronald McDonald House will be built on a two-acre tract of land owned by Pitt County near the East Carolina University School of Medicine and Pitt Memorial Hospital. The facility will serve all of Eastern North Carolina by providing a temporary residence for the parents and families of children being treated for serious illnesses.

McDonald's Corporation will contribute \$200,000 toward the total \$1.2 million construction cost. A private, nonprofit corporation formed by volunteers - Children's Services of Eastern Carolina - must raise the rest of the funds from individuals, service clubs, civic groups and

private industry within the region.

At the groundbreaking ceremonies, Bob Adams, Director of the Medical Foundation, ECU Medical Center, said that nearly half of the \$1.2 million has already been raised.

"The facility is dedicated to people not living in Pitt County," said Adams. "Children receiving outpatient treatment can stay here and live with brothers and sisters. It will truly be a home away from home."

Actual construction of the Ronald McDonald House in Greenville is due to begin in October. When construction is completed there and at another House in Chapel Hill, there will be four Ronald McDonald Houses statewide.

For more information about the "Chowan" bedroom campaign, call 482-4939 or 221-4312.

## New Regulations Approved

The N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission and the N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission recently approved new regulations on legal size and creel limits for striped bass. Sport fishermen should be aware that these regulations are now in effect in the coastal region of North Carolina.

In the coastal sounds, rivers, and creeks (not including impounded waters), hook and line fishermen may keep only three strippers per day. On waters designated as "Inland" and "Joint" the size limit for striped bass is 16 inches. According to Division of Marine Fisheries regulations, in waters designated as internal "Coastal", the legal size limit for strippers is 16 inches until Sept. 30, 1985. After that date, the size limit in internal "Coastal" waters will be 14 inches. Striped

bass caught on hook and line cannot be sold, regardless of where they are caught.

Throughout the coastal region of North Carolina, inland, joint, and coastal waters boundary lines are marked with prominent orange signs. For a complete listing of these boundaries, write to N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission, 512 N. Salisbury St., Raleigh, N.C. 27611 or N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries, Morehead City, N.C. 28557.

These new regulations were enacted by the Wildlife Resources Commission and the Marine Fisheries Commission in order to conserve dwindling stocks of coastal striped bass.

## Body Found: No Foul Play

The body of Elton Junius Morris, 78, of Rt. 1, Chowan Beach was found by Chief Deputy Glenn Perry at 2:25 p.m. Tuesday, August 6. Perry said he discovered the corpse on the floor of Morris' home; Morris is believed to have been dead approximately two weeks.

According to a Chowan County Sheriff's Department report, Perry entered the house to check on Morris after a neighbor called officials and informed them that a mail carrier had noticed that Morris had not picked up his mail recently.

After discovering the body, Perry called in Deputies Wayne Rice and Joe Byrum and Chowan County Medical Examiner Dr. Leibert DeVine. No signs of foul play were in evidence and the examiner determined that death was from natural causes.

Morris moved to Chowan Beach from Virginia in 1982. He lived alone and had no relatives living in the immediate area. He was described as a hermit by his neighbors.

## Lunch Increase Caused By Rise In Labor Cost And Food Prices

Students and teachers at Edenton-Chowan Schools will be paying more for their meals in the cafeteria this year.

A lunch that cost a student 85¢ last year will be \$1.00 this year; adult lunches will sell for \$1.50, up 25¢ from last year.

Students will be paying 65¢ for breakfast, up 15¢ from last year's cost of 50¢; adult breakfasts will cost \$1.00 this year, up 25¢ from last year's price of 75¢.

The cost of dairy products is also going up. Milk will sell for 25¢ a half pint and ice cream will cost 35¢; both prices represent an increase of 5¢ over last year's prices.

Food Services Director Etta Hathaway said that prices are being increased "because of a 9.8 percent increase in labor costs and an increase in food prices."

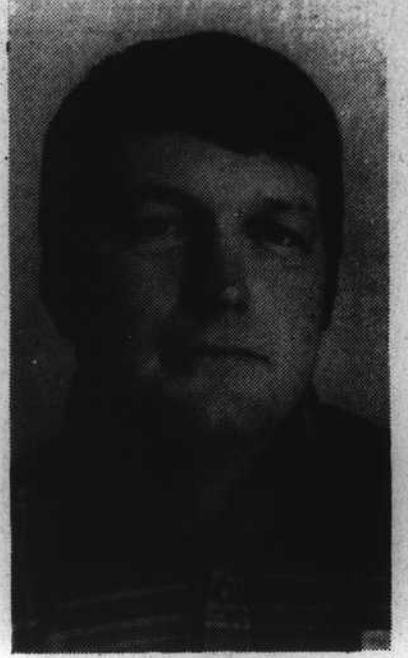
Hathaway had originally recommended that the price of a student lunches be raised 10¢ bringing this year's cost to 95¢ instead of \$1.00. But after studying the fund balances at a school board meeting on Monday, August 5, board members voted to raise the price an additional 5¢.

Also at the school board meeting, board members

- approved this year's school system theme: "Edenton-Chowan Schools Have Class."
- approved a request from the County Manager to bury a gasoline tank at the maintenance shop
- nominated Eugene Jordan to be a candidate for the Raleigh Dingman Award
- nominated Cecil Fry to fill a vacant seat on the North Carolina School Boards Association.



ROTARY—Edenton Rotary Club President Frank L. Fagan (right) accepts a key from J. William (Bill) Stone, Governor of District 771, Rotary International, during a Rotary meeting last week. The key designates Fagan as "key man" of the club.



John Bunch

## First Area Inspector

In compliance with state law, Chowan County hired its first building inspector last month. The new inspector, John Bunch, has been spending his first month on the job preparing a fee schedule for building inspections.

The new fee schedule, approved Monday, August 5, by the county board of commissioner, is based on the fees currently charged by the Town of Edenton.

The inspection fee schedule is divided into seven parts: electrical; plumbing; building; insulation; heating and air conditioning; farm building (exempt unless covered by plumbing or electrical permits); and individual inspections. Fees range from \$1.50 to inspect individual plumbing trap units to \$295 to inspect a building costing from \$100,000 to \$500,000.

Anyone planning to build in the county must first get a building permit from Bunch, who is working out of the County Office Building on East King Street. "The building permit includes the inspection involved," said Bunch.

Bunch, a native of Chowan County, will be conducting his building inspection duties during mainly during the morning hours. He plans to continue farming, something he has done in the county since 1969.

Bunch may be reached at 482-8487.