

Where the Yellow Goes

Chowan County's rural road system did not fare as well as some others in Gov. James Martin's long range transportation improvement program adopted in 1985. While the average county was receiving an increase of 21.04 per cent increase in funding for its rural system, Chowan was held to a 12.34 per cent boost.

And in the urban roads system, where the average increase was 42.26 per cent, Chowan drew a blank. In fact, if it had not been for the two interchange projects on U.S. 17 at State Roads 1319 and 1234, which are estimated to cost \$1.07 million each, this county would not be in the urban roads program for any money at all during the 1985-95 decade.

In the rural roads system, Chowan's allocation for the next 10 years was boosted from \$956,000 in the Hunt program to \$1,074,000 in the Martin plan, which shows an overall increase for all systems of around a half billion dollars, from \$3.2 billion under former Gov. Jim Hunt to \$3.81 billion under Martin.

It should be pointed out that none of these figures include Powell Bill funds, allocated to cities for state roads within their corporate limits, or state secondary road funds, allocated to the counties for improvement of unpaved mileage. Both these funds are distributed according to legislative formulas which cannot be the executive branch of the government.

When Gov. Martin took office, there were in the 1984 Transportation Improvement Program 72 Interstate, 77 urban and 199 rural projects listed, for a total of 392. In the TIP program adopted by Gov. Martin's Board of Transportation there are 83 Interstate, 99 urban and 211 rural projects, or a total of 392.

The Martin plan deleted three urban and 15 rural projects, delayed 33 Interstate, 27 urban and 90 rural projects, accelerated six urban and 24 rural projects and added 10 Interstate, 25 urban and 30 rural.

Of the 34 counties receiving Interstate funds, 22 had their funding increased, nine had cuts and the remainder had no change. Biggest increase dollarwise went to Alamance County, which jumped from \$64.2 million to \$90.1 million. A close second was Mecklenburg, which jumped from \$175.2 million to \$200.1 million. All

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Deadline Approaches

If you are a high school student and would like to be a legislator, here is your opportunity.

Chowan County high school students and young people from throughout the state are invited to participate in the annual Youth Legislative Assembly in Raleigh at the Marriott Hotel, March 14-16.

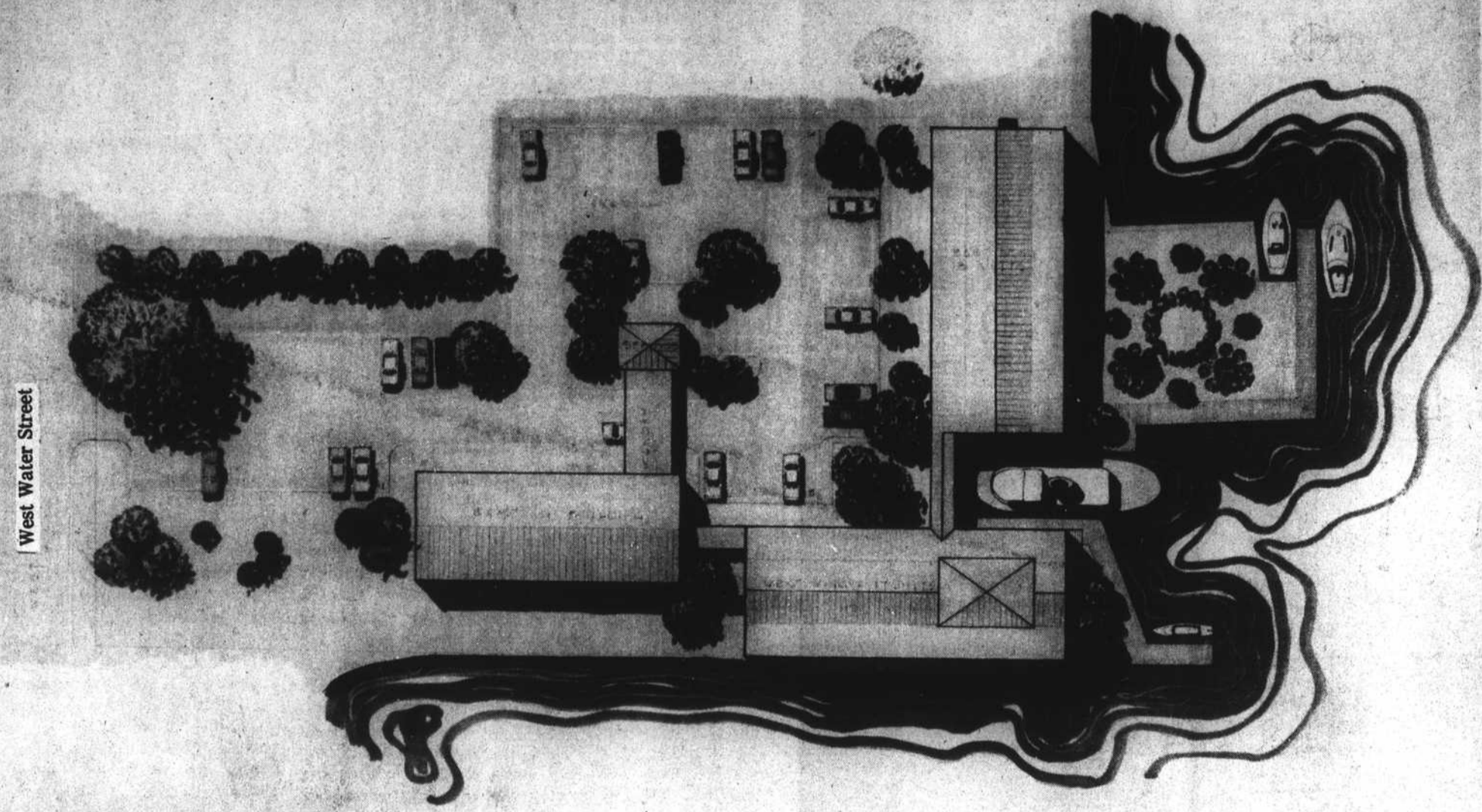
The purpose of the mock legislature is to give young people, many of whom are not old enough to vote, an opportunity to voice their opinions and recommendations on important current issues. Topics scheduled to be addressed are criminal justice, discrimination, substance abuse, youth rights, environment, violence, education, human sexuality, international affairs and governmental operations.

Participants will draw up bills, vote on them and report the results to state leaders.

Registration will be on a first-come, first-served basis. The cost per student is \$64 which includes lodging for two nights (four students per room), three meals and conference materials. Cost for adult chaperones is \$86.25 per person (two per room) and \$127 (single).

Registration deadline is Feb. 10. For information, contact the Youth Advocacy and Involvement Office, N.C. Department of Administration, Elks Building, 121 W. Jones St., Raleigh 27603-1334, or telephone 919/733-9296.

The Youth Legislative Assembly and other activities throughout the year are sponsored by the State Youth Council, a component of the Youth Advocacy and Involvement Office. The Raleigh Youth Council and the Wendell Youth Council are co-sponsoring the event.



Ordinances Discussed

By Jack Grove

Three topics promoted lengthy discussions among members of the County Board of Commissioners at their meeting Monday morning.

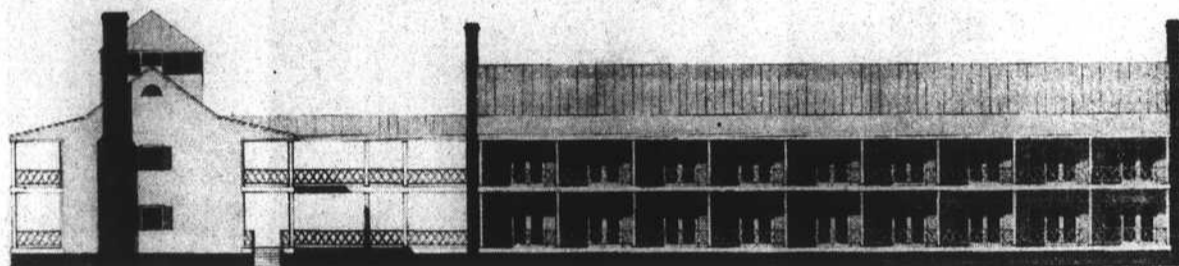
A proposed hunting ordinance sparked a debate between Commissioners Joe Hollowell and Wayne Goodwin over whether to require written or oral permission to hunt on private property. Hollowell maintained that written permission should only be required for hunting with center-fire rifles and oral permission for all other types of hunting. Goodwin felt that written permission should be obtained for all weapons used.

The proposed ordinance, as approved by the commission, re-

quires written permission for center-fire rifles and oral permission for other weapons. It also prohibits firing of any weapon on state maintained roads or on the right of ways. (Currently, the latter provision only applies in Yeopim Precinct.) The ordinance will be sent to the General Assembly requesting passage.

Another proposed ordinance deals with mobile home parks. The central issue here concerned whether to require paving of streets. As written, the ordinance requires four inches of stone surface for streets. The county's subdivision ordinance requires paving. (Mobile home parks don't come under the sub-division or-

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SOUTH ELEVATION

Proposed Bed and Breakfast development

Bed And Breakfast Inn Proposal Outlined

By Jack Grove

Edenton's town council chamber was packed to capacity Monday evening as a developer outlined a proposal to build a bed and breakfast inn on Edenton's waterfront. The site of the proposed development would be on land acquired by the town in 1978 for recreational purposes and which includes the present police headquarters and Arts Council building.

The concept was first introduced to a local delegation who visited the Inlet Inn in Beaufort, N.C. on December 16 of last year. The delegation included representatives of the Town Council, Chamber of Commerce, Historic Edenton, Inc., and the Board of County Commissioners.

Dwayne Anderson, of the Anderson Benton Co., gave the town council an extensive history of his development company and details concerning the building and financing of the Inlet Inn and its impact on Beaufort.

Anderson proposes to purchase the tract of land that extends from Waterfront Park to the boundary of the Leary Oil Co. property and which is bounded by Edenton Bay and Water Street.

Architect John MacRae of Greensboro offered sketches of the proposal. The project was designed to blend in with nearby historic buildings such as Cupola House and the Barker House. The two-story design features balconies facing the water; horizontal wood siding; metal roof; and detached chimneys at the ends of the structure. The concept is actually two buildings, one facing south and other facing west, overlooking Edenton Bay. The buildings would be connected with a breezeway.

Anderson told the council that the estimated construction cost would be \$55-60,000 per room for a 35 room inn. This would place the total cost at 2.1 million dollars. The project would be financed with an Urban Development Action Grant (UDAG) obtained from the federal government and private financing. Anderson proposes to put together a limited partnership with one-third of the funds being put up by

Anderson and two other partners. He said that he welcomed and encouraged local citizens investing in this partnership and that participation could yield as much as 20 per cent on the investment.

In a recent interview, Town Administrator Sam Noble said that the town has been looking for a project for some four years to attract a UDAG eligibility. The federal funds are approved for certain local projects to encourage economic development. The funds granted to municipalities can then be loaned to developers at substantially below market interest rates. As the funds are paid back, they may be used for new economic development loans or for municipal public works projects.

Noble said that "because of the Gramm-Rudman Bill, (federal deficit reduction) in all likelihood, UDAG funds won't be available next year." He said that the bed and breakfast inn concept is "the first feasible project that's come along."

Mayor John Dowd asked Anderson what such an inn could be expected to bring to the town in retail dollars. Anderson responded that projected sales taxes would be \$26,000 annually on revenues of about \$500,000.

The council closed its session by passing two resolutions that would take the project a step further down the road. The first approved preliminary planning with the

Anderson Benton Co. on the project. The second was a resolution to submit a request for determination of eligibility to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for UDAG funding.

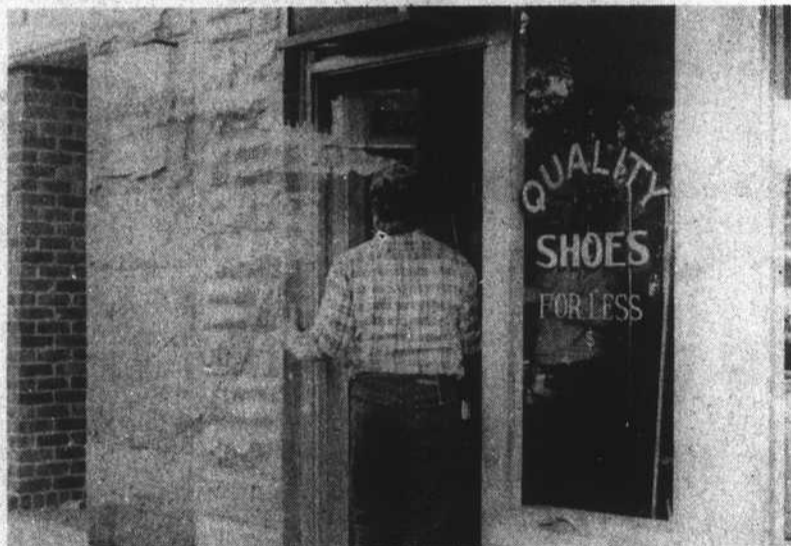
Gil Burroughs, Chairman of the Citizens Advisory Committee, appointed by Mayor Dowd, moderated a question and answer session for the public following the council session. (This did not constitute a public hearing.)

Concerns centered around the loss of town property to private development and the impact on the historic district. Former mayor Roy Harrell questioned "losing ownership of the property completely." He asserted, "I thought the waterfront property was sacred."

Mayor Dowd responded that the first thing that had to be done was find out if the town was eligible for the federal funds. He pointed out that the process was just beginning to find out if the project is even feasible. Dowd said that three public hearings must be held before final approval is given.

Noble pointed out that the property in question was funded partly by the U.S. Department of the Interior for recreational use and that substitute property would have to be acquired by the town for recreational use to satisfy federal requirements. The substitute land would have to have

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BREAK-IN— Workmen replace a glass door that was shattered by thieves during a break-in of Quality Shoes on New Year's Eve.

Break-ins Under Investigation

Several area youths have apparently decided to start the new year off wrong. According to Edenton Police Chief, John Parrish, Quality Shoes on Broad Street was broken into shortly before or after midnight on New Year's Eve.

Entry was gained by smashing the lower portion of a glass door. Twenty-five pairs of shoes were stolen, valued at \$1,400. Parrish said suspects, who are juveniles, have been interviewed. He said "there were four or five involved, maybe more."

The next night, at 12:55 a.m., police discovered that the Albemarle Shoe Outlet on Badham Road had been broken into. Eight pairs of shoes were taken there. Value of stolen items in that theft was approximately \$100.

Parrish said that an investigation is continuing and that no charges have been filed as yet.

On Christmas Eve, thefts were reported from vehicles in church parking lots during Christmas Services.

At Immanuel Baptist Church, a kerosene heater was reported

stolen from the back of a pickup truck owned by Melvin Lane.

A car was broken into and a purse taken at the First Assembly of God Church. The purse contained about \$90, credit cards, and a check book. Also stolen was a portable radio.

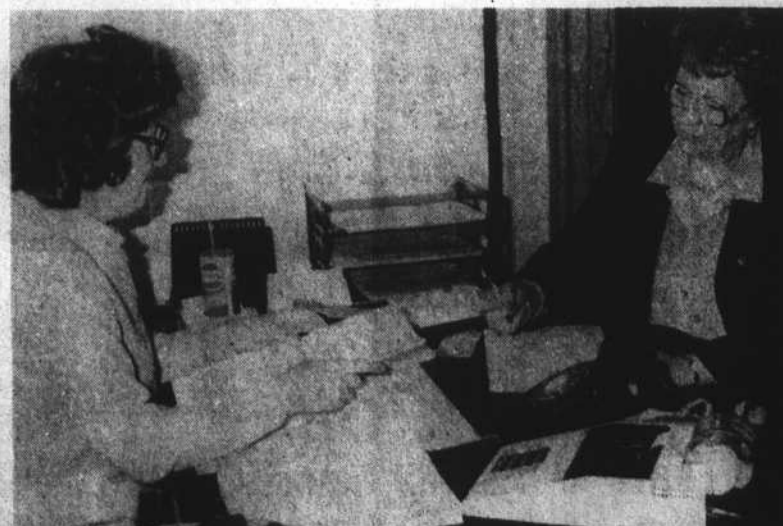
Highway Plan Underway

GREENVILLE—Slowly but surely North Carolina is fashioning a four laned tourist highway through its most promising tourist area, deep Eastern North Carolina.

"I wish it was coming earlier but Highway 17 will become a tremendous economic factor when all 262 miles of it through North Carolina are completed," Lockwood B. Phillips of Morehead City, said today.

Eastern North Carolina leaders, as well as state officials, showed more interest than usual in 17, a longtime North-South highway through the state, during a major conference on Tourism, con-

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FILING— Clara Boswell, incumbent County Commissioner, files for reelection during the opening minutes of the January 6 through February 3 filing period for the May 6 primary. At left is Marjorie Allen.