

Public Parade

Where Cuts Will Pinch

Pending cuts in the federal budget will have a direct impact on the more than 40,000 students in the community college system who received financial assistance during the 1984-85 school year.

A total of \$36,927,178 in federal, state and private funds was used during the school year to provide 50,918 financial assistance awards to 40,353 students, some of whom received more than one award.

State community college board members were told at their last meeting that estimated cuts in federal assistance money total \$520,945 for the 1986 term. The biggest portion of that will be in Pell grant funds, scheduled to be reduced by \$408,500. Work-study funds are set to be cut by some \$80,000, with reductions in other small programs bringing the total to \$520,945.

Financial assistance to students can take the forms of grants, loans, scholarship or student employment. During the 1984-85 term 34,905 students received a total of \$29,160,989 in grants; 3,943 students received \$4,393,140 in

Continued On Page 4

Juveniles Apprehended

Two break-ins of town businesses Saturday night resulted in the apprehension of three juveniles.

Edenton Patrolmen Greg Whitehurst and Bland Terry were on routine patrol when they discovered a padlock and hasp broken and the warehouse door ajar at Albemarle Shoe Outlet on Badham Road at 9 a.m.

Terry said that they found an inside connecting door to the shoe store had been opened with a crow bar found at the scene. Taken were one pair of Puma tennis shoes, three pair of ladies shoes, and five pair of shoe strings.

Plaster impressions of footprints outside the building were taken for evidence.

At 11:35 p.m. an alarm went off at the T.G. & Y store. Several Edenton Police officers responded along with Chowan County Deputy Sheriff David Jethro and State Troopers W.M. Long and Y.Z. Newberry. Entry to the store was gained by breaking a narrow window below the display window.

One suspect, apprehended outside, was eight years old. Two other boys were inside and they voluntarily came out. Their ages were 10 and 13.

The plaster impression taken at the shoe store matched the pattern of the sole of shoes worn by one of the boys, according to Terry. He said that the boys confessed to the shoe outlet break-in.

According to police, the 13 year-old was prosecuted once before for a break-in at Albemarle Shoe Outlet.

Special Permit Denied

By Jack Grove

Edenton will not have a proposed indoor golf and video game parlor, it was decided Tuesday night at the regular meeting of the Town Council.

A request for a special use permit was made by Rene Whitley to locate the parlor in the building that B&B Furniture formerly occupied on Badham Road. Whitley said that she would operate the parlor along with Troy Holland.

About half of the citizens attending the meeting were apparently there in response to the parlor proposal. One resident of the neighborhood, May Garris said that there were "nice senior citizens that live out there." She expressed concern that the business would attract young people from other counties and that there would be no control outside the establishment. She expressed fears that undesirable elements would be drawn to the neighborhood and termed the prospect "frightening."

Whitley said that she was trying to provide "something for the

kids." Holland, in response to concerns expressed about young people "hanging out" around the neighborhood said, "They're hanging out anyway on street corners."

Sheila Bootwright was concerned about recreation for teenagers. She said, "We need to provide a place where our teenagers can go where there's no drinking. Where can we have it? We have to give the kids a chance," she said.

Prior to turning down the request, several councilmen commented. Herbert Hollowell said, "We have to consider the majority of the residents around it." Willis Privott said that he was assured privately that the parlor would only have indoor putt-putt golf. "Now that it's public, here it's (video games) included." Steve Hampton commented, "I have to go with the neighborhood." But he asked that citizens not give up the attempt to provide recreation for the young people.

In another hearing, a special use permit was granted to R.W. Holland to locate his contracting and millwork business on N.C. 32 north, at the old FCX property.

David Holmes, redevelopment representative for the town presented clarification concerning establishment of a Community Development Target Area and an Urban Redevelopment Area in the downtown commercial district. He said that this would make possible low interest loans to businessmen in the downtown area to rehabilitate business properties. Financial institutions participating would be exempt from taxes on these loans. Council passed a resolution for the program.

During the meeting, Thomas S. Rhyne, Jr. of the Division of Forestry Resources, presented the town a Tree City USA award which consisted of a flag. Edenton has won this award for seven consecutive years. Rhyne said that for a city to win the award, it must have an ordinance protecting trees; a group responsible for trees; and that it hold an Arbor Day. Herbert Hollowell accepted the award on behalf of the town.

In the public comment portion, at the end of the meeting, former mayor Roy Harrell brought up his opposition to the proposed inn on Edenton's waterfront. He first told the council, "It's good for people to be able to speak when they are not on the agenda."

Harrell said he wished to speak on something that "has been bothering me for some time" concerning the police station property. He made reference to the council's action in rezoning the parcel to downtown commercial at the public hearing on February 25.

He asked for "clarification." He asked, "Will you tell me that in changing that zoning, that you're in favor of having on that property a pet shop? An appliance repair

Continued On Page 4



NEIGHBORS—These residents of the neighborhood where a proposed recreation parlor was planned on Badham Road were asked to stand during the Town Council meeting Tuesday night. After a hearing, the council agreed that the parlor would not be good for the neighborhood.

Swain School's Future Considered

By Jack Grove

Three proposals are being considered for the future use of the Ernest A. Swain School in Edenton according to County Manager Cliff Copeland. They are: use by College of the Albemarle; occupancy by the Chowan Arts Council; and conversion to apartments or condominiums. Copeland said that the school's auditorium would remain intact under any of the proposals.

The last of the elementary school classes at Swain were transferred to D.F. Walker School several weeks ago. Basement rooms under the auditorium are still being used at Swain, however, for the Edenton-Chowan Alternative School.

Dr. John Dunn, Superintendent of Schools said Friday that Swain was in the process of being deeded to Chowan County. Referring to the transfer, Dunn said, "We no longer need it for school purposes." There is one stipulation in the transfer, "with the understanding that the Alternative School would remain there as long as needed," Dunn said. He added that this would be "for the indefinite future."

The superintendent said that an agreement had been reached previously that if the county renovated D.F. Walker, Swain would become county property. Renovations were completed early this year.

The COA proposal stems from a "letter of interest" received by the county a year ago, Copeland said. Norman Norfleet, Dean of Instruction at COA was asked Tuesday if their was continuing interest. He said, "We would like to use it if possible." He said that the classrooms would be used for adult education programs and for learning labs which would prepare adults to pass the G.E.D. test for a high school equivalency certificate.

Bruce Wackelin, President of the Chowan Arts Council said, "We want to be considered. We want to explore the feasibility of renovation and use so that the Council can provide services that Chowan County needs." Wackelin said that the dance program of the council has proven to be very successful and that because of this success, the council has outgrown its present building.

District Court Docket

Chowan District Court was in session March 18, the Honorable John T. Chaffin presiding over the criminal calendar.

James Matthew Baker pleaded guilty of disobeying a stop sign. He received a fine of \$35 and cost of court.

Walton Samuel Gibbs, Jr. was found guilty of a probation violation. His nine months sentence

Continued On Page 4

Copeland said that if the Alternative School is ever relocated, their basement area would "provide excellent support facilities for the Arts Council" for dance and art studios and dressing rooms.

The County Manager said that any sale of the front part of the school would be through the Historic Preservation Foundation, a private foundation based in Raleigh. It is this organization that purchased the old peanut mill.

Copeland said that he met with the foundation last week and they looked at the building "for the pur-

pose of developing a marketing strategy for presentation to developers." He explained that the county could sell the building to the foundation without going through the competitive bid process. They in turn would immediately sell to a developer.

The county would retain control of the building's use through a deed restriction. Copeland said that if the competitive bid process was used, the county would have no control over the ultimate use.

The Chowan County Board of Commission has taken no action on any of these proposals, Copeland said.

Board Candidates Speak

(Editor's Note: The following is the latest in a continuing series on candidates for the May 6 Primary.)

This week begins interviews with candidates seeking election to the local Board of Education.

Since school board elections are non-partisan, balloting during the May 6 primary will determine the winners.

J.M. Parrish, Jr. and Thomas I. Sharpe are competing for a First Township seat with a term expiring in 1990. In the following interviews, they share some of their thoughts on education.



Thomas I. Sharpe

Former Educator

By Rebecca Bunch

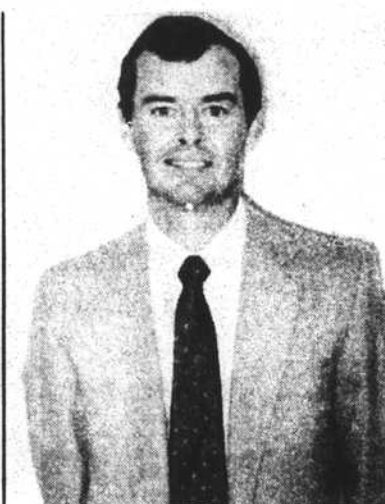
With a motto of "Continued academic excellence combined with proper facilities to achieve excellence" as his campaign theme, former educator Thomas I. Sharpe of Edenton recently announced his candidacy for the Board of Education.

A soft-spoken, articulate man who taught in the Edenton-Chowan School system for 25 years and at Elizabeth City State University for 15 years, Sharpe has an impressive string of academic credentials.

He received his B.S. degree in math from North Carolina A & T University, and his Masters degree from New York University. Sharpe did further academic work at UNC, Stonehill College in Massachusetts, Ohio Wesleyan, University of Wyoming, Carleton College of Minnesota, and the University of Montana. In addition, he was selected by the National Science Foundation to teach math to Junior and Senior High School teachers.

Since his retirement from EC-

Continued On Page 4



J.M. Parrish

Concerned Parent

By Rebecca Bunch

A Chowan County farmer with a strong interest in the quality of education in Edenton-Chowan Schools, J.M. Parrish is also seeking a seat on the local Board of Education in the upcoming election.

Parrish and his wife, Anne, have two young children and, he says, "I have very personal reasons for wanting the best possible education for all our children. And while I am impressed with the excellent job done by teachers in the Edenton-Chowan Schools, I still feel there is room for improvement in several areas."

During a recent tour of local schools, Parrish notes, he was dismayed by some of the structural problems he observed. While declining to go into details, he said that schools in the area deserve better maintenance than they are presently getting. "I suspect that much of the problem may be due to lack of available funds for repairs," he says, "but at this point, I really don't know."

He adds, "As a farmer, I am us-

Continued On Page 4



HERRING ARE RUNNING—Brothers Joseph and Bobby Byrum are shown with part of Monday's catch of herring from the Chowan River. They fish out of Cannon's Ferry. They said that last week they were catching about 100 pounds a day. Monday's haul was over a thousand pounds. If the weather stays warm, they expect to bring in from 10-15,000 pounds a day within two weeks.