



## Public Parade

### That Prime Time Religion

Time was when the Old Time Religion was good enough for everybody. Its praise was sung by saint and sinner alike. It was good for Paul and Silas, for brother and sister, for mother and father, for even the little children—and that was good enough for all.

Now that it has gone Prime Time, it's good for only the right people, those with long distance connections who bring us the word with unquestioned authority. And now it's too good for the rest of us.

If we don't straighten up and fly right, the fundamentalists are going to get us. They are going to get us, that is, just as soon as they can cloak themselves with enough authority, through political action, to compel us to walk the straight and narrow, not as we see it, but as they define it.

As the US News and World Report said in its April 21 edition, the fundies and the ultrafundies are learning how to concentrate their political power. Jimmy Carter picked up 56 percent in 1976. By 1980, 60 percent had shifted to Ronald Reagan, who pushed that to 81 percent in 1984. George Bush strategists believe that if the GOP can keep them in its column for one more cycle, "they'll remain with the party for the rest of the century."

Mr. Bush may feel differently if he has to take on Pat Robertson, layer on of hands par excellence, for the Republican presidential nomination in 1987 but, for the time being, it looks as if the marriage of the right and the far right is as much one of convenience as of necessity. It offers the best of both worlds for the fundamentalists and regulars to team up against the ungodly in the 1986 election.

For the rest of us, meanwhile, perhaps the best way to meet this challenge is to laugh it out of court. Moral bigotry did not end with the Scopes trial down in Tennessee, nor with John Kennedy's declaration of faith in an America where separation of church and state is absolute. It has regrouped, from country church to television citadels, and is back with us stronger than ever.

It is time for a Prime Time version of the Old Time Religion. We will need a marching song in the forthcoming battle against tyranny over the mind by those who want to tell us what shows we can see, what books we can read, what texts we can use, what beverages we can drink and what thoughts we can express as members of an upright, moral community.

So, let's give 'em that Prime Time Religion. Everybody knows it was good for Oral Roberts. It was good for Jerry Falwell. It was good for Grant and Angley, for Pat and Billy, for Jim and Jimmy, for Ken and Herbert. What's more, it brought us prime time miracles and bigger bank deposits and, best of all, it helps to foil the tax collector.

Once again, then: Gimme that Prime Time religion, Gimme that Prime Time religion, Gimme that Prime Time religion, It's good enough for me.

## Seminar Sponsored

A free evening workshop, "Job Attitudes and Human Relations," will be presented Tuesday, June 3 at 7 p.m. in the Unit A classroom at Chowan Hospital. The seminar is co-sponsored by the Edenton Chamber of Commerce and College of The Albemarle's Small Business Center.

Presenting the seminar will be Nancy Smathers, training specialist with the N.C. Department of Community Colleges. Smathers has previously led self-improvement workshops here that dealt with stress management and personal profiles.

## Miller Chosen New Executive Director

The Edenton-Chowan Chamber of Commerce has a new Executive Director. A search committee has chosen Kathleen Miller, insurance marketing director with John Dowd & Associates.

Miller is a native of Sacramento, CA and is married to Robert Miller who is a regional sales manager for a container firm. They have four children, Rob Miller, 17, a senior at John A. Holmes (he asked the first question of President Reagan at a nationally televised high school commencement address) Ben, 15, Danny, 7, and Joseph, 9 months.

The Millers moved from Raleigh last December where she was the office manager for four years for Nathaniel Hill and Associates, a consulting firm. She holds an associate degree in liberal arts from Gwynedd Mercy College in Philadelphia.

Chuck Smith, chamber president, said Tuesday morning, "We are very excited and enthusiastic about Kathy Miller being chosen as the director. We feel that the chamber of commerce will become more visible and active in the community and hope that new

members will join the chamber and become excited about the community."

In an interview Tuesday, Miller was asked what her goals were as the executive director. "I would like to develop the potential of the chamber. My personal philosophy of a chamber is to protect and advance business in the area."

Miller was asked about a News and Observer article published this week that quoted a "think tank's" report which said that rural North Carolina would never attract new industry. The article said that rural communities lacked adequate transportation, skilled labor and the cultural arts needed to attract outside industry. She said, "I think it is those kind of articles that make us attack with vigor these problems."

She said that this area has much potential for growth. "We have the clean tourist industry, but we haven't organized it. I see a large potential there." Miller also said, "Our improved water systems and waste water system should be squared away by 1987."

She spoke of other ideas for growth. "We'd like to unite this

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NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOUND—Kathleen Miller has been named as the Edenton-Chowan Chamber of Commerce Executive Director. She is shown with the chamber's search committee. They are (l. to r.) Tom Palmer, External Vice-President; John Dowd, Past President; Chuck Smith, President; Beth Taylor, President Elect; Miller; and Steve Robertson, Internal Vice-President.

## Athletes Receive Sports Awards

A somewhat tiring, (3½ hours) but eminently worthwhile sports award banquet at John A. Holmes High School Monday evening once again spotlighted shining examples of this area's youth.

Athletic Director Tom Bass told a large crowd that, "The 85-86 athletic season was a very, very good year. There are many people in the community in the background that contributed to the athletic program."

Bass recognized all of the school's coaches and then said, "As for the community, we're here for you and the only thing that we ask is your support."

Two posthumous awards were made in recognition for service to the school and school system. Chuck Smith accepted an award for his father, the late C.B. Smith, a school board member. Superintendent John Dunn said, "He was proud of our athletes."

The second posthumous award was presented to Mrs. Thurza Shields in recognition of her late husband's 24 years of contribution to the school as a teacher and coach. The 1986 student yearbook was dedicated in his honor.

Brian Bunch walked away with top honors for the boys' athletics. He received the C. B. Smith Memorial Blanket Award

(formerly the CBS International Award); the Athletic Academic Award for maintaining a grade point average of 96; and the Robert F. Shields Athlete of the Year Award.

Honored by the Athletic Academic Award for the girls program was Leigh-Ann White. White maintained a 98 grade point average.

The Robert F. Shields Athlete of the Year Award for girls was Stephanie Elliott.

During the banquet, Aces

Booster Club President Wallace Evans presented the school with \$2,000 to be used for updating video equipment. Associate Superintendent of Schools Jim Kinion told the gathering that the booster club had collected \$27,000 in four years to aid the athletic program. The club provided 87 plaques to be awarded to the student athletes.

During the evening it was announced that Charles Holley and Keith Bartlett had received full

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NEW CHIEF DEPUTY—Chowan County Sheriff Glenn Perry has appointed Linda Terry as Chief Deputy effective May 1, 1986. Terry brings over seven years experience as a deputy sheriff to her new position.

## Chief Deputy Appointed

Deputy Sheriff Linda N. Terry was named recently as Chief Deputy by Chowan County Sheriff Glen Perry. The appointment was made in late April and became effective May 1.

Terry, who has been with the Sheriff's Department since 1979, is married to Bland Terry and they have two children. Bland Terry is employed as an officer with the Edenton Police Department.

Perry was the department's chief deputy for 19 years until the death of Sheriff Troy Toppin in October when Perry was appointed as Sheriff of Chowan County. The position of chief deputy had been vacant until Terry's appointment.

In naming his second in command, Sheriff Perry said, "After five months of consideration, I felt that she was the most qualified to

fill the position."

Concerning her appointment, Terry said, "I feel very honored and will continue to serve the department to the very best of my ability."

## Intersection Collision Reported

A two-car collision at No. Broad and Albemarle Streets on Saturday night marks the second straight week that an accident has occurred at the intersection.

The mishap took place at 8:30 p.m. when a 1973 Plymouth, driven by Rodney Lee, 21, was struck from behind by a 1979 Hon-

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## Town And County Tax Billing Simplified

A first step has been taken to foster closer cooperation between Chowan County and the Town of Edenton. A written agreement was signed last week which provides for the tax billings and collections for the town to be done by the county tax office.

Town residents will have two line items on their future county tax bills, one for the county levy and the other listing their town property tax. Edenton is expected to save \$15,000 in the process.

The increased cost to the coun-

ty in this billing will be paid by the town. The county will charge town hall two per cent of the town's tax levy the first year of the arrangement and one and one-half per cent in succeeding years. The extra one-half per cent in the first year represents an allowance for start-up costs.

"Simplification of tax billing and collection is what it all boils down to," according to County Commission Chairman Alton Elmore.

In an additional agreement, the

county animal control officer will enforce town animal control ordinances. Said County Manager Cliff Copeland, "This is an attempt to address the double taxation issue."

In commenting on the agreements, Edenton Mayor John Dowd said, "I hope this can be seen as the first step in the town and county working together to spend the public's tax dollars wisely."

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## Democratic Run-Off Tuesday

Democrats will be going to the polls again on Tuesday, June 3 in a primary runoff election. R.M. "Pete" Thompson from Chowan County and Winnifred "Winnie" Wood from Camden County face off for the party's nod as the candidate for the N.C. House of Representatives.

The party's other candidate, Representative Vernon James, won a majority of the votes in the May 6 Primary. James and the winner of the Tuesday contest will face Republican Shirley Perry of Perquimans County in November in an election for two House seats in the Legislature.

County polling places will be open on Tuesday from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Voting will take place at the following locations:

**East Edenton:** Old National Guard Armory - parking is at the rear of the building;

**West Edenton:** New Edenton-Chowan Rescue Squad Building - parking at the front and side of the building;

**Rocky Hook:** Rocky Hook Rescue Squad Building - parking in front and side of building;

**Center Hill:** Crossroads Fire Department - parking in front of building;

**Wardville:** Gliden Rescue Squad Building - parking in front of building;

**Yeopim:** New National Guard Armory - parking at front and side of building. (Sample Ballot - Page 8-A)



TOWN-COUNTY AGREEMENT—Chowan County Board of Commissioners Chairman Alton Elmore (left) and Edenton Mayor John Dowd sign agreements concerning tax billings and collections and enforcement of animal control ordinances. Looking on (l. to r.) are Town Administrator Sam Noble, EMS Coordinator and County Animal Control Officer Doug Belch, and County Manager Cliff Copeland.