

Enough of Cheap Shots

Rep. James T. Broyhill of Caldwell, who wants to move up to the U.S. Senate from the 10th North Carolina district, told a group at Boswell's Restaurant the other day that there are many reasons for supporting his candidacy.

Among them, he said, is the fact that during his long service in Congress he has received awards "from a small businessmen's organization for economy in government." Then he added: "They don't give them to Tip O'Neill."

Mr. Broyhill should have left well enough alone. Perhaps they don't give them to Tip O'Neill. But, then, maybe up in Massachusetts they do. That's not important. What is important is that Rep. Broyhill is not running against Tip O'Neill, but against Terry Sanford, who has received a wall full of awards and citations during his long public service as governor and president of Duke University. If the election is to be won by the number of medals on the candidate's chest, then Terry Sanford will win in a walk-a-way.

But, for the good of the state, let's hope it is won on the basis of the issues revealed and the competency of the candidates to meet them. We believe the people of North Carolina have become tired of finger-pointing and name-calling campaigns for high political office. If anybody should be sick and tired of hearing the name of Tip O'Neill used as a horrible example, it should be Rep. James T. Broyhill.

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Proposed Tax Hike Fought

A Chowan County farmer is taking the lead in protesting a proposed hike of 15¢ per \$100 valuation in county ad valorem taxes. Carroll Byrum said, "We were out at the fire station one night and started talking about taxes. We decided to try to hold onto our property. A whole lot of farmers have already been sold out."

Byrum said that farmers have faced low crop prices, bad weather, lack of markets, high cost of chemicals and easy loans in the past, coupled with high interest rates, and taxes. He said that these factors have combined to place a financial squeeze on the farmer and that an increase in taxes would only add to their burden.

The Valhalla area farmer has placed signs on his property proclaiming "County tax should be based on income rather than property. People, not property require county services." He said that "25 folks" are working with him in a petition drive to protest the increase. He said that farmers and residential owners alike were circulating the petitions although farmers were in the minority "cause there aren't many farmers left."

Byrum said that the county tax hearing at 10 a.m. on June 24 should have been held at night. He pointed out that during the day, not many people could get off work to attend.

The tax protesters are taking their campaign to the airwaves as well with a paid ad on local radio station WBXB. Byrum said it would air twice a day until June 24.

Support Club Gathering

The Elizabeth City Heart/Stroke Support Club is a group of people helping each other to cope. They are victims of heart attacks or strokes or close family members all dealing with the same feelings and problems.

If you would like to find out more about the club, join them, June 26, at Southgate Mall or stop by the next Support Club meeting which will be June 23, at the Holiday Inn Restaurant at 5:30 p.m.



SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING—Bruce White, Executive Director of the Edenton Housing Authority makes a point to (l. to r.) HUD officials Michael Godwin, Bettye Jackson and Robert Frazier and authority commissioner Daisy Bemby at a special meeting of the Edenton Town Council Monday night.

EHA Audit Discrepancies Reported

By JACK GROVE

The Edenton Housing Authority came under scrutiny Monday night at a special meeting of the Edenton Town Council. The meeting came as a result of an occupancy audit report conducted by the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). A copy of the report, dated May 23, 1986, was sent to Mayor John Dowd.

The housing authority provides low-income housing in Edenton and is comprised of some 100 apartment units in the Blade Street area. It is federally funded with HUD having overall supervision of the program.

Three HUD officials from the Greensboro office attended the meeting: Robert Frazier, Chief, Assisted Housing Management Branch; Bettye Jackson, Housing Management Specialist who conducted the occupancy audit; and Michael Godwin, Fiscal Analyst who conducted the financial portion of the audit.

Also attending were Bruce White, executive director of the authority and authority commissioner, Daisy Bemby. Four other commissioners did not attend.

In his opening comments, Dowd said that the meeting was being held to determine the role that the mayor and council are supposed to have with the housing authority. He asked this question of Frazier.

The HUD official responded that it is the mayor's responsibility to appoint commissioners for the authority. He said that the mayor can also abolish the commission. Further, he said that the town's mayor and council had no monetary connection with the authority. However, he said that the commission "is still under the jurisdiction of the mayor."

Dowd then turned to the audit report that he had received and copies of which he had provided to councilmen. The occupancy portion of the audit report contained 15 deficiencies which were not in

compliance with HUD requirements. These findings were primarily of an administrative nature.

HUD's report said, "The majority of the findings listed in this audit report are findings made in previous audits at the authority and were previously cleared based on information furnished this office by the Executive Director. (The foregoing was underlined.) However, these findings were either never corrected or, if corrected, the PHA reverted back to the same procedures after each audit report was cleared by this office."

This portion of the report was answered (on some items, disputed) in a letter from White to HUD dated June 6, 1986. His letter answered the findings, item by item. He did not address the specifics of the findings in the financial portion of the audit. His letter contained a general statement in that area saying that he did not agree with all of the findings and complimenting Godwin on his helpfulness and advice.

Town Administrator Sam Noble asked Godwin about the second finding in the financial section. That HUD finding states, "The Executive Director purchased equipment through the PHA and

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Resignation Announced

Sarah Tynch, Chairperson of the Chowan County Democratic Party, announced her resignation from that position on Wednesday morning. She said that she tendered the resignation at a meeting of the county party's executive committee Monday night and that it was accepted. "I didn't do it without thinking it over thoroughly," she said.

In the prepared statement that follows, Tynch outlined her reasons for the decision.

"My sister, Shirley Perry, is a Republican candidate for the N.C. House of Representatives. Initially, I felt her candidacy would have little bearing regarding my position as Chairperson of the Chowan County Democratic Party—I would simply keep a low profile for this particular race.

"However, it became very apparent to me, prior to the May 6 primary, that it was not just a matter of casting my vote in private. There are expectations of this position that I simply am unable, and unwilling to fulfill.

"I do feel an obligation to the party, and I know I will be unable to promote total Democratic victories in the November general election when I would be directing this against my sister, a Republican candidate.

"I feel that maintaining the position as chairperson would indicate that I did not take her candidacy seriously. Therefore, I feel ineffective as Democratic Party Chairperson and I have submitted my resignation, effective July 14.

"I have discussed this situation with Rep. Vernon James and R.M. "Pete" Thompson (both Democratic candidates for the House) and have been strongly encouraged by both individuals to continue as chairperson. I was assured by both that they had no qualms or problems with my continuing to serve as county chairperson. However, after careful consideration, I made the decision to resign. The bottom line is that I do not wish to remain chairperson of the County Democratic Party when my sister is a Republican candidate.

"Quite frankly, I feel comfortable regarding the outcome of the N.C. House race in November as we have three competent individuals running who will represent the First District, and

Chowan County, quite well.

"My decision to resign should in no way reflect any dissatisfaction with the Democratic candidates. I suppose one could call upon the cliché, 'Blood is thicker than water.' Shirley has long held my utmost admiration, love, and respect. I know, if elected, she will work very diligently for our area. I feel that she is a very viable candidate."

Tynch was appointed to head the county party when Thompson stepped down in January from the position in order to file for election. Tynch was elected to head county Democrats in February.



Willie Riddick

Aide Guest Speaker

The Edenton-Chowan Civic League will host its Sixth Annual Banquet on Friday, June 27. The banquet will be held at John A. Holmes High School, beginning at 7:00 p.m. Keynote speaker for the evening will be Mr. Willie Riddick, aide to Congressman Walter B. Jones.

A limited number of tickets will be available at a cost of \$8.00 each. They may be purchased from Miss Clenora Austin or any member of the League. Those wishing to attend are urged to purchase their tickets as soon as possible.

This banquet promises to be one of the best yet, according to a League spokesman, and interested members of the community are warmly invited to attend.

Arts Council Appoints Lisa Baker Executive Director

The Chowan Arts Council has a new executive director. Bruce Wackelin, president of the organization announced that Lisa Baker had been hired to fill the new position.

"Lisa's job is to coordinate the administrative activities of the council and its ongoing program. We'll be able to do and follow through on many projects in the community, such as in the schools and with the Recreation Department," Wackelin said.

Baker is a native of New Jersey and was raised in McLean, VA. She is a graduate of Southern Seminary Jr. College in Buena

Vista, VA with an associate degree in art and with a minor in business administration. She is married to James Miles Baker, a captain with USAIR. They have two small children and live in Edenton. She has had "extensive" fund-raising experience with a national political organization in Washington, D.C.

Wackelin said that the arts council is part of a "triad" that includes the Chamber of Commerce and Historic Edenton. He said that these organizations were complementary to each other in enhancing the educational, artistic and economic development climate of the community.

The council president pointed out that the arts bring money into the community when performances are held, including patronage at local motels and restaurants.

Baker, in explaining the function of the council, termed it "the chamber of commerce of the arts. We help coordinate and assist local artists." She cited as examples, helping people to find piano teachers, artists, musicians, and garden clubs.

The council sponsors an artist's directory. Wackelin said that a mailing had been sent out to county businesses, corporations and individuals requesting donations to help fund the council's activities.

"What we are trying to do in our program as a whole is to serve all

of the citizens of Edenton and Chowan County. We are basically a presenting organization. For example, the N.C. Dance Theater, the Roadside Theater from Whitesburg, KY and Bits-N-Pieces Puppet Theater from Tampa, FL," Wackelin said.

Wackelin continued, "Along with the School Board, we are the largest contributors to presentation of the N.C. Symphony visit. We also work with other groups that bring in performing artists into the schools to complement in-school activities."

The new executive director will be the point of contact on a day-to-day basis at the council's new office at 108 E. King Street. "We're very excited about our office space," she said.

New Subdivision Development Home Sites Now Available

The Rich Real Estate Company of Edenton, Inc. has announced plans to begin immediate development for a thirty-three acre exclusive subdivision of colonial style homes located in the city limits and less than one mile from the historic district on NC 32 south.

The project will incorporate landscaping, curbs and gutters, underground utilities, and restrictive covenants that will protect the buyer's investment both now and in the future.

After more than a year in the planning and development, the project is ready to be professionally marketed as individual homesites intended to provide an at-

tractive and comfortable lifestyle for the buyer.

Phase one of the development will incorporate twenty-two interior homesites and five lake-front homesites for immediate sale to the public.

Robert B. Bachman, managing broker of the Rich Company, has worked with Gilliam Wood to coordinate the exclusive Village Creek project from its inception and the Rich Real Estate Company will be the exclusive marketing company for the project.

Bachman said that pre-construction prices currently prevail. Homesites are presently accessible for inspection by interested buyers he said.



NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR—Bruce Wackelin, President of the Chowan Arts Council, stands in front of the new Arts Council office with its first Executive Director, Lisa Baker.