

# Following Resignations, EHA Commission Effectively Dissolved

By JACK GROVE  
A series of Town Council meetings over the past week have resulted in the abolition of the Edenton Housing Authority and the resignation of its Executive Director, Bruce White.

The authority, established to provide low-cost housing for Edenton's lower income population, has come under fire recently from town officials due to a critical occupancy and financial audit. The report, authored by the Greensboro regional office of the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) listed 15 discrepancies, many of which it

said were repeat violations of its regulations.

At an Aug. 12 council meeting, a motion was passed to draw up a resolution to abolish the EHA and set a meeting for last Friday to consider the resolution. The Friday meeting, with only two spectators (the press and a town employee) saw the resolution and an ordinance to abolish the authority passed unanimously.

Another resolution asked for the immediate resignation of White and offered him 90 days severance pay in return for the waiver of his right to institute legal proceedings against the town. Immediate

resignations were also asked of the five commissioners of the EHA, Gerald Lassiter, Haywood Harrell, Ken Lowe, Daisey Bem-bry and Odessa Collins.

Town Manager Sam Noble told the council that he and Councilmen E.N. Manning and Willis Privott had met in his office with HUD officials. He said that the federal officials called White's office to meet with him that day and review EHA records.

The HUD staffers were reportedly told that White was not at work that day and that no one was to be permitted access to his office. A federal statute requires

access to public housing authority records.

The Town Council also unanimously passed a measure providing that letters be sent to the U.S. Congressional delegation (Sen. Jesse Helms, Sen. James Broyhill and Cong. Walter B. Jones) requesting that they ask for a General Accounting Office investigation of the EHA. This is to clear the way for the town's official takeover of the authority on November 17, 1986. Mayor John Dowd said, "They will conduct a thorough audit from day one."

Also at the Friday meeting, council discussed the subject of

school crossing guards. Noble told the council, "The school system doesn't want the responsibility" for administration of the program. School Superintendent John Dunn suggested that the town assume all costs of the program and the schools would consider assuming the responsibility and liability for the program, the council was told.

No decision was made to find out how their crossing guard programs were administered.

Another special council meeting was held Tuesday at 1 p.m. Noble told the council that authority director White had balked at sign-

ing away his right to sue the town. A unanimous vote of council deleted this stricture and Town Attorney C. Christopher Bean announced that he had the resignations of White, and commissioners Harrell, Lowe and Lassiter. He said that with three resignations, the EHA Commission was effectively dissolved since there could no longer be a quorum.

Councilmen approved the immediate placement of the authority responsibilities under Stella Brothers, head of the town's Community Development Office. She will divide her time equally bet-

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# THE CHOWAN HERALD



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## The Public Parade

### The PACs Vs The People

Common Cause, in launching its campaign against Political Action Committees (PACs), says the more than \$100,000,000 they poured into congressional campaigns during 1984 is a threat to our system of representative government.

And now, as a first step, the U.S. Senate has passed a bill limiting the amount congressional candidates may receive from this source—\$100,000 for house candidates and \$175,000 to \$750,000 for senate candidates, the total varying according to the population of the state. The limit for North Carolina would be \$385,000.

It's too bad this legislation, if concurred in by the house, will not go into effect until the 1988 round of elections. Already the upper limits are being passed in the current campaigns and the big spending days are still ahead.

Up in the Ninth District, Rep. Alex McMillan, the darling of the PACs, continues to rake in the money from these special interest groups, as does Senator James Broyhill, who, although a freshman in the upper house, is an old hand at taking money from the PACs while condemning "special interests."

As of June 30, Rep. McMillan

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## Board Approves Additional Funding

The state Board of Transportation has approved an additional \$6.9 million for secondary road construction during the next fiscal year. Of that amount, Chowan County will receive a total of \$109,693.

The extra allocation is due, in part, to the "Roads to the Future" program initiated by Governor Jim Martin last spring and adopted by the General Assembly in July.

At its July 11 meeting, the board had allocated \$47.9 million for use on the state's secondary road system.

The total \$54.8 million secondary road allocation will be distributed to each county using a formula based on the number of miles of unpaved state-maintained secondary roads in the county as compared with the total number miles of unpaved state-maintained secondary roads in the state. Chowan County statistics showed an unpaved mileage of 35.01.

The money is to be used for construction, safety and stabilization work on the county's secondary roads.

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## Board Announces Free And Reduced Meals Policy

The Edenton-Chowan Board of Education has announced its policy for free and reduced price meals for children unable to pay the full price of meals served under the National School Lunch, and School Breakfast Programs. Each school and the central office has a copy of the policy, which may be reviewed by any interested party.

Eligibility will be determined on the following household size and income:

Children from families whose

## Man Victim Of Hit And Run Accident

A Chowan County man was found dead early Sunday morning, the apparent victim of a hit and run accident. Russell T. Saunders, 44, of Rt. 3 Edenton, was found on the pavement on the Rocky Hock Road between the Rocky Hock Baptist Church and the Rocky Hock Grocery.

Chowan Deputy Sheriff David Jethro was the first officer at the scene and set the time of the accident at about 1:50 a.m. Sunday. Chowan County Medical Examiner, Dr. Leibert DeVine pronounced the victim dead at the scene.

State Trooper W.M. Long, investigating officer, was not available at press time for comment. Jethro said that a mobile crime unit from the State Bureau of Investigation was called to the scene Sunday.

The deputy sheriff said clear tracks of a vehicle crossed the ditch, up the bank and back onto the roadway where the body was found.

An investigation is continuing.

income is at or below the levels shown are eligible for free or reduced price meals.

Application forms are being sent to all homes with a letter to parents or guardians. To apply for free or reduced price meals, households should fill out the application and return it to the school. Additional copies are available at the principal's office in each school. The information provided on the application will be used for the purpose of determining eligibility. Household income may be verified at any time during the school year by school or other program officials.

For the school officials to determine eligibility, the household must provide the following information listed on the application: names of all household members, social security numbers of all adult household members or a statement that the household member does not possess one; total household income; and the signature of an adult household member certifying that the information provided is correct.

Households are required to report increases in household income of over \$50 per month or \$600 per year and decreases in household size. Households receiving food stamps may provide their food stamp program case number instead of income information. Applications may be submitted at any time during the year.

Under the provisions of the free and reduced price policy the principals of the schools will review applications and determine eligibility. If a parent or guardian is dissatisfied with the ruling of the official, he may wish to discuss the decision with the determining official on an informal basis. If the parent wishes to

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**SURROUNDED**—This home on Pembroke Circle was completely surrounded by water backed up Hurricane Charley's winds Sunday afternoon. The water was about 18 inches deep in the street (foreground).

## Hurricane Charley Leaves Edenton With Little Damage

He was born in the Gulf of Mexico as a tropical depression, moved to a position off the coast of South Carolina, becoming a tropical storm and was named Charley. Sitting there for some 36 hours he picked up strength and reached hurricane status with winds of 75 mph.

Charley then set a course early Sunday that would sweep across the Pamlico and Albemarle Sounds and Tidewater Virginia and up the east coast.

Hurricane warnings were out, but little damage and no injuries resulted in Edenton and Chowan County. A check with local emergency agencies revealed that not even a fender bender occurred during the storm.

Heavy rains Sunday afternoon, tree limbs down around the area and localized flooding were the most serious results from the storm. At 4:30 p.m., a storm surge from the hurricane's winds rais-

ed water levels in Albemarle Sound, Edenton Bay and the Chowan River by several feet. Water stood a foot deep across Broad Street from the Barker House to the Municipal Building. Also flooded was the curve on Pembroke Circle and a low section of Business 17 south in front of Edenton Marina.

The downed tree limbs did no reported damage in Edenton. Some 20 to 25 customers of the Edenton utility department were without power for a short time as the result of a tree falling across electric lines on U.S. 17 south.

According to a spokesman at

the Edenton-Chowan EMS office, plans were in place to open emergency shelters but it was found to be unnecessary. Only one worried resident called during the storm the spokesman said. EMS personnel were in touch with the drawbridge operator on the Albemarle Sound Bridge who reported the highest winds at his location were 50 mph during the storm.

While Hurricane Charley came closer to this area than any recent hurricane, passing between the Outer Banks and Chowan County, he proved to be far less menacing than at first thought.

## Association Hosts Summer Evening Gala

The Cupola House Association will host its Annual Summer's Evening Gala on Friday, September 5, from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. Mr. and Mrs. Richard Dixon have again offered the grounds of Beverly Hall, West King Street, for an evening featuring entertainment and a cocktail buffet.

An open bar will be provided by Tarheel Bank, Peoples Bank and Trust Co., North Carolina National Bank and Edenton Savings and Loan.

Tickets are \$30 for a couple, \$15 for an individual and may be purchased by calling Mrs. Alice Bond at 482-3305 or at the Gala. Proceeds go toward special projects

to enhance the house. The high priority project this year is to restore the paintings of Thomas and Penelope Barker and Penelope's nephew Thomas Hodgson.

## Vandals Virtually Destroy House

A house was virtually destroyed by vandals over the weekend. Deputy Sheriff Wayne Rice, investigating officer, said that the former home of Neal Griffin, is located on a side road near the Bolden Bridge on Mexico Road. Griffin still owns the property.

The extensive damage included holes punched in sheet rock and paneling, graffiti spray painted on walls, all but one window broken, paneling torn off walls, light fixtures destroyed, holes punched through the walls and doors and frames chopped up with an axe. The deputy set the damage at \$5,500.

Rice said that two boys, ages 13 and 14, who were seen in the area, were interviewed. Both confessed to the damage and were charged. Disposition of the case and names of the offenders cannot be made public by state law, juvenile authorities said.

EDENTON-CHOWAN SCHOOLS REACH FOR THE EXCEPTIONAL

**EFFORTS REWARDED**—Mrs. Brenda Little (l.) received a check for \$100 from school board member Alice Jones for suggesting the coming school year's motto, "Reach For The Exceptional." Sharing in the moment are school board chairman Cecil Fry and Superintendent John Dunn (partially hidden).

at the Chowan Hospital  
on Tuesday, August 26th

**Bloodmobile**  
Sponsored by the Edenton Jaycees



from 3:00 til 7:00  
Goal is 100 pints