



The Public Parade

Close Encounter With Tragedy

Whatever else they are telling themselves, Carteret County civil authorities flunked the evacuation test presented by hurricane Charley Sunday morning, August 17.

First, a little background. Our place is at Pine Knoll Shores, about midway down Bogue Island, served by NC 58. There is a drawbridge at Morehead City and a high-rise bridge at the western end near Emerald Isle.

We were awakened by the storm about 7 a.m., got up and turned on the New Bern TV station, Channel 12, which was busy with a children's cartoon show. We turned on the radio and were served up everything from fundamentalist preaching to rock music.

After about 30 minutes, the television station ran a reader across the screen saying that Charley was about 60 miles down the coast, headed for the Morehead City area at about six miles an hour. Residents were advised to get off the island via NC 58 and the high-rise bridge at the western end.

We waked our company and prepared to leave. Foregoing breakfast, we were out on the road before 9 a.m. We headed west toward Emerald Isle. By Salter Path, traffic was heavy; by Indian Beach, it was bumper-to-bumper; by Emerald Isle, it was at a standstill. But there was still

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Jury Remains Deadlocked

The state and county could be the victims if a jury remains deadlocked with a 11-1 count on a trial involving a \$75 bad check in Superior Court this week.

A conservative estimate of cost for operating a courtroom is between \$165 and \$200 per hour and the cost is shared by the county and state. The jury, after deliberating part of Tuesday and Wednesday morning, was deadlocked at press time but the foreman said it had not stopped working toward an agreement.

The deadlock came after John Carroll Williams of Chowan County was charged with obtaining property by false pretense. Judge James Llewellyn told prospective jurors, "The most important job that will be done in the courtroom this week is yours. . . Jury duty is a necessary evil you as a citizen must put up with."

SBI Special Agent Dwight Ransome testified that Joel Calvin Williams received a bad check from Fouch Investments in California and North Carolina National Bank mailed the check and a debit voucher for his account to his home on Route 4, Edenton. But the check was delivered to John Carroll Williams' box on the same route, according to Ransome. Both men use the name J.C. Williams.

Ransome said John Williams called the California company and said he had its check and gave his mailing address for a reimbursement to be sent to his box. The witness further stated that Williams cashed the check at Bridge Turn Exxon Station.

With the jury sent from the courtroom, Ransome said he talked with Williams at the Chowan County Sheriff's Department Sept. 23 but that the defendant said he wanted to talk about the case. Williams was not placed under arrest and was not given his rights under the Miranda Law.

Williams then took the stand and went to the sheriff's office. He was charged with

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Funding Protested

By JACK GROVE

An angry state Rep. Vernon James gave Department of Transportation officials a tongue-lashing at a meeting in Hertford Friday. Saying that this part of the state was not getting its fair share of highway funds, James said, "You got the money from the legislature." The recent short session saw \$200 million approved for state roads.

Directing his next remarks to area DOT Board members Earl Rountree of Sunbury and Kenneth Roberson of Robersonville, the legislator told them that they were not doing enough on needed highway projects. "You represent this district. I expect you to do your part," James told them.

Roberson was singled out for particular attention concerning his recent distribution of \$1 million in discretionary road money. He had allocated the bulk of the funds to counties in his area, with only \$9,000 going into the five counties represented by Rountree. The \$9,000 went to Elizabeth City.

Of this unequal division, James told Roberson, "I'm telling you, I want equity." He said his constituents "have not gotten what they have the right to expect."

Local officials attending the meeting included Edenton Mayor John Dowd, Hertford Mayor Bill Cox, Elizabeth City Mayor Tyra Newell, Kathy Miller from the Edenton-Chowan Chamber of Commerce, and representatives

from Camden, Perquimans, Pasquotank, Currituck, Chowan and Gates counties and Republican candidate for the state legislature, Shirley Perry.

Other DOT officials attending included State Highway Administrator George Wells, Deputy Assistant Secretary Jerry Hardesty, Chief Engineer Earl McIntyre and district engineers.

The group was told by Wells that the \$9 million contract to four-lane U.S. 17 from Winfall north to connect with the four-lane south of Elizabeth City had slipped back a year in planning. The summer of 1988 is now targeted for the paving work to begin.

Roberson said that the four-laning of U.S. 64 from Tarboro to Rocky Mount is projected to be completed by 1990. Of plans to four-lane from Williamston to Tarboro he said, "I'm trying to tie it down in the TIP (the state's Transportation Improvement Plan). He said that there was nothing in the TIP concerning widening 17 from Hertford to Edenton but he was planning to request that it be included.

Rountree spoke of a recent trip to the western part of the state where tourism was increasing due to four-lane roads. "We've got to build the roads to get the tourists down here," he maintained. He said that it was up to local officials to develop local tourism. Mayor Cox observed, "If we could get the roads, we could get the tourists."



VISITING CEO—Tom Smith (l.), President and Chief Executive Officer of the Food Lion chain paid a visit to the Edenton store Tuesday afternoon. Edenton may be the site of a new store. With Smith is store manager John Schiiler.

Food Lion Executives Visit Edenton

Executives of Food Lion, Inc. were in Edenton Tuesday afternoon to have a look at the local store and to explore the feasibility of building a new store here.

The store officials, who flew into Edenton from company headquarters at Salisbury, N.C., included President and Chief Executive Officer, Tom E. Smith and Merchandising Director, John Watkins.

The supermarket chain has 360 stores in North and South

Carolina, Virginia, Georgia, Tennessee and a recently opened store in Maryland, according to Smith.

The food executive said that the company was "considering a new location" in Edenton. "We would build a 25,000 sq. ft. store," he said. The present store is smaller than most Food Lion outlets with only 18,000 sq. ft. of shopping area. Store manager John Schiiler said that the store had a smaller than needed storage area.

Man Found Guilty of 2nd Degree Murder

By JEANETTE WHITE

A Chowan County man was found guilty of second degree murder and sentenced to 20 years in prison Tuesday in superior court after what Judge James D. Llewellyn called a "plea arrangement."

Lee Dell Leary Jr., 24, of Route 1, Edenton, entered the guilty plea in exchange for State Attorney Frank Parrish dropping a charge of first degree murder.

Leary was charged with the June 1 shotgun slaying of Alfred Christopher (Honey Pig) Holley, 35, in the Wingfield section of the county.

As he entered the guilty plea, Defense Attorney Charles Busby said, "In light of the evidence, I won't say much. We (meaning Leary) tried to reach a plea we could live with."

Under the fair sentencing law, maximum sentence for a second degree murder charge is 50 years and uniform sentence is a presumed 15 years. Parrish agreed on a sentence of five years in ex-

cess of the presumed incarceration.

Leary sat calm and emotionless as Deputy Sheriff Wayne Rice, who was the only witness in the case, summarized events leading to the shooting.

According to the deputy, an argument involving various members of the Leary family erupted the afternoon of the slaying at the home of David (Snook) Copeland when Connie Leary Jernigan, sister of the defendant, accused Holley of saying she had AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome).

Rice said Lillian Copeland attempted to stop the argument and asked the participants to leave her home. While the family was leaving, another fight erupted in the yard between two women. The witness said one of the women told Leary that Jernigan and Holley were fighting. He said some of the men threatened to obtain guns.

Rice said the Leary family went to the Cicco area, where the argu-

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HERTFORD MEETING—DOT and area officials had a luncheon meeting in Hertford Friday. DOT Board member, Kenneth Roberson, speaks to the group about area highway concerns. Standing next to Roberson is Jerry T. Hardesty, Dep. Asst. Sec. of the N.C. DOT.

Dunn Welcomes School Personnel

The Edenton-Chowan school system held its annual Back-To-School breakfast last week. Administrators, school board members, teachers, staff personnel and town and county officials packed the Holmes High School cafeteria to hear words of welcome from Superintendent John Dunn.

Dunn began with "Happy new year everybody." He told of two teachers he had spoken to. One said that the breakfast event was the first time she had had her shoes on all summer and the other remarked that Monday morning was the earliest she had gotten out of bed since the close of school.

The superintendent told the school personnel, "We're really happy to see you back and get things started. You're part of a

great school system."

He listed accomplishments from last year: The lowest dropout rate of any county in the state; student test scores continuing to increase above the national average; continually lower discipline referrals; being chosen by the state as one of the county systems to conduct a pilot test of the new Career Ladder Program; only school system in the nation with an NJROTC training vessel; senior class as guests of the President; two years without a chargeable accident for school buses; and the installation of three heating systems in schools by maintenance personnel resulting in \$300,000 in cost savings.

"Our effort will be to reach for even more exceptional things this year. To stretch and to try to

broaden what we've already done. This school system is what you wish it to be," Dunn concluded.

The school system has had a motto for each of the past four years as a guide and focus for the school year. Over 100 entries were submitted for this year's credo. Mrs. Brenda Little submitted the 1986-87 motto "Reach For The Exceptional." Her winning effort was rewarded with a check for \$100.

Special guest speaker for the occasion was former school board member, Dr. J.H. Horton. He discussed the relationships between the many facets of a school system, from board members to maintenance and janitorial workers. He told the school personnel, "I'm sure you will do it better. You are good people."

Sanford Stresses Democratic Party Unity

A capacity crowd of enthusiastic local Democrats filled Holmes High School cafeteria to hear former N.C. Governor Terry Sanford outline his campaign for the U.S. Senate last Thursday evening.

Sanford granted a short interview upon his arrival at the school. He was asked if he expected to return to the area prior to the November elections. He said that he would attend two district rallies in this part of the state.

The candidate's stop in Edenton was part of a swing through the northeast in keeping with his pledge to visit all 100 counties of the state prior to Labor Day. "I think it's very important to cover all parts of the state," the senate hopeful said.

On future TV debates with his opponent, Senator James Broyhill, he said, "I've accepted every invitation," saying that there have been eight so far.

Sanford was asked whether he would respond in kind to labels, such as "liberal" and "conservative" that have aired on Broyhill's radio ads during the past week. He said that his approach would be a positive one, concentrating on "what we can do. The past is an indication of what I can do in the future." He said that he would ask the public to "Not vote against, but vote for" a candidate.

An hour-long thunderstorm that arrived with the candidate did nothing to dampen the crowd's mood, even though power was lost in the building for a period through the dinner and opening introductions of local party officials. Power was restored in time for Sanford's address.

He stressed the importance to his campaign of restoring Democratic Party unity, beginning at the local precinct level and the involvement of young people in the process. "Democrats

everywhere are tired of losing," he pointed out.

Sanford told the assemblage that he plans to run "An absolutely clean, forward-looking campaign. I think it's important to stick to that. Politics is not a dirty game. It's the very essence of American government."

Issues listed for his campaign were:

"the farm economy - "We need

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Shriners' Annual Fish Fry Planned

The Chowan County Shrine Club will hold its annual Fish Fry on Saturday, September 6 at the Boy Scout Hut in Edenton.

The Shriners will begin serving fish plates at 11:00 a.m. All proceeds will go towards support of the Shriners' Crippled Childrens' Hospitals.



MEET SANFORD—Marjorie Hollowell, Clerk of Court and Willis Privott take the opportunity to meet former governor Terry Sanford last Thursday evening. The Democratic candidate for the U.S. Senate was winding up a tour of the state's 100 counties.