

Share Your Blessings This Thanksgiving

The
Public
Parade



THE CHOWAN HERALD



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Time To Be Thankful

This is the time of the year when we people along the Public Parade and elsewhere should count our blessings. Great and small, there are many.

We here at the Chowan Herald want first to show our appreciation for such a beautiful small community in which to operate. We are thankful of course, for our subscribers, far and near, who are the foundation on which all our other efforts rest.

We are thankful for our advertisers, whose continuing support enables us to pay our help, pay our taxes and pay for the other thousand and one things we have to buy; and, when all is said and done, we are thankful for the little that is left which we can call our own.

We are thankful for our staff, whose efforts day in and day out keep the show on the road. Without them, the job would be overwhelming.

We are thankful—as most citizens are—that our community is about to get a fine new industry, increasing the tax base and offering employment to a large number of our fellow townsmen and women. We hope no last-minute hitch develops to set this prospect awry.

Too, we appreciate the fact that, at long last, a new bridge is being built across Albemarle Sound. And we are especially thankful that the section which collapsed late last week did so in the dark of night when no workmen were about. As things now stand, it represents only a monetary loss. It could have been a tragedy, with loss of life.

We are also thankful that the rupture occurred before the bridge was finished and opened to

Continued On Page 4

Temporary Supports Fail

New Bridge Collapses

By JACK GROVE

Some 650 tons of concrete and its supporting "falsework" plunged into Albemarle Sound early last Thursday morning. Thirteen slabs of the new Albemarle Sound bridge collapsed into the water around 4 a.m.

Each of the prefabricated slabs measure 17 feet in length, 34 feet across and from 8 to 22 inches in thickness, and weigh 50 tons.

The collapse took place about 550 feet out from the Chowan shore and was due to the temporary steel supports giving way according to project manager Frank Susi. He said that the falsework was designed and fabricated by a subcontracting firm in Texas.

The 3½ mile structure is being built by a joint venture of two companies, Cianbro Corp. of Pittsfield, Maine and Williams Brothers of Houston, Texas. Segments of the bridge are pre-cast at a facility on Base Road and then assembled over the water. In an interview last July, bridge engineer Mark Heim stated that "Concrete bridges are normally poured at the site of the bridge. As far as we know, there hasn't been one built like this in North America."

Susi said Monday that all of the slabs and the supports were retrieved from the shallow water. He was asked if the recovered slabs would be usable. "We are unable to determine that right now, but a good portion," he replied.

The project manager said that the falsework is being redesigned but that, "It will be basically the same support system with some modifications." Of the cost of the

collapse, he said, "The damage has not been assessed yet."

Susi said that the mishap would not basically affect the bridge-building schedule. The new span is scheduled to open for traffic during the summer of 1988.

A division construction engineer for the state Dept. of Transportation, G.A. Taylor, was contacted in a telephone interview at the DOT office in Plymouth. He said that the problem in the support structure "seems to be in the friction collar... all the load was on the friction collars."

Continued On Page 4

Town Rates Increasing

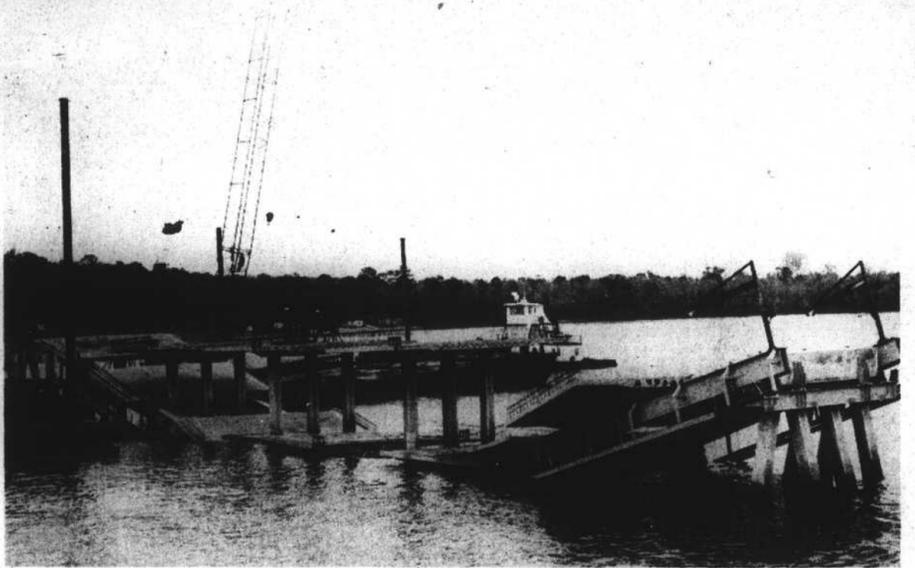
Users of the Edenton sewer system will soon be paying higher usage fees. At a special session of the Edenton Town Council Tuesday night, a new Sewer Use Ordinance was adopted that incorporates changes to the previous ordinance and includes a user charge system.

In a schedule of gradually escalating charges, users of the new sewer system will pay their proportionate share of the operation and maintenance of the system, including replacement.

Currently users are paying a \$2 no flow (base charge) plus 66¢ per 1,000 gals. On Jan. 1, 1987 the charge will go up to 85¢ per 1,000 gals., to \$1.30 per 1,000 on July 1, 1987 and on Jan. 1, 1988, when the new plant is operational, to \$5 no flow and \$1.30 per 1,000.

For the average household,

Continued On Page 4



BRIDGE COLLAPSE—Temporary structural steel supports and bridge roadbed slabs were dumped into Albemarle Sound early Friday morning when the steel "falsework" gave way. Bridge officials said that the mishap would not delay completion of the 3½ mile span.

Defendant Committed For Evaluation

Chowan District Court was in session Nov. 18, the Honorable J. Richard Parker presiding over the criminal calendar.

At a probable cause hearing for Darryl Alexander Gibbs, charged with second degree burglary, his attorney filed a motion that he be committed to Dorothea Dix Hospital in Raleigh for psychiatric evaluation which was granted by the court.

A court officer said that a scuffle ensued in the hallway outside the court room after the court was recessed, when officers attempted to handcuff Gibbs. It took several officers to subdue the defendant after he broke back into the court room.

Foy Daniel Ward admitted responsibility for speeding 64 in a 55 mph zone. He was assessed a penalty of \$10 and cost of court.

The state took a voluntary dismissal in the case of Michael Ray Williams, charged with exceeding a safe speed.

The probation of John Phillip Lawrence was revoked at a probation violation hearing and an active sentence of 60 days was invoked.

Elton Leroy Holley pleaded guilty to driving while his license was revoked and failing to comply with restrictions of his operator's license. Additional charges alleging each of these violations were dismissed. The charges were consolidated for judgment and he was sentenced to six months, suspended for two years upon payment of a \$250 fine and cost of court and he was ordered to surrender his license. An appeal was noted.

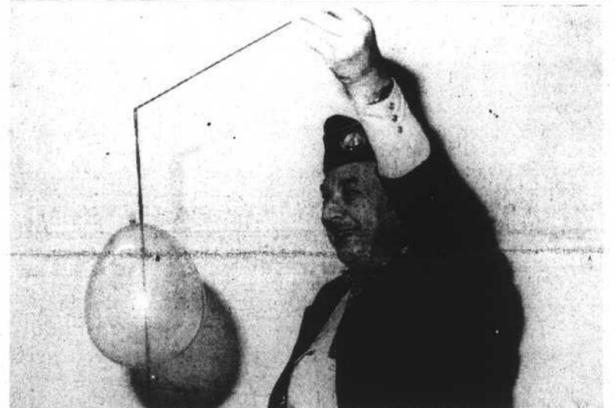
Thomas Shelton Nixon, III pleaded not guilty but was found guilty of speeding 69 in a 55 mph zone and having no liability insurance. The cases were con-

solidated for judgment and he was sentenced to 30 days, suspended for one year upon payment of a \$75 fine and cost of court. He was ordered not to operate a motor vehicle without the required insurance. An appeal was noted.

Hector Wayne Cooper pleaded guilty to improper passing and was assessed a fine of \$25 and cost of court.

Breck Allen Williams pleaded

Continued On Page 4



NEAT TRICK—Andrell Henry put on a magic show for a Saturday luncheon meeting of the D.A.V. Here Henry passed a long needle and thread through an inflated balloon.

Santa Claus Christmas Parade Guest Of Honor

Jaycee President Kel Elmore has just received the following message. After lengthy negotiation with the North Pole, the REAL Santa Claus has received clearance for his participation in the Edenton Christmas Parade next Wednesday afternoon, December 3, at 4:00 p.m.

Santa will be the guest of honor and featured attraction as he masterfully ushers in the

Christmas season with the largest Christmas Parade that Edenton has seen in many years.

The "Miracle on Broad Street" will be brought to life by nine—that's right—nine marching bands providing lively music while Stever's School of Dance blends Chowan Arts Council pizzazz and Recreation Department excitement into just what Santa ordered. School entries featuring

children from throughout the Albemarle area will be complemented by numerous other marching units such as Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and the John A. Holmes Naval Junior ROTC.

Local churches will demonstrate the splendor and grandeur of the nativity that represents the true meaning of Christmas.

Antique cars and the Optimist Club train will have to be careful not to bump into any quarter horses, errant reindeer or Smokey the Bear.

Live coverage of the parade will be provided by radio station WZBO (102.3 on your FM dial) featuring the talents of the renowned James Francis "Pat" Flanagan and the wild and witty Richard Flynn Surratt.

Parade units will assemble in the Edenton Village Shopping Center parking lot and wind down Broad Street. Space is still available in the line-up and can be reserved by contacting the Edenton-Chowan Chamber of Commerce at (919) 482-3400.

Two Break-Ins Are Reported

Two break-ins at town businesses last week have netted thieves some \$160.

Police Chief John Parrish said that a back window was broken out of the Leary Oil Co. in the early hours of Wednesday morning. About \$10 was taken from a desk drawer.

The Edenton Bake Shop was the scene of the other break-in that occurred some time between 4 p.m. Saturday and 6:11 a.m. Monday. Parrish said that \$150 was missing from the cash register. No sign of forcible entry was found at the restaurant.

Veterans Hear Cmdr. Thompson

A meeting of District One of the Disabled American Veterans had as its special guest Saturday, Tommy Thompson, Dept. of North Carolina Commander. Townsend, a D.A.V. member for 18 years, retired from the U.S. Air Force with the rank of major.

The state commander urged those present to add to the membership roles of the organization. He stressed that each chapter in the district was under quota in their recruitment efforts. There are currently 25,000 D.A.V. members in the state.

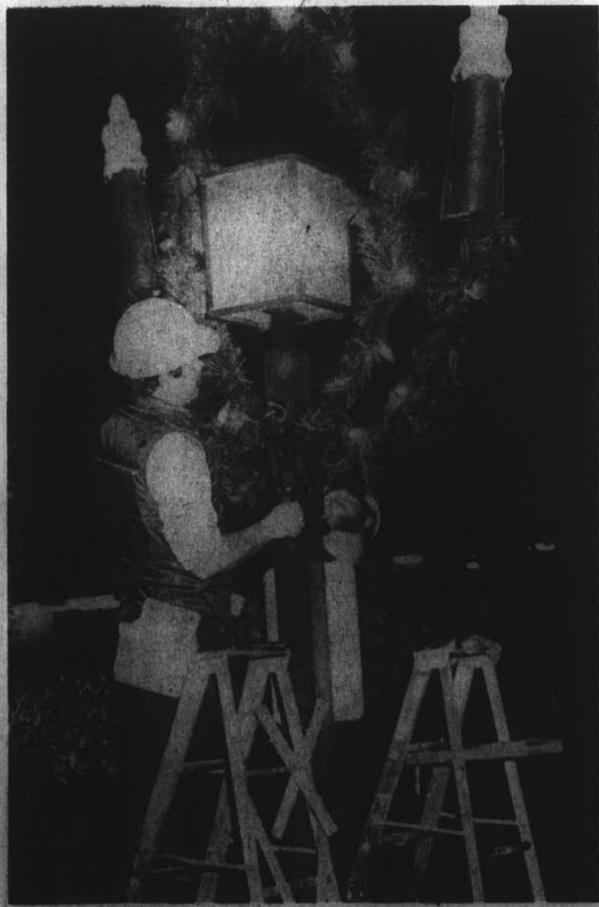
Thompson outlined the legislative program for the state which the D.A.V. is pushing along with other veteran's organizations. The

groups back bills, to be introduced in the General Assembly, that would:

- Increase the income tax exemption on retired veterans compensation from the current \$3,000 to \$6,000;
- Extend state job preference to all veterans;
- Increase property tax exemptions for all veterans who are rated as 100 per cent disabled; and
- Provide for more veteran cemetery space in the state.

The D.A.V. commander told his listeners that the federal government on Jan. 1 will stop paying travel allowances for veterans

Continued On Page 4



CHRISTMAS PREPARATIONS—Town workmen placed Christmas decorations on the lamp posts along Broad St. Monday night. The town is readying for its annual Christmas Parade to be held next Wednesday at 4 p.m.



SEASONAL MESSAGE—The cornucopia and bounty from Chowan County's fields is flanked by an appropriate message in the yard of the Rev. and Mrs. Don Wagner near Wagner's church, Rocky Hock Baptist Church.