



The Public Parade

On Showing Initiative

Once when the Denver News was losing a circulation battle with the Denver Post, the owner sent a message from California to "show some initiative."

That moved the local publisher to an unusual course of action. He called in a mining engineer to set off a huge explosion on top of the building; but the expert made a slight miscalculation and the downward force of the dynamite wrecked the upper portion of the building.

On learning of the debacle, the owner sent his publisher a telegram saying, "Show no more initiative."

That's something like the message somebody ought to be sending President Ronald Reagan. "Initiatives" are at the root of all his troubles.

To begin with, there was his economic initiative, also known as Reaganomics, which he set in operation soon after taking office. He led Congress to accept his proposition that he could cut taxes and increase expenditures without throwing the budget further out of balance. He believed that the tax cut would so stimulate business that it would result in no loss of revenue. It had worked that way in California, he said.

Well, it hasn't worked that way in Washington; but the President has remained so adamant against increasing taxes that the country is now more than two trillion dollars in debt, half of which has been accrued since he came into office.

Then came the defense initiative, also known as star wars. The SDI has become the crown jewel in the President's dream to leave office with the United States—and, indeed, the whole free

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OFFICERS SWORN—Chowan County's new Sheriff, Fred Spruill looks on at far right as deputy sheriffs of his department take their oaths of office from Clerk of Superior Court Marjorie Hollowell on Monday morning. They are, from left, Special Deputies, Carroll Smith and Glen Perry, Regular Deputies David Jethro, Wayne Rice, Pamela Byrum, Linda Terry (Chief Deputy), James White and Joe Byrum. Sheriff Spruill was sworn in at a ceremony in Elizabeth City by Superior Court Judge Herbert Small.

County Officials Take Oath Of Office

The fall elections are over and Monday the winners took office in a series of ceremonies when they were sworn in.

New Sheriff, Fred Spruill and re-elected Clerk of Superior Court, Marjorie Hollowell traveled to Elizabeth City to receive their oaths of office from Superior Court Judge Herbert Small.

Upon her return to Edenton, Mrs. Hollowell was kept busy swearing in her staff, the Sheriff's Department, County Commissioners and Board of Education members.

Court Clerk's office staff sworn in at 9:30 a.m. were Assistant Court Clerk Sheila Sawyer and Deputy Clerks, Alice Twiddy, Janet O'Donnell, Sarah Copeland, Sam Evans and Marjorie Allen. At 10 a.m., Sheriff Fred Spruill witnessed the oath taking of his deputies.

In the evening, re-elected County Commissioners, Joe Hollowell,

Clara Boswell and C.A. (Al) Phillips were sworn. Also Monday evening new Board of Education

members Alice Jones, Frank Cox, J.M. Parrish, Jr. and Paul Chappell were sworn into office.

Sale Resolution Passes

At an organizational meeting of the Chowan County Board of Commissioners, required by state law to be the first meeting in December, Commissioners re-elected Alton Elmore as Chairman and Clara Boswell as Vice-Chairman. The board also voted to continue alternating day and night meetings.

The Commissioners passed a resolution giving preliminary approval for the sale of Albemarle Cable TV to the C-4 Media Corp. Company representative Michael Adamchek told the board that C-4 Media is presently acquiring most of the cable TV systems in this area and plans to upgrade service to customers. The company's plans include investigating the possibility of extending service to the Arrowhead Beach/Rocky Hock area.

The board appointed Julia

Small and Nancy Wood as principals and Marshall Jordan as an alternate to the Town of Edenton Planning Board. They will serve as extraterritorial area members. The town, in a reorganization move, combined its Zoning Board and Board of Adjustments.

In other action the board:

- Approved a proclamation establishing a bicentennial committee of Chowan County for the purpose of planning and implementing a meaningful commemoration of the 200th anniversary of the U.S. Constitution;
- Approved the bonding of the new sheriff in the amount of \$5,000 against civil actions;
- Scheduled an assessment hearing for comment on the final assessment for work completed to Juniper Drive and Waterlily Loop

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Lawmakers Meeting At Municipal Bldg.

By JACK GROVE

A unique meeting of state lawmakers from Virginia and North Carolina that begins today at Edenton's Municipal Building should see some interesting discussion between the two states, according to Sen. Marc Basnight of Manteo. In a telephone interview this week he said, "I can't predict what its outcome could be, I don't think anyone could hazard a guess. It can only enhance the dialogue between the two states."

The meeting is the first of an Interstate Study Commission on the future of the Chowan River. Each state's legislature is represented by seven members on the commission. The stated purpose of the joint body is to review the river's water quality and to explore ways to enhance that quality.

Basnight termed it "a preliminary meeting. I'm excited about what can transpire at this joint meeting and the cast of characters involved." He said that he was particularly pleased to open commission business "in such an historic site as Edenton".

The meeting may address mutual concerns of the states other than the Chowan River, however. Basnight said that the issue of withdrawal of water from Lake Gaston for use in Virginia

cities will definitely surface. He said that a member of the North Carolina delegation would bring it up publicly. He hastened to add, "Not me. I'm interested in the Chowan." The idea of the commission originated with Basnight.

The Manteo senator stated his opposition to water withdrawal from Gaston. Recently a proposal was presented to Gov. James Martin that the states cooperate in piping water from the lake, with Virginia Beach, Va. and the Outer Banks of this state being the end users. Basnight feels, "That's too risky a proposal. I'm opposed to taking water out of the Roanoke River Basin."

Today's session will begin at 3:00 p.m. with the respective state delegations meeting separately. The N.C. delegation will adopt a budget and hear presentations on present water quality, past programs to improve quality, effects of pollution on marine and wildlife, and suggested actions and costs involved to improve the water quality.

Delegates of both states will hold a joint meeting tomorrow morning at 8:30 a.m. to discuss future cooperative action for river improvement. They will also hear a presentation from the Environmental Protection Agency.



LOCAL GAME—The "Game of Chowan County" is now available for pick up by those who have given advance orders to the Optimist Club. Dalton Furlough (left) and Chuck Smith hold one of the games. Furlough said that they may be picked up from Royalty Finance from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays. Additional games are available for Christmas purchases, he said.



DOWNTOWN VANDALISM—A shredded awning is graphic evidence of a spree of vandalism that took place on Thanksgiving day. Police ask that anyone that might have information pertaining to this destruction to call the police department (482-4444).

Vandals Strike Downtown Again

For the third time in three months, downtown businesses have been victimized by vandals who have slashed their awnings. The most recent vandalism occurred on Thanksgiving day when awnings were cut at six locations.

Last Tuesday evening, Country Corner's awning was cut and again on Thursday. Others damaged Thursday included Davis Jewelers, Quality Shoes, Cuthrell's, Fame Men's Shop and Century 21. Damage estimates totaled almost \$2,500.

Russell Davis, owner of Davis Jewelers, discovered the damage at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday. He said that the vandalism took place during daylight hours since he had visited his store that morning and there was no damage then.

Several of the merchants said that police advised them to roll their awnings up during non-business hours. Janet Chappell, manager of Quality Shoes said that the awning was necessary during morning hours to protect merchandise in the windows from damaging rays of the sun. "If we roll the awning up, it will do us no

good. The sun hits the window first thing in the morning," she said.

John Cuthrell and Davis were victims of awning vandalism in late September. Cuthrell had to install a replacement costing about \$350. "The new one's been up about two weeks." It was cut in seven places. "I believe it's going to have to be replaced again," he said.

Police Chief John Parrish said, "Anyone who may have seen anything suspicious in reference to this vandalism is urgently requested to contact the police department. We need the public's help and cooperation in cases of vandalism."

The Edenton-Chowan Chamber of Commerce is offering a \$200 reward for information that leads to the arrest and conviction of the vandals. Chamber Executive Director Kathleen Miller, in announcing the reward said, "Because there were so many businesses hit in these repeated acts of vandalism, the chamber feels the need to support the police effort in putting a stop to this."

More Break-Ins Reported

The George C. Moore Co., located on U.S. 17 North in Edenton, was broken into Thursday night. Police Chief John Parrish said that the break-in was reported at 8:25 a.m. Friday by Moore employee Gil Akins. Entry to the building was gained by breaking the glass from a rear door.

A safe in a canteen area was broken into and an undetermined amount of cash was taken. The canteen is operated by the O.G. Den Food Service Corp.

The thieves attempted to burn the safe open with a torch from the company's maintenance section and then used a drill owned by the company to open the safe, authorities said.

Edenton Police Officers Leonard Bonner and Capt. C.H. Williams and State Bureau of Investigation Agent Dwight Ransom were the investigating officers. The SBI Crime Lab from Greenville was also called to the scene.

The Police chief said that the investigating officers don't have reason to believe that professional thieves were involved in the break-in and larceny. He said that physical evidence had been collected and is currently being analyzed.

In another case, Edenton Police arrested a suspect at the scene of a break-in at Spotless Cleaners, 415 North Greenville Street. Owner, Clarence Lee Walker, reportedly heard someone trying to break into the business which is near his home. Going outside, he saw someone enter the store through a door on the South side.

Officers Bland Terry and Chuck Alexander responded to a call from Walker at 12:52 a.m. Satur-

day. They searched the building and found the suspect, Jesse James Twine, hiding in a box of clothes. He was charged with breaking and entering and larceny. A first appearance hearing for Twine in the case was conducted Tuesday and he is being held at the Chowan County Jail in lieu of \$10,000 bond.

Twine also faces charges in connection with the break-ins at Boswell's Restaurant and Edenton Auto Parts. Police said that he is a suspect in several other break-ins in Edenton.

Holiday Activities Planned

Enjoy the beauty and elegance of an 18th century Christmas on Sunday, December 7 in Historic Edenton. The Cupola House and the James Iredell House will be festively decorated and open to the public from 2:00-5:00 P.M. Both homes will feature eighteenth century-style Christmas decorations, music, and refreshments. There is no admission charge.

The historic Cupola House dates from 1725 and is an outstanding

example of Jacobean architecture. The Cupola House Wassail Bowl features the traditional holiday beverage "Wassail" as well as other refreshments.

The Iredell House Groaning Board features beautiful foods made from eighteenth century and early nineteenth century recipes. This year's menu includes figgy pudding, steeple cream, everlasting syllabub,

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ASSISTING UNDERPRIVILEGED—Edenton Jaycees Morris Small (left), Kel Elmore (center) and Gary Smith (right) are among members of the organization selling holiday wreaths and pine garlands to raise money for their annual Underprivileged Children's Christmas Party. To place an order for either of these items, call Morris Small at 482-7406 or 482-3760, Kel Elmore at 482-8411 or 482-7214, or any member of the Edenton Jaycees. (Staff photo by Gail Basnight)