



Between You And Us

There are always people in a community who would like to tell the editor what to say and some of them would like to tell him where to go.

The trouble is that, in the first instance, they are usually without the competence; and, in the second, completely without jurisdiction.

As good a way as any to start the new year is to remind our readers that our news columns are designed to tell them what is going on in the community and elsewhere and this column represents what the editor thinks about what is going on here and elsewhere.

So, if you want facts as best we can determine them, you will read our news columns; if you want opinion, you will read this column or other commentary signed by the author. And, if you want to talk back or plow new ground, there is always the letters-to-the-editor column.

We promise you that nothing will appear in The Public Parade which we do not sincerely believe, all of it designed, in one way or another, to be in the public interest. We welcome letters to our Mailbag column and will publish them so long as they are not libelous or vindictive. And, of course, are not too long.

Thus, for the new year, we would ask that you leave us free to express our opinion on subjects appropriate to the time and circumstance. It is true, there are other media coming into the com-

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SOIL SURVEY PRESENTED—Phil Tant of the Soil Conservation Service explains the use of the Chowan-Perquimans Soil Survey to business and governmental representatives of the counties at a 7:30 breakfast meeting at the Carolina Room. The survey will serve as a guide to soil types in a 28,000 acre area and will aid in determining land use. Others at the head table are, (l. to r.) Rep. Vernon James, Rep.-elect R.M. (Pete) Thompson and Commissioner Floyd Matthews of the Albemarle Conservation District.

Two County Soil Survey Results Heard

Chowan County Commissioners had a busy Monday morning, beginning with a breakfast at the Carolina Room, hosted by the Albemarle Conservation District, held two public hearings in addition to their regular business meeting and ended with a luncheon at the Carolina Room hosted by the county agricultural extension service.

The breakfast was attended by officials from Chowan and Perquimans Counties and featured

the presentation of the joint Chowan-Perquimans Soil Survey by the Soil Conservation Service. The study cost each county \$30,000, paying a third of the cost and covered an area of 28,000 acres. Commissioner Floyd Matthews of the district held up a copy of the report and told the group, "This needs to be used."

Attending were representatives from local banks, realtors, public health service, N.C. Wildlife and Forest Services, county commissioners, county managers, agricultural extension service and the SCS. Special guests were Rep.-Elect R.M. (Pete) Thompson of Chowan, Rep. Vernon James of Pasquotank and Edenton Mayor John Dowd.

Commissioners held a public hearing to receive comments on the 1986 update of the County Land Use Plan. There were no public comments and the plan, previously approved by the planning board, was adopted and authorized for submission to the Coastal Resources Commission for final approval.

Another hearing dealt with adoption of an assessment roll for

the nearly completed paving work on Juniper Drive and Water Lily Loop in Cape Colony. Several of that community's property owners attended but offered no serious objections to the assessment. Property owners on Water Lily Loop will be assessed \$3.55 per frontage foot and those on Juniper Drive, \$3.84 per foot.

County Manager Cliff Copeland stated that property owners could pay their total assessment within 30 days of billing. As an alternative, they may elect to pay over a five-year period at an 8 per cent annual interest rate.

Commissioners also:

- Approved a donation of \$500 for a state memorial on Interstate 85 west of Greensboro to honor Vietnam veterans;
- Adopted a plan put forward by the school board for an indepth study of county school needs with the board of commissioners taking an active role (see related story); and
- Heard an update from Div. of Environmental Management officials on the state's water quality program for area rivers and sounds.

Legislative Changes Affect County Tax Payers

Changes made last year by the North Carolina legislature mean Chowan County residents without real estate, vehicles or boats may not owe property taxes in 1987.

Chowan County Tax Supervisor Dallas Jethro, Jr. said the changes will cost the county up to \$90,000 this year.

After the legislature enacted the changes, it promised supplemental income to counties on a per capita basis. The income is designed to offset funds lost in personal property taxes.

Tax laws remain the same on real estate, vehicles, farm equipment and boats. But items designated as personal property in the past, such as household appliances, jewelry, dogs and garden tractors, are exempt from tax this year.

County residents who rent housing and own neither a car nor boat may be totally exempt from taxes.

Residents with property to list must do so this month or face the possibility of a penalty. Listing is underway at the county tax office from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. In addition, personnel from the tax office will be at Center Hill Fire Department from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. January 13, 20 and 27. Taxes may also be listed at Teenie Boy's Service Center in the Gliden area from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. January 8, 15, 22 and 29.

"We will be there strictly to help if anyone has a problem with listing," Jethro said.

Residents who try to get away with not listing taxable property this year will most likely fail. The county uses car license, building

Boards Join Together To Evaluate Needs

By JACK GROVE

The capital outlay program for the Edenton-Chowan school system will be revamped with the Chowan County Board of Commissioners taking an active part in the process.

School superintendent Dr. John Dunn laid a proposal by the school board before commissioners Monday morning that would set up a number of committees keyed to the curricula and the new Basic Education Plan of the state that calls for added subjects and fewer students per classroom. These committees would involve teachers, students, parents, administrators and commissioners "at the grass roots level."

The eleven committees would report to a control committee that would submit final facility needs to the school board and board of commissioners for approval of the facility plan.

The need for the new capital outlay program arose from a requirement from the state board of education to report facility needs of each county by Jan. 31 to Raleigh. Gov. James Martin has proposed that a state loan pool be set up with bonds issued at low rates. The money would in turn be loaned to counties for school con-

struction and the funds would be repaid to the pool from the new half cent sales tax.

Dunn said that he supported the governor's loan program as a way to upgrade the county's physical plant. Concerning the BEP, he said, "I want to point out, we're not talking about anything elaborate, just basic education for our students."

The superintendent said that the planning process as he outlined it, could not be completed before the end of the school year. He said that in the interim, he and County Manager Cliff Copeland would work on a preliminary submission to satisfy the requirement by the state board of education to submit facility needs by Jan. 31.

Commissioners endorsed the school board's planning and indicated on which curriculum committees they desired to serve. Dunn said there would be a "kickoff meeting" next Wednesday to start the process in operation.

School Board Chairman Cecil Fry, also in attendance, told the commissioners, "I'd like to thank the board of commissioners for going along with this. We're asking for your time rather than money."

Suspect Still In Custody

An Edenton man is in jail after failing to post \$3,000 secured bond in connection with a break-in at Creywood Oil Company January 1.

Police Chief J.D. Parrish said Gerald Fay Williams, 22, P.O. Box 673, has been charged with the illegal entry.

According to Parrish, a Creywood truck driver went to the company around 4:40 a.m. and saw someone in the building. Investigation by Police Officers Greg Whitehurst and Don Harris and Sgt. G.K. Bonner found that an entry into the building was made through a broken window. An undetermined amount of cash was taken.

Two Maryland men have been charged after attempting to obtain drugs from Revco with a forged prescription January 3.

David Michael Stokes, 31, Baltimore, has been charged with

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35 Citations Are Issued

Thirty-five people have been cited in Chowan County for not buckling up since the mandatory seat belt law went into effect January 1.

One of the citations was issued by the Edenton Police Department, with the N.C. Highway Patrol citing the remaining 34 people.

N.C. Patrol Sgt. H.J. Latta said Tuesday, "If we could get 100 percent compliance and never have to write a ticket, it would make our day."

Latta said no road check-points had been established to check seat belts and that citations were issued in moving traffic stops. "But I think compliance is up 100 percent over a week ago," Latta said.

The citations bring a \$25 fine, but cost drivers no license or insurance points.



MEMBERS OF S.A.D.D.—(From left) Lin Dziuk, Robin Tynch and Laurie Halsey look over a folder with two dimes inside—the amount needed to call for a ride if you've had too much to drink.

SADD Students Seek Support

By JEANETTE WHITE

(Editor's Note: This is the first of a three-part series dealing with substance abuse in Chowan County.)

Some high school students in Chowan County have seen enough and they just aren't going to keep quiet any more.

The students have seen enough of their friends and classmates killed by alcohol and others using drugs. They feel it's time to sit up and take notice of what's happening.

The students have formed a local chapter of Students Against Driving Drunk, SADD, but say they are not getting the support needed to be effective.

Robin Tynch, 1985 SADD president and co-founder of the chapter, said, "We don't care if you drink, that's your choice. But don't drink and drive and risk the life of another person... That's not fair to your peers, parents and innocent bystanders."

Robin and the county's health education coordinator, Jill Jordan, formed SADD in 1985 after realizing such a program was needed in Chowan County.

Robin said, "We felt there was a need. There was just too much drinking and driving... I had seen the deaths of two of my friends already. We needed to put a stop to it."

The founders and members of SADD are not always popular

among their peers. About 100 members enrolled last year, but only 10 were dedicated.

"Most of the students laugh in our faces every time we mention it to them," Robin said.

This year the chapter has almost 60 members, but all are not active.

Membership dues of \$3 are the financial mainstay of the chapter. Other funds will be raised this year by members serving at the NJROTC banquet, which pays \$100.

"If anybody wants to make a donation, we'll take it," Robin said.

The funds are needed to rent films and start projects to help students learn the dangers of substance abuse.

"We just want to get people who

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Dismissal Approved

The Edenton-Chowan Board of Education in its regular meeting on Tuesday, January 6, 1987 authorized early dismissal of all classes at 1:30 P.M. on Wednesday, January 14 to enable the professional staff to participate in a curriculum study committee meeting at Holmes cafeteria at 2:00 P.M.



EXCEEDS GOAL—The visit of the Red Cross Bloodmobile to Chowan Hospital on Tuesday, sponsored by the Jaycees was termed "a success" by hospital spokesperson Charlotte Baker. The goal of 80 pints was exceeded by seven pints with 99 donors showing up to contribute. She said that 12 first-time donors were among those participating. Shown here doing their part are Mrs. Judy Boyce of Box 46, Edenton Manor, who said she had donated "many times" and Ray Goodwin of Rt. 3, Edenton, who said "This is my twenty-third time." Radio station WZBO personalities Flynn Surratt and Violet Barefoot broadcasted live during the event.