



PINE KNOLL SHORES—While Gary Hart was allowing Cupid's darts to shoot him out of contention for the Presidential nomination and Congress was locating lost millions in Swiss bank accounts, we were rising to lesser challenges down here at the beach. Even Edenton was far away.

To begin with, there was that carry-over problem from last fall about the mockingbirds and the cat. The birds for several summers had been building their nests in the bush-and-vine hedge along the dune fronting our deck and overlooking the ocean.

We had watched them for several seasons, hatching their eggs, feeding their young and guarding their nests. Then last summer the cat showed up, a long-haired, yellow-eyed predator, which would steal up and down the edge of the hedge, with the adult birds doing all manner of broken-wing stunts trying to distract him away from the nest.

Toward the end of the season, we broke out our grandsons' air pistol and tried to discourage the cat from raiding the nest. We were not too successful. Our aim was not too good and the small pellet didn't seem to bother the cat much when we hit him. In time, he simply ignored us as he went about his grisly business.

We decided, before coming back down this spring, to make us a more reliable weapon, a slingshot, that trusty tool of every country boy. And we set out to build it from scratch. For the stock, we cut a fork from a dogwood over in the woods. While the wood was still green and easy to handle, we cut the central stem from the crotch, then pulled the two remaining prongs into a nice curved "Y", tied them and put the whole thing in the oven to bake. Next morning, after a little sanding, we had about the nicest slingshot stock you ever saw. Then we attached our live rubber bands and the soft leather saddle -- and we were in business. For ammunition, we pick up gravel along the driveway and some of those nice white stones from the flower bed. We pile it up on the deck table.

We haven't nailed the cat yet, but we did get his attention. Our aim still isn't too good, but we can see how much we are missing the target. And when that cat sees one of those smooth white stones zipping toward his head, he takes off for the neighbor's fence in a hurry. We want him to get the idea that the space in front of our deck is a sort of no-cat's-land. Then he can take his evening stroll in the other direction.

Our other problem turned out to be a real pleasure. Our grandson, who is graduating from Princeton in June, came down for a week's visit during the before-exams break, bringing his girl with him. That, of course, brought his mother up from Athens, Ga.

Continued On Page 4



RODEO ACTION—Rodeo clown Keith Isley of Reidsville, N.C. saves a bull rider from injury during a rodeo last year. The American Legion's second annual rodeo will provide spectator thrills and rider spills Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 3 p.m. at the fairgrounds. Cowboys and cowgirls from as far away as Oklahoma will compete for prize money in calf roping, steer wrestling, barrel races and bull riding in the nationally sanctioned event. Last year, around 4,000 people watched some 60 competitors in Edenton's first rodeo. More are expected this year.

Businesses Consider Relocation Plans

Plans are being considered that would relocate two stores and bring a new business into Edenton Village Shopping Center.

Lat Purser and Associates of Charlotte, builders of the shopping center, have presented plans to the building inspector that call for construction of a larger store for Food Lion, a store for Revco and location of Roses Stores Inc. in what is now Food Lion and Revco, according to Town Manager Phillip Whitaker.

Lois Williams from the real estate division of Roses' home office in Henderson said Tuesday if her company moves into the store, it will be enlarged to approximately 45,000 square feet.

If stores are constructed for Food Lion and Revco, the construction will make the shopping

center into an L-shaped facility, with the new stores adjacent to the newest shops at the site.

Ms. Williams said her company tried unsuccessfully to secure what is now McCrory's Store.

"Edenton is a nice town and we'd like to be there," she said and stated that a decision should be reached within a month.

She said when Roses is trying to make the decision on whether to locate in a town, the real estate department does demographics using data from census statistics and information from the treasury department, figured with the number of people in the area and the number of stores in which the population can shop.

"We are very specific and determine where our market is,"

Ms. Williams said and added that her company likes a drawing area of at least 30,000 people.



DONATION MADE—The annual membership drive of Chowan Arts Council is underway and last week N.C. National Bank made a \$250 contribution toward the drive. Donna Heidenreich (left) executive director of the council, accepted the check from W. P. Jones and Emily Irby, representing the bank.

Continued On Page 4

Bridge Mishap Claims One

A head-on collision on the Alligator River bridge on U.S. 64 between Tyrrell and Hyde Counties has left a three year old Edenton girl dead and her parents seriously injured.

The accident occurred early Saturday morning when John Gilbert Phillips, 24, and his wife, Betty Ward Phillips, 23, were traveling east in their jeep along with their daughter Jennifer Ann. Their vehicle was struck by a westbound 1977 Chrysler driven by Lionel Rankins, 30, of Edenton.

As a result of the impact, the child was thrown into the river. Rankins, his passenger, Herman Ray Paylie, 29, and Robert Wayne Kephart also of Edenton, who had been following the jeep, pulled John Phillips from the jeep. Mrs. Phillips was able to get out on her own.

The Chrysler burst into flames on impact and both vehicles were totally destroyed by fire. A resultant search for the child was unsuccessful.

The Phillips were transported to Albemarle Hospital by the Tyrrell Rescue Squad and they were reported to be in "satisfactory" condition by a hospital spokeswoman Tuesday.

According to the N.C. Highway Patrol, the accident occurred when Rankins' vehicle veered into the path of the jeep. Rankins reportedly was distracted by a conversation with Paylie when the accident happened. Authorities said that neither alcohol nor speed were considered to be factors.

Rankins has been charged with driving left of center and misde-

Continued On Page 4

Commission Reorganization Is Proposed

Sen. Marc Basnight, D-Dare, has prepared a bill for introduction into the legislature which would reorganize the Marine Fisheries Commission.

The reorganization, Senate Bill 870, comes after commercial and sports fishermen have said the commission lacks adequate input on the grassroots level.

The reorganization would change guidelines determining who serves on the governing board and establish an endowment fund, in which the general populace could invest in the future of the state's marine and estuarine resources.

The senator suggests that the 15-member commission board be appointed by the governor to include four commercial and sports fishermen, three marine ecologists or environmentalists, two seafood processors and two at-large members experienced in areas regulated by the commission.

Under the present guidelines, the commission include one each

commercial and sports fisherman, marine ecologist, coastal land developer, seafood processor and 10 at-large members, all serving six-year terms, but at the pleasure of the governor.

Under the bill, members would serve six-year staggered terms, with vacancies filled by the governor, who could remove members for misconduct, incompetence or neglect of duty.

Proposed guidelines say members appointed must meet residential requirements. Any appointee who is a state officer or employee or public officer would not receive daily compensation but would be reimbursed for ex-

penses. Other members would receive per diem compensation and expenses.

Under the proposed endowment fund, income and principal would be used only for supporting marine and estuarine resource conservation programs of the state.

A board of trustees comprised of commission members would administer the fund, with the state treasurer serving as custodian and investing assets.

The board would be allowed to accumulate investment income until a significant supplement to the commission's budget could be accrued.

Auto Parts Stores Are Robbed

Auto sales and parts stores in Edenton suffered a rash of break-ins Monday night or early Tuesday morning.

Edenton Auto Parts on West Queen Street was entered after a rear sliding door was forced open. The illegal entry was discovered by Charles Britton when he arrived at work Tuesday morning.

Stolen were fog lights, mini-lights, car cleaner, flashlight batteries and a lantern. Value of stolen items has been set between \$100 and \$200. Investigation is underway by Sgt. F.M. Parker and Patrolman Greg Whitehurst.

The second illegal entry occurred at Wayne's Auto Supply on North Broad Street after the glass in a side window was broken. Stolen were air freshener, cleaners, car wax, wheel spray and \$30 in cash, for a total \$145.

Investigation is continuing by Parker, Whitehurst and Patrolman W.D. Harris. Northside Auto, located beside

Wayne's Auto Supply, was entered after a rear window was broken. Employee Glenn Smith discovered the theft when he arrived at work. Missing are car wax and an air filter.

Investigation is continuing by the same three officers.

One member of the Edenton Police Dept. was involved in an accident when his patrol car was struck by another vehicle Saturday.

Capt. C.H. Williams was driving a 1986 Ford east on West Queen Street about 1:35 p.m. and Todne Amelia Bemby, 17, 104 Boswell St., Edenton, was driving a 1986 Buick north on Granville Street.

According to a report filed by investigating officer G.K. Bonner, Miss Bemby failed to stop for a red light and struck the patrol car. No injuries were reported and damage to the town's car was \$1,800, \$950 to her Buick.

Miss Bemby was charged with a stop sign violation.

Collection Scheduled

The Edenton Municipal Building will be closed Monday, May 25 in observance of the Memorial Day holiday.

Garbage collection for the week of May 25-29 will be carried out according to the following schedule: East Side - Tuesday and Thursday; West Side - Wednesday and Friday.

County offices will also be closed on May 25.



APPRECIATION FOR SERVICE—Kathleen Miller (center) was presented the facsimile of an Edenton teapot Friday by Beth Taylor, president of the chamber of commerce. The presentation was in appreciation of Mrs. Miller's service as executive director of the chamber prior to her April resignation when her duties were assumed by Richard Bunch. Mrs. Miller resigned to start Penelope's Teapot, a gift and gourmet shop at 309 South Broad Street.