

Tax Changes Are Passed

RALEIGH — Senate Bill 1241, distillery tax credit changes that will create an ethanol industry and enhance production of corn in North Carolina, has passed the North Carolina General Assembly on the final day of the legislative session. The new law, introduced by Sen. Harold Hardison of Lenoir County, will become effective January 1, 1988.

The law, which drew strong support from both the Cornrowers Association and the North Carolina Farm Bureau, provides a 20 percent tax credit for the construction of an ethanol production facility. Location of the new plant, as yet undecided, will most likely be in the eastern part of the state and employ 175 people. The ethanol facility will immediately generate \$60 to \$75 million in construction costs into the North Carolina economy.

Ted Ivey, president of the Cornrowers Association of North Carolina, praised Sen. Hardison and the legislative leadership for their role and said the ethanol distillery plant will be a boon for family farms in the state.

"There are 25,000 farm families whose income depend on the production of corn. This new plant will eventually use 25 million bushels of corn per year. Methods are now under study that would even allow the plant to safely use drought-stressed alfatoxin tainted corn, which in the past has caused great monetary loss to cornrowers," Ivey said.

"Sen. Hardison's efforts, the work of Representative John Kerr

and Senator Henson Barnes, both Democrats from Wayne County, and Vernon James, D-Pasquotank, as well as the leadership of the House and Senate, were instrumental in gaining passage of this important legislation," Ivey said.

Proponents of the ethanol industry say that ethanol enhanced fuels burn cleaner and will help reduce the dependence on foreign imported oil. Approximately 50 million gallons of ethanol are currently being shipped annually into North Carolina. North Carolina production of ethanol is expected to greatly reduce that amount.

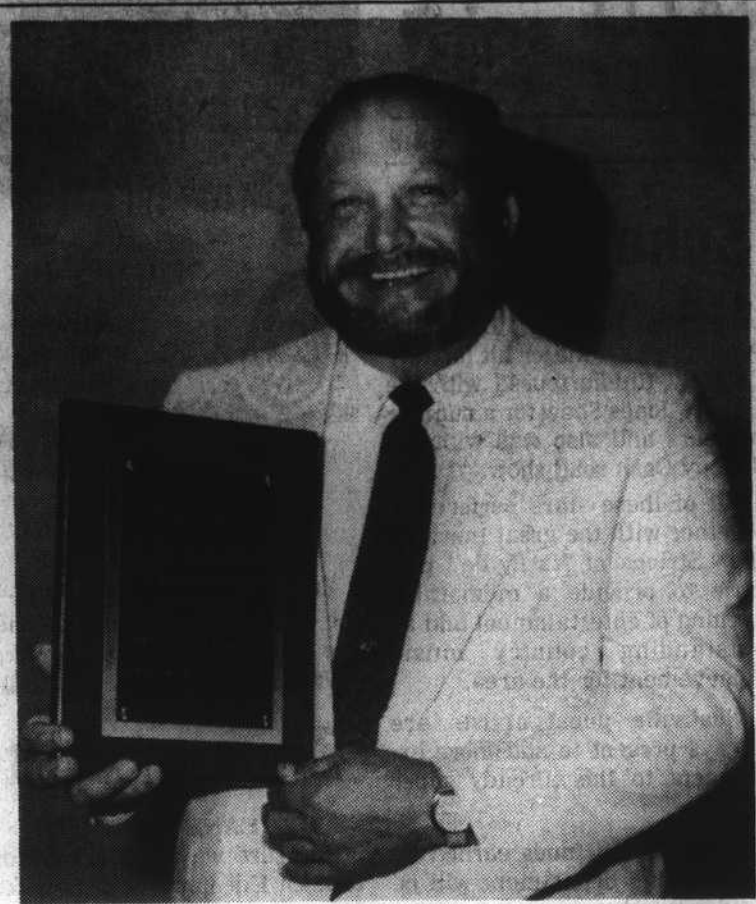
Donation Noted

The Albemarle Home Care's Hospice program recently received a donation from the Albemarle Area United Way Cancer Board Control Agency to purchase equipment that will be used by cancer patients.

The Cancer Board is operated by the Elizabeth City Junior Women's Club (ECJWC).

Bobbie White, chairman of the Cancer Board of Control of ECJWC, presented a check for \$15,000 to Wanda Barnard, Hospice coordinator, for the equipment. Also participating in the ceremony were Kay Whedbee, Nursing Coordinator of the AHC, and Billie Buell, president of the ECJWC.

The funds will be used to provide equipment to cancer patients such as infusion pumps that are used for pain control.



Gates County Extension Director Zackie W. Harrell with Distinguished Service Award from the National Association of County Agricultural Agents.

Harrell Is Award Winner

Zackie W. Harrell, Gates County extension chairman, has won a national award for his extension work.

The National Association of County Agricultural Agents has presented Harrell with a Distinguished Service Award at its annual meeting in Fargo, North Dakota, August 10-13. He was one of six North Carolinians so honored.

Harrell was cited for three reasons:

- his ability to organize

volunteers and plan educational programs to help solve farm production problems;

- his success in conducting educational tests, demonstrations and farm tours to help keep farmers abreast of new technology; and

- his ability to organize and maintain a young farmer program with which people are proud to be associated.

Harrell is a 19-year veteran of extension work and a graduate of North Carolina State University.

Morrow Joins Local Practice

Dr. William S. Blakemore has announced that Dr. Melody Ann Morrow will be joining him in his Ophthalmology practice in Edenton. Dr. Morrow is a Board Certified Ophthalmologist who received her eye surgical training at the Sheie Institute at the University of Pennsylvania.

Before beginning her ophthalmology training, Dr. Morrow completed a pediatric residency and was chief resident in Pediatrics at Hahnemann Medical College. She was an attending staff physician at Children's Hospital in Philadelphia before going to the Sheie Eye Institute. She retains a special interest in children's eyecare and pediatric eye surgery.

The addition of a second ophthalmologist living in Edenton will provide virtually twenty-four hour, year-round availability of an ophthalmologist to patients and physicians who use Chowan Hospital. The presence of another surgeon on the Chowan Hospital staff will increase the hospital's utilization of its out-patient surgical facilities.

Dr. Blakemore feels that two ophthalmologists working together will be better able to acquire the expensive equipment needed for the proper diagnosis and treatment of eye diseases.

He plans to spend more time doing cosmetic plastic surgery and laser surgery as well as handling urgent, often unexpected, cases, now that Dr. Morrow will be in the office.

Youth Funds Available

If your youth group has been needing money to accomplish a worthwhile project, this may be your chance.

Funding is available to assist youth groups or organizations in Chowan County in developing innovative community projects. If your youth group is planning a worthy project for young people, you may be able to receive a mini-grant from the N.C. Youth Advisory Council to assist you.

Some \$6,500 is available to North Carolina organizations composed of youth, ages 13 to 18, who want to implement a new program that will benefit their peers. The average grant awarded is \$500.

Applications will be accepted three times during the fiscal year: Sept. 4, Oct. 21 and Jan. 8.

Applications will be screened by the State Youth Council Board of Directors approximately two weeks after the deadline and will

be reviewed by the Youth Advisory Council before grants are made.

In addition to the mini-grant funds, a \$500 grant will be awarded this year to a rural community youth organization that wishes to implement an education/welfare-oriented program for their peers. The additional money has been contributed by Imasco U.S.A. of Rocky Mount.

Interested persons should contact the Youth Advocacy and Involvement Office, 121 W. Jones St., Raleigh, N.C. 27603-1334 or phone (919) 733-9296 for further information on the mini-grant program.

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