



UNDER CONTROL--Smoke still billowed as Edenton firemen used hooks to pull off siding to get at smoldering embers of a house fire on Carteret St. Tuesday afternoon. The fire was at the home of Mary Creesey.

Woman Loses Possessions, Pet

Afternoon Blaze Destroys Home

Edenton firemen responded to a house fire at 109 W. Carteret St. late Tuesday afternoon, but were too late to save the residence.

"Flames were coming out of the roof when we got there. It was fully involved," said Fire Chief Lynn Perry of the 4:42 p.m. call.

The small frame house was the home of Mary Creesey, an elderly woman who lived alone. She lost her home, all of her personal possessions and her dog, Terry, to the flames.

Perry said that Ms. Creesey told him that she discovered the fire when she noticed a chair next to a wood stove beginning to blaze. When she couldn't put out the flames, she went to a neighbor's home to call the fire department.

Returning to the house, Ms. Creesey had to be restrained from entering the burning building for her dog, Perry said.

A friend of Ms. Creesey's,

Mrs. J.B. Pruitt, said at the scene that a new house was to be started on Ms. Creesey's Carteret lot next week under the ongoing Community Development Block program. CDBG officials were unavail-

able Wednesday morning to confirm this.

Mrs. Pruitt said that her friend could stay with her until a new home is completed.

Perry said 19 firemen responded to the fire call.

Plan To Be Updated

The Edenton Planning Board will begin updating the town's Land Use Plan on Tuesday, March 26.

This update, required by state law, helps the town establish programs for managing its coastal resources, Town Manager Anne-Marie Kelly said in a prepared statement this week.

Twenty coastal communities are required to prepare land use plans which establish policies to guide growth and development.

"Citizen participation is

the key to a successful update," Ms. Kelly said. A citizens workshop has been scheduled to kick off the update on Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. in the town council chamber.

"This will be an opportunity for Edenton citizens to discuss their opinions on such issues as economic development, waterfront access and any other land use planning issue they wish to discuss," Ms. Kelly explained.

She said that opinions will be used by local officials as

Continued On Page 6-A

Kelly Attorneys File For Dismissal

By JACK GROVE

As the Little Rascals Day Care trial approaches, arguments are scheduled to be heard Monday in Farmville in what may be the last pre-trial motions hearing.

The trial of Robert F. Kelly Jr. on 248 child sexual abuse charges is set to begin on April 8. His trial precedes those of six others facing over 400 charges (including Kelly's) in the case involving 29 children at the former Edenton day care.

Scheduled to be heard are two defense motions and at least one by the prosecution.

According to District Attorney H.P. Williams, one defense motion will ask the court to provide, at state expense, a medical doctor and a psychiatrist to examine the children involved.

A copy of the second defense motion was obtained from defense attorney W. Michael Spivey. The motion asks dismissal of all the charges against Kelly. Spivey points to the latest bill of particulars provided by the prosecution, listing offenses, locations and times committed.

A principal defense complaint is that the state has expanded the time frame in which the offenses are alleged to have occurred.

The motion states, "Thus, the state has engaged in a 'whole-cloth' alteration and tailoring of its accusations . . . and it has attempted to manipulate the allegations from offenses declared by grand jury indictments to have occurred principally at the new (day care) facility after September 30, 1988 into an amalgam of allegations of offenses occurring over a period of almost three years . . ." from June, 1986 to April, 1989.

The motion also asks that a single offense be charged in each alleged abuse incident. (Many of the indictments

charge Kelly with three offenses for each incident with a child -- first degree sex offense, crime against nature and taking indecent liberties.)

The motion also calls on the court "To dismiss the indictments and to sanction and disqualify the prosecutors for gross, willful, wanton and/or reckless conduct in failing to comply with this court's orders, failing to comply with discovery obligations and other misconduct in the prosecution of this cause."

The state expects to file a

motion this week to quash defense subpoenas issued for 40 or more families of alleged victims, special prosecutor William P. Hart said Tuesday.

The subpoenas require both parents of each child and the children to appear and bring health care records of the children. The subpoenas order the families to attend the trial on a day-to-day basis.

Earlier this month, Hart called the subpoenas "an attempt to intimidate and harass" the families.

Hospitality Seminar Planned To Better Serve Area Visitors

By MARGUERITE MCCALL

During Tuesday's meeting of the Tourism Development Authority, Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Richard Bunch told the board of a "Hospitality" seminar being planned by the chamber, Historic Edenton, and Historic Albemarle Tours.

Bunch said its purpose is to give information about lodging, restaurants and tour sites to persons working in local businesses where such inquiries are likely to be made. The seminar is scheduled for Tuesday, April 9, from 2-4 p.m. A location will be announced later, Bunch said.

Board Vice-chairman Livy Goodman produced a copy of *Historic Preservation*, a publication of the National Trust, to show the group an article about four North Carolina ports. Edenton was prominently featured in the text and by a colored photograph of the Cupola House.

Board media committee members Arch Edwards and Anne-Marie Kelly reported on the progress of the visitors' information signs.

Edwards said he received a quote from local carpenter Morgan Francis for the

Continued On Page 6-A

'Fabulous Forties' To Return

The 1940's were some of the most unforgettable years in American history. In addition to World War II, it was a time when neighbors were truly friends and people shared what they had to survive tough economic times.

But, there were lighter moments as well. Flag pole sitting was a major fad, and television was just beginning

to be available to the masses.

Dance marathons were a well-known pastime, and couples moved to the music of the "Big Band" sound.

Now, area businesses are bringing back those memories with a "Fabulous 40's Celebration" April 18-20. Details are on page 7-A of this week's edition.

Phone System At County Jail Gets Updated

A new phone system for the Chowan County Detention Facility will benefit both jailers and inmates, according to Chief Jailer Walter Linhardt.

The new system, to be installed by the end of the month, will allow inmates access to telephones and free jailers from placing calls for them.

The system, to be installed by Paytel Communications of Greensboro, will feature a telephone installed in each of the jail's four cellblocks. Prisoners will be able to use the phones from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily. Jailers will shut the system down outside those hours.

The calls will not be free, however, even locally. The person receiving the call will be told by an automated operator the it is a collect call from the jail. Also the call recipient must have a touch tone phone. The recipient will be told to press "1" if the call is to be accepted. The charge is 88 cents for each local call.

"The beauty of the system," Linhardt said, "is that before, jail personnel had to dial each call for an inmate and then pass the receiver into the cellblock." He said that until the new system goes into operation, inmates can only call from 9 to 11 a.m. on Mondays and Thursdays.

Calls have been limited to ten minutes each. Under the new system, calls will be unlimited every day.

Linhardt stressed that this is a call-out system only. Prisoners are not allowed to



FACELIFT--Cupola House was given a new coat of paint this week by an Edenton painting contractor. The spruce up is just in time for spring.

Holmes Concert Choir Performs At Carnegie

By MARGUERITE MCCALL

Years from now, John A. Holmes Concert Choir members can tell their grandchildren they performed in New York City's famed Carnegie Hall.

On Sunday, February 24, the thirty-two member choir joined with eleven other choirs from high schools across the state to give a concert on the hall's venerated stage. Billed as "The North Carolina Youth Chorale," the youngsters (420 total) were directed by Ronald Shirey.

Accompanied by Choir Director Shelby Strother and seven chaperones, the Holmes group departed Edenton at 4 a.m. on Friday, February 22, via chartered bus. They arrived in the "Big Apple" that afternoon.

Between rigorous rehearsals on Friday night, Saturday and on Sunday morning, they managed to go sight-seeing.

"We saw plenty," Shaundell Satterfield exclaimed. "We saw everything."

Mrs. Strother said that as impressed as her students were with the World Trade Center, they were more impressed with the building's elevator attendant.

"He was shocked when the kids thanked him for the ride," she said. "He told us, 'No one ever does that.'"

"And this was what I observed about the group as a whole, how polite and mannerly they were and how appalled they were at others' lack of manners."

In spite of waiting in line for an hour and 45 minutes at the "Hard Rock Cafe," Brandon Wahn and Trey Adams felt the time spent was justified.

"Jimi Hendrix's guitar was there," Wahn said. "I got to touch it."

Robin Lichtenwalner confessed she wanted to touch the keyboard of the piano on stage at Carnegie Hall. Unfortunately, she couldn't get close enough to do so, she said.

All of the kids agreed that attending a performance of "The Phantom of the Opera" at the Majestic Theater stood out as a highlight of their trip.

"It was the icing on the cake," Adams commented.

The choir will sing three of the show's tunes in their May 21 spring concert at Holmes auditorium, as well as selections they sang in New York.

Because fear of a terrorist Continued On Page 6-A

Pickup Times Are Changed

Since the Town of Edenton is observing its Easter holiday on Friday, March 29, the following revised trash pickup schedule has been issued.

Monday, east side collection.

Tuesday, west side collection.

Wednesday, limbs and waste will be picked up on both east and west sides.

Thursday, collections on both east and west sides.

Friday, no collections.



NEW SEATING--The almost completed new bleachers at the high school's athletic complex seem to beckon sports fans. This is the home section with the visitor section across the field not yet begun. The track around the football field has been roughed in and work has begun on the field house. The sports complex is scheduled to be completed in time for fall competition.