

Martin

Continued From Page 4-A

winners sometimes feel compelled to explain their participation. You hear them saying pageant recognition is not at the center of their life's ambition. The JonBenet Ramsey model unfairly taints the entire enterprise. Proof of our disengagement is that there are no longer enough potential television viewers to justify the broadcast of the Miss North Carolina pageant.

Part of the problem for the pageants is that there are now so many other pathways to fame and success for talented women. As the doors have opened in business, politics, academic leadership, the pageant has passed from a place of real importance to be merely a living relic in the social history of women. Like the debutante balls and the crowning of homecoming queens, the pageant is no longer a reflection of the way things are, but is reminder of the way things used to be.

It just doesn't make as much sense to glorify women's feminine attractiveness when it is other traits that are leading them to presidencies of universities, the chairmanships of large business enterprises, and the networks of

community leadership throughout out state and country.

Later on last Saturday, I thought about all this again when I dropped by the Democratic Party's state political convention. Just a few years ago, this activity would have been an all male-event. Women would have been there, of course, doing a lot of the work, but the men would have been in charge. The featured statewide candidates would have been men.

Not so these days. A party chairwoman ran the convention and presided with authority. A woman candidate for lieutenant governor inspired the convention with her speaking—showing that she will a formidable contender this fall when she oppose the other party's candidate, who is also an impressive woman.

These women are attractive, and part of their attractiveness no doubt comes from the qualities of grace, good looks and talent that the beauty pageants celebrate. But much more of their appeal today rests on their ability to organize, lead, and recruit support, and on their success in securing and using power.

All that said, let's go back to my original question.

What do the pageants have in common with the upcoming political conventions? The party conventions are going the way of

beauty contests.

They, too, are becoming relics of a time gone by, of a time when those gatherings made important decisions and introduced us to our future leaders.

Historically, these events—like the beauty pageants—brought us together around our television sets to watch the drama of the selection process and to identify with the participants.

But it won't be that way this year. The important decisions have all been made. Fewer and fewer of us will watch the acting out of scripts written by political staffs.

With such declining viewership, the networks will back away. And the party conventions, like the Miss North Carolina Pageant, will fade away from our television common experience, leaving it to Regis Phibin and his colleagues to bring us together and give us compelling real life drama.

North Carolina Bookwatch, the UNC-TV program that I host, airs on Sundays at 5 p.m. My guest on June 25 will be Dean Smith, author of "A Coach's

Life." More information about upcoming programs is on UNC-TV's web site (www.uncvtv.org) under the "Local Programs" category.

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK . . .

Chowan COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Thursday - 6/22 BELIEVERS ARE FEATURED

The WPO (Widowed Persons Organization) will meet Thursday, June 22, at 7 p.m. in the Warwick Baptist Church Fellowship Hall. Bring a covered dish and enjoy the food and fellowship. A program by "The Believers" will be presented after the meal. Any widow or widower from the area is cordially invited to attend any meetings. For more information please call Evans Funeral Home at 482-7474.

Monday - 6/26 AARP TO MEET

The Perquimans Chapter of the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) will meet Monday, June 26, at the Perquimans County Senior Center in Edenton. The meeting will be held at 2 p.m. President Mona Sadler invites all members and interested senior citizens to attend.

CIVIC LEAGUE MEETS

The Edenton-Chowan Civic

League will meet at the Fannie A. Parker Woman's Club in Edenton Monday, June 26, at 6:30 p.m.

REGIONAL BOARD

The Pettigrew Regional Library Board will meet on Monday, June 26, at the Tyrrell County Library in Columbia at 7 p.m. This meeting is open to the public.

Tuesday - 6/27

ARTS LEAGUE GATHERING

The annual Members Meeting of the Perquimans Arts League will be held Tuesday, June 27, at 2 p.m. at the American Legion Building, West Academy St., Hertford. Members are encouraged to be present for the election of officers for the new year. Membership is open to anyone interested in supporting the goals of the Arts League. For details, call 426-7486.

BOATING SAFETY COURSE

A North Carolina Wildlife Boating Safety Course will be held June 27-29 from 6-9 p.m. at the COA Chowan County Center in Edenton. To register, contact

Officer Mark Rich at 482-5855.

Upcoming Events

PRESCHOOL SCREENINGS

The Head Start Program, Chowan County Board of Education, Health Department and DEC will conduct countywide screenings in the areas of Speech, Language, Hearing, Developmental, Vision and Dental on Friday, June 30, at D.F. Walker Elementary School in Edenton, from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Children that will be three and/or four years old should be brought to these screenings. Walk-ins will be accepted from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Questions? Call Ms. Gertha Bond-Thomas at 482-4495, ext. 109.

MUSTANG CLUB MEETS

The Chromie Pony Mustang Club of Elizabeth City, NC will meet July 11 at 7 p.m. at 1949 N. Road Street, US 17 North, Elizabeth City. For more info and directions for location, contact Mark Cooper, (252) 331-1022 or (252) 264-4381, or Virgil Griffith at (252) 331-2210.

Decide

Continued From Page 4-A

free trade. When free trade is proposed, these industries naturally oppose it because the existence and livelihood of the industries and their workers are threatened. Although in the long run investors and workers in the threatened industries will likely alternative places for their money and labor, in the short run, they could suffer a fall in their living standard.

North Carolina is an excellent example of the benefits and costs of moving to more open and freer world trade.

Several industries, from high-tech to agriculture and agri-business, benefited from expanded world markets and the productive advantage the U.S. has in these industries compared to foreign competitors. For example, North Carolina exports to Mexico and Canada have increased more than 50 percent since NAFTA went into effect. But other industries, most notably apparel, have significantly downsized their employment as freer trade allowed less costly foreign-made apparel to enter the U.S. market and be bought by consumers. Although the North Carolina apparel industry has downsized for two decades, the downsizing accelerated after the NAFTA and GATT trade pacts were passed. More trade with China could add to this downsizing.

My guess: more, not less, world

trade in the future.

This means there will be winners from more trade, including many businesses that will expand sales and consumers who will find more products at lower prices.

But some businesses and workers will lose their livelihoods as a result of the trade.

This creates a dilemma for policymakers. One option: Accept more trade, but make sure there is

plenty of assistance, including funds for retraining and possibly relocation, for workers who come out on the short end of the free trade stick.

The debate over free trade can

be heated and divisive, and with good reason, because the impacts are significant and varied.

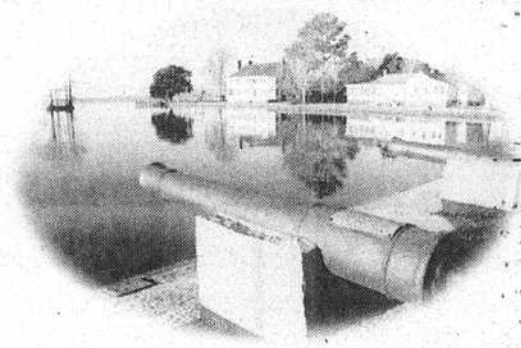
You decide how trade will impact you, our state and nation. (Dr. Mike Walden is a professor

and economist in the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics at NC State University. He teaches about and writes on personal finance, economic development and policy.)



DISCOVER Edenton

Harbor of History & Hospitality
with Unique and Exquisite Accommodations



1 & 2 DAY SERVICE

Popular Prices

EDENTON FURNITURE

Downtown Edenton • 482-8418

Peebles

Great Fashions. Great Prices. Every Day!

Great Savings
For the Family

Open 10 AM to 6 PM • Mon. - Sat.
Downtown Edenton

Blount's Family Care

Postcards With Scenes of Edenton

Jewelry • Gifts • Designer
Fragrances • Old Fashioned soda Fountain
with Handdipped Ice Cream Fresh
Squeezed
Lemonade & Orangeade.



~Daily Specials~

New Featured Entree's
NOW OPEN ON MONDAY'S TOO!

Sun. 4 to 9 • Mon. - Thurs. 11 to 9,
Fri. & Sat. 11 to 10
319 Gaslight Square 482-7656



Local Realtors are really "moving"

According to Top Sale Realty owner Nancy Winslow and broker Sarah Tynch—both of whom are veteran real estate professionals—Edenton's innate ability to effectively self-promote is a major factor in attracting visitors, retirees, and relocators.

"It's easy to promote Edenton, there is so much to offer here," Winslow said. "...There is a low crime rate and a beautiful waterfront area...plus, there are the great homes. Retirees view it as a chance to go back in time, because of the peace and quietness experienced here."

Tynch states, "people visit, and a lot of times it is those who are contemplating future retirement (location) options. They want to visit and plan some possible places to live, perhaps for as far as five or ten years down the road."

Open since 1987, Top Sale Realty has been providing real estate service to a wide range of individuals.

"I tend to show them what (properties are) available and I'll also show them the (local) area," remarked Winslow. "When somebody comes in and they are on a time schedule, we try to accommodate the buyer."

In stark contrast to the claims made by many late-night television infomercials, real estate is neither a "fly-by-night" career, nor for those without much dedication.

"It is a tough, but enjoyable business," stated Tynch. "There is a lot of stress, much more than (anyone) thinks is involved."

The ability to effectively serve potential customers does require some work beyond the "9-to-5" routine synonymous with other occupations, which does slightly interfere with one's personal life.

"It's not a big problem," said Tynch. "With the kids being gone, it's just our husbands and ourselves—Waldo being Nancy's husband, and Milton, mine. Both husbands have been behind us."

"In this business, your family has to support you....," said Winslow. "My daughter has made her own birthday cake on several occasions."

Concerns that face relocators when they decide to make Edenton a permanent place of residence were addressed by the duo.

"In regard to new arrivals, before they arrive here they may have heard that Southern towns are cliquish," said Winslow, adding, "but that's not true."

"Are there a few growing pains for relocators? Sometimes, yes, depending on where they come from," Tynch said. "They may suffer some culture shock, at least initially."

Winslow, in an attempt to inform others, delivers the following message to anybody unsure of the housing options available in Edenton: "We've got 200 years of property to show in different locations."

Even with the time constraints and other responsibilities that accompany the profession, Winslow believes that when done properly, things can run smoothly between the buyer and real estate agency.

"The people that I sold my first house to are still good friends, and that's important to me," she said.

"Because this is a small town, you are going to see that person again, perhaps in the grocery store, church possibly, and certainly out on the street. So, it's good to keep everything on good terms."

O'Connor

Continued From Page 4-A

Candidates have to raise money on their own to qualify for public funds.

But what happens if they don't spend everything? Who keeps what was left over? Is it public or private money?

Then there is the question of multi-member districts. The Gulley bill doesn't account for them, but they have the potential to seriously skew the averages one way or the other.

Finally, any public financing bill has to put some regulations on spending by those not using public funds. And those regulations are either impractical or unconstitutional.

Public financing is probably the best solution to the state's current political mess, but supporters have to find a better bill.

To subscribe
to the
Chowan
Herald,
call
482-4418

TOP SALE REALTY

431 S. Broad St. Edenton, NC
1-800-362-2954
www.topsalerealty.com
(252) 482-5121

Creekside Restaurant & Bar

"Historic Edenton's Choice in
Fine Dining for Lunch & Dinner"

406 W. Queen Street • Historic Edenton, NC
Phone: 252.482.0118 • Fax: 252.482.0222

Visit our Website at: <http://www.creeksidebar.nv.switchboard.com>



From the
Spectacular Mountains,
to the Unspoiled Coast,
Timberline Land
Company has
North Carolina Covered!

Timberline Land Company features North Carolina's newest and most spectacular coastal waterfront properties—ideally located in beautiful and pristine North Carolina location—away from the high density tourist areas, yet a short drive to the bigger cities.

Timberline Land Company properties boast a wealth of natural resources, like thousands of miles of scenic shoreline, a great round fun for water enthusiasts of all ages, wide sandy beaches and a pristine natural beauty like no other. For Coastal Bargains!
CALL TOLL FREE 1-800-732-6601

80% Medicare Covered



EXTRA DEPTH SHOES
for Diabetics

1/2 PRICE SALE

ALL CARDS
Giftwrap • Ribbons • Bows Invitations
301 South Broad St.
Edenton, NC (252) 482-3711

Steak & Buffet Bakery & Chicken

318 Virginia Rd.
Edenton
482-4955

