



SCOUT PROJECT — These Cub Scout members of Pack 155, Dens 2 and 3, worked during their day out of school last Friday. The scouts trimmed the walkways of the



courthouse and will plant six dozen *Pride of Portsmouth* tulips. The work is part of the scouts' community beautification project.



BUSY WORKERS — Aiding the Cub Scouts in their work on the courthouse lawn are Mrs. Esther Weiner, den mother, assisted by Mrs. John Mansfield and Mrs. James Denehy.



CONCENTRATION — Hard at work are two Cub Scout members. Standing is Richard Skinner who is aided in the busy project by James Denehy.



Virli Stokely

Mother Of Five Leads Busy Life

Virli Stokely is not your usual kind of college student.

It is not often that a mother of five, who is enrolled in the associate degree nursing program at College of the Albemarle (COA) can manage such multi-faceted tasks. Virli not only does this with finesse, she also finds time to write poetry and has recently had several of her poems published in a literary arts journal.

Born in Perquimans County and raised in Indiana, Mrs. Stokely returned to Hertford when she was sixteen. She dropped out of high school in the eleventh grade to be married.

Fifteen years and five children later, Virli completed high school equivalency requirements (GED) at COA and enrolled in the licensed practical nurse program. She received her certificate in 1970 and is now a student in the ADN program.

"I have always wanted to be a nurse, but felt the opportunity was not available until COA became a fact," she said. "Because I was not a high school graduate, I was prevented from furthering my education. Then the GED program became available and that just opened one door after another for me."

"To manage, I had to set priorities and just eliminate the less important things," the mother added. "My family is very self-sufficient and I have relied on them a lot. My 14-year-old daughter is a surrogate mother and I don't know what I would do without her."

"While not being an advocate of Woman's Lib, I feel a woman is an individual and not simply a satellite of her husband. If she has potential, she should be allowed to develop it."

The Stokelys are in the process of building their own home at New Hope. "My husband and two older sons did their own logging and sawed their own timber. This is truly a family project."

Virli drew the plans for the five bedroom home and her husband, Paul, provides materials. With the help of a nephew, the family will finalize construction of the house, except for the brickwork.

Mrs. Stokely said the house and the nursing program should be completed about the same time. "From the time the trees were cut, it's been about four years. We are only able to work on week-ends and holidays."

Asked about her interest in poetry, Mrs. Stokely said, "I always loved to read poetry and from time to time would write little jingles for friends and relatives. I didn't take poetry seriously until I was enrolled in English courses at COA."

"My poetry writing is a form of therapy for me. I have to feel profoundly about something before I can write about it. I can't just sit down and say I am going to compose." Virli's first poem was published in COA's literary magazine, *Argus*, in the spring of 1973.

One of her professors, Dr. Robert Thorne, said, "Her poetry has improved 200 per cent in the last year and a half. She is a diamond in the rough and is working out the roughness. She has the sensitivity and the feeling of and for words."

In writing poetry, Mrs. Stokely does not feel confined to any one area. "It can be any experience or person who gives me motivation," she said.

"If poetry is too stylized, it inhibits you. I want freedom to write how I choose." While Mrs. Stokely definitely plans to continue writing, "I will probably write more for my own satisfaction rather than recognition," she concluded.

Winslow Aids In Hospital Project

A long range landscaping project for Chowan Hospital in Edenton is well underway. The hospital is one of two that Perquimans residents have easy access to, it being fifteen miles away.

An integral part of the landscaping planning was done by Jean Winslow of Hertford who drew up the plans for the landscaping project.

The work is being done in three phases according to Thomas M. Surratt, president. Last week, the second phase was completed. The first phase of the beautification included border planting which was put out in March of last year by Jack Leary of Leary Plant Farms. The second phase, just completed, in-

cluded foundation plantings, also done by Leary Plant Farms. The remaining phase includes the area between the drives in front of the hospital and Leary stated that he hopes this can be completed before the current planting season is over.

Jean Winslow is aiding in the project along with her fellow members of the Garden of Eden Garden Club in Edenton. The planning was a joint effort of the garden club and the Chowan Hospital Auxiliary. Both groups volunteered their time and efforts.

Mr. and Mrs. E.L. Hollowell of Edenton are underwriting the landscaping costs, which Surratt described as a very generous gift to the hospital.



WIN AWARD — Representatives of the local Jaycees and Jayettes attended the mid-year convention held this weekend in Winston-Salem. Attending from Perquimans County were Wayne Ashley, Louise Ward and Ray Ward. The participants proudly display the State President's "Back to Base and Then Some" award the Perquimans County Jaycees received for being the number two chapter in the state.

BRIDGE CLUBS

Mrs. W.C. Dozier was hostess to her bridge club Tuesday at her home on Market Street. Those playing were Mrs. J.T. Biggers, Mrs. John Coston, Mrs. G.W. Barbee, Mrs. H.C. Stokes, Mrs. T.L. Jessup, Mrs. Jack Kanoy, Miss Ruby White, and the hostess.

Mrs. Jessup won the high

score prize. A sweet course was served.

Miss Louise Chalk entertained her bridge club Tuesday at her home on Church Street.

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SPEAKER — Wayne Ashley of the Hertford branch of Bank of N.C., was guest speaker at the November meeting of the Hertford Business and Professional Women's Club. Ashley spoke to the group on inflation.

Ashley Speaks To BPW On Inflation

Wayne Ashley of Bank of N.C., Hertford branch, was guest speaker at the Hertford BPW Club when it met Thursday night with Mrs. Billie Miller.

The subject of Mr. Ashley's talk was inflation — which is a sharp and sudden rise in prices. He stated that it is something which affects everyone and that those on a fixed income are probably affected more than others. He cited overspending by the federal government as, perhaps, the greatest cause of inflation; also, an increase in the supply of money and a demand for things in sort supply causes prices to rise. He said the citizenry takes inflation much too lightly and suggested that, as individuals, we could slow it down by buying only what we need and by contacting our congressmen to let them know how we feel about overspending in government. A question and answer period followed Mr. Ashley's most informative talk.

After the program, Miss Hulda Wood, president, presided over a business

session. She announced that Legislative Day would be February 6th, in Raleigh and that Spotlight on Women would be March 1st, in Chapel Hill. A budget compiled by Mrs. Anne Young was adopted. The club voted to enter a float in the up-coming Christmas parade.

ESTIMATED HOLIDAY FATALITIES

CHARLOTTE — The N.C. State Motor Club estimates that 22 persons will lose their lives in traffic accidents on North Carolina highways during the long Thanksgiving holiday weekend.

The traffic toll will be taken during a 102-hour period beginning at 6 p.m. Wednesday, November 27, and lasting until midnight Sunday, December 1. Last year 29 persons died on Tar Heel highways during a similar period.

"We continue to be encouraged by the lower fatality rate this year," Paul B. Marion, president of the motor club said. "Deaths are down more than 340 from 1973, but we must still be alert."

Marion said that reduced speeds have played a major role in the improved safety

record. "We urge drivers to maintain safe speeds at all times," he remarked, "especially during heavy traffic and when visibility is limited. Most accidents occur at these times."



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