



AWARDS DISPLAYED—A host of awards will be given to participants in next week's Edenton-Chowan Bicentennial Arts Festival. The awards are displayed in a downtown store window in hopes that they will inspire widespread participation in the many events.

Public Parade

EDENTON-CHOWAN
BICENTENNIAL
ARTS
FESTIVAL



April 8, 9, 10, 11
Edenton, North Carolina

If you like community activities sprinkled with variety you will dearly love the Edenton-Chowan Bicentennial Arts Festival along the Public Parade next week. If there isn't something appealing to you in the four-day celebration we doubt if you can be pleased at all.

If ever an event has been arranged with the public in mind it is this Happy Birthday salute to America. It is a people-oriented festival in the truest sense of the word.

It has been designed to give the people in the community a way of demonstrating to other people in the community and throughout the Albemarle Area the talent which abounds here. It is a real happening which has been in the making for as many years as the oldest participant boasts.

But it just didn't happen. It has been made to happen through the hard work, dedication and cooperation which is plentiful hereabouts. This is a feature which gives the festival guaranteed success from the beginning.

Everyone has cooperated; even the weathermen who provided just enough moisture to get the grass growing in the new municipal waterfront park. The prime movers in the festival hope the elements will remain in the heavens during the festival but adequate preparations have been made in case of a missed connection.

When you have such an event, one with widespread and widespread support, you always get into trouble when you start throwing around names. Nevertheless, we will wax reckless by saluting J. Clarence Leary, Jr. and Mrs. Mary Rhea Gardner. They have demonstrated sterling leadership in pre-festival planning; have motivated and inspired scores of unit coordinators; and have put together a shindig that is even on the discussion list of the drug store authorities.

If you question our enthusiasm for the Edenton-Chowan Bicentennial Arts Festival just turn to Page 7A in today's

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Activities Set For Festival

Contestants taking part in the Edenton-Chowan Bicentennial Arts Festival April 8-11 will be profusely rewarded for their participating in the numerous events and planned activities.

Over 130 trophies, awards, and ribbons will be given to first, second, and third place winners in nine major categories of competitive events. Samples of these prizes are now on display in the window of the former Hobowsky's Shoe Repair Shop on Broad Street.

There are nine major categories with some internal breakdowns by age groupings, in which prizes will be awarded as follows: Oratory, essays, bake-off, spelling bee, art, town window displays, field day activities, sailing competition, and the Town of Edenton's Name The Park Contest. Competition for many of these events are taking place with the schools now.

Finalists in oratory and essay competitions will perform on the Green from 8 P.M. to 8:30 P.M. on April 8, and from 6:30 P.M. to 7 P.M. on April 9. Awards for all completed events will be presented at this time.

Motions Heard In Lawsuit

An extensive hearing on motions for summary judgment was concluded Wednesday in a lawsuit in Chowan County Superior Court where a group of local citizens question the validity of action by Edenton Town Council. Involved is the changing of zoning on two tracts of land at the intersection of Highway 32 and U. S. 17 by-pass.

One tract was changed from R-20 (residential-farming) to Highway Commercial, while the other was changed to Shopping Center from R-20. The Highway Commercial designation was done at the time a Zoning Ordinance Update was adopted.

A question arose after Mayor Roy L. Harrell determined that the council's action was not valid. Later the N. C. Attorney General issued an opinion to support the

Flu Hits Schools

An unidentified virus referred to as the "flu" is currently affecting approximately 15 per cent of the total student population in local schools. As of Wednesday morning, Supt. John Dunn reported figures totaling 393 among the five units of the Edenton-Chowan Schools, not including staff members.

A breakdown of the absentee rate for the individual schools Wednesday census shows: Chowan, 81; Holmes, 89; Swain, 73; White Oak, 47; and Walker, 103.

The Chowan County Health Department was called out to Holmes High School Tuesday to check temperatures of some of the students who reported being affected. The department reports that temperatures averaged in the 99-100 degree range, and some of the students probably should not have been in school.

Dr. Dunn said that there are no current plans to close any of the schools unless the incidence rate increases significantly.

Costs Exceed Farm Income

The estimated farm income in Chowan County in 1975 has been placed at \$15.5-million, up more than 10 per cent over the previous year. However, a farm expert estimates that production costs were up 80 per cent.

R. M. (Pete) Thompson, county extension chairman, said the increased swine income accounts for the jump from 1974's \$14-million. Swine income was \$3-million in 1974 but has been placed at \$4.7-million for 1975.

While peanuts, corn and soybeans declined there was a \$200,000 increase in tobacco income. The increase in tobacco was due to increased production.

Peanuts were off slightly. The yield was down but the price was up. Income from the crop was placed at \$3.1-million.

Corn income dropped about \$200,000 to a \$1-million figure. The soybean income was placed at \$1.5-million. Thompson blamed the decline on a \$3 per bushel cut in price.

Turkeys were also down slightly, also due to price. The cotton income was estimated at \$70,000.

Income from vegetables was \$1.5-million with sweet corn and watermelons accounting for more than half the total.

Government payments, once a sizeable income for farmers, amounted to \$6,318.84 in Chowan County in 1975. Of the total, the bulk were in the form of cotton program payments and conservation programs.

Thompson said the estimates in his report were compiled from information furnished him by farmers and agribusiness officials.

Net Collections Better \$19,000

Net collections from the 1 per cent local option sales tax in Chowan County during February amounted to \$19,329.07, according to a report released this week by Sec. J. Howard Coble of the State Department of Revenue.

State-wide the collections were \$9.4-million.

Collections in other Albemarle Area counties were:

Camden, \$4,924.74; Currituck, \$8,534.14; Dare, \$22,472.42; Gates, \$7,211.87; Pasquotank, \$61,556.10; Perquimans, \$9,713.39; Tyrrell, \$4,622.38; and Washington, \$23,745.71.



HOLMES DECA STUDENTS BRING HOME EIGHT TROPHIES—Holmes DECA students came home recently with an arm full of trophies after winning eight second and third place titles at the State Leadership Conference in Winston-Salem last weekend. Winners are: from left, Gail Bunch, Doug Shackelford, Gene Meadows, Chris Habit, Howard Glasgow, David Cross, Mike Layton and Kathleen Happel. The students won in the creative manual competition. (Story on Page 4-A).

Harrell Considers House Seat

Filing for state, district and county offices opens at 12-noon Monday and the Chowan County Board of Elections has set up an "on call" system to save the taxpayers money and still accommodate those wishing to seek office.

Mrs. Byron P. Kehayes, chairman of the board of elections, and Mrs. Joseph M. Thorud, executive secretary, said while they will not remain in the elections office on the Fourth



AFTER THE BANQUET—Mrs. Josephine Patterson, left, District Extension Agent and guest speaker, chats with Mrs. Wallace Goodwin, Jr., president of Extension Homemakers County Council, after the Bicentennial banquet held at the American Legion Building.

Homemakers Celebrate

Colonial-style attire, a banquet supper, and crafts displays marked the Chowan County Extension Homemakers Bicentennial Celebration held Tuesday night at the American

Legion building. Mrs. Josephine Patterson, district extension agent, was guest speaker for the affair which saw attendance by over 200 people from Chowan County and surrounding areas.

Mrs. Patterson explained that extension came about as a result of the Morrow Act of 1860, establishing N. C. State University as a land-grant institution, and subsequent legislation that placed emphasis on Extension in particular.

Research and field testing, she said, are a part of the total extension program which seeks to provide out-of-school learning experiences for rural homemakers, in an effort to better the standards of living and quality of environment. In addition, the programs are geared to offering leadership opportunities and developing self-confidence and security.

Community services, Mrs. Patterson remarked, are a vital aspect of the program. Extension has been involved in school programs, the bookmobile program, and efforts to maintain mental and physical health.

Perfect attendance certificates were presented to 15 club members. Among them was Mrs. M. L. Hoffer of the Beech Fork Club who noted 25 years of perfect attendance, followed by Mrs. Clara Mae Evans of the Oak Grove Club with 23 years.

Mrs. Wallace Goodwin, Jr., county council president, presided over the affair.

Grant Given

The EIC, Inc., has been awarded a combined grant of approximately \$40,000 from the Community Services Administration Office and State Economic Opportunity Office to conduct a Home Winterization Project for Region "R".

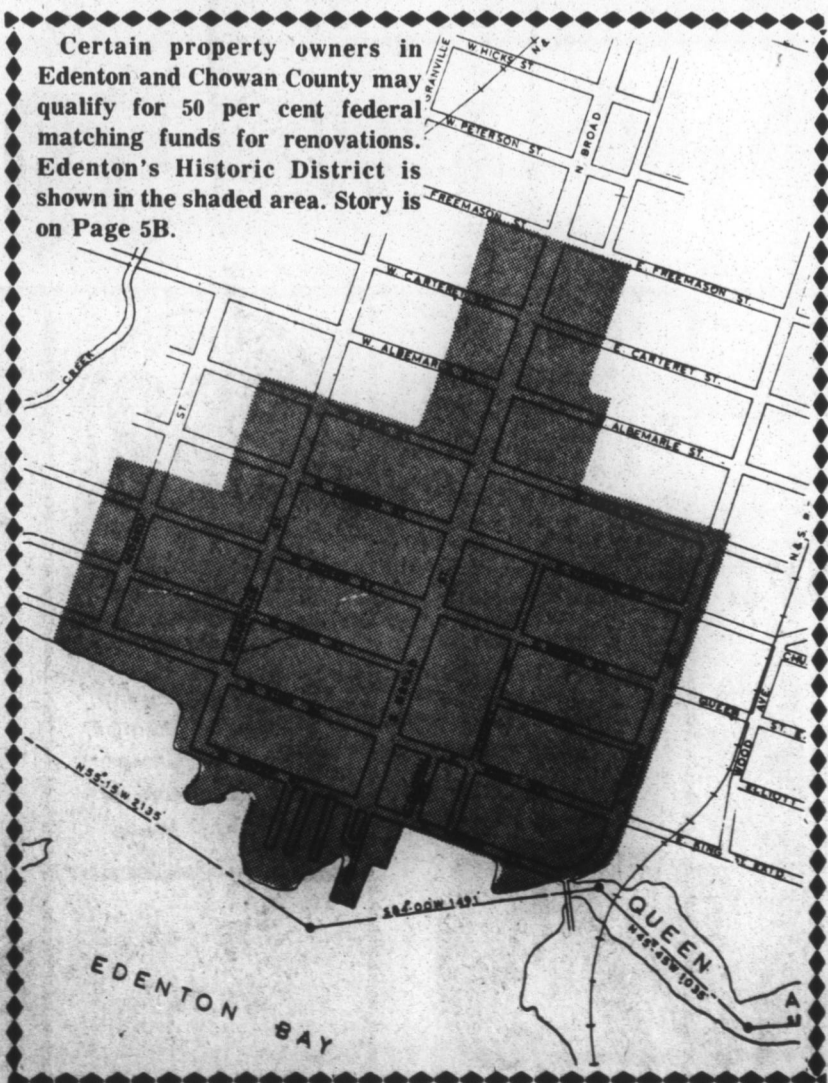
The Home Winterization Project will focus upon the elderly, handicapped and low-income families who are affected by the high cost of fuel and the impact of cold weather due to cold air infiltration in the home.

The EIC, Home Winterization will include the replacement of broken windows, minor roof repairs and in some cases underpinning.

Winterization work crews, under the supervision of skilled carpenters, will determine the extent of needed repairs and make the actual repairs to the home. All supplies and building materials will be provided by the agency.

A Regional Winterization Advisory Committee has been organized to monitor the project and to recommend priority families for program participation.

Applications for participation may be acquired at any county Economic Resource Center or the EIC Administrative Office in Elizabeth City or Edenton.



Certain property owners in Edenton and Chowan County may qualify for 50 per cent federal matching funds for renovations. Edenton's Historic District is shown in the shaded area. Story is on Page 5B.

Fish Fry Slated

On April 3, 1976 a benefit fish fry will be held for State Trooper Robert Allen and family.

The fish fry will be held on Saturday, at the Boy Scout Hut. Hours are from 11 A.M. to 6 P.M. and the tickets are \$2.

Tickets may be obtained from merchants, Police and Sheriff's Departments, Rescue Squad personnel and from the Civil Preparedness Office in the County Office Building.