

Nightingale Makes First To Edenton

Nightingale, an emergency air ambulance service provided by Medical Center Hospitals in Norfolk, Virginia, made its first visit to Chowan Hospital last Friday to provide rapid transport for a critical patient. This was the 166th flight of its career.

In operation since February, the Nightingale's base station for the flight team and helicopter is Norfolk General Hospital. This is the first emergency, hospital-based, air transport service in North-eastern North Carolina and Eastern Virginia. With the helicopter being on - call 24 hours per day, and at a cruising speed of 130 mph, rapid transfers can be accomplished in emergency

situations within a 125-mile radius of Norfolk.

Land transport can be reduced by 60 - 70 per cent with the Nightingale service. The average take-off time following a telephone request for transfer has been three minutes, fifteen seconds. The approximate flight time from the take-off point to Chowan Hospital is 27 minutes.

Patients who might be transferred from smaller, rural hospitals by the Nightingale service have already been treated and stabilized but require more sophisticated equipment and more intense care than is available at the smaller facility.

The interior of the helicopter used for these

transfers is equipped with all the equipment, supplies, and drugs necessary for advanced life support and is capable of carrying two patients. There is a three-person flight team. The flight nurse and the paramedic have undergone rigorous critical care and communications training and the pilot has thousands of flight hours to his credit.

Who can trigger Nightingale services? Hospitals, physicians, fire departments, law enforcement agencies, EMS agencies, or governmental representatives who live within the 125-mile radius can make the request for assistance.

Although this service is



RURITAN'S PRESENT FLAG — The Cape Colony Ruritan Club has presented the Edenton - Chowan Alternative School with the flag of the United States. Pictured here is Club President, Chub Skelton, presenting the flag to Mrs. Clara M. Boswell, also pictured here are Anilia Wiggians, Lisa Bunch, Carl Cayton and Milton Jordan students at the school.

Chicken Waste To Be Transformed Into Methane

By Marie Schnell
Tar Heel poultry farmers may soon be transforming chicken waste into methane gas worth thousands of dollars, thanks to the efforts of a North Carolina State University poultry researcher.

Dr. Jason C.H. Shih, associate professor of poultry science at NCSU, has developed an economically feasible, efficient poultry waste digester, which he estimates could produce enough methane gas to meet the energy needs of 100 families indefinitely.

This estimate is based on a hypothetical hen house with 50,000 hens, producing

300 cubic meters of methane gas per day, roughly translating into 10-million BTUs, or 3,000 kilowatt hours of total energy per day.

A typical poultry farmer could possibly generate \$20,000 per year profit in the

value of the electricity produced from the methane gas; \$7,000 from the resultant leftover sludge if it is used to make fertilizer; or \$21,000 if the farmer opts to use the solid byproduct in a chicken feed supplement.

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NIGHTINGALE PICKS UP PATIENT — The air ambulance Nightingale picked up its first emergency patient at the Chowan Hospital.

Dr. Hines - Council Chairman

The Academy of General Dentistry, an organization of family dentists dedicated to continuing dental education, recently announced its appointments for the coming year. Dr. Richard N. Hines, Jr. was selected as Chairman of the Public Information Council. This Council is responsible for the development of materials to inform the public of the latest advancements in dentistry.

In the past year a series of radio public service announcements were distributed to stations throughout the country. In addition articles appeared in such diverse publications as Good Housekeeping and Business Week. In the

coming year Television public service announcements will be developed and a syndicated newspaper column developed. The Academy feels that keeping the public informed is one of its primary responsibilities.

Dr. Hines has been active in the Academy for many years. At the present time in addition to being the Chairman of the Public Information Council, he serves as Regional Vice President of Region V. This region includes the states of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama and Mississippi.

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Correction

Georg Alvia Bunch, Jr., of Edenton has been accepted for admissions to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill instead of Chowan College as originally reported in this paper.

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