

# CHOWAN COUNTY DISTRICT COURT

**FEBRUARY 17 SESSION:** Voluntary dismissal was granted in the case of James Rudolph Allen, charged with driving left of center.

Thomas Jason Biggs, guilty, speeding 50 in a 35 mph school zone, fined \$25 plus court costs.

Voluntary dismissal was granted in the case of Linda Privott Bond, charged with a misdemeanor probation violation.

Voluntary dismissal was granted in the case of James Carroll Brabbe, charged with failure to reduce speed.

Darnell Copeland, guilty, assault with a deadly weapon, sentenced to 75 days suspended with 12 months' supervised probation, fined \$200 plus court costs and jail fee, ordered not to assault, communicate with or be in the presence of Floyd Riddick, serve 12 months' intensive probation, and obey curfew from 7 p.m. to 6 a.m. Credit was given for 12 days served in jail while awaiting trial.

Maria Genice Elkins pleaded not guilty, but was found guilty,

of driving while impaired. Elkins was sentenced to nine months suspended with 36 months' unsupervised probation, ordered to complete an active sentence of seven days, pay court costs and jail fees, obtain substance abuse assessment and comply with recommended treatment, not operate a motor vehicle in NC until licensed by DMV. Elkins pleaded not guilty, and was found not guilty, of having no operator's license.

Mark Owen Frazer, guilty, driving while impaired, sentenced to nine months suspended with 36 months' unsupervised probation, ordered to serve active term of seven days, fined \$300 plus court costs and jail fees, ordered to obtain substance abuse assessment and comply with treatment recommendations, ordered not to operate a motor vehicle in NC until licensed to do so.

Robert Granby, guilty, misdemeanor probation violation, probation revoked and 12 month active sentence im-

posed. Credit given for 42 days served while awaiting trial. Appealed. On a second misdemeanor probation violation, Granby was ordered to serve an active 24 month term with credit given for time served while awaiting trial and was ordered to surrender his driver's license. Work release and participation in the DART program were recommended. Voluntary dismissal was granted on a charge of disorderly conduct.

Lewis J. Gunn, guilty, speeding 70 in a 45 mph zone, fined \$20 plus court costs and ordered not to operate a motor vehicle in NC.

Michael Wayne Hardy, guilty, assault on a female, intoxicated and disruptive behavior, and resisting arrest. Hardy was sentenced to 75 days suspended with 12 months' supervised probation, fined \$100 plus court costs and jail fees, ordered to complete 12 months' intensive probation and 72 hours of community service within 90 days, obey curfew from 5 p.m. until 6 a.m. and

obey all regular conditions of probation.

Voluntary dismissal was granted in the case of Andrew Frank Jones, charged with failure to reduce speed.

Voluntary dismissal was granted in the case of Wayne Sears Leary, charged with using expired registration. Leary received a prayer for judgment continued upon payment of court costs after pleading guilty to speeding 70 in a 55 mph highway work zone.

Voluntary dismissal was granted in the case of Kathryn S. Myers, charged with an inspection violation.

Essie Nowell Norfleet, guilty, permitting the operation of a motor vehicle without insurance, fined \$25 plus court costs. Voluntary dismissal was granted on an inspection violation charge.

Voluntary dismissal was granted in the case of Darlene P. Painter, charged with using fictitious, cancelled or revoked registration.

Mason S. Paramore, guilty, speeding 54 in a 45 mph zone,

prayer for judgment continued upon payment of court costs, and given 20 days to comply.

Alice Privott, guilty, fraudulent disposal of mortgaged property, sentenced to 10 days suspended with 12 months' unsupervised probation, ordered to pay \$380.44 in restitution to Carpet and Appliance Plaza, court costs and \$75 attorney's fee, and pay all sums due by April 30.

Leah Denise Speight, guilty, speeding 64 in a 55 mph zone, fined \$10 plus court costs.

Marie Stanley, guilty, speeding 59 in a 45 mph zone and failure to wear seat belt, fined \$45 plus court costs.

Lucretia A. Washington, guilty, reckless driving, sentenced to 30 days suspended with 12 months' unsupervised probation, fined \$500 plus court costs, and ordered to commit no criminal offense.

Voluntary dismissal was granted in the case of Joseph Anthony Wayno, charged with using expired registration.

John Edward Whidbee, guilty, speeding 64 in a 55 mph

zone, fined \$10 plus court costs, and given 20 days to comply.

Negash White, guilty, improper equipment, fined \$10 plus court costs.

Grace Elizabeth Whitley, guilty, failure to wear seat belt, fined \$10 plus court costs and given 20 days to comply.

Voluntary dismissal was granted in the case of Gerald Glenn Wiggins, charged with failure to burn headlights.

Otis Grant Williams, guilty, speeding 54 in a 35 mph school zone, fined \$10 plus court costs.

Christopher S. Wood, guilty, driving while impaired, sentenced to 60 days suspended with 24 months' unsupervised probation, fined \$125 plus court costs, ordered to complete 48 hours of community service within 60 days, and not operate a motor vehicle until licensed by DMV. Appealed.

Wood also pleaded guilty to a charge of no operator's license. He was sentenced to 30 days suspended with 12 months' unsupervised probation, fined \$50 plus court costs.

## Tarheel residents can view last solar eclipse of millennium Thursday

Next solar eclipse will not occur until Dec. 25, in the year 2000

Frequent rain has made the sun a rare sight in North Carolina skies this winter, but on Feb. 26, the sun — or at least part of it — will be missing from view for a different reason: The last solar eclipse visible from North Carolina this millennium will occur that day shortly after noon.

"As eclipses go, this may not

be one of the most dramatic, since only a quarter of the sun will be blocked from view," said Robert A. Egler, a positional astronomer at North Carolina State University. "Still, it's a sight you won't want to miss." He offers these tips to aid eclipse viewing:

- Weather permitting, the eclipse should begin to be visible at 12:12 p.m. for sky watchers in the Raleigh area, and will end at 2:07 p.m. Starting and ending times from other

spots around the state will vary slightly. The eclipse will reach its fullest point at about 1:10 p.m., when about 27 percent of the sun will be covered.

- Solar eclipses are caused when the sun and moon line up directly, in relation to the Earth. When this alignment occurs, the moon blocks our view of the sun and casts a small shadow that moves in a curved path along the Earth's surface. People near the center of the shadow see a total eclipse;

people near the shadow's edge see a partial eclipse; people outside the shadow see nothing. On Feb. 26, for instance, people in the south Caribbean will see a total eclipse.

- Solar eclipses occur only when the moon is in its new phase.

- Viewing a solar eclipse directly with bare eyes or through unfiltered binoculars or telescopes can cause permanent damage to your eyes. Instead, take two pieces of

cardboard, poke a small hole through one piece and hold the other below it, allowing the sun's image to be projected through the hole onto the lower piece. Or, if you prefer, many science-supply stores now sell filters that let you view the eclipse directly.

- The next partial solar eclipse visible from North Carolina will take place on Dec. 25, 2000. "Having a solar eclipse occur on the first Christmas of the new millennium is a delightful coincidence," Egler said. "It's the perfect gift for astronomy buffs."

### Hometown HEROES

**TIMOTHY J. LEARY**  
Navy Fireman Timothy J. Leary, son of Barbara A. Leary of Edenton, is currently on a six-month deployment to the Arabian Gulf aboard the aircraft carrier USS George Washington.

Leary's ship recently set a Commander, Naval Air Force U.S. Atlantic Fleet record for an aircraft carrier by scoring 94 on a maintenance and material management inspection. The carrier also received the Silver Anchor award for its exceptional command retention. This is the fifth time in the last seven years the carrier has been formally recognized for retention efforts.

**THEODORE J. WRIGHT**  
Marine Cpl. Theodore J. Wright, a 1993 graduate of John A. Holmes High School, has arrived in the Arabian Gulf with the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit.

Wright is one of more than 2,000 Marines in the MEU who will be called on to participate in any contingency operations which may be ordered.

Wright's unit is an expeditionary intervention force with the ability to rapidly organize for combat operations in virtually any environment.

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