



Dr. William E. Thornton

Military Pledges Units For Event

Dr. William Edgar Thornton, astronaut with NASA is scheduled to attend the Memorial Day Air Festival sponsored by the Edenton Jaycees with the support of other Jaycees in Northeastern North Carolina.

Also scheduled to attend are Glenn Turner, multi-millionaire behind Koskot Interplanetary, U. S. Air Force Thunderbirds, and U. S. Army Golden Knights.

The appearances of the military were made possible through the efforts of Rep. Walter B. Jones, stated E. C. Toppin, chairman of the festival.

Thornton is a native of Goldsboro and attended the University of North Carolina where he received a BS degree in physics and a doctorate in medicine.

Following his graduation from the university and having completed Air Force ROTC training, he served as officer-in-charge of the Instrumentation Lab at the Flight Test Air Proving Ground and later became a consultant to Air Proving Ground Command.

Dr. Thornton was selected as a scientist-astronaut by NASA in August, 1967. Having completed the initial academic training and a course in flight training at Reese Air Force Base, Texas, he is currently involved in training for future manned space flights.

Hospital Project

The first phase of a renovation program at the extended care unit of Chowan Hospital is being advertised for negotiated proposals. Proposals will be received until March 2 on work to meet the requirements of N. C. Medical Care Commission.

Thomas M. Surratt, hospital administrator, said the building committee will review the proposals and award a contract as soon as possible.

Some additions, including a connecting passageway between Unit B (old hospital) and Unit C (old convalescent home), are included along with extensive renovations.

Surratt said a new license from Medical Care Commission is necessary since use of the two structures is being changed. He said only local money will be used to make the changes.

The passageway will necessitate rerouting of the traffic pattern around the two units. It will, however, allow for a co-operative dining area for patients being confined to the units.

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Prepare For Relocation — Edenton Housing Authority is now developing a mobile home park on Ryders Lane for the temporary relocation of seven families who now live on sites designated for low-rent public housing. Jack Habit, right, authority chairman, and R. N. Hines, director of public works, are shown at the site as work progresses on installing septic tanks and water lines. Edenton Septic Tank Company is installing the tanks and the Town of Edenton is doing other site development work. The authority hopes to advertise for bids on the 100-unit, \$1.9-million project within 30 days.



Public Parade

Two For The C

"Fifteen per cent of all adults have hypertension."

It is considered a serious public health problem and the N. C. Regional Medical Program has funded a project to learn more about the cause of the disorder.

Dr. James W. Woods, Jr., head of the project, says only about 10 per cent of all hypertensive cases have an identifiable cause. One cause along the Public Parade and in 24 other Tar Heel counties is the State Supreme Court.

The Department of Revenue can aid the local ills by sending along a check for local option sales tax already in the till. This General Assembly can insure complete recovery by enacting a local option sales tax that will be constitutional.

What It Was All About

The overlay on the front page of last week's edition has caused much conversation along the Public Parade. It showed the seal of the U. S. S. EDENTON and was our way of contributing to commissioning of the ship.

We were unable to print it in the gold and blue of the original but will agree it was quite handsome in traditional newspaper black. But what does it all mean?

The ship's seal was selected by the nucleus crew as it embodies aspects of the Service Force, lineage and nautical expression of her designed tasks. Symbolism portrayed is as follows:

Cordage Garland (Gold)—a symbol of seamanship; Blue stars—each star represents a commissioned vessel of the U. S. Navy named EDENTON; Chain—a symbol of strength and close association with heavy salvage; Trident—a symbol of the Service Force; Sun, Sea—from the crest of the borough of Lowestoft, England (where EDENTON was constructed).

As Lowestoft is located at the easternmost point of England near the Prime Meridian, the sun is first seen here as it rises from the sea commencing each new day. The rising sun from the sea is used to symbolize the beginning of a new class ship and USS EDENTON'S origin, and the Figure One—the hull number of the ship.

Now you know!

Study Is Welcomed

Chowan County commissioners have lost little time in coming to grips with problems in the local county government. Taxpayers along the Public Parade will be glad to learn that the initial study session on Tuesday night was considered "fruitful" and further meetings are planned.

County government is big business these days. And it is getting bigger. The days are gone when the county's business could be operated on a scratch pad around a wood stove by one-galun politicians.

The county commissioners have grown to realize if they are to maintain a sensible, practical and payable property tax rate they must build into local government every possible efficiency. They

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County Board Begins Study

Chowan County commissioners Tuesday night launched an extensive study of the local county government. Chairman J. Clarence Leary had earlier appointed the commissioners as a committee to carry out the study.

The meeting was described by one commissioner as being quite fruitful.

At a meeting late last year, Commissioner C. A. Phillips proposed the study in an effort to create a more efficient county government.

It is understood that the commissioners will seek the advice of consultants in various fields as they conduct future meetings.

At the regular monthly meeting of the board Monday, commissioners appointed L. F. Amburn, Jr., as the county's director to the Albemarle Area Development Association. He replaced John A. Mitchener, Jr., who resigned recently.

Pete Thompson, county extension chairman, and Commissioner Phillips pointed out the importance of the position. "This position is probably the most important now than any time in the 10-year history of AADA," Thompson stated as he pointed out programs underway.

Amburn, president and general manager of The Chowan Herald, is also executive director of Edenton Housing Authority. Commissioner Phillips said housing is of vital importance in the area and Amburn's experience should be valuable to the board.

Mrs. Elizabeth H. Goodwin, tax collector, reported 64 per cent of the 1970 levy collected. She said this is somewhat less than 1969 but January was a good month.

Commissioner N. J. George pointed out that 108 per cent of the 1969 tax was collected and said those responsible should be commended.

Robert Hendrix, director of the Department of Social Services, discussed "extremely high" hospital bills for charity patients.

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Tour Schools — Edenton-Chowan Board of Education Monday toured all schools in the unit to inspect the facilities. Shown at Swain Elementary School in Edenton are, left to right: Morris Small, Thomas Paul Griffin, Chairman Eugene Jordan, Supt. Bill Britt, Mrs. L. F. Amburn, Jr., and Carlton Goodwin. Not pictured are Drs. J. H. Horton and Edward G. Bond.

School Lunch Program In Difficulty

By PATRICIA M. ARNOLD

The Edenton-Chowan Schools' lunchroom program is still in big trouble under the new program formulated by the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture (USDA).

Supt. F. L. (Bill) Britt explained the program to the Edenton-Chowan Board of Education members Monday afternoon during their regular monthly meeting.

VA Benefits High

The Veterans Administration has announced that estimated expenditures for North Carolina for Fiscal 1970 totaled \$211,021,783 of which \$275,505 was for Chowan County.

W. R. Phillips, director of the N. C. VA Regional Office, said that the bulk of the money was \$131,721,221 in disability compensation and pension payments for North Carolina veterans — \$216,023 for Chowan County veterans.

Other VA expenditures in Chowan County for Fiscal 1970, Phillips said, were for GI Bill and other VA education programs, \$33,187; and insurance and indemnities, \$26,295.

The program runs into trouble with the elementary school children who pay 30 cents for their lunches. USDA will reimburse the school six cents on each paid plate lunch served. The price of the meal is 41 cents per plate. This leaves a deficit of five cents per plate, or a total of \$12,095 for a year.

Free and reduced lunches are completely reimbursed by USDA.

Supt. Britt stated, "We cannot give a quality program for 36 cents per plate, but can we afford to raise the price of lunches another nickel?"

He also stated he was attending a meeting in Raleigh in the very near future to ask for some type of support. He commented that if he could not get any relief in Raleigh that he would have to come before the board and seek an answer to the problem from them.

Morris Small, Thomas Paul Griffin and Supt. Britt toured the schools after hearing the fire report from Fire Chief Luther Parks. They said the house-keeping portion of the fire hazards had been corrected. They also stated that the teachers' lounges had been fixed in an appropriate way so not to be a hazard. They remarked that there are still

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Low Bidder Listed

RALEIGH—Dickerson, Inc., of Monroe, has been declared low bidder on 15.1 miles of sand, asphalt base and surface for resurfacing US 158 between Kitty Hawk and US 64.

The bid was \$375,070 and the final completion date is July 1.

Dickerson has area headquarters at Edenton Municipal Airport.

Horner Convicts Three In Incident

Judge Fentress Horner of Elizabeth City placed heavy fines on two of three defendants convicted Tuesday in Chowan County District Court of obstructing officers attempting to make an arrest at John A. Holmes High School.

Two of the defendants are Holmes seniors.

Joseph Leary was sentenced to 90 days, suspended for three years upon payment of \$100 fine and costs; William Henry Leary, 30 days, suspended for two years upon payment of costs; and Lessel Jackson, 60 days, suspended for three years upon payment of \$50 fine and costs.

Joseph Leary and Jackson are students

at the school.

Edenton Patrolman F. M. Parker and Ray Norman testified about the three defendants interfering Friday night as they attempted to make an arrest of a public drunk at a basketball game on the Holmes campus.

The witnesses told the court they repeatedly warned the trio not to interfere or they would be arrested. Joseph Leary was arrested at the scene outside the gymnasium and Jackson and W. H. Leary were arrested Monday.

Judge Horner described the incident as an "explosive situation" and said the defendants should have taken the officer's warning and not interfered in the arrest.

Jaycees Will Host Rotocraft Meeting

In a joint statement between the Edenton Jaycees and the Popular Rotocraft Association (PRA), of Raleigh, it was announced today that the Ninth Annual International PRA Convention would be held in Edenton.

Plans are for the convention to be held on June 26-28 with headquarters at Edenton Municipal Airport. Last year's convention was held in Hemet, Calif., and was attended by hundreds of people, including CBS-TV newsmen and many other newspaper and magazine writers.

The PRA is an organization of over 12,000 members world-wide who are enthusiasts of the gyrocopter, a home-built rotocraft which can be bought in kits for home assembly. One of the most popular is the Benson Gyrocopter headquartered in Raleigh.

About 75 of these rotocraft are expected to be brought to Edenton where they will be judged for workmanship, maintenance and in many other areas of competition. Competition will take place on June 27 with an awards banquet to be held that night.

In making their decision to come to Edenton, Dr. Igor B. Benson, president of the International PRA said that "Edenton has the ideal facilities to host such a convention as this and that he and his organization is looking forward to working closely with the fine people of the Edenton area."

Wallace Evans, speaking for the Edenton Jaycees said that "the Edenton club is happy to be hosting this PRA convention. We are pleased that they have selected Edenton above all the other towns in the United States. This will probably be the largest convention ever held in the Edenton area and it will be a rather new experience for the Edenton Jaycees. However, it is evidence that the Jaycees are interested in promoting Edenton by bringing new faces and economy into our area by taking on a new project of this scope."

Jaycee President Robert Dail said that Carlton Layton has been selected to be general chairman for the event.