



W. J. P. Earnhardt, Jr.

## Earnhardt Lauded For Performance

Edenton attorney Wiley J. P. Earnhardt, Jr., has been awarded a Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Certificate of Merit for outstanding performance in the Navy's sea power program. The presentation was made by R-Admiral J. R. Rohleder, Chief of Naval Reserve Representative, at the Naval Air Reserve Unit (NARU), Naval Air Station (NAS), Norfolk, Va., Sunday.

It is the third award Earnhardt has received for participation in the nationwide program. Earnhardt, a captain in the U. S. Naval Reserve, heads up the Sea Power-Public Affairs Department of Ready Reserve Unit 5206 at NARU Norfolk.

For the past two years he has directed the CNO-NARU Norfolk Sea Power Presentation Team. Under his leadership, the NARU team became the first command team in the nation to be awarded the CNO's Golden Centurion Award for delivering over 1,000 presentations to civilian and military audiences on the economic and strategic value of naval strength at sea. Earnhardt, a charter member of the command team, is also a member of the Naval Reserve's Sea Power Media Visibility team.

In December, 1973, he was awarded the Navy Commendation Medal for his contributions to this program.

Earnhardt affiliated with the Naval Reserve program in 1963 after serving three years' active duty as gunnery and anti-submarine warfare officer aboard the USS MOALE (DD 693) homeported in Norfolk. He was promoted to the rank of captain in July, 1974.

## Third Judge Is Sought

A third District Court judge for the big First Judicial District is being sought by the District Bar Association. Attempts will be made to have the General Assembly in May approve such a post.

Saying there "is just too much work in these seven counties for two judges," the association members voted unanimously to request the additional judge.

Judges Grafton G. Beaman and John Chaffin preside over both civil and criminal courts in Chowan, Gates, Perquimans, Pasquotank, Camden, Currituck and Dare counties.

It has been noted that there is a considerable lag time in civil matters because the jurists must hear juvenile cases as well as those involving mental patients.

## Burley Nathan Niblett

It was about a year ago that Triangle Motel closed up shop. Burley Niblett wanted a change of pace. It didn't last long. He died suddenly Sunday at Chowan Hospital.

Death has taken, at the age of 61, a solid citizen from along the Public Parade. While he didn't make much fuss, Burley Niblett made a considerable contribution to his community.

As owner-operator of Triangle Motel he often times was Edenton's first contact with visitors. And he left them with an impression which kept them coming back.

He was a man dedicated to the proposition that courtesy and kindness is something to share, not hoard; that good samaritanism is not old fashioned; and that treasures can be measured in terms other than monetary.

Burley Nathan Niblett was a devoted husband, a dedicated churchman, a faithful Mason, Scottish Riter and Shriner. The Golden Rule was a creed rather than a bother.

We are fortunate to have known him and be considered his friend. He made it easy. Now it will be hard to replace him in the advocacy role he played so well.

## Good Sign

Elsewhere in today's paper is information supplied by Sheriff Troy Toppin concerning activities of his department during the past week. He points out several instances where "concerned citizens" played an important role in arrests for three different crimes.

Law enforcement along the Public Parade and throughout the country will be strengthened and crime curbed if the citizenry accepted more responsibilities. Officers alone cannot halt lawlessness. In many, many cases they are just as effective as the citizens want them to be.

Good information can contribute as much to good law enforcement as all the experience and training a man can have.

The fact that officers hereabouts recognize the importance of citizen input in law enforcement is healthy. It is also a good sign to see "concerned citizens" taking the time and going to the trouble to confide in Sheriff Toppin and his colleagues.

The events of last week illustrate a mutual trust between those charged with the responsibility of enforcing the laws and those whose responsibility it is to abide by the laws. We can use more of the same.

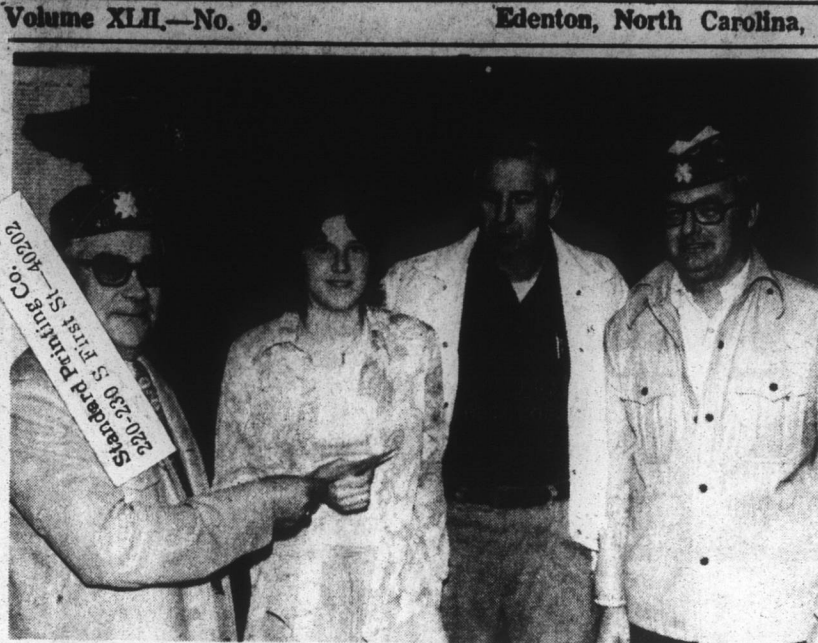
## Tire Center Garden

William W. Reid, area horticultural specialist over in Plymouth, has sent along a copy of "Drip Irrigation News" from Reed Irrigation Systems, which carries a story about a new discovery for use of old tires in backyard vegetables production.

Now that people along the Public Parade are preparing for their gardens, those with not so much backyard will find the article helpful. Here it is:

A unique method of maximizing backyard vegetable production in a minimum of space has been developed by Charlie

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WINNING ORATION—Melanie Morris of Chowan Academy, second from left above, is presented her certification as district winner of the American Legion High School Oratorical Contest by Bill Perry, commander of Post 40. At her right is Bill Phillips, oratorical contest chairman, and E. C. Toppin, district commander.

## Miss Morris Wins In District

Melanie Morris, a Chowan Academy freshman and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Morris, 214 Market Street, Hertford, was named district winner of the American Legion sponsored High School Oratorical Contest, after having been chosen first place winner in county competition. The local event was held by Post 40.

She will participate in the Division contest at East Carolina University on March 3; the winner of which will compete in the Department finals.

Miss Morris is active in school and extra curricular activities. She served as Chowan Academy's representative to the Virginian Pilot-Ledger Star Spelling Bee, and was state winner in the N. C. Junior Historical Society Literary Category. She is a member of the academy basketball team, a varsity cheerleader, member of the Rockahock Junior Historical Society, and a member of the Chowan Academy Bicentennial Committee.

Melanie is a member of Hertford United Methodist Church.

## BPW Honors Mrs. Thorud

Mrs. Joseph M. Thorud is the Woman of The Year in Edenton, as judged by the Business and Professional Women's Club. She was honored at the club's annual Bosses' Night Banquet Thursday at Mrs. Boswell's Restaurant.

Following an inspirational speech by Mrs. Anne Asbell, a member of the club, the coveted award was presented to Mrs. Thorud by Mrs. Julia Hassell. She described the recipient as an "absolute person" who is devoted to her church, her home and her community.

She recognized Mrs. Thorud for many accomplishments and pointed out that she is executive secretary of Chowan County Board of Elections, past president of Edenton Woman's Club, has served on the Edenton Recreation Committee, is a member of Edenton Little Theater and Albemarle Choral Society.

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## Mr. Niblett, 61, Buried Tuesday

Funeral services were held here Tuesday afternoon for Burley Nathan Niblett, 933 North Broad Street.

The services were held at Edenton Baptist Church with Rev. Robert E. Gray officiating. Burial was in Beaver Hill Cemetery.

Mr. Niblett, 61, died suddenly Sunday in Chowan Hospital.

He was the former owner and operator of Triangle Motel, and was the widower of Goldie Layton Niblett.

A native of Pocomoke City, Md., Mr. Niblett was the son of Mrs. Bessie P. Niblett. In addition to his mother, surviving are two sisters: Mrs. Norma N. Knight of Pocomoke City, Md.; and Mrs. Mildred Knock of Berlin, Md.

He was a member of Edenton Baptist Church, Unanimity Lodge No. 7, Scottish Rite Bodies and Sudan Temple.

Pallbearers were: Ricky Manning, Jimmy Manning, Hermit Layton, Jr., Fielding Tanner, Don Williams and William D. Stallings.

Williford-Barham Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.



Burley N. Niblett

## Civil Court Set

A civil term of Chowan County District Court has been scheduled to convene at 10 A.M. March 8 with Judge Grafton G. Beaman presiding.

Eight non-jury matters have been scheduled for the first day of the session, including six divorces.

Two jury cases, one involving a breach of warranty and one of negligence in an automobile accident, are set for March 9. Those who have been notified to serve on the District Court jury are instructed to report on March 9.

## World Day Of Prayer To Be Observed

World Day of Prayer will be celebrated on March 5 by Church Women United who will join in a chain of prayer with millions of people in 169 countries. The world wide service is sponsored by the International Committee for World Day of Prayer which has appointed Church Women United as the official sponsor of the Celebration in this country.

Here in Edenton, Church Women United invite all to join

# Officers Seize Pound Of Pot

Paul Allison Umphlett, 22, of Hobbsville, was arrested Sunday morning at his home and charged with felony possession of controlled substance. He was later released under \$10,000 bond.

Umphlett made his first appearance in Chowan County District Court Tuesday morning and Judge Grafton Beaman continued the bond set by the magistrate.

Sheriff Troy Toppin, Deputy Joseph Byrum, and SBI Agent Bill Godley went to the Umphlett home Sunday morning, armed with a search warrant. The search uncovered nearly one pound of marijuana and other items which were believed to be used to prepare the substance for sale.

There was not testimony given at the first appearance. A probable cause hearing in the case was set for March 23 at the request of the defense attorney who will be out of the area for several weeks.

Also on the docket in the weekly session of court was William Herman Felton, charged with public drunkenness and malicious damage to property. Felton, according to Patrolman Warren Cramm, went to Edenton Police station Monday night and requested to be placed in jail.

"We told him there were no charges against him," the officer told Judge Beaman, Felton then went just outside the police headquarters, picked up a piece of

## Hardin-Lane Pass Exam

KANSAS CITY, Mo.—Dr. Robert Earl Lane and Dr. Richard Hardin have been named diplomates of the American Board of Family Practice (ABFP) as a result of passing a certification examination offered by the ABFP. They are now certified in the specialty of family practice.

The intensive two-day written examination taken by Drs. Lane and Hardin is designed to prove their ability in the areas of internal medicine, surgery, obstetrics, gynecology, pediatrics, psychiatry and community medicine.

To qualify for the examination a physician must have completed either a three-year family practice residency or have been in family practice a minimum of six years and successfully completed 300 hours of continuing medical education approved by the American Academy of Family Physicians.

ABFP diplomates also must continue to show proof of competency in the field of comprehensive, continuing care of the family by getting recertified every six years. No other medical specialty requires diplomates to prove competence on a continuing basis.

The latest group of diplomates brings the total number to more than 8,700. Most are members of the Academy of Family Physicians, the national association of family doctors. In addition to being the only national M.D. group to require members to take continuing medical study, the Academy was chiefly responsible for securing specialty status for family practice.

pipe and threw it through a plate glass window of an adjacent building.

"We then obliged him," Patrolman Cramm said.

It was also noted that the same defendant pulled the same trick on August 31 and only recently returned from serving a six-month prison sentence.

Judge Beaman sentenced Felton to six months for malicious damage to property and gave him 20 days for public drunkenness to run concurrently with the longer term.

In other cases called by Asst. Dist. Atty. Chris Beam, the following action was taken:

Grady Simmons, worthless check, 90 days, suspended upon payment of \$50 fine and costs and make restitution. Notice of appeal entered.

Julius Jon Harris, compliance, Continued on Page 4

## Net Collections

Net quarterly collections in Chowan County from the 1 per cent local option sales tax amounted to \$64,714.58, according to a report issued this week by the State Department of Revenue.

The county's share of collection costs was \$551.37, so \$64,163.21 was distributed to Chowan County and the Town of Edenton. Distributed on the ad valorem basis, the county received \$47,315.51 while the town's share was \$16,847.70 for the quarter ending December 31, 1975.

Net distribution of proceeds in other Albemarle Area counties were:

Camden, \$8,513.82; Currituck, \$32,904.72; Dare, \$118,888.79; Gates, \$18,506.81; Pasquotank, \$206,150.32; Perquimans, \$28,703.97; Tyrrell, \$12,750.06; and Washington, \$74,987.89.

Quarterly proceeds in the state were in excess of \$31.6-million.

Net collections during January in Chowan County amounted to \$26,512.86 and totaled more than \$13-million throughout the state.

The collections in eight other Albemarle Area counties where the tax is levied included:

Camden, \$3,287.45; Currituck, \$11,105.56; Dare, \$23,572.23; Gates, \$7,653.97; Pasquotank, \$92,300.40; Perquimans, \$12,603.43; Tyrrell, \$4,866.87; and Washington, \$31,837.68.

## To Preside

Judge Walter Cohoon of Elizabeth City will preside over a term of Chowan County Superior Court here next week at which time criminal cases will be tried.

D. Keith Teague, assistant district attorney who also resides in Elizabeth City, will prosecute the docket.

Teague has released the criminal calendar which consists of 67 cases. There are no capital cases on the calendar.

Scheduled for trial are a number of cases involving escape from the Chowan County jail. Some of the same defendants are charged with breaking and entering and larceny and one has been charged with assault on an officer during the escape.

Court will convene at 10 A.M. on Monday with cases docketed for trial through Wednesday.



HONORED BY BPW—Mrs. Joseph M. Thorud holds the plaque presented her last Thursday night after she was chosen Woman of The Year by Edenton Business and Professional Women's Club. Making the presentation is Mrs. Julia Hassell. Seated at left is Mrs. Anne Asbell, keynote speaker. Mrs. Gayle Gieseke is shown at right with Miss Edna Snell during a light moment following the banquet at Mrs. Boswell's Restaurant.

