



Miss Pat Perry

Miss Perry In Pageant

Miss Patricia Louise Perry, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Carlton N. Perry, Route 3, Edenton, will compete in the N. C. Pork Queen Pageant to be held at the Royal Villa Motor Inn in Raleigh on January 12.

Miss Perry is a student at N. C. State University.

The new queen will represent the pork industry in many appearances throughout the state next year. She will receive \$200 along with an expense paid trip to compete in the national finals. The second place winner will receive \$100 and the third place winner will receive \$50.

Miss Perry will be judged on beauty, personality, poise and an oral presentation using a subject relative to the pork industry.

The Pork Queen Contest is sponsored by the N. C. Pork Producers Association.

Bridge Fails

For a brief period of time Tuesday night the Albemarle Sound Bridge and the Chowan River Bridge were closed to highway traffic, both being locked in the open position.

An electrical failure was responsible for the 20-minute breakdown at the Chowan River while on the Albemarle Sound a barge struck the bridge span as it went through.

Emergency repairs were made to the sound bridge in order that it might be closed to allow highway traffic to move. A spokesman said at mid-morning Wednesday the bridge remained closed to water traffic.

There was no estimate as to how long it would be closed to water traffic. Efforts to reach the bridge maintenance division of the State Department of Transportation in Elizabeth City were unsuccessful. Also, The Chowan Herald was unable to locate W. E. Spruill who was the tender at the bridge when the mishap occurred.

Progress Noted

The Town of Edenton continues to make progress on a Community Development Program application. A second public hearing was held at 7:30 P.M. last Tuesday with Town Council responding a short time later by adopting two required resolutions.

Williams & Works of Sanford have been retained by the town to develop the application, a major of which will deal with housing.

Mayor Pro Tem James C. Dail conducted a major portion of the regular meeting in the absence of Mayor Roy L. Harrell.

Council denied a zoning change as requested by Ellis Lawrence on West Albemarle Street and sent on to the proper board a request by Edenton United Methodist Church for a change in zoning and a special use permit on Virginia Road where construction of a new church is being planned.

W. B. Gardner, town administrator was authorized to file the proper application for designation of Edenton as a National Recreation Trail.

Gardner also reported that 4,000 feet of sidewalks had been laid during November; that work is underway on some drainage problems; that progress is being made by the N. C. State University School of Design on proposed new store fronts and tree inventory.

Mayor Harrell arrived near the end of the session and announced

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Public Parade

Christ Is Born!

Hard as one may try it is impossible to improve on the Bethlehem scene as described in the Gospel according to St. Luke:

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed.

(And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.)

And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city.

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:)

To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

And so it, was that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.

And she brought forth her first-born son and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there in the same country shepherds abiding in the field keeping watch over their flock by night.

And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them, Fear Not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

And this shall be a sign unto you: Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

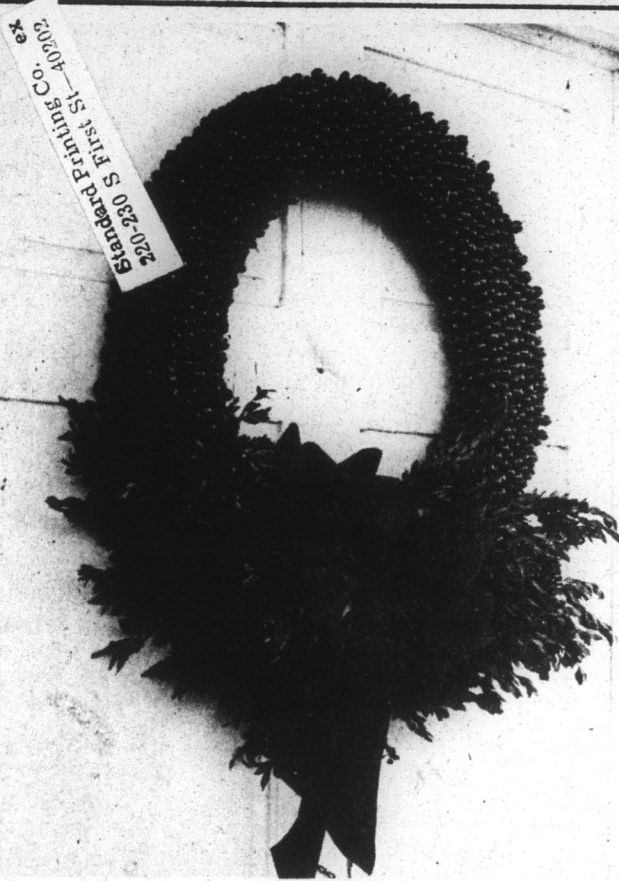
And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven the shepherds said one to another. Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is to come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.

And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child.

And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.

But Mary kept all these things and pondered them in her heart.



HAPPY HOLIDAY—Edenton and Chowan County is all outfitted for the holiday season. Among the attractive decorations which are found in the area is this wreath of natural greenery on the door of the Barker House Visitor Center-Museum. Everywhere you turn, though, there is something which tends to say: "Happy holiday".

Holiday Schedules Listed

A number of different holiday schedules will be observed here for Christmas with the most popular one being Saturday and Monday.

The Merchants Committee of Edenton Chamber of Commerce recommends that stores and businesses be closed for a two-day holiday—Saturday and Monday. Many of the stores will close early Friday.

County employees will observe the Saturday and Monday schedule. However, the Clerk of Court's office will be closed Thursday and Friday, but will be open Monday following Christmas.

James M. Bond, postmaster, said the post office will close on noon Friday and reopen Monday morning at the regular time.

Other state and federal offices will be closed Friday and Monday, including the Chowan County

ASCS.

Town offices will also be closed Friday and Monday and W. B. Gardner, town administrator, has advertised a special holiday trash collection. There will be no collection on the two days designed as holidays.

Trash collection will be on the West Side Thursday of this week and Wednesday of next week; and on the East Side Tuesday and Thursday of next week.

Historic Edenton will be closed Thursday through Monday.

State offices will be closed December 23 and 24 to observe Christmas holidays and manager, Mrs. Alice W. Bond of the local Employment Security Com-

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Water System Supported

Gates County voters have followed citizens in Perquimans and Chowan counties in overwhelmingly approving bonds to support a county-wide water system. On December 14 they voted 1,059 to 221 to open the door to a \$2-million loan from Farmers Home Administration.

The Chowan system, which is now in operation, was also supported heavily by FmHA. Although local voters approved a \$1.9-million bond referendum no county tax money is expected to be used to retire the bonds which were purchased by FmHA.

In Perquimans County some

EDA Funds New Offices

The Chowan Herald learned shortly after noon Wednesday that the proposed Perquimans County Office Complex, designed specifically to relocate the Albemarle Regional Planning & Development Commission headquarters from Edenton, is among the federal public works projects being funded in the 10-county Albemarle Area.

A source in the U. S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration office in Atlanta, Ga., confirmed that the project was among those being published in the Federal Register dated Thursday. The funding level is \$550,000.

The Chowan County Courthouse-Jail project is not on the list.

Hyde County reportedly will receive \$2-million for an airport; Washington County will get \$546,500; and the Town of Columbia will get \$500,000.

The 100 per cent grants are funded by EDA under the Local Public Works Capital Development and Investment Act of 1976. ARPDC functions as an EDA designated district.

Efforts to reach Robert Whitley, ARPDC executive director, prior to press time were not successful.

The application for funding was originally made by ARPDC. However, it later was designated as a project for Perquimans County. At a recent ARPDC Executive Committee meeting a resolution was adopted in support of the application and it was stated that if the Perquimans application was approved then ARPDC would become the major tenant in the building.

Sales-Use Tax Collections Net \$218,526

Net collections from the 1 per cent local option sales and use tax in the 10 Albemarle Area counties for November amounted to \$218,526 with \$23,028.36 coming from Chowan County.

Secretary J. Howard Coble of the State Department of Revenue, reports that net collections throughout the state exceeded \$11.7-million.

Collections in other area counties included:

Camden, \$4,006.81; Currituck, \$13,109.80; Dare, \$51,417.56; Gates, \$7,845.04; Pasquotank, \$77,094.79; Perquimans, \$11,162.73; Tyrrell, \$3,966.34; and Washington, \$26,894.77.

N.C. Schools Spend More

Expenditures from the State Public School Fund totaled over \$736-million during the 1975-76 school year, according to figures compiled for the annual audit of the State Public School Fund. The total represented a 2.7 per cent increase in spending over the 1974-75 school year.

Total expenditures from the fund in Edenton-Chowan Schools were \$1,670,214.84.

In the 10 Albemarle Area counties expenditures from the fund exceeded \$16-million. They were:

Camden, \$1,016,588.70; Currituck, \$1,481,633.02; Dare, \$1,262,826.03; Gates, \$1,501,513.66; Hyde, \$934,992.14; Elizabeth City-Pasquotank, \$3,727,383.36; Perquimans, \$1,331,954.79; Tyrrell, \$696,570.22; and Washington, \$2,429,137.94.

The largest expenditure from the State Public School fund, a total of \$523,407,433, paid for instructional services, which include salaries of teachers, principals, supervisors and clerical assistants in schools as well as instructional supplies. The local schools spend \$1,187,142.08 from the fund for instructional services.

An additional \$88,811,561 was spent for employee benefits, the second largest expenditure from the fund. In Edenton-Chowan Schools \$204,245.44 was spent for hospitalization insurance, social security, retirement and pupil

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Study Findings

N. C. State University consultants conclude that the 375,000-acre First Colony Farms could simultaneously sustain multiple uses.

The NCSU group investigated opportunities and limitations for broad uses of the vast tract under a grant from the Research Triangle Institute.

The study, a master land use plan for First Colony Farms, was based on the character of the land as well as environmental considerations. It showed that the tract could accommodate such divergent uses as farming and related activities, mining, and industrial and recreational uses.

Present uses of the tract are agricultural and timbering—with production of corn and soybeans and a hog operation.

Town Council Receives Split Ruling On Rezoning

The N. C. Court of Appeals last week handed down a decision which affirmed action by Edenton Town Council in rezoning a tract on the north side of Highway 32, at the intersection of U.S. 17 by-pass, while reversing action on the south side where a shopping center has been proposed.

Judge Elbert Peel, Jr., ruled in April, 1976, in favor of the defendant town in both matters challenged by N. J. George and others, in Chowan County Superior Court.

The property in question was purchased January 2, 1975, by Bernard P. Burroughs and W. J. P. Earnhardt, Jr., from Mrs. Rosa F. Ward. At the time of conveyance there was pending before the council a rezoning application to amend the zoning ordinance to change to south tract.

The higher court held that Judge Peel was correct in his determination that it was legal for the town to change the zoning designation of a parcel of property when enacting a Zoning Ordinance update. At the same time, the court found a technical error with regards to the other parcel since the town did not comply with the legal requirement of notice prior to action.

The question of rezoning from R-20 to CH (highway commercial) of the north tract centered around whether or not council took two actions. The court wrote:

"The adoption of the zoning map including the rezoning of the north tract was a part of the adoption of the new comprehensive Zoning Ordinance."

The court also found that the minutes of a governing board "cannot be impeached or contradicted in a collateral attack, nor is parol evidence admissible to explain, extend or supplement the record of proceedings of a municipal council." During the non-jury trial the court had listened to "parol evidence" which showed the minutes to be incorrect, over the objection of the defendant town.

With regards to the north tract, the court found the town council "properly exercised its legislative authority, mindful of the fundamental concepts of zoning and in conjunction with the advice of the Planning Board."

Later the decision stated: "The entire process of enacting the new Zoning Ordinance including its reclassification of the north tract reflects a careful, deliberate course taken by the Town Council to provide for the planning and development needs of the town..."

With regards to the south tract, the court found that notice was published on August 14, 1975, and the public hearing was held on August 26, 1975, three days shy of the 15-day requirement in the ordinance.

"Timeliness of notice in zoning matters is a mandatory requirement that is strictly construed even where prejudice to the property owner is not shown," it was stated in the decision.

Chief Judge Walter E. Brock wrote the opinion with Judges Frank Parker and R. A. Hedrick concurring.

The case was argued before the appeals court on November 17