



## Troy Toppin, 1920-85

When it came to the even-handed enforcement of the law, respect for the rights of all in a community of individuals and a sense of duty to God and country, there was no topping Sheriff Troy Toppin.

When death removed him from office on October 8, it did what the voters of Chowan County had shown little desire to do; and it set the stage for one of the largest funeral services in the long history of this county.

Coming into office by appointment in 1969 to succeed the late Sheriff Earl Goodwin, he won the next four elections without opposition except for one right-in effort. Prior to his appointment, he had been a deputy under Sheriff Goodwin. Before that, he had served as County ABC Officer since 1955.

During his tenure as sheriff, the quality of law enforcement was greatly upgraded and equipment and methods modernized; but he is remembered primarily not for all that, but for the example he set and the quality of the life he led in this community, his work with young people and his desire generally to keep people out of trouble. Simply put, Sheriff Toppin was just a good man.

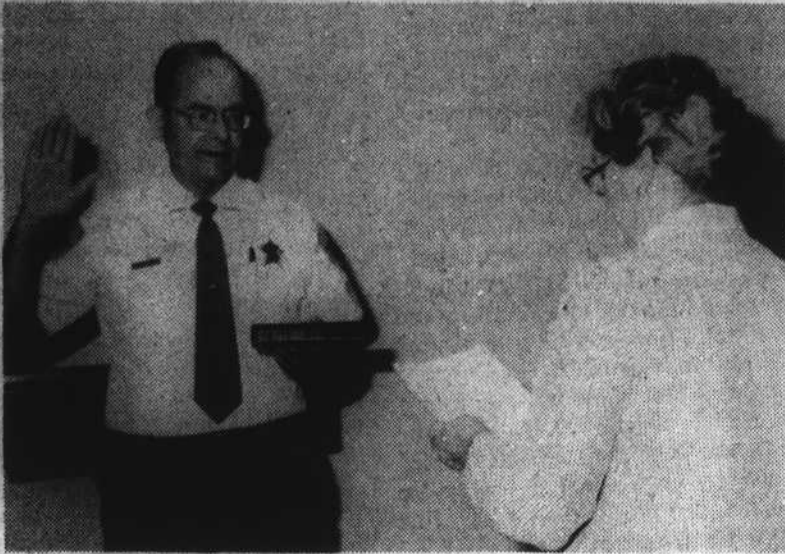
He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II and, returning from the service, he became a farmer and merchant in the northern area of the county, where he was born February 17, 1920. But, in addition to his duties as the county's top law enforcement officer, Sheriff Toppin was active in church and community affairs. He was recognized as the moving force behind the annual Law Enforcement Appreciation Banquet. He was a long-time member of the state and national sheriff's associations, Center Hill Baptist Church, Edenton Rotary Club, Edward G. Bond Post No. 40, which he served as commander and district commander, and of the Chowan Ruritan Club, of which he was a past president.

Sheriff Toppin maintained especially good relations with the press and the public. Covering his office as a reporter was, in addition

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**JAMES C. "PETE" DAIL TO BE ROASTED** — Area citizens will have the opportunity to learn how self discipline, and straight thinking have transformed the individual pictured above into one of Edenton's most humble yet dynamic community leaders. On October 24, at the American Legion Building, the Edenton-Chowan Chamber of Commerce will sponsor their first annual Celebrity Roast. This event will begin with a social hour at 6:30 p.m. followed by dinner at 7:30 p.m. and entertainment at 8:30 p.m. Tickets for the evening are \$12.50 per person and are available at Edenton Banks and Savings Loans, Mitchener's Pharmacy, Hollowell-Blount Drug Store, all Chamber Board members and the Chamber office. Proceeds from this event will be used for the annual Christmas Parade.



Glenn Perry was sworn in as sheriff of Chowan County by Clerk of Superior Court Marjorie Hollowell on Monday, October 14.

## Perry Appointed Sheriff

Glenn A. Perry was appointed sheriff of Chowan County during a special meeting of the board of county commissioners on Monday, October 11.

He is filling the unexpired term of Sheriff Troy Toppin, who died in office on Tuesday, October 8. The term ends in December of 1986.

Prior to Toppin's death, Perry, 61, served as chief deputy.

Perry, who is beginning his twenty-first year with the sheriff's department, was joined at the swearing-in ceremony by his wife, Jean; his daughter, Bonita; and his two sons, Glenn Jr. and Darren.

"I just want to thank the county commissioners for the trust you've put in me," Perry said after the ceremonies. "I appreciate what you're doing - I just

regret the circumstances."

When asked whether he was considering running for the sheriff's office, Perry said he was undecided and wanted some time to consider. "It might look different in the driver's seat after riding as a passenger for so long," he said.

Perry was born in the Cannon's Ferry section of the county. For nine years he drove a city bus in Newport News, Virginia. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II.

On September 1, 1965, he became the county jailer and deputy under Sheriff Earl Goodwin.

Perry said he plans to run the office made up of five deputies and five jailers with "the high standards of the past."

## Corson Expounds On Peace

"Guess who won the 1985 Nobel Peace Prize?" were the first words Dr. Candace Corson of Edenton heard on Friday morning, October 11.

The question was asked by Corson's husband, Dr. George D. Knowles, and the answer was: The International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW).

Both Dr. Corson, who is taking a break from her Family Practice to raise three sons, and Dr. Knowles, who practices Internal Medicine at Albemarle Hospital, are members of IPPNW, the international federation of 135,000 physicians in 41 affiliated nations, and its American affiliate, Physicians for Social Responsibility.

"My initial reaction was that the arms race will continue unaltered even with the work the doctors are doing across the world and that the Nobel Peace Prize itself will not bring about the end of the threat of nuclear war," said Corson.

But as she began to wake up, she realized that "the effort itself can give hope" and "the prevention of nuclear war is a legitimate concern with international respect."

Both Corson and her husband are natives of Ohio and graduates of Yale University School of Medicine. They have both been in practice since 1979 and moved to Edenton to work with the Public Health Service.

"I have always been interested in global peace and health care and the their connection because I was raised in a religious family," said Dr. Corson, who in June of last year attended a conference of physicians in Helsinki, Finland and traveled to the Soviet Union where she discussed nuclear war prevention with Soviet physicians.

According to Corson, the IPPNW was founded in 1980 by two heart specialists, Dr. Bernard Lown, a world-respected cardiologist from the U.S.A., and Dr. Evgeni Chazov, director of the National Cardiological Research Center in Moscow, who have spent the past twenty years cooperating in research to prevent sudden coronary deaths. They realized that their efforts in medical research were becoming meaningless in the face of the nuclear threat now facing every person on earth. The two doctors founded IPPNW with

the idea that no East-West dispute is as important as our mutual need to avoid nuclear war. In the spirit of healing, the group proposes adding this pledge to the physicians' oath worldwide.

"As a physician of the Twentieth Century, I recognize that nuclear weapons have presented my profession with a challenge of unprecedented proportion, and that a nuclear war would be the final epidemic for mankind. I will do all in my power to work for the prevention of nuclear war."

Corson added that the following statement are agreed to by all of the member physicians, both East and West:

1. Nuclear war cannot be won, limited, or survived in any meaningful sense of the term.
2. No ideological political or military struggle can justify the scale of death, disease, and global environmental damage that a nuclear war would impose.
3. The nuclear arms race itself is attended by unacceptable social costs.
4. There is no effective medical response to nuclear war—its only cure is prevention.

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## Area Jaycees Sponsor Benefit Gospel Show

The Edenton Jaycees are sponsoring a Gospel Show to benefit Greenville's Ronald McDonald House. The show will be held on Saturday, November 9 at 8:00 p.m. in the John A. Holmes High School Auditorium.

The Masters of Ceremonies for the event will be Mr. Jim Woods of WNCT-TV. Many talented singers will be performing, including the Providence Baptist Church Choir and the Mount Zion Quartet of Kinston.

The Jaycees are organizing a major fund-raising effort in Chowan County for the first Ronald McDonald House to be located in Eastern North Carolina. The Gospel Show will "kick off" this fund-raising.

For information concerning Gospel Show tickets, please contact any Jaycee, or call Leigh Ambrose at 482-4939. For information concerning donations, please call Stephanie Nugen at 482-7277.

## Progress Report Heard

Members of Edenton Town Council heard some good news and some bad news at a special meeting held on Monday, October 14.

## Receives 2 Awards

The Edenton-Chowan Civic League received two awards at the annual banquet of the First Congressional Black Leadership Caucus held in Greenville on Saturday, October 5.

Much of the credit for winning the awards - one for selling the most tickets (1,000 raffle tickets and the most banquet tickets) and the other for having the largest attendance at the banquet - is being given to James Taylor, president of the Edenton-Chowan Civic League.

Taylor, who is currently serving on the Executive Committee of the First Congressional District Black Leadership Caucus, was recognized by the Caucus for his outstanding leadership; he was compared to the late A.C. Hudson in this respect.

After accepting the awards, Taylor stated that, "These awards would not have been possible if it were not for the strong support of the members and friends of the Edenton-Chowan Civic League." He added that the League has stood so well because of its belief in unity.

The banquet served a unique purpose for Chowan County in that it honored the memory of A.C. Hudson, former president of the Edenton-Chowan Civic League and member and officer of the First Congressional District Black Leadership Caucus Executive Committee. Mrs. Loretta Hudson Glenn, daughter of the late A.C. Hudson and Mrs. Ethel Hudson received plaques honoring the late Hudson for his exemplary dedicated services.

Keynote speaker for the evening was Mrs. Gracia M. Hillman, Executive Director of the National Coalition on Black Voter Participation, Inc. The Coalition dedicates itself to assuring that blacks have an equitable voice in the nation's political decisions.

## Two County Architectural Surveys Conducted

Two architectural surveys are being simultaneously conducted in Chowan County. One is of buildings located throughout the county; the other is of the Old Chowan County Courthouse.

Both studies have the same purpose to preserve and protect the county's architectural treasures.

Architectural historian Brad Barker is working on the ten month survey of structures in the county and Mark Brodsky is conducting the six month courthouse study. Barker has a degree in architectural history from The University of Virginia and Brodsky is completing his master's degree in history from Cornell University. The men will be sharing an office in the new courthouse supplied by the county.

Barker said that many of the historic structures throughout the county are disappearing or have already disappeared. "Americans have always associated newness with progress and old things tend to disappear," he said.

But he believes that in the last twenty years Americans are becoming aware of the value of old buildings and are taking steps to preserve them. "Both surveys are part of this general awareness," he said.

During the course of his work, Barker will be "photographing, recording and investigating everything from the tiniest slave house to the biggest plantation." The survey will give a picture of what the landscape actually look like. Small tenement houses, according to Baker, were as predominant in the 19th century as ranch houses are today.

When Barker's work is com-

14.

The bad news is that the town is losing its liability insurance due to the failure of the municipalities' insurance company, Iowa National Mutual Insurance, Co.

The good news came in a four year progress report submitted by Town Administrator Sam Noble which stated that Edenton has received more grant money in the past four years than in its entire history and that the tax rate has been increased by only 2% over the past five years.

Edenton insurance agent George Midgett told the council that after November 9, the Town will have no liability coverage due to the fact that Iowa Mutual Insurance Company was declared insolvent last week.

"They (Iowa Mutual) were an 'A' company on July 1st, then about the first week of September they were down to a grade 'B'. Three weeks later, they were in receivership," said Midgett who works with Twiddy Insurance Agency.

He said Iowa Mutual was the first company providing insurance to North Carolina municipalities that has gone out of business. Fourteen other N.C. municipalities were covered by the Cedar Rapids, Iowa-based company.

"Hopefully between now and November 9 we will find another market," said Midgett. But, he added, the last company he knew of that was writing policies for municipalities was Nationwide, which cut them off on July 1.

Other highlights listed in the town administrator's four year progress report include: the funding and designing of plans for a land application wastewater treatment system; plans for a proposed peak shaving power generator; funding for rehabilitating housing on the east side of town; improvements made at the Edenton Municipal Airport; and the conversion of the old Edenton National Guard Armory into a recreation center.

"I personally think that this is one of the better jobs done by any town in the area," commented Councilman Willis Privott.



Patrick J.W. Becker

## Awarded NROTC Scholarship

Patrick J.W. Becker, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. John F. Becker of 503 South Broad Street, Edenton, and a 1985 graduate of John A. Holmes High School, has been awarded a full four-year National NROTC scholarship to the Virginia Military Institute in Lexington, Virginia.

In a ceremony confirming the scholarship award on Saturday, October 12th, in front of the Stonewall Jackson Memorial on the VMI campus, he was sworn in as a Midshipman in the U.S. Naval Reserve by Marine Colonel Thomas J. Solak, Commander of the NROTC program at VMI, immediately following the Parents' Day full dress revue of the Cadet Corps.

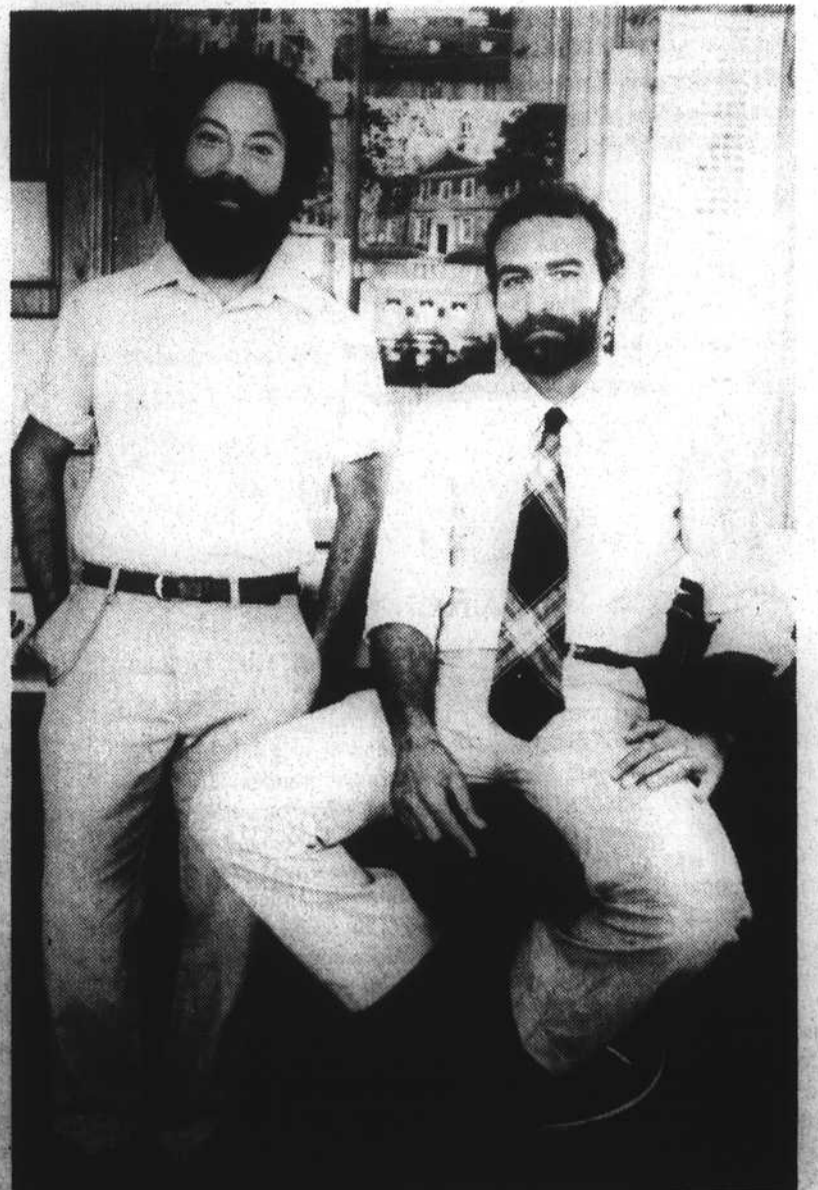
Patrick is enrolled as a Civil Engineering major at VMI.

## Law Banquet

One hundred additional tickets have become available for the fifteenth annual Law Enforcement Banquet to be held 7 p.m. tonight (Thursday) at the American Legion Building.

Anyone interested in purchasing a ticket is requested to contact either the Chowan County Sheriff's Department or the Edenton Police Department by 1:00 p.m. today.

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Mark Brodsky (left) is conducting an architectural survey of the Old Chowan County Courthouse. Brad Baker is working on a survey of historical structures throughout the county.