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Hospital To Submit 'CON' For Rehab Beds

By MARGUERITE MCCALL

By January 15, Chowan Hospital plans to submit a "Certificate of Need" (CON) application to the state for 29 rehabilitation beds.

The facility will request it be allowed to fulfill the need in northeastern North Carolina for such a unit.

Pitt Memorial Hospital in Greenville initiated the idea for this new service, Chowan Hospital Administrator Barbara Cale said Monday.

"I see this as a real need for this part of the state," she said. "We have had to refer patients with this need to Virginia because Pitt has been to full to take them."

She said she anticipated the Chowan Rehab Center focusing mainly on stroke and orthopedic patients.

The center, which would be constructed as a second floor above the existing one-story skilled care unit, would cost approximately \$3 million. The funds would be borrowed from a bank at around 5 1/2 percent interest with a \$250,000 a year pay back for 20-years.

Mrs. Cale explained that each year the State Medical Facilities Plan indicates the medical needs for North Carolina. She said once the needs are established, hospitals can apply to the Division of Facility Services of the Department of Human Resources to fulfill that need.

"They will analyze what we say we are capable of doing," Mrs. Cale said, "and determine if we will be awarded the beds. At that point, we can proceed with de-

sign and construction."

Currently, there are no rehabilitation beds between Greenville and Norfolk, Virginia, she said.

She said Pitt Memorial will help Chowan Hospital to recruit professional staffing such as therapists specializing in speech, physical and occupational therapy.

"This is not a new concept," Mrs. Cale said. "Pitt has supported other hospitals with rehab units. I think this is real important, because we can draw resources from Pitt to enhance our program. Pitt has already been very helpful to us as we have required consultation and assistance."

Mrs. Cale said Chowan's

medical staff endorsed the project 100 percent. She also said overwhelming support has been received through letters from hospitals, social services departments and nursing homes in the 29-county, District 6 Health Service Area (HSA IV).

Besides Pitt Memorial, the only hospitals in HSA IV with rehab units are Heritage Hospital in Edgecombe County and Lenoir Memorial Hospital in Lenoir County.

Mrs. Cale said the only other hospital she is aware of competing for the awarding of the beds is the Wayne County Hospital.

If awarded the beds, Chowan Hospital would have the option to withdraw up until actual construction began on the project.

"If we're fortunate enough to get an orthopedic surgeon to locate here," Mrs. Cale said, "it would greatly enhance the program."

She said it would probably be July before an answer is received on the CON application.

Monday's announcement was contingent upon approval of support by the Chowan County Board of Commissioners. The approval was given at the board's regular meeting Monday morning. (See related article.)

SBI Makes One Arrest Following Investigation

By MARGUERITE MCCALL

The SBI revealed Tuesday Joanne Jones of Greenville, a member of the Albemarle Regional Drug Task Force, has been arrested and charged with two separate counts each of altering or destroying evidence.

SBI Agent Bill Godley emphasized his agency began the investigation on Jones at the request of the Task Force.

"They asked us on December 1 to assist them by looking into discrepancies and improper actions involving Ms. Jones," he said. "Four agents began the investigation immediately and arrested Ms. Jones the same day."

Godley said all findings in the case have been submitted to District Attorney H.P. Williams, First District prosecutor. He said additional charges may be forthcoming.

"No one else was investigated," Godley said, "nor are there any suspicions of anyone else having any involvement."

"The Task Force is a good one," he said, "and is made up of qualified, dedicated officers putting their lives on the line to try and curtail the drug problem."

Chowan County Sheriff Fred Spruill said Tuesday, "We had a problem. We investigated Jones, charged her, fired her and put her in jail just like anyone else who commits a crime."

"While things like this happen from time to time," Spruill said, "we'll put it behind us and continue with the good work the Task Force has been doing."

Godley expressed almost identical sentiments. He said Jones is in jail pending trial in Chowan County.



UNCOVERING THE PAST -- Don Jordan of Edenton removes flooring in the Old Chowan County Courthouse to reveal original stone paving beneath. The work is being carried out under the supervision of the N.C. Division of Archives and History and Colonial Williamsburg authorities, who will also conduct a study on this phase of the courthouse's revelations. An octagonal base supporting the column can be seen to the left of Jordan's hand. A section of the floor will remain uncovered for public interest and viewing. (Staff photo by Marguerite McCall.)

New System To Help 911

Maps Used To Explain Street Addresses

By MARGUERITE MCCALL

Gail Forehand, Chowan land records manager, exhibited maps to explain street

addressing to county commissioners at their regular meeting Monday.

She said a base map developed by a Raleigh firm uses Highway 32 as a dividing line in Chowan, with every half-mile representing a block. When completed, a computerized list will be sent to electric and telephone companies and to all major businesses, she said.

Work on the project has been taking place over the past two years, Mrs. Forehand said. She said the beach areas of the county have already been numbered.

County Manager Cliff Copeland said house numbers on county residences must be in place to implement "Enhanced 911." He said plans are to have the updated system in place by the fall of 1993.

The board approved award-

ing the contract to Westinghouse Landmark Engineering to prepare the contractual work, which is expected to take six to eight months. The numbering system will correspond to that used in the Town of Edenton.

Commissioner Wayne Goodwin commended Mrs. Forehand and 911 Director Lewis White for the work they have done on the project.

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Employee Of The Quarter Named

By MARGUERITE MCCALL

Darlene Carter, accounting clerk with the Town of Edenton, has been selected as the Town's "Employee of the Quarter."

Town Manager Anne-Marie Kelly said Thursday, "We're really excited Darlene was selected. That she was nominated by someone in another department speaks well for the fine work she does."

Ms. Kelly said another reason Mrs. Carter was chosen for the honor is the work she does on the employees' suggestion committee, which is composed of a representative from each Town department.

The committee was instrumental, Ms. Kelly said, in organizing a number of events this year including the "Employee of the Quarter" recognition, working on policy for further education and training with reimbursements for employees and recognition of employees' years of service.

"I believe under Darlene's leadership a lot of these programs have come to fruition," Ms. Kelly said. "And I think

it's wonderful other employees have recognized her efforts."

Mrs. Carter has worked

with the Town of Edenton for three years. She is married to Michael Carter and has one son and two daughters.



CHOSEN BY PEERS -- Darlene Carter (right) proudly displays the plaque bearing her name as the Town of Edenton's Employee of the Quarter. Town Manager Anne-Marie Kelly (left) offers Mrs. Carter her congratulations for "a job well done." (Staff photo by Marguerite McCall.)



OATH TO ADMINISTER JUSTICE -- Wayne Rice (left) and Carlton Jackson (right) pledge to uphold the Office of Magistrate during a swearing-in ceremony Thursday conducted by Chowan County Clerk of Superior Court Marjorie Hollowell (not shown). The occasion, which took place in the courtroom of the Chowan County Courthouse, was attended by a large number of law enforcement officers and by family and friends of the two men. Following the ceremony, a reception in their honor was held in the Clerk's Office. (Staff photo by Marguerite McCall.)

Relocation May Result In Jobs

By REBECCA BUNCH

The closing of an Indiana plant this spring may result in more jobs for Chowan County residents.

Pelikan announced Monday that it will close its Shelbyville, Indiana facility in early April and will move the production equipment housed there to its factory in Edenton.

In announcing the decision, John Washburn, vice president of manufacturing, cited the lack of expansion capability as the primary reason for the planned relo-

cation. "We (have decided on) closing...because we cannot expand the facility in (its) current location...the 100,000 square foot facility is poorly designed." The site formerly housed a roller rink.

That left the company with the choice of looking for a new site in Indiana to rebuild or utilizing part of its existing facilities elsewhere. Rather than building a new plant there, the company made the decision to move production to Edenton.

Washburn said he expected

that a small amount of equipment at the Edenton plant might be removed and taken to the company's headquarters and principal factory in Nashville, Tennessee, in order to make room for the equipment from the Anthes plant in Indiana.

He said the move might also result in a limited expansion of the Edenton plant, so that a little more warehousing space could be added.

Washburn said that the Shelbyville plant currently

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