

# Why Parties No Longer Fun

On January 20, the people of the United States will celebrate the inauguration of the new President, Bill Clinton. Having planned a few parties in my time, I can appreciate the effort that some poor soul is undoubtedly making in the preparation of the Inaugural Ball scheduled for later that evening.

I can only visualize what it must be like to host a party of such magnitude. I'm certain that the President will ask his staff to be especially aware of his guests' particular needs or wants.

When I hosted my last get-together, on a scale not nearly as grand, I found myself overwhelmed when trying to cater to my friends' assorted eccentricities and varied eating/drinking habits. It's easy enough to serve non-alcoholic beverages to friends who don't "know when to say when," but I just couldn't figure out what to do about another acquaintance who is an anorexic. Should I try to stay by her side and encourage her to eat, I wondered. What's a concerned hostess to do?

Then, it seems, there's always one guest who has decided that salt is the ultimate killer and asks me throughout each course to list all the ingredients in the foods I've prepared. And I hope Mr. Clinton's chef will be sure to prepare a variety of vegetarian entrees, as it has become "en vogue" to refuse to eat



**Who Knew...**  
**SHELLEY GOFORTH**

meat. Unfortunately, when I tried to allow for this at my last party, one of my guests turned out to be allergic to shrimp and had to make do with some raw veggies and dip while his fellow partygoers enjoyed the seafood.

It's also been my experience that the end of the evening is no less controversial than when the party began, when a light dessert and coffee are served. I'm sure you guessed it! When you offer caffeine and sugar, you may be greeted with expressions of horror! (And, please think twice before you offer an artificial sweetener that's been linked to cancer.)

In between worrying about everyone's food-related phobias, there's also the question

of whether to allow smoking or to send the smokers outside. I get caught between the proverbial rock and a hard place on this one.

As a sensitive individual, I try to respect the desire of the non-smoker for clean air. As a smoker, I catch myself occasionally wondering what all the hoopla is about and exactly how dangerous it is, really, for someone to be in the same room with me for an hour or two. Nevertheless, my more considerate side generally wins out, and we smokers take our cigarettes outside for the evening.

So, Mr. President, let me extend my congratulations on your victory and to your staff let me say a heartfelt "good luck!"

After my last party, all I kept thinking about were the good old days, when all you needed to give a really great party was a keg of beer in the kitchen, a bushel of oysters on ice and Eric Clapton on the stereo.

Who knew?

## Bridal Affair Is Planned

ELIZABETH CITY -- The second annual "A Bridal Affair" will be Sunday, January 31, at the ECSU Kermit E. White Center from 1 to 5 p.m. A fashion show featuring the latest in bridal attire will begin at 3 p.m.

"Weddings require a lot of

organization and planning," said Mary Jane Sawyer, "A Bridal Affair" coordinator. "A Bridal Affair" gives the bride and groom-to-be the opportunity to visit with those providing wedding services in a casual setting."

"A Bridal Affair" will also feature booth displays from area businesses providing wedding services. Booths will open at 1 p.m. Booths are available for a rental fee of \$70. Admission to the event is \$3 and tickets are available in advance from Elizabeth City BPW members or at the door.

"Last year we had over 200 people visit the booths and fashion show, and we anticipate an even greater turnout this year," said Sawyer. "Many of last year's exhibitors will be participating as well as a wide variety of first time participants."

Anyone interested in reserving a booth may contact Mary Jane Sawyer at (919) 335-4217.

## Knitting Skills Are Focus Of COA Class Instruction

College of the Albemarle Division of Continuing Education will offer a knitting class at the Chowan County Center starting January 7 (today).

The class will be taught by Dale Long, an employee of Yearning for Yarn, on Thursday mornings from 10 a.m. until noon.



Special Deliveries

### TIMOTHY MICHAEL HARRELL

Michael R. and Tina E. Harrell of Tyner announce the birth of their son, Timothy Michael, on December 15 at 6:02 a.m. in Chowan Hospital.

The little boy weighed 6 lbs., 12 ozs.

Maternal grandparents are Marie Evans and the late Elton Evans of Edenton.

Paternal grandparents are Larry and Aundra Harrell of Edenton.

### STEVEN COREY PIERCE, JR.

Christine Spruill and Corey Pierce of Tyner announce the birth of their son, Steven Corey Pierce, Jr. on November 24 at 2:45 p.m. in Chowan Hospital.

The little boy weighed 10 lbs., 3 ozs.

### CHRISTINA BRITT THROWER

Mr. and Mrs. Terry Britt Thrower announce the birth of their daughter, Christina Britt Thrower, in Raleigh.

The little girl weighed 6 lbs., 3 ozs.

Maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Chermack of Raleigh.

Paternal grandparents are Marion DesJardins of Edenton and Joe Thrower of Williamston.

## Auxiliary Will Gather Tonight

By **CHERIE MARTIN**

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 40 of Edenton will hold its regular monthly meeting on Thursday, January 7 (tonight), beginning at 8 p.m.

There will be a meeting of the executive board at 7 p.m. and the Junior Auxiliary will also meet tonight at 7 p.m.

All Auxiliary members are encouraged to attend, as Unit 40 is only as good as the participation of its members allows it to be.



During the Christmas holidays, Chowan Hospital continued its holiday spirit by outfitting all newborns with a Christmas stocking as they departed the nursery for home. Van Nixon of Tyner holds her newborn daughter, Vanessa Lynore, born on December 19.

## NSDAR To Meet Here

The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, Edenton, will hold its next meeting January 13 at Collier's Restaurant.

The program topic will be "Century of Service," a film on the history of the DAR.

All members are encouraged to be present.

## New 'Friends' Sought

By **PETE ROGERS**

The Chowan Hospital Auxiliary, recently renamed "Friends of Chowan Hospital," offers a new opportunity for service. How well the Friends of Chowan Hospital will respond, however, depends upon its ability to broaden the base of community participation.

Friends of Chowan Hospital are men and women volunteers, with a commitment to the goals of their hospital, and a common concern for the health of their communities.

Throughout the years the Chowan Hospital Auxiliary, established in 1948, has been a source of financial assistance and volunteer manpower.

In response to the hospitals' technological and societal needs, expanded membership is necessary to support the physicians and hospital staff

in promoting the health and welfare of the communities that Chowan Hospital services.

Friends of Chowan Hospital look forward to the concept of "hospital service," which expands service to outlying communities, and to serve patients at Chowan Hospital.

Funds raised by the Friends of Chowan Hospital are essential to the hospital's capital needs and to support hospital and community health programs.

With an annual membership of \$5 and as little as 24 hours of annual active service, you can become a member of Friends of Chowan Hospital.

We need your individual and collective talent. Make the commitment now. We look forward to hearing from you.

### "FRIENDS OF CHOWAN HOSPITAL" Offers A New Opportunity For Service

Support Chowan Hospital By Joining Today!

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Send form to: Carol Baker, President  
Friends of Chowan Hospital  
P.O. Box 1047  
Edenton, NC 27932

Annual Membership: \$5  
& As Little As 24 Hours  
Of Annual Active Service

Thank you Edenton, Chowan County.  
Your gifts and hard work made Operation Santa Claus 1992 a huge success.

Carol M. Travers  
Volunteer Coordinator

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INSIGHT INTO EYESIGHT

DR. A.F. DOWNUM, JR.  
- OPTOMETRIST -

### PROTECT YOUR YOUNGSTER'S EYES

Kids play hard and give little or no thought to danger. That's probably why there are more than 170,000 serious eye injuries each year — most of which could be prevented. Here's how:

Sturdy goggles are a must for games, like racquetball, that call for a small hard ball hit at high speed. The game's poor safety record has improved since goggles became required to play. Look for frame and lenses of tough polycarbonate, perhaps with a padded bridge for comfort and a headband to keep goggles in place.

Prescription lenses can be ground right into sports goggles — even swim and scuba

gear. Another option is to wear a face guard or larger goggles that fit over regular contact lenses or glasses. Remind youngsters that this is what professional athletes wear.

Protect against sun damage, too. Children playing outside are at risk for damage from the sun's ultraviolet rays. Be sure they have quality sunglasses and/or a hat with a protective brim.

Brought to you as a community service by:  
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