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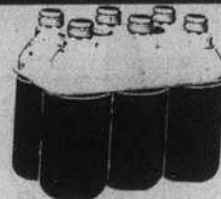
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# THE CHOWAN HERALD



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## Choir Ushers In Christmas

By REBECCA BUNCH

The renowned American Boychoir will help Chowan County usher in the holiday season with a one-night only Christmas concert that will include many favorite Christmas carols.

Among them will be "O Little Town of Bethlehem," "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing," "O Come, All Ye Faithful," and "Deck the Halls."

The performance will be held at Swain Auditorium on Friday evening, Dec. 9, at 8 p.m. Earlier in the day, the Boychoir will give a special concert for Chowan Middle School and Lawrence Academy students in grades 6-12. The student performance is being sponsored by Union Camp of Princeton, N.J.

"We have been getting calls from across North Carolina since the concert was announced," said Ann Perry, executive director of the Chowan Arts Council,

which is sponsoring the performance.

"You might consider making a gift of tickets to the concert to a friend or loved one," said Perry. "This could be a unique gift because it is not often that we have the opportunity to hear an internationally acclaimed group perform locally." Audrey and Suzi Leary of Leary Plant Farm will add a festive touch to the concerts by decorating the stage in keeping with the holiday.

Members of the American Boychoir range from fifth to eighth graders. While they come from a variety of locales, they share a deep love for music. The boys will be housed by local families for their stay here.

"Director Jim Litton has offered to hold auditions for any boys who may be interested in joining the choir," said Perry. For audition information, contact the Arts

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The American Boychoir is considered by many to be the best children's choir in America and one of the great boychoirs of the world. They have cut more than 30 albums and have been featured on numerous television specials and commercials. The renowned choir will offer a single performance in Edenton on Friday evening, Dec. 9, at 8 p.m. in Swain Auditorium to coincide with the Historic Edenton Holiday weekend that will include the Candlelight Tour, Wassail Bowl and Groaning Board. Tickets for the concert are available now from the Arts Council and the Historic Edenton Visitor Center.

## Council To Pursue DOT Office At Airport Here

By MARGUERITE MCCALL

City Manager Anne-Marie Kelly was instructed by the town council Monday night to pursue negotiations with the Department of Transportation regarding locating its division offices in the airport terminal building.

"I would hope within the next 30 days to have a written agreement with them (DOT)," Ms. Kelly said.

The action follows months

of study and controversy, whether to renovate the old World War II building, or to demolish it and construct a new facility.

DOT's indication Nov. 17, during a meeting in Roper, that it plans to relocate its Division I offices from Ahoskie to Edenton spurred interest in selling the department a portion of the building, with DOT and the town sharing renovation costs.

Ms. Kelly said construction of a new 3,600 square-foot building will cost \$80 a square foot for a total of \$288,000. Disposal and demolition of the old building will cost a minimum \$50,000 more, bringing the cost to \$338,000.

If DOT accepts the town's offer, renovation of 4,400 square feet in the present building for aviation use will cost the town an estimated \$231,000 and DOT \$181,000 for

a total of \$412,000. This figure does not include replacing the tower nor upfitting 6,700 square feet of interior space for DOT.

Ms. Kelly said she feels there are many advantages in having DOT locate in Edenton, if not at the terminal building, then elsewhere suitable to its needs.

Paul Stevens, of Stevens and Francis, an architectural firm in New Bern, was present to answer questions pertaining to his firm's study of the terminal building. He also showed diagrams of the building illustrating the areas that would be occupied by DOT, the town's airport offices, and common shared areas such as rest rooms,

conference rooms and a lobby.

Stevens assured the council adequate space existed for DOT requirements in the portion of the building it is assigned.

Former Edenton Construction Co. owner Ross Inglis told the council that work on the building will be done in two phases. Phase I will include the figures quoted by Ms. Kelly, he said. He pre-

sented a breakdown of the projected costs of Phase I for the town and the suggested costs for DOT.

"These numbers are the professional's numbers put in a way I could understand them," Inglis said.

He said Phase II -- renovating the remaining areas of the building including the second floor common area and restoring the tower --

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## 'Growing Toward Future' Farm-City Banquet Theme

By MARGUERITE MCCALL

Chowan County Commissioner James Taylor summed up the purpose of Farm-City Week, Nov. 18-24, with one comment Tuesday, Nov. 22, during the annual Farm-City Awards Banquet at Chowan Middle School.

"Your county commissioners support this banquet and all efforts to bring us -- town and county citizens -- together," Taylor said.

Edenton Mayor Roy Harrell echoed the sentiment. He said the town's negotiations to develop the Industrial Park at

the airport is "looking to bring work and industry to all people in Edenton and Chowan County."

The statement reflected the week's theme, Farm and City: Growing Toward the Future.

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Winners of awards at the Farm-City Banquet Thursday night are (left to right) Louis Nixon, Conservation Farm Award; Frank Parrish, Outstanding Young Farmer; Bryant Roberson, Outstanding Youth; Sylvia Monds, 1994 Woman in Agriculture; Bill Monds, 1994 Corn Award; Alton Wilder, Outstanding Youth; Betsy Copeland, Outstanding Youth; and Joseph Ward, 1993 Peanut Award. (Staff photo by Marguerite McCall.)

## Johnson Running For Kids With Leukemia

By BONNIE DAVIS

Endurance and courage are two qualities the Rev. Russell Johnson shares with several local children who are battling leukemia.

An accomplished marathoner of 14 races, Johnson, rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, is celebrating his 50th birthday by running the Boston Marathon for the first time in April.

He's not only running to celebrate the milestone mark in his life, but he's running on behalf of John Mansfield, Jessica Dalton and Brad Gosser, local Chowan County children who battle leukemia, and to raise money in the fight against leukemia.

John, 5, and Jessica, 11, fight a daily battle with leukemia. Brad, 15, has been in remission after battling the disease when he was much younger.

"The personal battle against the disease of leukemia is one requiring incredible endurance and courage. John and Jessica have had to face the ordeal of regular chemotherapy treatments and must look inside themselves to find the strength to push through it. Brad had a slightly different treatment regimen requiring no less courage and endurance," Johnson said.

"In a similar fashion, a marathoner reaches points throughout the long, lonely

weeks of training and all during the race when he must look inside himself in order to keep on going toward the finish line. Each student, each runner must find the courage and endurance to will themselves to go on."

And while there is no comparison in terms of the seriousness of each endeavor, the similarities for the patient and the runner made instant sense to the Leukemia Society of America, Johnson said. This group embraces marathoners as a way of highlighting the heroism of those who are in the fight against leukemia by sponsoring marathoners dedicated to raising money to combat the disease.

Jessica was diagnosed with leukemia in January of this year, underwent very intensive chemotherapy treatment and is now in remission after recently undergoing a bone marrow transplant, said her mother, Deborah Dalton.

"The doctors have told us three times she wasn't going to come out of the hospital," Deborah said. "She's come out of the hospital each time."

Deborah points out that leukemia has not only taken its toll on Jessica, but the entire family, especially her siblings.

John was diagnosed in September 1992, said his mother Pat Mansfield. He is undergoing what is termed

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## Santa Is Coming On December 2

Local merchants will sponsor a special "Christmas in Edenton" celebration Friday, Dec. 2, in the downtown business district.

Food booths will be set up downtown from 4-8 p.m. and Christmas music will fill the air starting at 5 p.m., courtesy of Jackson Radio & TV. At 5:45 p.m. there will be a performance by the John A. Holmes High School Marching Aces.

Things will really kick into high gear at 6 p.m. when Santa Claus makes his appearance atop a fire truck to officially usher in the Christmas season. He will be visiting with area children at Chair and Equipment Rentals (formerly Quinn Furniture) that evening and again from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 3.

Entertainment to round out Friday afternoon's festivities will be provided by the John A. Holmes High School Concert Choir and others, beginning at 7 p.m.

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