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Center

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for further discussion.

"We understand that the North Carolina Department of Transportation may be willing to construct such a facility if the local agencies provide staffing," Knighton said in a memorandum to the Council. "We in no way want to compete with the (Historic Edenton) Visitor Center on Broad Street;

this would merely be an informational center that would help promote not only Edenton, but other heritage tourism attractions in the region."

The TDA has already reviewed the proposed information center and has offered its full support to the project. According to Knighton, Perquimans County is pursuing a similar project.

"It has been suggested that we might want to work together on such a project," said Knighton.

Coltrain

Continued From Page 1-A

have included working with veterans seeking employment. He will get his first managerial experience overseeing the Edenton ESC office.

"I've never seen a day in the past 19 years that I've dreaded coming to work," Coltrain said. "I love what I do...I've never seen a day in all these years that I didn't enjoy my job."

Coltrain said he was aware, however, that replacing Keefe would not be easy.

"She left some big shoes for me to fill, I know," he said. "For one thing, everybody thought the world of her, and for another, she worked hard to get the office active in a lot of things such as local job preparedness programs with the school system...this is a very busy office."

He said that he is very impressed with the level of commitment that the Edenton ESC office has made to assist in a partnership effort with the Department of Social Services, the local schools and community college system to try to provide education and job skills.

"I think it's a good thing, the way that all these people have joined forces to work together," he said, "because when you think about it, we're all trying to accomplish the same

thing...I definitely feel our office needs to be involved in those kinds of efforts."

Coltrain added that he also relished the opportunity to get involved in a community where everyone has already made him feel so at home.

"I really like it here already," he said.

Coltrain graduated from Williamston High School in 1969. He attended Pitt Community College from 1969-1971. In June 1971, Coltrain joined the United States Air Force. During the four years he served, he worked as a jet engine mechanic. Coltrain was stationed in Okinawa from 1971-73, and finished his tour of duty in Selma, AL at Craig Air Force Base. After receiving an honorable discharge from the Air Force in June 1975, he attended Troy State University in Alabama where he graduated in June 1997 with a bachelor's degree in management.

Coltrain began his career with the Employment Security Commission in the fall of 1980. In the spring of 1982, he was named Veterans Employment Representative in the Williamston ESC office. Prior to being named manager of the Edenton ESC office, Coltrain was working as a Veterans Employment Representative in Wilson, NC.

He and his wife, Mary have three children: Nikki, 20; Hollie, 18; and Josh, 12.

Hospital Ball is set for Saturday night

Let's think about warm weather and all the things that accompany the spring and summer months - like a cruise.

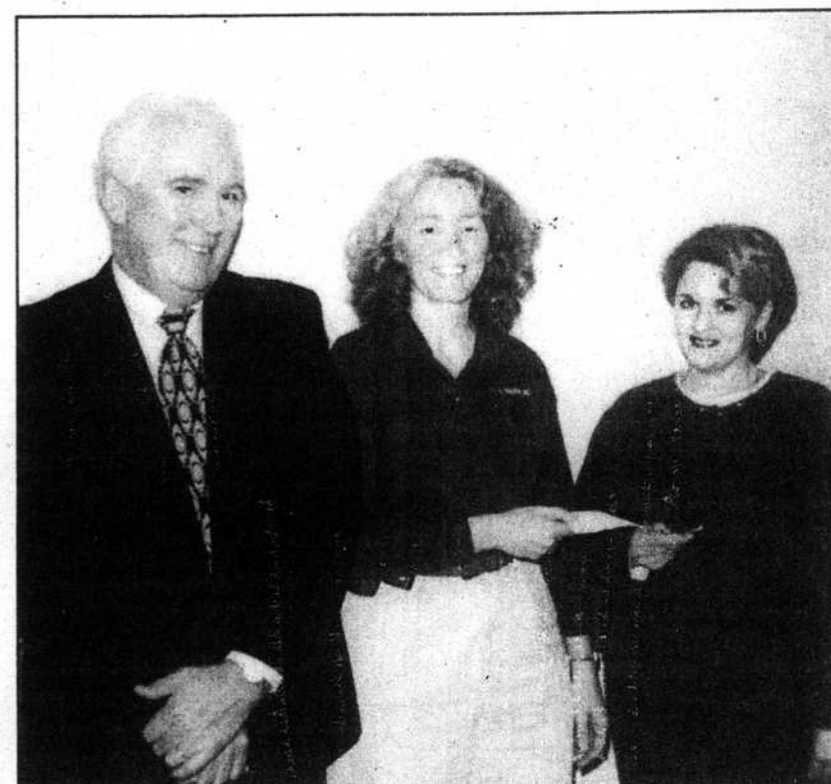
Despite the calendar saying February, A Cruise is scheduled as the theme of the annual Chowan Hospital Ball, sponsored by the Friends of Chowan Hospital, prepares to launch on Saturday, Feb. 27 at the National Guard Armory. Of course, a cruise ship theme is appropriate since a large float of the USS Hope will be a featured attraction at the Ball.

"It should be an elegant event with lots of food and a great band," said Lynn Layton, this year's co-chairperson along with Stephanie Bergeron. This year's catering will be done by Waterman's Grill of Edenton and the band, BS&M from Richmond, VA, will keep the Ball patrons dancing to a variety of tunes ranging from big band

and alternative to beach music and country.

The Ball is traditionally the biggest fundraiser of the year for the Friends of Chowan Hospital. "The proceeds from the Ball are used to purchase equipment for Chowan Hospital," said Ed Clement. In recent years, the Friends have purchased much needed items for the hospital as trauma headboard and cameras for cardiac and trauma room in the Emergency Department; colonoscope and ophthalmology equipment, both for the Operating Room; nursery fire aprons for the Maternity Care Center, and hot and cold packs as well as a treadmill for the Rehab Services Department.

The cost of attending the Ball is \$100 a couple and \$50 single. For additional information or to order tickets, call 482-2466.



Robin Decker (center) of Ultrason, Inc., presents a \$1,600 check to Lynn Layton, co-chairperson of this year's Annual Chowan Hospital Ball, which takes place Saturday night (Feb. 27). At left is Earl Bassett, executive director of the Chowan Regional Health Care Foundation. Proceeds from the Ball, sponsored by Friends of Chowan Hospital, will be donated to the Foundation, which in turn uses that money to purchase equipment for Chowan Hospital.

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Regulski on Dean's List

Beth Regulski of Edenton was among students who made the Dean's List for first semester at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

Undergraduate students carrying six or more semester hours of coursework graded on a letter (A, B, etc.) basis or eligible for the Dean's List. Students who earn a GPA of 3.5 or better of a possible 4.0 and have no grade below B- for the semester make the list, too.

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- The family of Ray Belch

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