

## New acquisition is installed at Iredell House in Edenton

BY BILL STRONG  
Historic Edenton  
State Historic Site

A reproduction floor cloth has been installed at Historic Edenton State Historic Sites' James Iredell House. It was procured by the State of North Carolina specifically for use in the house.

The recently acquired floor cloth has been installed in the parlor of the James Iredell House. It measures 13 x 13 feet. The painted floor cloth is a marbled cream and brown with a black and white diamond pattern and a Compass Rose in the center surrounded by a green Greek key pattern.

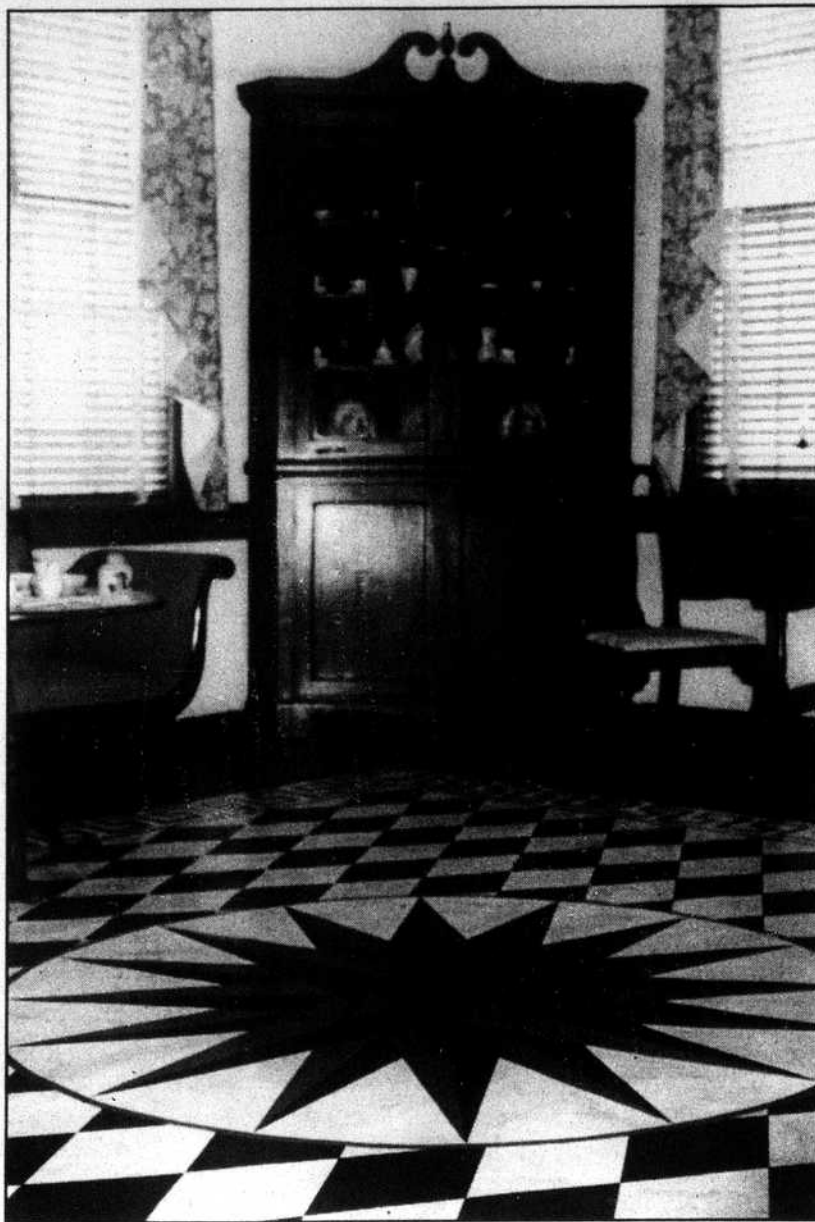
Floor cloths (sometimes referred to as "oyl" cloths or passage cloths) were quite popular in the 18th century in England as well as in the North American colonies. While carpets were elegant and colorful, they were expensive and hard to clean. A cheaper alternative was to lay down an "oyl" or floor cloth. It consisted of a heavy piece of canvas, which

was thickly painted, in a plain color having its own unique design (sometimes imitating a marble floor). The painted canvas was oiled several times to create a hard, durable surface that was also washable.

It is interesting to note that an 1828 inventory of Iredell House items sold by James Iredell, Jr. included a floor cloth, the dimensions of which we do not know. Floor cloths appear in inventories of the period as being used in dining rooms and passages. The ease with which they could be cleaned recommended them to areas that were bound to accumulate dirt and stains from constant usage.

In obtaining the authentic one-of-a-kind reproduction floor cloth for the Iredell House, Site Operations Manager Judith Chilcoat worked with Clare Arthur, Curator of Collections for Historic Sites Section of Cultural Resources Director. Under their guidance, the actual work was done

See IREDELL On Page 4-B



This diamond-patterned reproduction floor cloth has been installed at the James Iredell House in Edenton.

## ASLC helps sailor brush up on math

Family members are proud of her

BY JO3 MIKE C. JONES

If math is a sailor's stumbling block on the road to continuing education, then the Academic Skills Learning Center (ASLC) may be the answer.

AA Tomica Rankins, assigned to Air Operations Flight Planning, recently picked up her second certificate in the ASLC's math program. "I was able to complete two courses in algebra using the computer-based training," she said.

Rankins, who hails from Edenton, NC, said the program helped her to improve her ASVAB score, resulting in her

selection to Air Traffic Control A-School. "It's helped me to brush up on math I haven't done since high school. It's been a tremendous help because I also plan to pursue a degree in accounting." In addition to completing her degree, Rankins' career goals include pursuing a commission in the U.S. Navy.

For service members who feel there isn't enough time to use the ASLC, Rankins says it can be done.

"I would recommend this program to anyone who's looking to better their education," Rankins said.

Rankins has some Chowan County family members who are justifiably proud of her accomplishments — her mother, Jacqueline Winborne; stepfather, Alvin Winborne; and sister, Sheena Winborne.

## Windmill Farms will hold Relay fundraiser

As time grows near for the Chowan and Perquimans County annual Relay for Life, one local business is gearing up to help boost the fundraising in a big way. For the second year, Windmill Farms Perennials just north of Edenton on Macedonia Road will sponsor a Relay Plant Sale.

On Friday, May 14, and Saturday, May 15, Windmill Farms will donate half of every retail plant sale to the event. They have a special reason for doing so.

"Cancer touched our family in 1992 when our son John, who was three years old, was diagnosed with acute leukemia," said Pat Mansfield, co-owner of the business. "Because of research funded by the American Cancer Society,

John received treatments and medications, and is now cancer-free. That research cost a lot of money, and the continued research costs even more. We just want to do what we can to help raise funds so that someone else's little boy will have the same advantages John did."

"We sponsor the 'Planting Hope' Relay team. Last year, through our Relay Plant Sale, we raised over \$1,000," said Mansfield. "This year, we hope to raise over \$1,500. Our team is made up of family and friends. Each team member is expected to raise a certain amount of money. John is a team member, too, and will be selling hot dogs and lemonade at the Plant Sale to raise

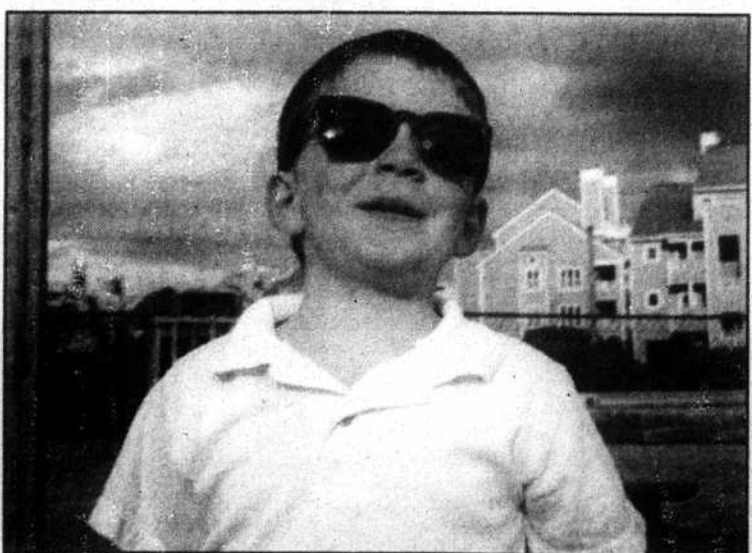
See RELAY On Page 4-B

You are cordially invited to a  
*Tea by the Sea*  
at the  
*Barker House*  
on *Wednesday, May 19th*  
at five o'clock

Reservations Recommended 482-7800  
Donations Appreciated



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**10% Off Your Next Pair Of Glasses**  
101 Mark Drive - Behind Chowan Hospital

**482-7471** Wm. S. Blakemore, MD

## Engagement announced

Bonnie Wilmore and Carlton O'Neal announce their engagement and forthcoming marriage.

Ms. Wilmore is the daughter of Frances Oakes of Montrose, PA and the late Donald Phillips, Sr. She is employed with Chowan County Farm Service Agency.

Mr. O'Neal is the son of Essie

O'Neal of Ocracoke, NC and the late Harry O'Neal, Sr. He is retired from the U.S. Coast Guard and the N.C. Ferry System.

The wedding is planned for June 12 at 1 p.m. at Macedonia Baptist Church in Edenton.

Friends and relatives are invited to attend.

Want to stay informed about upcoming events in our community? Just pick up the Chowan Herald weekly!



### INSIGHT INTO EYESIGHT

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

#### GOOD VISION PRACTICES

There are probably more myths than scientific studies about eyes and glasses, but your optometrist can steer you between them to good eyesight and visual comfort.

Contrary to old-wives' tales, reading too much or in poor light won't actually weaken your eyesight, nor will holding a book too close while reading it really cause your eyes to cross. But these practices will produce visual stress and strain the muscles of the eye — and visual stress can alter the way you see temporarily, even permanently.

Wearing your glasses does not make your eyes get worse. Actually, what happens is that you get

used to seeing properly and become more aware of the difference when you take your glasses off.

What about wearing someone else's glasses? Definitely not a good idea. Good vision care calls for regular examinations by your eye professional and, if correction is needed, eyeglasses fitted especially for your eyes.

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Sat., May 15<sup>th</sup> ~ 8:00 p.m.

and

Sun., May 16<sup>th</sup> ~ 3:00 p.m.

John A. Holmes  
High School Auditorium

Admission Payable At The Door

All Seats \$5.00

Come and applaud your local talent!

## AUCTION SALE

Saturday, May 15, 1999 - 3 PM  
ANTIQUES • COLLECTIBLES • USED FURNITURE

WINSLOW AUCTIONS, INC., 618 Yeopim Road, Edenton, North Carolina. From Edenton take 32 South approx. 3 miles to Yeopim Rd. WATCH FOR AUCTION SIGN.

#### PARTIAL LISTING

- Mahg Drop-Leaf Table w/4 Chairs
- Wal. Vict. Marble-Top Table
- Mahg. Gentleman's Chest w/Mirror
- Vict. Loveseat
- Pr. Kidney Shaped Tables (Banded Mahg. w/Brass Trim)
- Wal. Game Table with Felt Top
- Table Top Victor Victrola
- Wal. Bedroom Suite
- Mahg. Princess Dresser
- Dove-Tail Blanket Box
- Oak Kitchen Table
- Oak Pottier Chair
- Washstand
- Maple Hutch
- Tea Carts
- Rockers (Oak, etc.)
- Fern Stands (Oak, Mahg, etc.)
- Odd Dressers
- Odd Chests
- Odd Chairs, Small Tables (Oak, Mahg, etc.)
- Old Quilts
- Old Wood Heater
- Trunks, Picture Frames
- Lamps (Oil & Electric)
- Clocks
- Linens, Dobbies
- Iron Items
- Crocks, Jugs
- Large Lot of Glassware
- Lot of Costume Jewelry
- Large Consignment of Office Supplies

MANY OTHER ITEMS TOO NUMEROUS TO MENTION  
TERMS: Cash or Good Checks — Not Responsible For Accidents — 10% Buyer's Premium  
All items sold as is where is — Bring own chairs — Open for Preview 12 Noon Day of Auction

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