

# THE CHOWAN HERALD

**In this issue . . .  
Holiday events are planned  
. . . merchants gear up for  
Christmas shoppers & more!**

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## County Commissioners honored by state agency

Outstanding show of support for the public schools earns recognition

The North Carolina School Boards Association (NCSBA) honored the Chowan County Board of Commissioners as recipients of the 2000 North Carolina School Boards Association County Commissioners Award.

The award is presented annually by the NCSBA to a local county commission that demonstrates outstanding support of public schools.

The Chowan County Board of Commissioners were honored for their local financial contributions to public education in the areas of current expense and capital outlay allocations that have permitted the Edenton-Chowan school system to significantly improve services for students.

In 1999, Chowan County Commissioners committed to provide \$1.25 million dollars over a five-year period for the infusion of tech-

nology into the schools. Because of these additional funds, the students and staff of the Edenton-Chowan school system now have immediate access to a multi-media computer and high-speed Internet connections in every classroom, media center, computer lab, and workspace. The ratio of multi-media, Internet-ready computers has been improved to one for every four students primarily due to the funding provided by the commissioners.

In addition, Chowan County Commissioners were recognized for their willingness to fund the construction of a new D.F. Walker Elementary School through the authorization of a Certificate of Participation and additional funds to fix roofing needs at both John A. Holmes High School and Chowan Middle School.

Commissioners were also recognized for demonstrating their support for the school system in other ways than financial. They have assisted the school district in attracting teachers by waiving utility deposits for new teachers moving in to Chowan County. Viable partnerships have been estab-

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Chowan County Commissioners are joined by members of the Edenton-Chowan Board of Education as they accept the 2000 North Carolina School Boards Association County Commissioners Award for outstanding support of public education. The award was presented during an awards ceremony held in Greensboro on Nov. 13. (Submitted photo)

### Koonce is named Administrator of Year



Chowan Middle School assistant principal Willie Koonce, left, is congratulated by Dr. Allan Smith, local school superintendent, upon being named Administrator of the Year for the school system.

For 25 years, Willie Koonce has devoted his time and energy to education in the Edenton-Chowan school system. During that time he spent 19 years teaching and the past six years as assistant principal of Chowan Middle School.

This year he was honored by his peers, other administrators in the school district, by being named 2000-2001 Chowan County Administrator of the Year, an honor he accepted with humility and deep appreciation.

"Any one of our system's principals or assistant principals could have received this honor," Koonce said. "There are so many good things that each one of them do, but they chose me and that makes me feel good to know that I've done something good and for them to think that I deserve it."

Supt. Dr. Allan Smith said, "Willie is a very conscientious administrator and he takes

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### Candlelight Tour set for early December

Hayes Plantation Cottage will be among residences open for the tour

By REBECCA BUNCH  
Editor

With thoughts of the holiday season, comes the anticipation of being a part of one of this community's most exciting events - the Christmas Candlelight Tour. This year's tour is scheduled for Friday, Dec. 8 and Saturday, Dec. 9. Hours will be 4-8 p.m. both days.

Tour Chairman Susan Creighton, who is something of an authority on the subject, having chaired the past few tours, said that those organizing the event believe it will be one of their best ever.

"We have a beautiful tour of homes lined up for everyone to see and enjoy," she said. "We'd like to thank all of the homeowners who have so generously offered to open their homes to the public during this event."



Members of this year's Candlelight Tour Committee are (seated, l-r) Susan Creighton, chairman; Betsy Hunt; (standing, l-r) Beverly Kirchmier, co-chairman; Susan Adams; and Legion Britton. (Photo by Betsy Lawrence)

Creighton added that the tour planners are especially pleased to have Hayes Plantation, home of Mr.

and Mrs. John G. Wood IV, and Mrs. J. Gilliam Wood III as two of

the sites on the 2000 holiday tour.

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### Radiothon aids those who need it

BY DERRICK ARMSTEAD  
Staff Writer

EDENTON—With the aid of the media, many Americans have been educated on an assortment of medical issues. However, one disease has managed to remain a relative enigma to the general population, prompting the Albemarle Sickle Cell Support Group (ASCSG) to take action.

"Our purpose is twofold," said Reggie Thompson, organizer of the ASCSG's recent radiothon on the Edenton-based station, WBXB. "First, we think it's important to



### Rocking rhythm

Members of the United States Air Force Heritage of America Band's Jazz Ensemble perform a lively rendition of "Ol Man River" during a performance here Nov. 17 at Swain Auditorium. The well-attended concert was co-sponsored by the Chowan Arts Council, the Chowan Herald, and the Chowan Arts Council.

### Project is gaining steam

BY JEREMY DESPOSITO  
Cox NC Publications

EDENTON - A proposed bicycle-pedestrian trail that will link Soundside Road to Edenton's waterfront and Virginia Road may boost tourism and make pedestrian travel a little easier.

The town and Chowan County received a joint grant totaling \$500,000 for the trail, County Man-

ager Cliff Copeland said at the last county commissioners' meeting.

The grant requires a local match of \$150,000, which will be the responsibility of both the town and the county. The funds come from a Federal Highway Administration and state Department of Transportation's Transportation Enhancement Act grant, Town

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**Turkey Shoot**  
@Rocky Hock Community Center

Friday, November 24th & Saturday, November 25th  
7:00pm until turkey...hens...hams

Family Fun Sponsored  
by **Rocky Hock**  
**Ruritans**