

Somerset groom has local ties...2-C

Steamers camp grand slam with kids..... 1-B

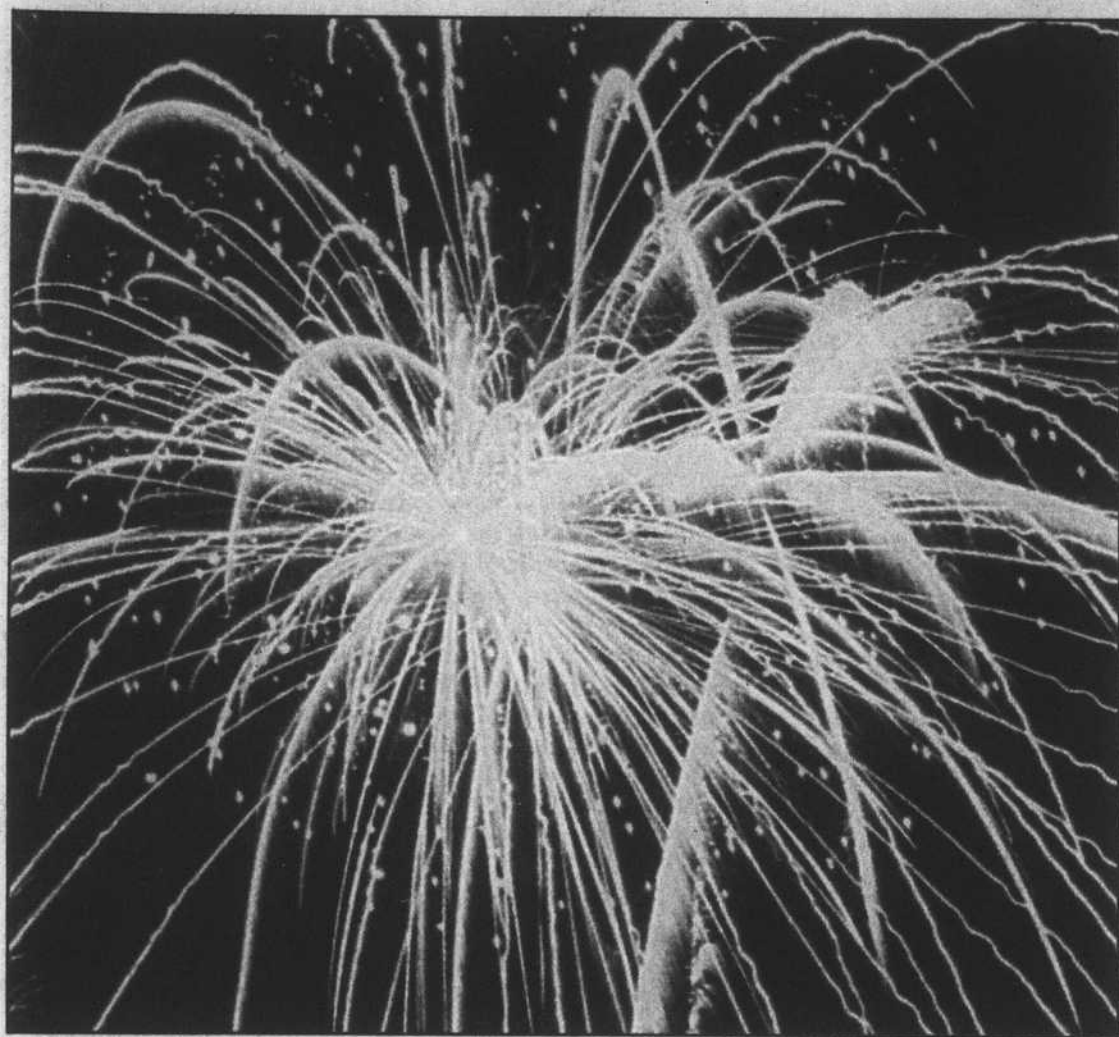
Storyteller delights Summer Reading crowd..... 6-A

# THE CHOWAN HERALD

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The Chowan-Edenton Optimist Club will again host our community's Fabulous Fourth of July Celebration this Friday at the downtown Edenton waterfront. There will be music, delicious food, a petting zoo, rides aboard the Optimist Club train, and much more. The festivities begin at 4 p.m. Fireworks are planned shortly to get underway around 9 p.m. (Chowan Herald file photo)

## Optimists to host July 4th festivities

BY REBECCA BUNCH  
Managing Editor

Independence Day is one of the most popular events in our community, drawing local and area residents to the downtown Edenton waterfront to enjoy the Fabulous Fourth of July hosted annually by the Chowan-Edenton Optimist Club. And this Friday's celebration will be no exception.

Starting at 4 p.m. there will be lots to see and enjoy, including a petting zoo, kiddie rides, pony rides and the ever-popular Optimist Club train.

Music will be provided by Reggie Byrum, a local DJ, and is scheduled to include oldies, Beach music, rock and roll. The club encourages local talent interested in performing to talk with Optimist Club members at the event.

Lots of delicious food is also planned. In addition to Mario's Restaurant and Leon Nixon Catering, other vendors will be



Pony rides will be among the attractions for youngsters at the July 4 celebration hosted this Friday by the Optimist Club. (Chowan Herald file photo)

on hand to provide everything from sno-cones and ice cream to funnel cakes, burgers, hot dogs and fries. Cold drinks will also be available.

The highlight of the evening will, of course, be a gorgeous

display of fireworks lighting up the night sky over the waterfront. Fireworks are scheduled to begin, courtesy of the Optimists, shortly after 9 p.m.

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend.

## Patriotism to be celebrated here

BY BETH TAYLOR  
Contributing Writer

On July 4, 1776 fifty-six men signed the Declaration of Independence in Philadelphia, PA. One of them, Joseph Hewes, lived in Edenton.

Two hundred twenty-seven years later, on Friday, July 4, at 10 a.m., the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR) Edenton Tea Party Chapter will sponsor a public ceremony honoring Joseph Hewes at the monument named in his honor which stands on the Courthouse Green.

The Declaration of Independence will be read by Chowan County Clerk of Court Mike McArthur. A biographical sketch of Hewes' life will be read by Chowan County Commissioner Louis Belfield, followed by the singing of the National Anthem by Ricky, Andrew and Allen Browder, and a prayer by the Rev. Thomas Biggs. American Legion Post 40 will present the colors.

It is an important event because only 56 men signed the declaration and Hewes was one of them. These men put their lives on the line and



The Edenton Tea Party Chapter DAR will host a public ceremony at the site of the Joseph Hewes monument on the Edenton waterfront the morning of July 4. The organization sponsors the event each year in honor of Joseph Hewes, an Edenton patriot who was the only North Carolina representative present to sign the document on July 4, 1776 in Philadelphia, PA. (Chowan Herald file photo)

many suffered for the signing of the Declaration of Independence. So, this Independence Day, before you head for the downtown Edenton waterfront

to enjoy this year's Fourth of July fireworks, please stop by the Courthouse Green and remember what started the fireworks.

**About Joseph Hewes**  
Joseph Hewes of Edenton was the only representative of North Carolina to sign the Declaration of Independence in Philadelphia on July 4, 1776. Of our three state's three delegates, only Hewes had attended the meetings of the Continental Congress and worked for the independence of the nation throughout that spring; North Carolina's other delegates would sign later.

Born in New Jersey in 1730, Joseph Hewes came to Edenton when he was 25 years old. He owned property on King Street, and opened a shipyard near where Granville meets Water Street. As Edenton's representative in the Colonial Assembly, he sponsored bills to construct our courthouse in 1767.

As Americans began to complain about how they were being treated by Great Britain, the 13 colonies began to work together. Joseph Hewes was sent to represent North Carolina at the first national meeting of all the colonies: the First Continental Congress. There, he helped create a Continental

See PATRIOTISM Page 3-A

## Squirrels cause power surges

BY ANGELA PEREZ  
Staff Writer

Edenton's Electric Department is a source of well-being for most area residents, but not for squirrels.

The tiny rodents were the cause of Tuesday's power surges. Like most squirrel-related power line incidents, the surges are caused when the animal touches two wires in a transformer or line and completes a circuit with its body.

"Rarely does this cause power outages for us," said Hawk Crumme, Director of Electric Services for the Town of Edenton, "but it does cause surges."

"And," he added with a chuckle, "the squirrels generally don't do too

well after they get 7200 volts going through them."

Most power lines have circuit breakers that work much like the ones found in most households. The breakers will work three times before locking out on the fourth time if the line is not clear. Usually, squirrels are blown off the transformer or off the line while it tries to clear itself.

This appears to be what happened on Tuesday. Adds Crumme, "This sort of thing happens all of the time. If there's something that can be done, we'd love to know about it."

Mr. Crumme also informed the Herald that the squirrels did not survive the ordeal.

## Vaughan says he'll run again

Roland Vaughn will seek another term as Mayor of Edenton in the November elections. Vaughn currently serves as mayor and has held that position since 1995. Being an Edenton native gives him a deep appreciation and respect for the citizens of his hometown.

"It's a position that I'm proud and honored to have," he states.

As mayor, Vaughn's accomplishments have included

See VAUGHAN On Page 3-A



Mayor Roland Vaughn

## Wright spirit pays visit to Edenton

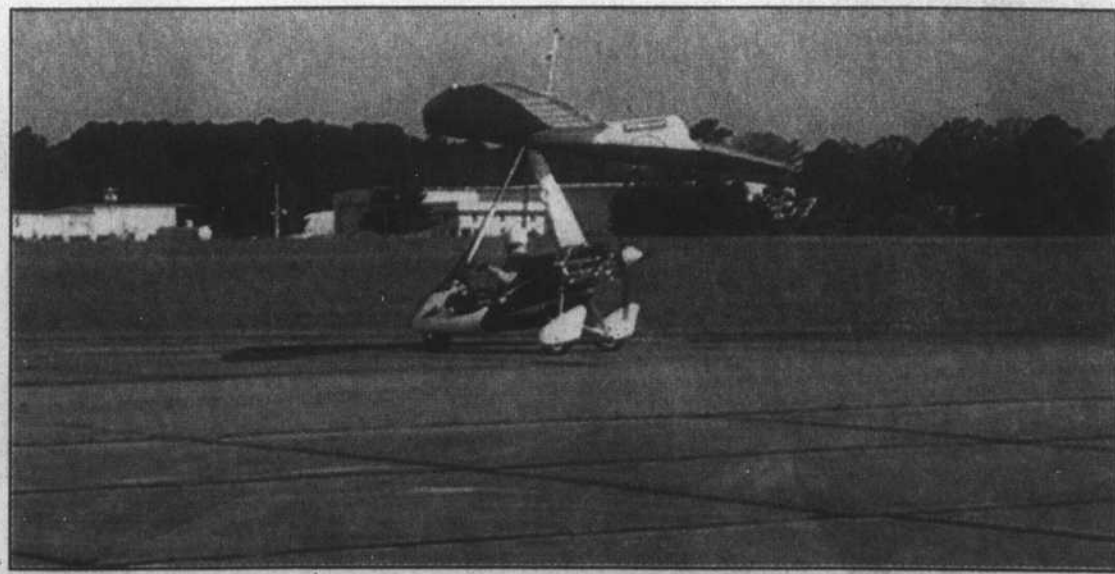
BY DAVID CRAWLEY  
Publisher

"Orville and Wilbur Wright were right," smiled an exuberant Guy Staynor as he gulped a couple of swallows of cold soda pop he had just dug out of a tub of Edenton, NC ice. "You can fly across the country in one of these, an airplane similar to what they built!"

Staynor, a pilot of 29 years works full-time at a Midwestern nuclear power plant and is one of about thirty ultra-light pilots who left Dayton Ohio on June 22 in route to Kitty Hawk, NC.

Staynor flies a machine

See SPIRIT On Page 5-A



This "trike" was one of a group of ultra-lights that stopped over in Edenton last Tuesday morning en route to Kitty Hawk. The flight originated in Dayton, OH. (Weagly photo)

**HAPPY JULY 4<sup>TH</sup> BE SAFE AND RESPONSIBLE**