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Staff photo by Ashley Misseri

Cancer survivor **Nicole Hartman** was the keynote speaker at this year's Relay for Life kickoff.

Kickoff for Relay celebrated

BY EARLINE WHITE
The Chowan Herald

Participants and team leaders for the Chowan/Perquimans Relay for Life had the opportunity to hear the touching stories of local cancer survivors at this year's kickoff ceremony held at Edenton Baptist Church on Thursday, February 3. Approximately 40 people turned out to celebrate life with those who have fought tremendous battles for their health.

Chairperson for the Relay for Life, Mistie Ali, introduced each of the cancer survivors and gave them a trophy and congratulatory words. All but one of the survivors is cancer free. Joey Davenport continues to live with a quarter-sized remnant of a tumor found a decade ago. Though he is not cancer free, Joey's spirits are high that he soon will be. Joey gave an emotional talk at the kickoff after which there was not a dry eye in the crowd. Joey's fighting spirit and courage is an illustration of the enduring spirit of all cancer survivors.

The Relay will be held this year on May 20-21. There will be three captain meetings prior to the relay on February 22, March 22, and April 19. Bank night will be held May 12.

After an invocation by Jack Evans and a scrumptious meal catered by Gail Singh of "That Fancy Café", everyone's attention turned to one of Edenton's

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House of Art opens on E. King Street

School system recognizes exceptional staff

BY EARLINE WHITE
The Chowan Herald

Chowan County teachers have been working especially hard this year. In addition to their usual responsibilities of making daily, weekly and semester long lesson plans, holding parent conferences, instructing the youth each day, attending PTA, and leading clubs, nine teachers within the Edenton-Chowan School system went the extra mile and have become National Board Certified Teachers. A voluntary process, the National Board is a vigorous performance-based assessment that takes over a year to complete. At Monday night's Board of Education meeting the latest to become certified were recognized. The Outstanding Educators included Patsy Austin, Joy Brickhouse, Holly Daniels, Lori English, Dawn Formo, Beverly Jones, Shirley Powell, Brenda Seymour and Deborah

West. With the addition of these nine exceptional instructors, Edenton-Chowan is happy to have 38 National Board certified teachers; 19 percent of the instructional staff.

At the reception held Monday, the teachers of the Year were also recognized. Mary Helen Gaddy of Chowan Middle School, Robert Copeland of D. F. Walker, Connie Ashley of White Oak, and Sherlton Broadnax of John A. Holmes were selected and may go on to represent the school system at the District and hopefully State level. Sherlton Broadnax was also Chowan County's Teacher of the Year for which she received the Jefferson Cup.

Other honors given were the NC Technology Director of the Year to Nelle Hyatt. Sheila Evans, Principal of D. F. Walker, was recognized as the Administrator of the Year.

In other business, Jonathan Davidson presented the 100%



Staff photo by Earline White

The Edenton-Chowan school system is happy to recognize nine more outstanding educators who have gone the extra mile to become National Board Certified. Those teachers include **Lori English, Patsy Austin, Holly Daniels, Dawn Formo, Beverly Jones, Shirley Powell, Brenda Seymour, Joy Brickhouse, Deborah West** also received certification but is not pictured.

Tobacco Free Schools Plaque to the Board. "In March of 2003, Edenton-Chowan schools were the 21st system in North

Carolina to adopt the tobacco-free school policy," Davidson said. "Now there are 49 schools in North Carolina under the

policy. I present this plaque to you and thank you for helping

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UNIQUE PROFESSION

Careers in nursing not just for women

BY ANGELA PEREZ
Contributing Writer

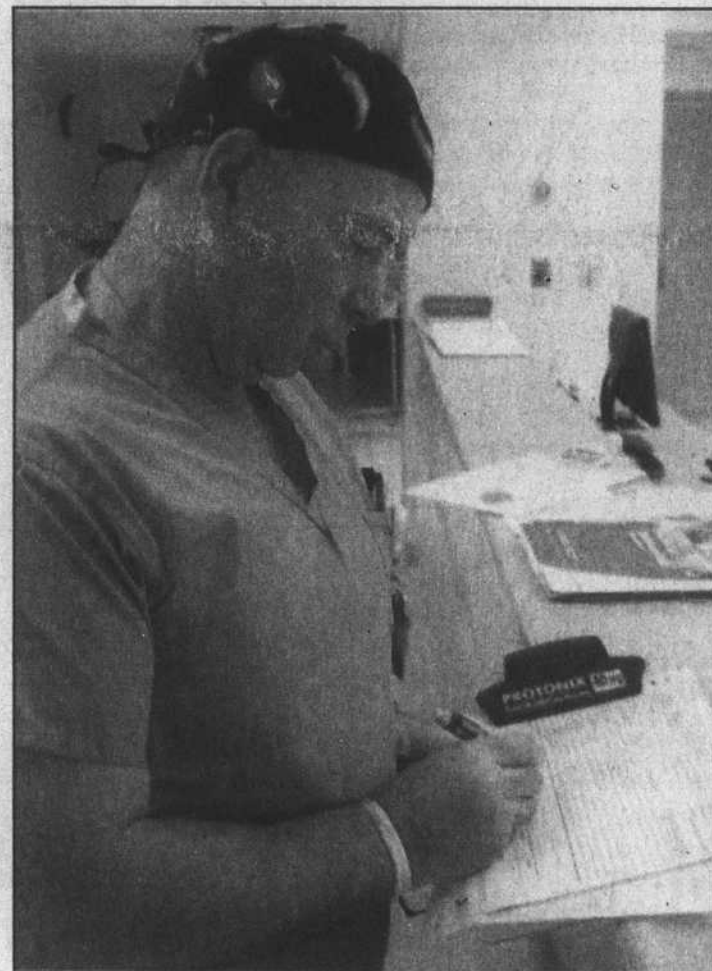
Skiing the Swiss Alps. Indulging in the fine red wine of Hungarian kings.

Unlocking the mysterious secrets of the opulent Blue Mosque in Turkey.

Strolling along the glorious waterfront of downtown Historic Edenton (yes, Edenton).

All of these exciting adventures and more were made possible for Frank Touron through a 25-year career in nursing. Touron, who now resides in Tyner, is a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA) at Chowan Hospital in Edenton. CRNAs administer anesthesia to patients in a variety of settings from hospitals to dental practices. Touron's lifelong work has primarily been administering anesthesia to his countrymen in the U.S. Army at stations all over the world.

"I went into nursing in the 60s, during a time when nursing where I came from wasn't seen as all that unusual," said Touron, a native of Ogdensburg in upstate New York. "True, it has always been a female-dominated field, but that never was an issue for me." Touron said that he felt that through the Army, he could travel the world and serve his fellow man. Touron has even practiced at critical times of war, serving during the Vietnam War, Grenada, and even Desert Storm. "After such a long clinical career, he at one point considered going into nursing administration or education. But several factors kept him in the field of anesthesiology. "Certainly nowadays, the money



Contributed Photo by Angela Perez

Frank Touron, a nurse anesthetist at Chowan Hospital, has worked in the field of nursing for 25 years. Touron, now residing in Tyner, has traveled the world and served in three major wars as a result of his skills and training.

is there to attract students because there is such a shortage of nurse anesthetists," said Touron. To become a CRNA, one must not only be a registered nurse, but you must graduate from a nurse anesthesia educational program, most of which are at the Master's Degree level. "But it is also a matter of job security. As a nurse, any kind of nurse, you will always have a job."

Endless possibilities

The numbers of women and men in the nursing workforce are still vastly disproportionate, according to reports from the North Carolina Center for Nursing. In 2003, there were an estimated 4,442 male RNs working in North Carolina compared to 64,829 female RNs.

However, in the field of

nurse anesthetists in North Carolina, where salaries typically range from \$86,078 (1 year of experience) to \$103,987 (8 years of experience), there are 1,445 CRNAs actively practicing, with 35% of those being men.

The CRNA field has a lot more men than other areas of nursing primarily because men tend to go into specialty areas, said Joe Foster, Chief CRNA at Chowan Hospital. "I think that male nurses often go into areas that pay more because they feel that they need to help support their family." Foster, who began his career 32 years ago as a medic in the Navy, said that he first became a

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Thermal imaging now available to Edenton, Center Hill firemen



Staff photo by Sean Jackson

Edenton Fire Department Captain **Hawk Crumme**, Edenton Town Manager **Ann-Marie Knighton**, Edenton Fire Chief **Chuck Westbrook**, Emergency Management Coordinator **Patty Madry**, Center Hill-Crossroads Fire Chief **Louis Nixon**, and Edenton-Chowan Emergency Services Director **Doug Belch** were on hand for the presentation of new thermal imaging cameras for local firefighters.

BY SEAN JACKSON
The Chowan Herald

In the cold grip of winter, people take every step to keep their homes warm. Unfortunately, that fact also leads to a surge in house fires during the winter season.

In northern Chowan County and Edenton, residents may feel a little safer knowing that the volunteer and paid firefighters charged with protecting their homes from such blazes have increased their means to douse flames.

On Feb. 3, the Edenton and Center Hill-Crossroads fire department, were presented with a valuable tool that may be used in firefighting and other emergencies, Edenton-Chowan special projects coordinator Peter Rascoe stated in a press release last week.

Funded with a grant from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Edenton-Chowan Emergency Management Coordinator Patty Madry and Edenton-Chowan Emergency Services Director Doug Belch were able to procure two state-of-the-art thermal imaging cameras, one for each fire department.

"Patty Madry and Doug

Belch have worked hard in securing these grant monies to obtain this valuable piece of equipment for us," Edenton Fire Chief Chuck Westbrook said. "We appreciate their efforts very much."

Manufactured by the Scott Health and Safety Equipment Company, these special heat seeking image detection cameras are valued at over \$11,000 each.

"They are extremely useful in locating unseen hot spots in structure fires, conducting searches for humans on land and on water surfaces, delineating quantities of liquids and gases in storage containers, and in delineating the spill area of hazardous substances," Rascoe stated. "Images from the cameras may also be transmitted from the scene of an emergency directly to a remote monitor at a command center."

In addition, Chowan County added to its firefighting arsenal by recently accepting a Perquimans County-base unit into the fold. The Belvidere-Chappell Hill Fire Department, though not physically located in Chowan County recently became a "Chowan County Fire Department," Rascoe told *The Chowan Herald*.

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