

FEATURES

Plants Bicentennial Tree

BY RICHARD BENTON GTI News Bureau

JAMESTOWN--A Bicentennial project which may carry over into America's Tricentennial observance has been launched by Guilford Technical Institute.

The project involves the planting of a tree seedling on the GTI Jamestown campus.

With all due respect, however, it is a special tree: a sequoia sempervirens, native to the Pacific Coast and more commonly called the Coast Redwood.

The nine-inch seedling at Guilford Tech was one of 1,000 sent to community colleges across the nation by the College of the Redwoods in Eureka, California. Because the "tall trees of red wood" were observed by early explorers of this country, the college has undertaken a Bicentennial project to have seedlings planted in every state of the Union.

But GTI representatives view the project in a much broader sense. With a little care and a lot of luck, they think the seedling can be a focal point for the local observance of America's Tricentennial. By the year 2,076, the tree should be well on its way toward a mature size of 100 feet in height with a 30-foot spread. It could grow even larger in its native habitat.

Mrs. Mertys W. Bell, dean of learning resources and chairman of Guilford Tech's Bicentennial Committee, said quite a bit of symbolism stands behind the local planting of the seedling.

"According to information we received from the College of the Redwoods, the trees have been in existence for more than a million centuries," she explained. "Leaf imprints in ancient

coal and rock formations indicate there were nearly 50 different species in the Northern Hemisphere alone."

Mrs. Bell said about a dozen redwood species were native to North America during the age of the dinosaurs, and that three species survive today after having adapted to harsh climatic and environmental changes during the millenniums.

Chinese explorer Hui Shan, who sailed the Pacific rim in the year A.D. 458, first wrote of American forests having "tall trees of red wood."

"The redwoods are majestic, durable, and have historical significance," Mrs. Bell said. "They have been officially designated as Bicentennial Liberty Trees by the California Bicentennial Commission, and the seedlings like we

planted are designed to be living reminders of the ideals of our nation: resistance to corruption, longevity, stability and resiliency, and high-reaching aspirations.

So what are the survival chances for Guilford Tech's redwood seedling?

"We are encouraged by the planting instructions sent with the seedling," Mrs. Bell said. "Redwoods are not generally bothered by pests or disease, and with proper fertilization and watering should adapt to our climate. Our seedling will need special protection, however, when the temperature drops below 15 degrees Fahrenheit."

The planting site was chosen on the Jamestown campus to conform with other recommendations by the donor, and representatives of the Student Govern-



GTI Faculty and Students Plant Bicentennial tree

ment Association have promised to maintain a watchful eye on the seedling during its first several years of adaptation.

"The tree is planted in a wooded area in the middle of the main circular drive

in front of the new Medlin Campus Center," Mrs. Bell said. "This site provides the necessary shelter and locates the tree in a prominent position on campus."

None of the seedlings planters, of course, expects

to view the tree during America's Tricentennial observance. They hope others will, however, and that GTI's 1976 tree-planting project will provide an interesting link between the Bicentennial and the Tricentennial festivities.

History

JEFFERSON LONG (1836-1900) U.S. Congressman From Georgia

When Jefferson Long took his seat in Congress, 1870, he became the first Black to be elected to the United States House of Representatives. The day he was elected, white Georgians killed seven Blacks and chased Long to a courthouse where he remained until friends sneaked him to an uncompleted sewer. Jefferson Long had been a leader of Blacks in Macon, Georgia where he had a thriving business as a merchant tailor but was persuaded to run for Congress when the white Congressman-elect was denied a seat in the House because of doubt about the honesty of his election. Jefferson Long won by only nine hundred votes, although it has been said that the votes for him would have been much larger had not many Blacks been terrorized into staying away from the polls. His first speech in Congress was devoted to ways and means of protecting Blacks who were qualified to vote, but who were unjustly prevented from voting by unreconstructed whites. The disheartening experience of his election made such an impression on him that he declined to stand for re-election but he did retain an active interest in Republican politics. Years after his leaving Congress, Republican politicians, Black and white, would seek him out for advice which he dispensed freely. Jefferson Long's term in Congress was very short, but he was the second Black to ever enter that body in other than a menial capacity.

Country Commission

Continued from page 2

"The Commission will work with officials in my administration to study these problems and to recommend actions to resolve them and to help improve the quality of life. It will be a continuing commission to insure that recommendations are implemented."

The Commission will be composed of 34 members representing the 17 multi-county planning regions. There would be one representative from wity and county governments for each region, assuring representation for all areas of the state and all types of government. The Commission would advise, counsel and co-

operate with officials of the Department of Human Resources, Natural and Economic Resources, Transportation, Commerce, Agriculture, Public Instruction, Community Colleges and also the Research Triangle Institute, University System and other related agencies, departments and organizations.

It would receive advice and information from the League of Municipalities, the Association of County Commissioners, the Local Government Commission and other commissions and organizations involved in intergovernmental relations.

Justice System

Continued from page 2

maximum security inmates carry keys to their own rooms. The warden Dr. Donald Deppe explained their theory that security exist in getting to know the inmates and their problems so that abnormal behavior can be detected as it begins to develop. Dr. Deppe explained that the traditional prisons put prisoners on the defensive by engaging them and constantly con-

fronting them with weapons. Van Hecke also discovered that the over crowded conditions are being caused by a tendency for judges to give longer sentences than in the past and by the presence of minor drug offenders and alcoholics in the prisons. These are some of the problems the Knox Commission on Corrections is studying and taking steps to eliminate.

Friends And Relatives In The Military

SAN ANTONIO--Airman Valerie T.V. Marshall, whose father is Leroy Venable of 309 S. Seventh St., Barstow, Calif., has been assigned to Sheppard AFB, Tex., after completing Air Force basic training.



During the six weeks training at Lackland AFB, Tex., the airman studied the Air Force mission, organization and customs and received special instruction in human relations. Airman Marshall will now receive specialized training in the medical services field. The airman attended High Point (N.C.) Central High School, and Davidson County Community College at Lexington, N.C. Her husband, Sergeant Floyd D. Marshall Jr., is the son of

Mr. and Mrs. Floyd D. Marshall Sr. of 1017 Meadowbrook, High Point.

SAN ANTONIO-- Airman Shelby J. Bright, whose parents are Mr. and Mrs. Walter C. Bright of Rt. 1, Rocky Point, N.C., has been assigned to Sheppard AFB, Tex., after completing Air Force basic training.



During the six weeks training at Lackland AFB, Tex., the airman studied the Air Force mission, organization and customs and received special instruction in human relations. Airman Bright will now receive specialized training in the medical services field. The airman is a 1973 graduate of Burgaw (N.C.) High School.

SACRAMENTO, Calif.-- First Lieutenant Robert Jason Jr., whose mother is Mrs. Alease Jackson of 2411-G Phillip Ave., Greensboro, N.C., has been awarded silver wings upon graduation from U.S. Air Force navigator training at Mather AFB, Calif.



Lieutenant Jackson is remaining at Mather for advanced training.

The lieutenant, a 1971 graduate of Dudley Senior High School, received his B. S. degree in 1975 from North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University, where he was commissioned through the Air Force Reserve Officers Training Corps program.

Lieutenant Jackson's wife, Alice, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John C. Britt of Murfreesboro, N.C.



SAN ANTONIO--John R. Buffalo, whose wife, Edith, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Elvin Bass of Rt. 2, Rougemont, N.C., has been commissioned a second lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force upon graduation from Officer Training School at Lackland AFB, Tex.

Lieutenant Buffalo, selected through competitive examination for attendance at the school, now goes to Bergstrom AFB, Tex., for duty as a munitions officer

The lieutenant, a 1961 graduate of Thomas A. Edison High School in Philadelphia, received his B.B.A. degree in 1975 from the University of Texas at Austin.

SAN ANTONIO--Airman Andre L. Wilson, son of Mrs. Margaret L. Wilson of 41 Klondike Place, Asheville, N. C., has been assigned to Keesler AFB, Miss., after completing Air Force basic training.

During the six weeks training at Lackland AFB, Tex., the airman studied the Air Force mission, organization and customs and received special instruction in human relations.

Airman Wilson will now receive specialized training in the administrative field.

The airman is a 1975 graduate of Asheville High School. His father is Willie Wilson of 38 Hazzard St., Asheville.

Sickle Cell Program Suffers Cutbacks

RALEIGH--The Sickle Cell Syndrome Program can no longer fund medical services for patients with sickle cell disease. This measure, effective July 1, 1976, is part of statewide cutbacks in spending.

Included in the services being eliminated are inpatient and outpatient hospitalization, physician and dental services, drugs and appliances.

The program will continue to provide education, testing, screening, counseling, referral and follow-up services. These services are provided by local health departments, funded sickle cell projects and the Division of Health Services' Regional Office Staff.

According to T.B. Haynes, Program Manager of the Sickle Cell Syndrome Program, efforts are underway to replace budget reductions with aid from both other state and private agencies.

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Hunt Program

Continued from page 2

development efforts in one strong visible department and leaving NER as a strong natural-resources and community development department.

Hunt also proposed establishing a new Economic Development Board to draw up and carry out an economic expansion program for the

state and called for better targeting by the state of economic activity it wants, such as market-oriented firms, research and development firms and corporate headquarters.

"I'm not talking about simple problems," Hunt said, "and there aren't any simple solutions."

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