

ECSU receives \$300,000 Kellogg Foundation Grant

From staff reports

Elizabeth City State University is working to educate the next generation of teachers, and thanks to a recent \$300,000 grant award from the W. K. Kellogg Foundation, 10 teachers-in-training will have the chance to work with area students.

The purpose of the grant is to help prepare the student-teachers to work in rural, high-need schools. IGNITE-Next Generation of New Teachers is a collaborative effort between ECSU, College of the Albemarle, and Halifax Community College.

"This grant will support students who have earned an associate's degree in obtaining a Bachelor's Degree

in Elementary Education. Its purpose is to provide support in content knowledge, culturally relevant pedagogy, and project based learning," said Dr. Gwendolyn Williams, Endowed Chair of the ECSU Education, Psychology, and Health Department. "This collaborative project will recruit, prepare, and license the teacher-education candidates to positively focus on the learning outcomes of students taught in high-need rural schools in North Carolina."

Student-teachers with an education associate's degree will work through ECSU's education program

to reinforce skills, and gain new knowledge in the education field. They will enter ECSU and become more

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Dr. Gwendolyn Williams

Endowed chair of ECSU Education, Psychology and Health Department

adept in the education process in an effort to enhance achievement in the region's rural schools. The project will also prepare the student-teachers for a residency program.

The IGNITE project will also partner with the Northeast Academy of Aerospace and Advanced Technologies (NEAAAT). These stu-

dent-teachers will have an opportunity to work with NEAAAT, located on the ECSU campus, and while they receive training as future educators, also lend their experience and enthusiasm for education to students in grades 7 through 11.

"The notion of 'home-grown' teachers can be

a powerful force in rural North Carolina, and speaks volumes to the goal of nurturing relationships with our partnerships," said Williams.

The need for more teachers in North Carolina has grown in recent years. The student-teachers working through the IGNITE project will work to decrease teacher turnover in Northeast North Carolina through coursework, professional development, and mentoring.

The IGNITE project supports ECSU's mission of promoting economic, social, and environmental progress in the region.

The Kellogg Foundation is based in Battle Creek, Michigan, and works throughout the United

States and internationally, as well as with sovereign tribes. Special emphasis is paid to priority places where there are high concentrations of poverty and where children face significant barriers to success. The Kellogg Foundation priority places in the U.S. are in Michigan, Mississippi, New Mexico, and New Orleans; and internationally, are in Mexico and Haiti. For more information, visit www.wkkr.org.

ECSU, a constituent institution of the University of North Carolina, has 28 undergraduate degree offerings and four graduate degree programs, flexible study options, and research opportunities. For more information, visit www.ecsu.edu.

Umfleet to talk about North Carolina's role in 'Great War'

From staff reports

LeRae Umfleet from the North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources will be the featured speaker at a special program on the traveling exhibit, "North Carolina in the Great War," at the Historic Edenton Visitor Center this week.

The program will take place on Thursday evening from 5-7 p.m. and everyone is welcome, however you are asked to call the visitor center at 482-2637 to re-



UMFLEET

serve your place if you plan to attend since seating is limited.

Portions of the exhibit can be viewed in the lobby at the visitor center and includes several items on loan from local families.

Umfleet, who works in the Education and Outreach Division at the state DNCR, oversees com-

memorative activities and outreach programs across the state.

Throughout her career in public historic, Umfleet has worked with a multitude of sites in a variety of capacities, including the North Carolina State Archives, the North Carolina Collection in Chapel Hill, the Joel Lane Museum House in Raleigh, Davis Library in Chapel Hill, and Historic Hope Plantation in Windsor.

Umfleet has served on the board of directors for the North Carolina Muse-

WANT TO ATTEND?

- What: North Carolina in the Great War
- When: June 20, 5-7 p.m.
- Where: Historic Edenton Visitor Center
- Contact: 482-2637 to reserve your seat
- Cost: Free

ums Council, the North Carolina Digital Heritage

Center, the North Carolina Preservation Consortium, the Historic Stagville Foundation, the Raleigh Heritage Trail, and the Bertie County Arts Council.

Originally from Bath, North Carolina, Umfleet graduated from UNC-Chapel Hill in 1991 with a Bachelor's Degree in History. She then attended the Archival Management Program at NC State and transferred to East Carolina University where she graduated with a Master's Degree in 1998.

Reflecting her personal interest in plantation slavery, her Master's thesis was entitled "Slavery in Microcosm: Bertie County, North Carolina in 1790-1810."

Umfleet also published "A Day of Blood: the 1898 Wilmington Race Riot," based on research for which she was awarded the American Association of State and Local History Award of Merit and their prestigious WOW Award.

For more information about the program, please call the 482-2637.

Vidant Chowan Hospital named baby-friendly birth facility

From staff reports

Baby-Friendly USA, announced that Vidant Chowan Hospital has been designated as a Baby-Friendly birth facility.

Baby-Friendly USA, Inc is the U.S. authority for the implementation of the Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative (BFHI), a global program sponsored by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

Baby-Friendly hospitals and birthing facilities must adhere to the Ten Steps to Successful Breastfeeding to receive, and retain, a Baby-Friendly designation. The Ten Steps to Successful Breastfeeding is a system developed to measure evidence-based practices that have been shown to increase breastfeeding initiation and duration.

The initiative encourages and recognizes hospitals and birthing centers that offer an optimal level of care for breastfeeding mothers and their babies. Based on the Ten Steps to Successful Breastfeeding, this inter-

"This designation is built on a foundation of evidenced based quality maternity and newborn care to achieve optimal newborn feeding and mother/baby bonding."

Cindy Coker

Vidant Chowan Hospital vice president of patient care services

national award recognizes birth facilities that offer breastfeeding mothers the information, confidence and skills needed to successfully breastfeed their babies. The initiative has a measurable and proven impact, increasing the likelihood of babies being exclusively breastfed for the first six months.

"Receiving designation as a Baby-Friendly Hospital recognizes the quality care our Birthing Center staff provide to newborns and their mothers," said Cindy Coker, Vidant Chowan Hospital's Vice President of Patient Care Services. "This designation is built on a foundation of evidenced based quality maternity and newborn care to achieve optimal newborn

feeding and mother/baby bonding. We are very excited to receive this prestigious designation and are honored to provide family centered care to the families in the communities we serve."

There are more than 20,000 designated Baby-Friendly hospitals and birth centers worldwide, with the Vidant Chowan Hospital Birthing Center being the 444th hospital/birthing center in the United States to hold this designation. The "Baby-Friendly" designation is given after a rigorous survey is completed. The award is maintained by continuing to practice the Ten Steps to Successful Breastfeeding as demonstrated by quality processes.



KELLY HERR PHOTO

Vidant Chowan Hospital has been named a Baby-Friendly Birth Facility. Those who helped in the effort to secure the designation included, from left, Alisa Perry, retired Birthing Center Manager; Allison Eure, Birthing Center Manager; Selma Boucher, Lactation Consultant; Cindy Coker, Vice President of Patient Care Services.

Once in a lifetime: Albemarle to view partial solar eclipse

BY PETER WILLIAMS
For the Chowan Herald

Sometimes you have to be in just the right place to get an once-in-a-lifetime experience.

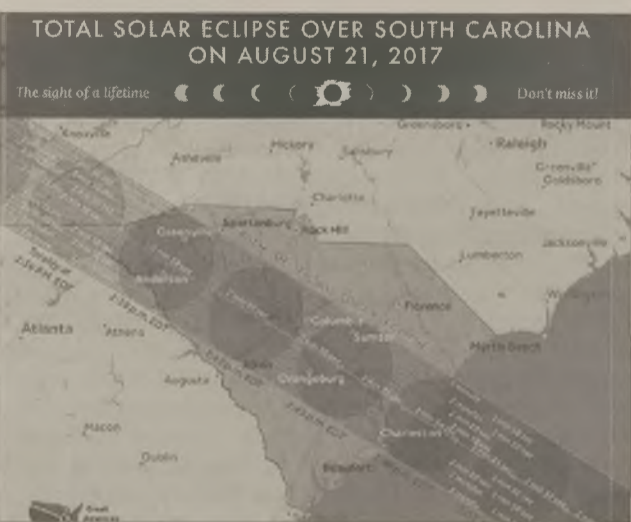
On Aug. 21, the Albemarle region isn't exactly the right place, but it's close.

On that day — weather permitting — area residents will get a pretty good look at what a partial solar eclipse looks like.

To see the full total eclipse — know as the 'path of totality' — you'll have to be somewhere along a roughly 70-mile swath that goes from Oregon across the country to South Carolina.

A total eclipse happens when the moon completely blocks out the light of the sun. Total solar eclipses are not unheard of. One happens about every year or every other year somewhere on Earth. But they may happen in remote places. The partial eclipse will be at the peak in the Albemarle area about 2:48 p.m. It will start at about 1:21 p.m.

The last time a total eclipse



A map shows the route of the total eclipse over South Carolina.

was visible in North Carolina was in 1970. Before that, it was 1900.

If you want to wait for the next one, it's in 2078. If you miss that, there is another one in 2099.

The total eclipse will pass over the far western part of North Carolina including Bryson City and Murphy. There the total eclipse may last between 2 minutes 39

seconds to two minutes and 30 seconds.

In South Carolina, the cities of Greenville and Columbia are within the "path of totality." Charleston is too, but just barely.

If you don't want to travel hours and hours for something that may only last for three minutes, you can be prepared to enjoy what you do have right here at home.

Important safety tip: Don't stare at the sun.

Second safety tip: Sunglasses alone won't stop you from doing permanent damage to your eyes.

If you want to learn more about eclipses, the Khan Planetarium at Elizabeth City State University is one place to go.

It's named for Dr. Sultana Khan and she can put on a program for groups of at least 20 people. Even if you don't have a group that large, Khan said call her at 335-4759 and she can arrange smaller groups into a larger group to accommodate everyone.

Khan said the educational star show is not specific to this eclipse coming up in August. It's more generic to show what an eclipse, why it happens and how to view it. The program is geared toward elementary school-age children, but Khan said adults should get something out of it as well.

Just don't expect to see Khan at the ECSU planetarium come Aug. 21. She'll be in South Carolina. She said she booked her room months

ago.

If you want to make the trip but are concerned about cloud cover, Khan said NOAA will offer a forecast of where the best place to view it may be. Khan said she'll be monitoring that when she goes to South Carolina.

If you can't make the trip, a visit to NASA's web site may be your best decision.

"They will do an actual video feed of the eclipse," Khan said.

Optometrist Dr. Peter Mitrev urges people to use common sense if they want to view an eclipse no matter if it's total or partial. He works at offices in Elizabeth City, Kitty Hawk, Nags Head, Edenton and Washington.

Looking directly at the sun for more than a few seconds poses risks, Mitrev said.

"They don't recommend looking directly at the sun for any length of time."

While it may not immediately blind a person, Mitrev said it could create a condition that causes problems later. He recommends looking at optical supply stores

for the proper filter, and says sunglasses alone aren't enough. He stressed do not look at the sun through binoculars or a scope because it will make the damage worse.

Dr. Scott Matthews, an optometrist who practices in Williamston, said staring directly at the sun for over 10 or 15 seconds carries the risk of solar retinopathy.

"Sometimes it's reversible. You could have vision loss for a couple of days and get better."

Based on his research, the mentally handicapped may be at a higher risk of doing damage to their eyes because they won't appreciate what is happening.

"With solar retinopathy, the only thing you can do is hurry up and wait. There are no medications to make it better. It could be years worth of damage, or weeks, or days."

It's also possible the eyes will never totally heal.

For more on the eclipse, visit: <https://eclipse2017.nasa.gov/> or <http://www.eclipse2017.org/2017/viewing.HTM>