

# Steamers

Continued From Page 1-A

ers a place to stay for the short season; and, as a consequence, introduces the players to the Edenton community with the help of their hosts. The arrangement has obvious benefits for the players, who would have trouble finding or affording housing over such a short period; but it also benefits the host families. Just ask the Boehlings.

"It's like you have an older brother," both Emily, 13, and Liza, 9, say. "It's just a lot of fun to have the players around."

Steamers pitcher Billy Boughey and catcher Austin Smithwick stayed with the Boehlings this summer and Chad Bawmann and Jeff Hasse stayed with them in 1998; and the Boehlings are aching to get another pair of players for the upcoming season.

"They were great role models for all these kids," Mary Boehling said.

"They were all very different, but they were all great," Peter Boehling added. "All have been really family oriented, friendly, sensitive ... There's something about baseball that makes them different from other sports, it's just an extension of their youth; and these guys just seem to live baseball."

That's just fine for the Boehlings' 11-year-old son Alex, who's a big baseball fan and Little League player. Alex watches baseball games—and wrestling—on television with the Steamers players, Peter said. And not only does Alex attend most of the Steamers home games, but the Steamers players also make it a point to attend Alex's Little League games, just like any big brother would.

"We've got five kids going in five different directions," Mary said, "and we still

wouldn't miss a (Steamers) game." Alex Boehling even celebrated his birthday at a Steamers game.

There's a lot of giving on both sides of this arrangement, the Boehlings say. The Boehlings get to introduce the players to everything Edenton has to offer: water sports, fishing, hospitality. And the players bring a summer camp atmosphere to the home. In fact, they've taken to calling the place Camp Boehling.

It's a good example of how the Steamers influence extends off the playing field. Call it the "Steamers Outreach Program," wherever the players go they make friends—and fans.

If you check out one section of the wall at Snooker's Grill in Edenton, you'll see dozens of signatures. They're the names of Steamers players who've made the place their unofficial hangout while in town. The names include players from California, Florida,

Ohio, Virginia, from all over.

Wanda Westbrook of Snooker's sees the impact the players have on the kids in the town, especially her 10-year-old son Joseph.

"For him it's just like having a big brother, he really gets attached," Westbrook said. Joseph got to be the bat boy for some of the Steamers games. He's even been involved in autograph sessions where he signs his name as "Bat Boy."

"It's a big deal for these kids to see and talk to these college-aged players," Wanda said. "It's like going to a pro game and getting to meet the players."

"It's a good family atmosphere at the games," she continued. "And you see a lot of families there."

The level of play at the Steamers game is professional, but the atmosphere is more fan-friendly than in the majors.

"It's a whole other thing with the Steamers, if you want an autograph, they'd give it to

you," Emily Boehling said.

But the family atmosphere fostered by the Steamers doesn't end with the season. Players that have stayed with the Boehlings still keep in touch through e-mails, cards and even visits. Likewise, Joseph Westbrook keeps up a regular correspondence with the players.

"Two months is long enough to make friends for life," Peter Boehling said. "We look forward to having the players here in a big way. And, I'll tell you, it's a sad day when they leave."

Community leaders earlier this fall launched an effort to ensure the Steamers keep coming back year after year. The group organized an effort to buy the franchise for \$150,000 and run the team as a nonprofit outfit benefiting youth athletics and activities in Chowan County. The board of the Steamers will be formed through the Edenton-Chowan Community Foundation, an

already existing local nonprofit that agreed to be the parent organization for the effort.

Both the Boehlings and the Westbrooks see the effort as a positive step to bring the team—and its players—even closer to the community.

"That's the security we need to keep the team here and have local control," Boehling said. "The Steamers increase public interest in baseball, and all levels of baseball benefit."

The Edenton-Chowan Community Foundation is trying to raise the money by the end of December in order to shore up ownership of the team. They already raised more than \$25,000 toward the purchase, but they are still in need of additional donations. Anyone wanting to make a one-time, tax-deductible investment in the Steamers can send a check to: The Edenton-Chowan Community Foundation, P.O. Box 86, Edenton, NC 27932. For more information, contact Tom Howe at 252-482-4080.

# Offices

Continued From Page 1-A

moved. The elevator shaft and the stairs now share the same area of the building, something that is hazardous in the event of a fire.

"That current situation (with the elevator) is totally illegal," Traub said.

Several commissioners wanted to know if it would be less expensive and better in the long run to demolish the current structure and build from scratch on the same site.

Traub said this would be difficult because county employees would have to find another place to work while the demolition and construction took place. In

Traub's mind, there were two alternatives: build new at a different site or renovate the current facility, moving offices around while the renovation and addition proceeded.

Traub said if the commissioners wanted to keep the offices in downtown Edenton, they would have to renovate the existing structure and rely on efficient additions.

The matter now moves to the county's finance committee, where payment options for such a project will be mapped out, Copeland said.

Copeland said they need to find a final plan that will give Chowan County an office facility for the next 20 to 40 years.

"We've got a big decision to make," Commissioner James C. Dail said.

Traub said such an extensive

project could take up to 10 years to complete. Traub is familiar with Edenton. He's renovated several houses in the Cotton Mill and Village. He is currently working on renovating the Perquimans County Courthouse in Hertford. He said he mostly works on historic properties.

In other business, the Chowan County Commissioners:

• Heard that the board of the Shepard-Pruden Library are preparing a recommendation for either expanding their current facility on Water Street or moving to space in the old Cotton Mill at the invitation of Preservation N.C.

County Manager Copeland said one of the proposals on the table calls for adding 3,000 square feet to the existing two-

story, 4,647-square-foot library, plus additional renovations. That proposal would cost about \$750,000.

Another option calls for moving the library into Edenton's Cotton Mill. Preservation N.C. offered 12,000 square feet of the old cotton mill to house the library. This renovation project would cost about \$1.2 to \$1.3 million, Copeland said. In this scenario, the county would retain possession of the current library building.

The library board plans to review its options before making a recommendation to the county commissioners. Copeland said the library board might schedule a public forum to discuss the matter.

Want to stay informed about upcoming events?  
Just pick up the Herald every Wednesday!

**NORTH GUNS and AMMO**  
"Everything in Stock at Prices You Won't Believe!"  
2 mi. past Albemarle Hospital  
North Hwy. 17  
**338-2219**

**Watch Your BACK!**

Regular chiropractic care leads to more than just a healthy back. It can also relieve the following symptoms:

- Headaches • Neck Pain • Leg Pain • Hip Pain • Shoulder Pain • Muscle Spasms • Numbness

**Come by for a Free Examination Today!**

NEW PATIENT CERTIFICATE  
Present this certificate for a complete Chiropractic Evaluation - FREE!!! Your initial visit will include: Consultation with doctor, 2 x-rays (if considered necessary) thorough spinal exam, explanation of treatment, confidential report of findings (\$105.00 value).

**Edenton Chiropractic Center**  
THE ACCIDENT & INJURY CENTER OF EDENTON  
(252) 482-4499  
300J N. Virginia Rd., Edenton  
Chowan Crossing Shopping Center  
Mon., Tues., Wed. & Fri. 8:30 - 6:30  
(Closed 12:30 - 2), Thursday and Saturday 8:30 - 12:30, Closed Sunday

Dr. Robbie Miller We accept Medicare/Medicaid, Most Insurances. Dr. Julie Miller  
\*IF CLINICALLY INDICATED  
If you decide to purchase additional treatment, you have the legal right to change your mind within three days and receive a refund.

**Highway 17 PAWN**  
NEW SERVICE -  
**E-Z CASH ADVANCE**  
Post Dated Check Loans • Check Cashing Service  
**338-2219** N. Hwy 17  
Elizabeth City

**Gift Ideas for the whole family**

**In The Holiday Herald Advantage!**  
Coming your way November 24th!  
To Place An Ad Call The Chowan Herald 482-4418

**All Dressed Up!**  
Dress Your Little Ones to Look Their Best with These Beautiful Holiday Fashions.

Girls Dresses, Boys Shirts & Slacks, Coats, Pajamas, Gowns and Robes, and More!

Stuffed Animals for Stockings

**Ann & Andy's CHILDREN'S SHOP**  
Gift Wrapping • Layaway  
Downtown Edenton • 482-4777

VISA MasterCard

**AHC ALBEMARLE HOMECARE**

**URGENT NEED for Part-time LPN's**

in Private Duty Nursing with Pediatric Patients ranging in age from seven months to 12 years old in the Counties of GATES, HERTFORD AND PERQUIMANS. Need is immediate - day hours. Must have compassion and a genuine desire to make a difference in the life of a child.

**CALL TODAY**  
Pat Royal, RN  
**252-338-4066**

You're invited to our houses this weekend.

**INDIANHEAD - SNOW HILL.** Hostess Pat Taylor  
Looking for a quiet and small town living? Check out this 2 story traditional home on approx. 1 acre lot in small subdivision. No city taxes! Yet within walking distance to shopping centers, restaurants and schools. 3BD, 2.5BA, large family room w/ fireplace, sunroom and deck. Call Pat MLS#34389

**E MAIN ST. HOOKERTON.** Host: Mac Taylor  
CHECK OUT this 3 bedroom, 2 bath, back ranch on a large corner lot with fenced backyard, formal living and dining room, screened porch. Call Mac MLS#34257

Finding your home is a pleasure with our Open House. Weekend. COLDWELL BANKER lets you browse some of the best home values in the area. Stop by our Open House this weekend and register for a free Cadillac giveaway from COLDWELL BANKER and Cendant Corporation. Or, if you can't make it, visit our Web site to see thousands of listings 24 hours a day.

Pat and Mac Taylor  
Coldwell Banker  
Our Country Auction & Realty, Inc.  
747-4213 or 756-1403

www.coldwellbanker.com

MAKING REAL ESTATE REAL EASY!  
**COLDWELL BANKER**  
Our Country Auction & Realty, Inc.

**CHOWAN HEART CENTER**  
222 A VIRGINIA ROAD  
EDENTON, NORTH CAROLINA

Offering clinics in:

- ♥ Congestive Heart Failure
- ♥ Angina and Coronary Heart Disease
- ♥ Hypertension (high blood pressure)
- ♥ AICD follow up
- ♥ Hypercholesterolemia
- ♥ Syncope and Fainting
- ♥ Pacemaker follow ups and evaluation

Tests available at the Chowan Heart Center include:

- ♥ Exercise stress test
- ♥ Echocardiograms
- ♥ Nuclear exercise stress test
- ♥ Echocardiography stress testing
- ♥ Transesophageal echocardiography
- ♥ 24-hour holter recording and event recording

**NEW PATIENTS WELCOME**  
Appointments may be scheduled by calling:  
**482-5600**