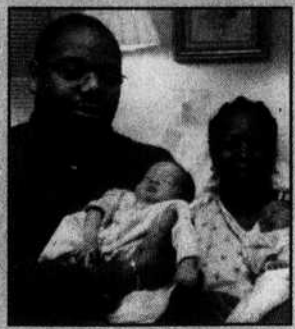


Child care facility opening here....1-B

Couples welcome twin arrivals....2-B

Winter garden ghostly sight....2-A



THE CHOWAN HERALD

Wednesday, January 31, 2001

Vol. LXVIII, No. 5

Published in historic Edenton... The prettiest town on the North Carolina coast.

Single Copies 50¢

Local man loses his life in early morning shooting

BY DERRICK ARMSTEAD
Staff Writer

EDENTON—An early morning meeting that went awry is how local law enforcement officials are describing a fatal shooting on Friday, Jan. 26, in Chowan County's Cape Colony subdivision.

Reports indicate that Edward Charles Hetman, 35, of Edenton, visited the home of Allen Jones Jr., 20, of 114 Willow Drive, with the intention of obtaining money.

"Further investigation revealed that Hetman came to the residence and knocked on the door using the name of 'Jay,'" said Chowan County Sheriff, Fred Spruill, in a press release.

Spruill addressed the incidents following the occupants' opening of the door.

"Jones stated that the individual had a gray hooded sweatshirt pulled over his head," the sheriff said. "After entering the residence, Hetman pulled a knife out of the sweatshirt and placed it at Jones' throat saying

something about money.

An on-site investigation revealed that a third individual, Christopher Gregory, 18, witnessed the incident.

"Gregory who was staying overnight with Jones, picked up a 22-caliber pistol and fired one shot, hitting Hetman," said the report. "Hetman then fell to the floor, got up and left the residence."

After receiving a 911 call at approximately 2:52 a.m., Spruill, along with Deputy Kenny White went to the scene.

After discovering Hetman near the intersection of Myrtle Drive and White Oak Drive, rescue personnel were dispatched.

After the arrival of EMS, the victim was transported to Chowan Hospital.

"Around 4:05 a.m. (Hetman) was admitted here...with a gunshot wound to the face," said hospital spokesperson, Pete Rogers.

Within one hour after arrival at Chowan Hospital, it was determined that the severity of Hetman's injuries required specialized treatment.

At 5 a.m., after being here for under an hour, he was transported by air on EastCare to Pitt (Memorial Hospital) [PMH] in Greenville (NC)," Rogers added.

The Greenville-based medical facility confirmed the admission of Hetman. However, PMH officials declined to provide further information.

Subsequent to the Hetman's arrival at PMH, medical personnel placed the victim on life support.

And after the decision was made to remove Hetman from life support, doctors pronounced

that the victim succumbed to his injuries at 3:11 p.m. later in the day.

An autopsy conducted by PMH's pathologist concluded that the cause of death was a gunshot wound to the head.

As of press time, no arrests had been made.

A review of the case is planned by the District Attorneys Office, which when complete will be submitted to the Chowan County Grand Jury.

An investigation by the Sheriff's Dept. continues.

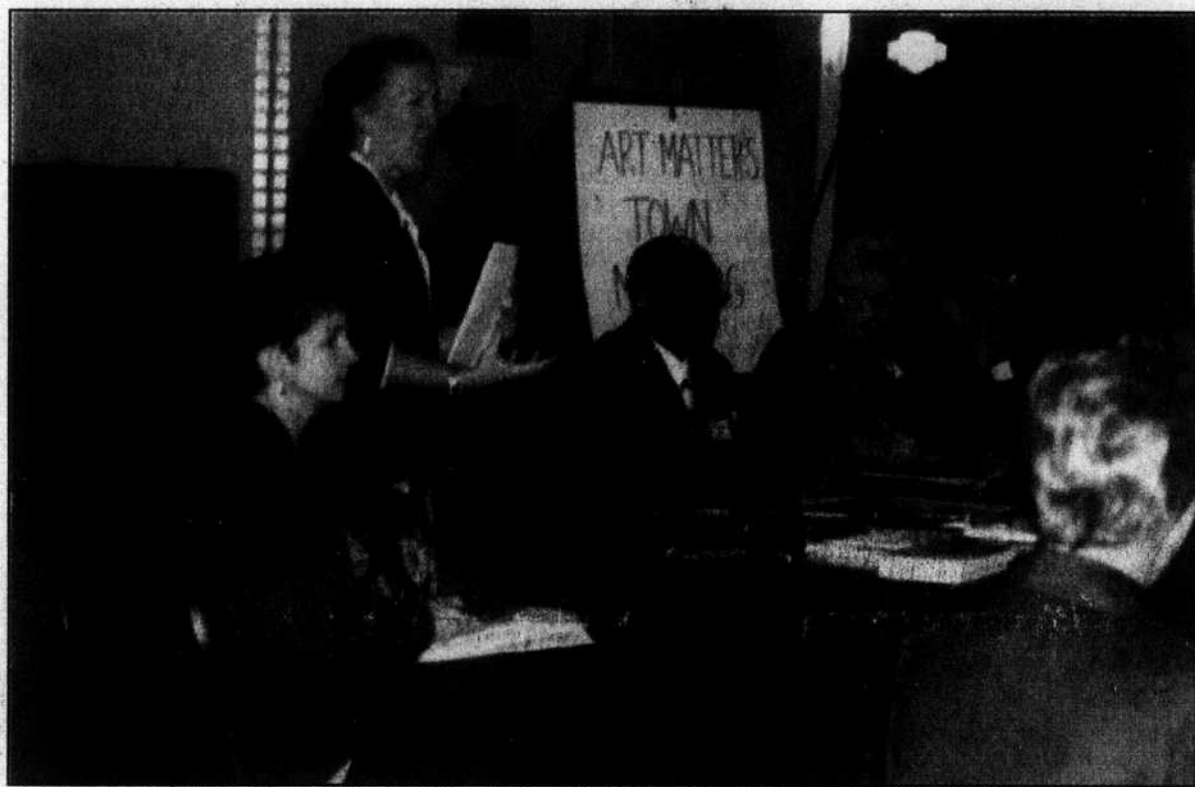
State Arts Council asked to help with need for musical instruments in schools

BY REBECCA BUNCH
Editor

When Chowan County residents got their chance to join their counterparts from the region in addressing representatives of the North Carolina Arts Council, they didn't forget local schoolchildren badly in need of musical instruments. In fact, they pressed the NCAC for assurances that those children would not be forgotten, reminding them that music is a cultural art, although it frequently doesn't get as much attention as writing and art.

And NCAC staff got the message, promising to look into ways that they could help with the need for more access to music and musical instruments in the schools.

During that "Art Matters!" Town Meeting, held last week in the Chowan Arts Council Gallery, the NCAC engaged in frank, open discussion with those present about the needs of the various communities in eastern North Carolina. The staff explained the mission and goals of the agency, and talked about



Chowan Arts Council Executive Director Sue Clark (standing) addresses the audience at the "Art Matters!" Town Meeting hosted by the North Carolina Arts Council. (Staff photo by Rebecca Bunch)

budget goals for 2001-2003. They also asked the audience to consider and respond to the following questions:

- How can Arts Council grant funds best be used?
- What trends do you see in your community?
- What types of information/resources are helpful?

See HELP On Page 3-A

Concerned citizens gather at Town Hall to discuss shootings

BY DERRICK ARMSTEAD
Staff Writer

EDENTON—They say you can't fight city hall.

But no one said you couldn't invite them.

So an attempt to halt the recent rash of drug-related arrests and shootings brought together more than 60 citizens and local officials early last week, with both groups looking for solutions to the problem.

And in regard as to what to label the perpetrators of those crimes, it depends on whom you ask.

"I think we are giving too much credit to these young boys who think that carrying a gun makes them a man," said Delbert White, co-owner of Creekside Restaurant. "When actually they are a bunch of boys who think that they're men."

A different perspective came through during a question and answer session with EPD Chief, Gregory Bonner.

"Now we've heard you say (Bonner) that you wouldn't categorize them as gangs," said an anonymous resident. "But it seems like they know each other, in regard to who's in and who's out."

Bonner's retort, "I certainly wouldn't categorize them as gangs," would be repeated throughout the evening.

In addition to Bonner, several other local officials were present, including town manager, Anne-Marie Knighton; Mayor Roland Vaughan; Clerk of court, Mike McArthur; Chowan County Magistrate, Carlton Jackson; and town attorney, Hackney High.

Everyone involved agreed that no matter what title is given to the guilty parties, something must be done.

Loss of security

And perhaps the most urgent of all is finding a way to neutralize the violators' strongest asset.

"We are reluctant to (come forward) because there are repercussions," said a 30-year resident of Carteret St.

Others were in agreement.

"Fear is their biggest weapon," said one individual, "and if we

See SHOOTINGS On Page 12-A

Town Council looking at restrictive rules

BY MARIEL BETANCOURT
Cox NC Publications

EDENTON—While a huge discount store isn't coming to Edenton anytime soon, town council members want to be prepared if one does. They particularly want a set of rules restricting what any "big box" business can and can't look like.

"What we've got that makes

(Edenton) different is the way we look," Councilman Sam Dixon said at the council's meeting last Monday. "Tourism is fast becoming our number one industry...We don't need to junk up the outskirts of our town."

On Monday, the council met to discuss possible architectural standards for new commercial, office, industrial and warehouse buildings. However, the council rejected

proposed standards on the basis that they were not restrictive enough.

A standard that allows "design freedom" cannot properly control appearance, Councilman Jerry Parks said.

"I don't care about (their) design taste," said Parks. "I care about Edenton...This doesn't go anywhere near as far as I want it to go."

The search for standards began in June, when the council rezoned 40 acres near the intersection of NC 32 and US Highway 17 from residential to highway commercial.

"The council was concerned about aesthetics," Town Manager Anne-Marie Knighton said Tuesday. "Would the new construction be built in such a way that it would be in harmony with our community?"

Council members then asked town and county planner Martha Daniel Hobbs to look at architectural standards in other communities and propose a standard for Edenton. During her search, Hobbs noted that many standards fail to be restrictive.

"Many of them are extremely

suggestive," said Hobbs. "They use language such as 'It is highly recommended.'"

Such rules can't be enforced, and won't hold up in court, Hobbs added.

The ordinance Hobbs proposed Monday included minimum standards to ensure "high quality of development" contributing to a "community image of quality." The ordinance stated it would not "unduly restrict design freedom."

To accomplish this, the ordinance would have required new construction to use mostly brick, natural stone, glass, masonry stucco and copper panels rather than concrete blocks, metal siding or wood. The ordinance also would have restricted "garish or bright colors" and placement of mechanical equipment and bulk storage tanks.

After the standard was rejected Monday, Dixon suggested that the town look at standards in the Chapel Hill and Durham area, where "Wal-Mart doesn't look like Wal-Mart." The council will continue reviewing standards and plans to discuss the subject again at a later date.



Ebersole, others honored

Waterman's Restaurant and Classic Fitness co-owner Katy Ebersole, left, receives the John A. Mitchener Businessperson of the Year Award from Edenton Town Manager Anne-Marie Knighton during the Edenton-Chowan Chamber of Commerce's annual banquet. Other award recipients included Volunteer of the Year, Larry Sellers, and Humanitarian of the Year, Nell Moore. (Staff photo by Derrick Armstead)

BY DERRICK ARMSTEAD
Staff Writer

EDENTON—A street repairman was transported to Chowan Hospital following an early afternoon accident on Thursday, Jan. 25, which occurred just off of Granby St.

According to police reports, the incident transpired around noon.

"The incident was called in at approximately 12:30 p.m.," said Edenton police chief, Gregory Bonner. "We were told that one of the workers with the Tri-State Company who was doing some repair work on Granby St. had been

hit by a car."

Charged in the accident was 41-year-old Edenton resident, Emma Holley Outlaw.

"After entering the work zone, the driver of a 1999 Ford crossed the center line and struck one of the workers who was operating a piece of machinery," Bonner said.

"The driver was charged with operating a vehicle left of center."

Injuries sustained by the victim were considered non-life threatening, according to EMS director, Doug Belch.

"We transported the patient to

See CHARGED On Page 3-A



Volunteer of the year

Betty Dixon of Edenton was named Volunteer of the Year last week during a reception at the Barker House attended by family, friends, and fellow supporters of historic preservation. "Betty is certainly deserving of this honor," said Linda Eure, site manager of the Historic Edenton Visitor Center. "She has been volunteering in the Barker House gift shop on the weekends at least since the 1980s." (Submitted photo)