

Beckers to unveil joint art exhibition

Opening to coincide with Pilgrimage



"Miss Ellie Whichard" by John Becker

BY HELEN KERR OUTLAND Staff Writer

Miss Ellie Whichard's eyes speak volumes of who she is. As the sun filters through wisps of white-blonde hair the little girl plucks petals from a flower. Her eyes tell you that she is sparkling with a touch of warm-hearted mischief. The cotton smock she wears and bare feet represent a child of freedom and earth. All of these things have been captured through the eyes of a true artist. Everything that makes Miss Ellie who she is has literally been set to canvas. So it is that John Becker, one of North Carolina's premier portrait painters, has again worked his magic.

" Portrait painting is an exciting challenge," said the artist. "due to its inherent demands to produce a work of art while creating a true representation of the subject's character and appearance."

However, Carol and John Becker did not start pursuing painting careers. Even though they both had had lifelong exposure to the arts the began in the theatre. John Becker, whose mother was a concert pianist and his father an in-



"Easter Lamb" is the title of this painting by Carol Becker

dustrialist, says he cannot remember not being exposed to the arts.

"I had this wonderful godmother, a member of England's House of Lords, with whom I spent part of Christmas each year," Becker recalled. "She would see to it that we attended several theatrical or concert presentations during my visits." With the artistic family background and exposures it was only natural that John Becker pursued a life in the arts.

Carol Becker had followed a similar path and in 1967 their mutual love of the theatre

brought the two artists together. Eventually, after 'tiring of living from a suitcase," the Beckers decided to settle down and start a family. It was during this time that John Becker first pursued painting.

"I was reading a Life magazine," he said. "In it was a portrait that John Reubens had painted of his daughter." Intrigued by the painting Becker went out and purchased paints .and canvas. He rendered a likeness of the portrait, and sat-

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Hospital says grant will aid SNF facility

Chowan Hospital's Skilled Nursing is among seven nursing care providers that will receive grants of \$25,000 each this spring from the NC Division of Facility Services to help improve patient interaction and to help create a more home-like environment for patients.

The grants support the tenets of the Eden Alternative. Eden homes focus on two major changes that dramatically alter the lives of those who live and work in long-term care settings. First, the Eden philosophy stresses the need to place decision-making close to the residents by empowering those directly involved in care-giving and care-receiving. Second, Eden homes are built around human habitats, which are created when plants, pets, and children become a part of the day-

to-day life of these facilities. "We look forward to seeing the benefits these grants will help bring to the well-being of the patients," said Lynda McDaniel, director of the Division of Facility Services. "Through this effort facilities are making headway in becoming more home-like and patient friendly. That can be a very important change for folks who rely on nursing homes for care.

The division also is awarding the grants to: Abernethy Center, Newton; Fair Haven Home, Bostic; Cherry Hospital, Goldsboro; Edwin Morgan Center, Laurinburg; Wesley Long Nursing Center, Jamestown; and GlenFlora, Lumberton. The NC Eden Coalition assisted in the review of proposals and choice of grantees.

"We believe that incorporat-

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Reemployment Workshops providing help to job seekers Parks to

BY HELEN KERR OUTLAND Staff Writer

In an effort to assist persons who are unemployed return to work, the Employment Secu-



Cale and serve on council



rity Commission of Edenton has intensified its efforts through the Reemployment Workshop.

The workshops will provide job seekers with information, such as interview skills, that will help them compete in the job market.

"Basically what our program is all about is helping applicants feel more comfortable going through the interview process by teaching them varioustechniques," said Ron Sebe, employment consultant for the Employment Security Commission.

The program is known as STAR, Situation, Task, Action, and Results Techniques. Through skills learned with START, the applicants are prepared to answer the dozens of questions asked them during

Employment Security Commission consultants Judy Bonner and Ken Sebe talk with job seeker John Jordan. (Helen Outland photo)

an interview. "The job applicant has prepared and is comfortable during the interview," said Sebe. "The applicants look very positive to a future employer. This makes the job seeker feel good about them-

selves as well."

John Jordan is in Sebe's office preparing for an upcoming interview. He is dressed in a nice suit and wears a tie. Jor-

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Gov. Mike Easley has named **Barbara Cale and Jerry Parks** of Edenton to serve on the North Carolina Health Coordinating Council. The council is responsible for creating a plan to meet the state's health needs.

Cale is president of Chowan Hospital. Parks, an Edenton Town Councilman, also serves as health director of Albemarle **Regional Health Services.**

The two were among 13 appointees named by Gov. Easley to serve on the council.

Others named included: Kenneth A. Burrow of Greensboro, vice president/administrator of Therapeutic Alternatives Inc.; Doug Copeland of

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Motorists stopped at Highway 17 checkpoints learn some hard lessons

BY HELEN KERR OUTLAND Staff Writer

HERTFORD- For a number of the drivers and occupants of certain vehicles Friday night's lawenforcementcheckpointon US 17 near Hertford provided a uncomfortable and costly education.

The checkpoint was a multidepartments collaboration. The campaign, set up at Hertford involved writing tickets, and making arrests where necessary. "This is a "Zero Tolerance" operation," said Hertford Police Chief Dale Vanscoy. " If there is a violation the driver and/or occupants will be taken to a patrol car. They will be issued a citation. If it is an infraction, then they will be released. If it is an offense dictating arrest, they will be arrested and go before a

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Edenton Police Officer Rhonda Copeland prepares to search a van during Friday night's traffic stops on Highway 17 just outside Perquimans County. (Staff photo by Helen Kerr Outland)



Edenton Lions are getting ready for their annual Auction and Barbeque Sale. Here, auctioneer Wallace Evans (left) assists King Lion Norman White in displaying his handcrafted birdhouse as Events Chairman Bud Miller looks on. (Photo by Bud Weagly)

Lions Club getting ready for fundraiser

Edenton Lions Club members are getting ready for their annual Bar-B-Que Dinner and Auction that will be held Friday, May 4. The event will be held at the American Legion Post 40 building.

The Bar-B-Que dinner will be served from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. for dining in before the auction or for carryout. The auction will begin after 7 p.m. with Lion Wallace Evans serving as auctioneer.

Lions Club members, under the leadership of event chairman Bud Miller, are busy accumulating a variety of items to be auctioned. Many of the items on display will be handled as a silent auction prior to the actual auction activity.

"The items available that evening will have been donated by local businesses and professional establishments as well as Lions Club members themselves," said Miller. "Each year there is a large variety of items to be auctioned, from an airplane ride, floral decorations, professional services and many items for the home and garden."

Dinner tickets are \$5 each and may be obtained from any Lion, or at the door. The proceeds from this event are used by the Lions Club to further their work on behalf of the visually impaired and other less fortunate situations. One of these activities is sending visually impaired individuals to the North Carolina Lions Camp Dogwood on Lake Norman for a week in the summer. Another activity is a VIP fishing trip at the coast in the fall where visually impaired individuals enjoy three days of fishing.

The Edenton Lions Club invites the community to join them for an evening of fine food and fun.

Magazine out today

Readers of The Chowan Herald will notice something special about today's edition. Inserted in this week's newspaper is the latest edition of The Albemarle Magazine which focuses its attention entirely on the

upcoming Historic Edenton Pilgrimage.

Stories and photos focusing on tour sites as well as related events are included.

The magazine is published quarterly.