

# 'Fatal Voyage' filled with many twists and turns

Have a look at this month's display in the children's room. The den mothers of Cub Scout Pack 164 and Troop 164 have assembled an impressive collection of scout memorabilia to focus attention on the many activities available through scouting. Application forms are at the library now.

In *Fatal Voyage* by Kathy Reichs, Temperance Brennan, a forensic anthropologist, helps investigate a plane crash in the North Carolina mountains. Searching for the cause of the crash, she uncovers evidence that does not seem to fit the scenario such as body parts from people who do not match the passenger list, and missing passengers who had reason to disappear.

*Seven Up* by Janet Evanovich finds bounty hunter Stephanie Plum on the trail of a geriatric mobster who proves to be extremely elusive. Readers of the series know they can count on plenty of humor plus subplots galore that

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involve Stephanie's love life, her outrageous grandmother, her perfect sister, and the neighborhood characters.

An L.A. writer is lured back by his former fiancé who dumped him for someone else. And the someone else was another woman in *Between Lovers* by Eric Jerome Dickey.

*Miss Julia Takes Over* by Ann B. Ross follows the delightful *Miss Julia Speaks Her Mind*. In *Speaks* the widow finds herself responsible for her late husband's child, Little Lloyd, and his mother, Hazel Marie. Now the three are bonded into a non-traditional family unit. So when Hazel Marie goes missing, Miss Julia hires J.D. Pickens and begins a

search that takes them across the Tar Heel State. There's even a high-speed chase around the North Carolina Speedway. A movie of the first book starring Shirley MacLaine and Dolly Parton is in the works.

Another book with a North Carolina setting is *Nowhere Else on Earth* by Josephine Humphreys. In the last desperate days of the Civil War, both sides exploit the young men of the Lumbee community in Robeson County until a charismatic leader, Henry Berry Lowrie, steps forward from the group. Under his leadership, the young men forge a law of their own to keep themselves from being conscripted into working in the salt mines of the Confederacy, a place from which no one they know has ever returned. The story is told in the form of the memoir of the woman who loved and married Lowrie.

*Sharpe's Trafalgar* by Bernard Cornwell opens in 1805 and Ensign Richard Sharpe, returning by ship

from India, is caught in the middle of a conflagration that escalates into the Battle of Trafalgar. With the arrival of Admiral Nelson, the British take on the combined French and Spanish fleets in a naval battle that will delight fans of maritime adventures.

The main character in Elizabeth Berg's *Never Change* is a visiting nurse who becomes involved with a terminally ill patient. They had known each other in high school when he was extremely popular and she was not. Now the differences between them are muted by age and circumstances and they become friends and learn to love each other. Author Berg, a former nurse, writes particularly well about people dealing with medical crises.

*America's Favorite Poems* is the culmination of United States Poet Laureate Robert Pinsky's Favorite Poem Project. Two hundred poems were collected for the anthology, along with comments from those who submitted them. You will

undoubtedly find favorites of yours here, too.

*The Wilderness Family: At Home with Africa's Wildlife* is by Kobie Kruger, the wife of a game warden on a remote station in South Africa. The family, including three daughters, lived far from the amenities of education and medical care. But for seventeen years they lived very close to elephants, hippos, and lions, to name just a few. Perhaps the most interesting part of their story is about the family raising an orphaned lion cub that grew up with their children and lived as part of the family.

From George Carlin, *Napalm & Silly Putty* is a collection of observations and information from his unique point of view, such as The mayfly lives only one day. Sometimes it rains. Or can placebos cause side effects? If so, are the side effects real?

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## Find quality childcare overwhelming

BY SHANNON S. RAY  
Quality Enhancement  
Coordinator  
Chowan/Gates/  
Perquimans  
Partnership for Children

The search for quality childcare for your child can be a tough task. Parents are sometimes overwhelmed by the responsibility, and do not know where to begin. The following is a list of areas parents may want to consider when searching for quality childcare:

- (1) Safe/protected environment
- (2) Caring environment
- (3) Active environment

All parents want their children to be safe. And parents can expect that requirement to go beyond their intolerance of abuse and neglect or keeping poisonous materials out of the reach of their children. Cleanliness and healthy conditions and practices are also a consideration where your child's safety is concerned. A safe environment can refer to the harms and ills of the outside world. Parents have the right to want their children to feel safe and know they are unconditionally accepted in their childcare environments—just as they are at home.

A caring environment refers to the caregivers and their attitudes toward all children in their care. The ideal caregiver is kind, patient and loving, enjoys working with children, and is sympathetic to and supportive of children's unique needs. A child's caregiver should have working experience in a childcare setting.

An active environment is one providing time for play with age-appropriate materials that challenge children's bodies and minds. The materials for play should push children to learn and think for them-

selves. The materials for play should push children to learn and think for themselves. The materials should also mimic the real world.

A childcare environment can and should lay the groundwork for a bright future. After determining what an ideal childcare environment is for you and your child, develop a list of questions to ask all prospective providers. The following are just a few questions to ask:

- (1) Are you licensed? May I see your license?
- (2) How many children in each classroom? What are the ages in each classroom?
- (3) How many teachers in each classroom? How many teachers per child? How long has each teacher worked here?

- (4) Is there a posted schedule for each classroom? Is it followed?
- (5) Do you provide meals and

- snacks? Are they nutritious?
- (6) Are there learning

See CHILD On Page 7-A

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### today's health

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**Kids' Day**  
Saturday, August 4, 11:00 am - 2:00 pm,  
Plymouth Medical Center, 2756 US Highway 64 East  
Height and weight checks, hearing and vision screenings, clown show, car seat demonstration, refreshments, drawings and more. Call 482-6271 for more information.

**Fibromyalgia Support Group**  
Tuesday, August 14, 7:00 pm, classroom annex,  
Washington County Hospital  
Guest speaker, Dr. Lonnie Sieck, dentist, will present *Temporomandibular Joint Syndrome (TMJ) and Fibromyalgia*. Call 793-3969 for more information.

**Mended Hearts**  
Tuesday, August 14, 2:00 pm, Pembroke Room,  
Chowan Hospital's Rehabilitation/Home Care Building  
Guest speaker will be Tom Dyson, Chowan County Extension Agent. Call 482-2889 for more information.

**Community Screenings**  
Thursday, August 16, 9:00 am - 11:00 am,  
Edenton Housing Authority Community Office,  
across from D. F. Walker School  
Free blood pressure, cholesterol and blood sugar screenings will be available. Call 482-6242 for more information. Screenings are co-sponsored by the Chowan Healthy Carolinians.

**Stroke Support Net**  
Monday, August 20, 7:00 pm, classroom B,  
Chowan Hospital  
Guest Speaker Sabrina Sanders, Assistant Director of Albemarle Home Care, will present a program on new adult day care services in Edenton. Call 482-6429 for more information.

**Diabetes Support Group**  
Thursday, August 23, 7:00 pm, cafeteria,  
Chowan Hospital  
Call 482-6227 for more information.

CHOWAN HOSPITAL  
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Chowan Hospital is part of University Health Systems of Eastern Carolina, which includes Pitt County Memorial Hospital, other community hospitals, physician practices, home health and other health services. University Health Systems is affiliated with the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University.