

County Fair Queen is crowned... 2-A



Edenton plays host to Cycle NC ..... 3-B

Wild or tame, gardens destined to last forever ..... 6-C

# THE CHOWAN HERALD

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## West Nile virus now in county

The West Nile Virus has come to Chowan County. The State Public Health Laboratory on Oct. 18 confirmed that two new birds collected by county health departments in North Carolina had tested positive for the West Nile virus — a bluejay found in Cabarrus County and a crow found in Chowan County.

Local officials say they have already begun to address the issue. "We (Knighton and other community leaders) have been part of a committee that was formed last year to address the possibility of the West Nile virus as it might impact Chowan County," says City Manager Anne-Marie Knighton. "When we met at the Agricultural Center last month with Dr. Patterson for updates on the virus and our preparedness, she was very pleased and complementary on the way the county responded."

These two new cases bring North Carolina's total West Nile virus non-human cases for 2001 to nine. Earlier findings of West Nile virus in the state this year include a blue jay found in Cabarrus County that tested positive on Sept. 17; two crows found in Camden County reported on Sept. 28; two crows found in Currituck County reported on Oct. 9; one crow found in Mecklenburg County reported on Oct. 9; and one horse from Hyde County reported on Oct. 9. One horse from Camden County reported Oct. 9 also

See VIRUS On Page 9-A



Edenton postal workers, along with their counterparts across the country, are being offered the option of wearing masks and gloves when handling mail in the wake of terrorist acts elsewhere in the USA that may have killed several post office staffers and sickened others. (Staff photo by Helen Kerr Outland)

## Post offices taking measures to protect public, and workers

BY HELEN KERR OUTLAND Staff Writer

In the last week the U.S. Postal Service has released precautionary notices to every Rental Post Office Box, APO and FPO addresses with information on what to look for if you suspect a letter or package that may contain a harmful substance.

"The thing we want the public to know is that plans have been in place forever to protect the public," says Bill Brown, Spokesperson for the United States Post Office during a

phone interview from his office in Greensboro Monday morning.

"The U.S. Post office has had to deal with some kind of terrorist activity (any activity considered a threat, whether local or foreign) for years," continues Brown. "These include using the service for the mailing of explosives or chemical agents."

Some of the precautions that Brown encourages are simple. Do not open a package or letter that either does not display a return address or is from someone you do not know. "Mark-

ing a letter or package with your return address makes the mailing process comfortable for you and the receiver," Brown adds.

A package sealed with an excessive amount of tape, excessive postage, or marked with restrictive endorsements such as "Personal" or "Confidential" should be approached cautiously.

Should you receive a suspicious piece of mail Brown advises not handling the envelope of box. Do not shake it,

See WORKERS On Page 9-A

## Suspect in custody, another sought for Oakum St. shooting

BY HELEN KERR OUTLAND Staff Writer

EDENTON - One Edenton man is in jail under a \$75 thousand bond and another is still being sought by authorities as result of a Wednesday morning shooting in the 200 block of Oakum Street.

The Edenton Police Department responded Wednesday morning concerning reports of a shooting. According to Edenton Police Chief, Greg Bonner, "William Bland was approached by two suspects, LePaul Wills and Skylar Holley, while walking down Oakum Street", says the Chief. "Bland informed officers that Holley and LePaul began

mouthed off at him." Bland stated that as he turned to walk away from the pair he observed LePaul removing a handgun from his waistband and giving it to Holley. Holley pointed the gun at Bland then handed it back to LePaul.

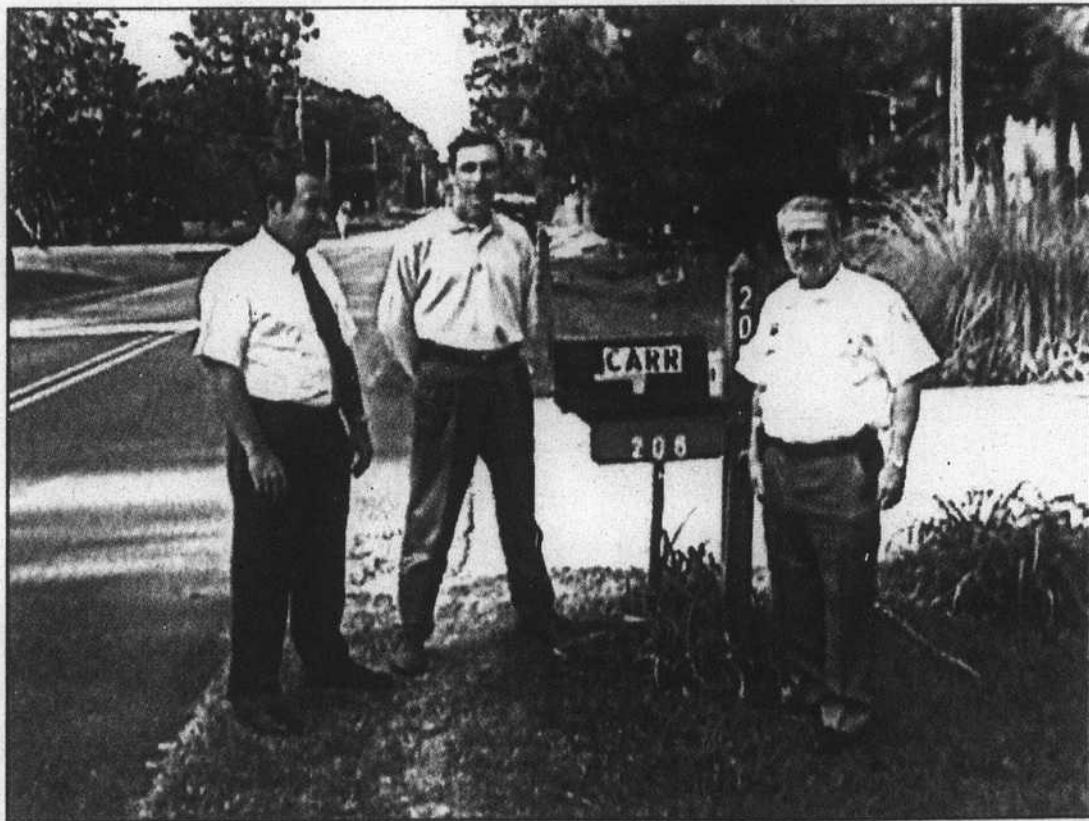
"At that point Mr. Bland told officers that he turned once again to walk away from the pair when LePaul opened fire striking him (Bland) in the leg," the chief continues. "Mr. Bland went on to say that the second bullet struck him in the back before he hit the ground from the first shot."

William Bland was treated

See SHOOTING Page 8-A



Suspect Skylar Holley is now in custody; police are still seeking LePaul Wills in connection with the shooting.



Chowan County 911 Center Director Jim Carr, right, shows a reflective sign on his mailbox to Sheriff Fred Spruill, at left, Louis Harrell to promote reflective address signs for area citizens.

## Reflectors of vital importance

BY HELEN KERR OUTLAND Staff Writer

Statistics show that most ambulance, fire, and law enforcement can be dispatched to assist in an emergency within three minutes after receiving a 911. 911 personnel realize all to well how vitally important it is, in an emergency, for a caller to remain calm in order for the tele-communicator to obtain address and location where help is needed. However,

obtaining that information is only part of the process.

There are times when physically locating a home can prove frustrating and time consuming. Finding a path in the middle of a dark, rainy night is all but impossible if a mailbox is not marked. In light of this the Chowan County 911 Central Communications Center in conjunction with the Chowan County Sheriff's Office have launched "Operation House ID".

In a press release earlier this week Sheriff Fred Spruill and Jim Carr, 9-1-1 Communications Director want the citizens of Chowan County to be aware of the program. "OPERATION HOUSE ID" is offered by Louis Harrell, owner of "The Address Shop", an affiliate of Address America, TM.

Sheriff Spruill and Director Carr are asking this question: Can 9-1-1 find your home when

See VITAL Page 8-A

## Tribute planned

The John A. Holmes Choral Music Department will present "Peace on Earth, on Monday, Oct. 29 at 7:30 p.m. at the J.A. Holmes auditorium in Edenton.

The concert is being offered as a tribute to all those who lost their lives during the tragic events that unfolded on Sept. 11.

A raffle will be held and 50 percent of the concert proceeds will be donated to the American Red Cross to help aid the victims of this national tragedy. Tickets are \$1 for students and \$2 for others.

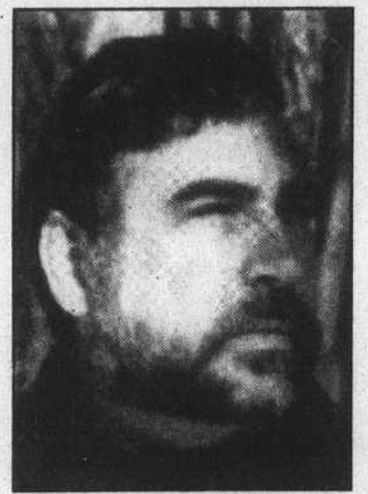
"Bring your Stars and Stripes and support our nation during this time of sorrow," said Anna Kay Laughton, director. "We hope to see you there."

## Noted author will be here Nov. 8th

David Poyer, best-selling author of nautical thrillers, will be the featured guest at the Friends of Shepard-Pruden Memorial Library's annual author event taking place Nov. 8 at 7 p.m. at the waterfront Municipal Building in Edenton.

Poyer's most recent book is "Fire on the Waters: A Novel of the Civil War at Sea". Much of the action takes place aboard the sloop of war, the USS Owanee as she heads south to defend Fort Sumter.

Poyer, author of "The Gulf," "The Circle," "Hatteras Blue," "The China Sea," and many others, draws from first-hand experience. He graduated from the US Naval Academy in 1971 and served on various destroyers and amphibious ships and worked at the Surface Warfare Development Group in Virginia. He has been on active duty



David Poyer

in the Atlantic, Mediterranean, Arctic, Caribbean, and Pacific. Copies of David Poyer's books will be made available for those attending by Manteo Booksellers for signing on the night of the event.

## Herald plans holiday publications

Southern hospitality with a colonial flavor will mark your memories and frame one of the most enjoyable shopping trips of the year when you experience Christmas 2001 in Edenton. Nestled on Edenton Bay and surrounded by the beautiful waters of the Chowan River and Albemarle Sound,

the festive warmth and holiday charm of "the South's Prettiest Town" will make your holiday shopping second to none.

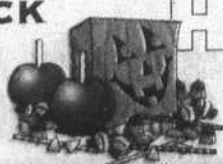
You and your family can enjoy one of the best Christmas parades on the east coast, take in a musical or play, visit a vintage 1960's style movie

theatre, or just take in the scenery while delighting in a trolley ride. Smiling faces and warm welcomes will greet you at every shop and dining establishment along the way.

So take a break and enjoy a real "Christmas Rush" as your

See HOLIDAY Page 9-A

ROCKY HOCK RURITANS presents



# HALLOWEEN Carnival



SATURDAY OCT. 27<sup>TH</sup>  
4:00 PM UNTIL  
Rocky Hock  
Community Center

- Free Kids Games
- Spook House
- Costume Parade
- Refreshments

ROCKY HOCK STYLE  
HEE-HAW  
8:00 PM