

# THE CHOWAN HERALD

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## Missing man's body found in wooded area

BY HELEN KERR OUTLAND  
 Staff Writer

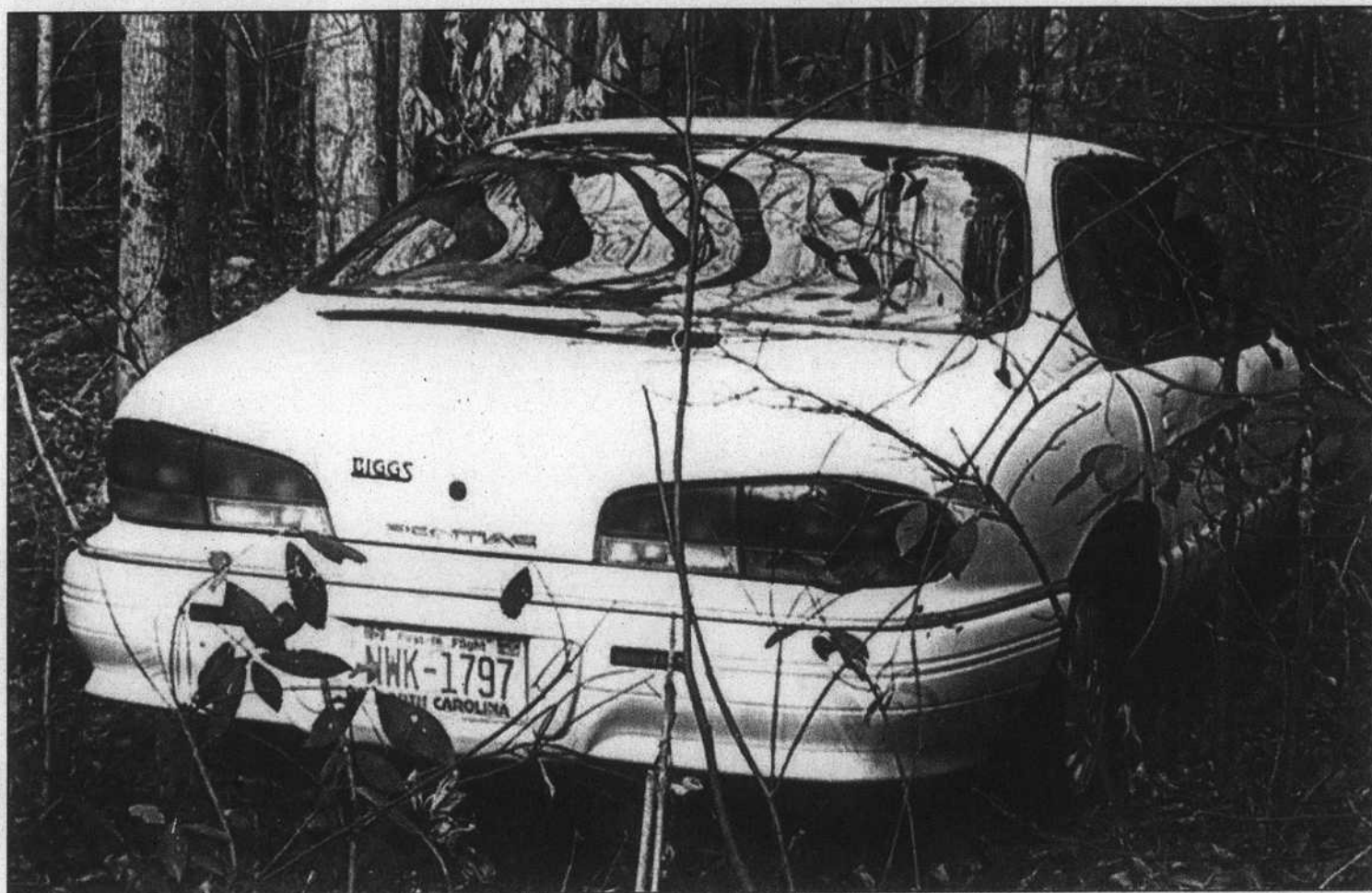
The body of a missing Chowan County man was discovered last Friday inside his vehicle, found in a wooded area off North Broad Street Extended. The body of William Bishop Gregory was found by a group of local hunters.

At about 9:30 a.m. that morning Chowan County Sheriff's deputies responded to a call saying a vehicle had been located in the woods off North Broad Street extension. The caller stated there was a body in the vehicle.

"Upon arriving deputies discovered the remains of William Bishop Gregory age 77," said Chowan County Sheriff Fred Spruill.

"Based on the information law enforcement was able to obtain at the scene it appears that Mr. Gregory had been traveling on North Broad Street at a high rate of speed," says Sheriff Fred Spruill. "As he approached the dead end of the North Broad Street his vehicle jumped the ditch and traveled approximately 300 feet into the woods hitting small saplings and grazing two pine trees before coming to a stop."

Based on the evidence at the



The body of a missing Chowan County man was found inside this vehicle, discovered last Friday morning in a wooded area off North Broad Street Extended. Authorities believe that Gregory was able to get out of his vehicle at some point, fell and lost a shoe and his hat, which were found on the ground near the vehicle. A machete, also belonging to Gregory, can be seen here resting on the hood of the car where sheriff's deputies found it. (Staff photo by Helen Kerr Outland)

scene the report goes on to say that it appeared that Gregory was able to get out of his vehicle and walk towards the rear where he fell, losing a shoe and his hat. A machete which he was known to carry in his car was located on the trunk lid of his vehicle. "It appears that he returned to his vehicle where he died," adds Sheriff Spruill.

Among the items found at the scene were Gregory's keys and wallet which were located on the front seat of the car. The wallet contained personal possessions, an uncashed government check, and cash.

Gregory had been reported missing to the Edenton Police Department on Nov. 10, 2001 by his son, Ernest Gregory. At that time Gregory had not been seen since Nov. 5, 2001.

The investigation is being continued by the Sheriff's Office. Deputy Sheriff Dwayne Goodwin is the lead investigator. He is being assisted by the North Carolina Highway Patrol and Edenton Police Department. Gregory's body has been sent to Greenville, NC for an autopsy to determine the exact cause of death.

Anyone with any information is asked to contact the Sheriff's Office at 482-8484.

## Waff resigns from state board seat

BY JULIAN EURE  
 Cox NC Publications

The slumping economy, coupled with strict rules prohibiting members from bidding on state road contracts, forced Paul E. Waff Jr.'s resignation from the NC Board of Transportation, Waff said last week.

Waff, owner of Waff Contracting Inc., said he fully intended to complete his four-year term when he was appointed to the 19-member BOT by Gov. Mike Easley in February.

However, the severe economic downturn that followed - and then worsened after Sept. 11 - left him no choice but to resign after only nine months.

"I don't like to do anything and quit at it," Waff said. "But I had no idea that Sept. 11 was

going to have the kind of impact that it had. I expected there would be a slight downturn. But when everybody you talk to is in a downturn...I couldn't sacrifice my company just so I could serve the public."

Waff, who resigned from the BOT on Dec. 7, said most of his company's clients are large industries needing pile-driving work for new buildings. In fact, most of Waff Contracting Inc.'s 44 workers are employed in driving piles for building foundations.

"But since the economy took a nose dive...those companies are cutting back, laying people off," Waff said. "Now the work load's just not there."

To keep his company going during previous economic downturns, Waff usually turned to state and federal road contracts. Waff Contracting,



John A. Holmes High School business teacher Linda Dowd addresses the first class of Edenton-Chowan Schools' Teacher Cadets at an end-of-semester recognition ceremony. The Cadets' studies of education as a profession included time spent teaching in county schools.

## Chowan County's very first Teacher Cadets recognized

Emotions ran high recently at a recognition ceremony to honor John A. Holmes High School's first class of Teacher Cadets and their mentors.

The goal of the Teacher Cadet program is to encourage academically able students who possess exemplary interpersonal and leadership skills to consider teaching as a career. A secondary goal of the program is to provide the Cadets with insight about teachers and schools so that they will become community advocates of education.

Holmes business teacher Linda Dowd approached Edenton-Chowan Schools Superintendent Allan Smith with the idea for the Teacher Cadets about a year ago. Dowd recruited interested high school students and teachers from each of the county schools to mentor them. In all, 13 students

and a like number of mentors participated in the program during its inaugural year.

"Without the support of our mentor teachers, this could not have happened," said Smith. "To our Cadets, congratulations. You've done us well. You've made us proud. You've set the standard for those who will follow you."

The Cadets filled the semester with classroom observations and studies of human growth and development, multiculturalism and diversity, and teaching methods, among others. Each Cadet received field experience in a 14-day stint teaching under the guidance of their mentors, as well. The field experience was classified by Cadet Paige White as the "journey of a lifetime."

The Cadets were clearly moved by the semester-long program and culminating rec-

ognition ceremony; some broke down in tears as they thanked their teacher-mentors.

"The greatest realization came when we recognized the sacrifices that teachers make every day," said Cadet Natalie Leary.

Holmes Principal Johnnie Williams reiterated the worthiness of the teaching profession, saying the number one reason to go into education is because the students care about people.

"I'm so proud of you," Williams said. "I told you when you first started that I was proud of you. I'm extremely proud of you now."

The students finished the program with a keen awareness of the impact they can have on others' lives through



Ed Carter

## Headmaster is leaving

After less than a year on the job, Lawrence Academy Headmaster Ed Carter has notified the school's Board of Education that he is calling it quits.

Carter's resignation was effective Dec. 19. He began work at Lawrence Academy in November 2000.

Carter, formerly of Suffolk, Va., could not be reached for this story.

Reached at his law office in Elizabeth City Friday, Lawrence Academy school board chairman Hood Ellis said Carter indicated he was leaving the K-12 private school located in Merry Hill in "the best interest" of the school.

"(Carter) indicated to the board that he had done as much as he could do for Lawrence," Ellis said, "(and) that he had taken the school as far as he could."

School board member Deborah Cobb expressed regret about Carter's decision to leave Lawrence Academy.

"I don't know what the board can do but accept it," Cobb said. "I personally enjoyed him."

Ellis said the school board did not disapprove of Carter's

## Businesses cited for underage sales

BY HELEN KERR OUTLAND  
 Staff Writer

In 1997 the North Carolina General Assembly passed a revised law prohibiting the sale and distribution of tobacco products to persons under the age of 18. Five Chowan County businesses recently discovered that the law would be enforced.

According to Mark J. Senter Assistant Supervisor, Alcohol Law Enforcement with the NC Department of Crime Control and Public Safety, there are 22 businesses in Chowan County that sell tobacco products. "As part of a routine compliance

check five businesses in Chowan County and eight in Gates County sold tobacco products to an under-aged person," says Senter.

It is illegal to sell or give tobacco products to anyone under the age of 18. Retail merchants must check photo identification of the customers trying to purchase tobacco products, if the person appears to be under the age of 18.

It is illegal for anyone under 18 to buy, attempt to buy, or to receive or to use false or misleading proof of age identifica-

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**A PUBLIC COMMENT MEETING** HOSTED BY THE EDENTON-CHOWAN REC. DEPT.  
 Monday, January 7  
 7 p.m.  
 In the old DF Walker Gym. Come share your ideas about activities you would like to see them offer. Citizens of all ages welcome!