

# NIE is focus of Chowan Herald Night

BY HELEN K. OUTLAND  
Staff Writer

*Education's purpose is to replace an empty mind with an open one.*

—Malcolm Forbes  
The mission statement of Newspapers in Education reads as follows,

"Newspaper In Education is committed to promoting literacy by supporting the use of newspapers in the classrooms as a vital and proven educational tool. We strive to encourage life-long reading habits creating informed, educated & productive citizens."

On Tuesday evening, July 2, the NIE program for Chowan County went a step further by combining education and the Edenton Steamers baseball team. Tuesday night was Chowan Herald Night with staff from the Chowan Herald and Chowan County NIE Coordinator, Donna Koppelman on hand to promote newspapers in education.

As spectators arrived at the game they were greeted by Koppelman and given copies of the Chowan Herald along with pamphlets and literature on NIE programs and the importance of education. The children were given bookmarks, journals, and also provided a reading list to encourage summer reading.

"Children can continue reading throughout the summer,"

says Koppelman. "This is also one way for parents to share a summer evening on the porch and quality time with their child."

Koppelman gave out over one hundred pieces of literature during the evening.

Koppelman talked with parents and youth about the importance of education and the role newspapers can play in education.

For students the newspaper provides a sense of reality in what is happening here and

now. It bridges the gap between the classroom and the "real" world, containing history as it happens!

Newspapers can be used for children on all grade levels. It can be marked, cut and colored - important to young children who learn by seeing and doing.

Studies have shown that students who study the newspaper in school have a greater knowledge of current events, are more politically aware, have positive attitudes toward school, know more about the

world at large and improve their reading skills and verbal interactions.

Unlike a historical novel a newspaper is the only text the majority of children will continue to read throughout their lives, a living textbook!

Koppelman worked in conjunction with the Shepard Pruden Library and the Chowan/Gates/Perquimans Partnership for Children during the Edenton Steamers baseball game.



Chowan Herald NIE Coordinator Donna Koppelman talks with the kids



## Holiday events

The July 4 holiday celebration in Chowan County was ushered in Wednesday evening with a musical tribute to our country and those who have served it. The Community Patriotic Concert (above) was performed under the supervision of Dr. Dennis McIntire. Bright and early the next morning, Brenda Rose and daughter Anna (bottom photo) attended the Marketplace Guild sidewalk sale. (Staff photos by Rebecca Bunch and Monica Quercia)



## Forum

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and Graham Trent (all of the RHEMA Institute), Doris James (Economic Improvement Council, Inc.), Lisa Madre (Perquimans County), Pamela Price (Perquimans School Department), Denauvo Robinson (Albemarle Smart Start Partnership), Sandy Steele (Partnerships for Inclusion), Tania Turner, RN, BSN (Albemarle Regional Health Services), Lori Ward (Gates County Board of Education), and Reta Blair, Sandra Calhoun, Gail King, and Roxana Scolaro, all of the Chowan/Gates/Perquimans Partnership for Children.

Funding for this Forum is made possible by grants through EITTAS (The Eastern Early Intervention Training and Technical Assistance System Team of the Women's and Children's Health Section, Division of Public Health, NC Department of Health and Human Services), and "Partnerships for Inclusion," a North Carolina-based, federally funded, organization (a part of the UNC's Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute) that developed the forum concept.

"It is our hope that this Forum, through the networking opportunities it provides, will raise awareness and improve services for children with special needs and their families in

our tri-county area. Additionally, we believe it will be useful in identifying and assessing challenges to including special needs children in community programs, providing information about recommended practices, and exploring current trends and issues. The Forum will also highlight family perspectives regarding their inclusion experiences."

The Chowan/Gates/Perquimans Partnership for Children is a private, not-for-profit organization.

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