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Chowan team heads to world competition - again

Edenton-Chowan Schools will send an Odyssey of the Mind team to world competition for the second year running.

The Chowan Middle School team solving the problem, "A Scene From Above," earned the chance to compete in the world competition by winning second place at the state competition April 5. The team won a first-place award in regional competition earlier this year. The world competition will take place in Ames, Iowa from May 28 through May 31.

The middle school team solving the problem, "Put A Spin On It," took home a third-place award from the state contest. A team from John A. Holmes High School also earned a third-place award. First and second-place winners advance to world competition.

Odyssey of the Mind is an international creative problem-solving competition. Each fall, OM publishes 5 new



Chowan Middle School students hope to raise funds to compete in the Odyssey of the Mind world competition in Ames, Iowa. Shown: Liza Boehling, Danny Brusko, Christopher Edmundson, Chris Lane, Nikki Mitchell, Colleen Potocki and Mary Strzyzewski, and coaches Mike Brusko and Marvin Strzyzewski (submitted photo).

problems for teams to choose from. While the problems are different each year, they generally fall in one of 5 categories:

Vehicle-building, Technical (contraptions), Balsa Wood Structures (that must support weight), The Classics (with themes based on history or the arts), and Performance (emphasis is on the creativity of the skit, the props and the presentation).

Edenton-Chowan Schools is paying the registration fees and room and board for the student competitors for the event. The team is hoping to raise the additional funds necessary for plane tickets and shipping their bulky props in the weeks remaining until the competition. Donations can be sent to Marvin Strzyzewski, 937 Soundside Rd, Edenton, or to the Edenton-Chowan Schools Board of Education.

Advancing to world competition are: Liza Boehling, Danny Brusko, Christopher Edmundson, Chris Lane, Nikki Mitchell, Colleen Potocki and Mary Strzyzewski. The team is coached by Mike Brusko and Marvin Strzyzewski.

Woman faces murder charge

By BEN DECK
Cox NC Publications

An Edenton woman was charged Tuesday morning with murder in the shotgun slaying of her ex-boyfriend - a man she says abused her for more than a decade.

"I'm mad as hell that they're going to charge me with murder," said 26-year-old Bridgette Roulac. "I feel like the police weren't here for me."

Bridgette and her brother, 21-year-old Leon Roulac, were both arrested, according to Greg Bonner, chief of the Edenton Police Department. Both are being held in connection with the death of 24-year-old Lorenzo Keith Pulliam, who was killed early Friday morning.

Bonner previously said he did not expect to seek charges against Bridgette. That plan changed, however, after Bridgette's account of the shooting was contradicted by other information. Bonner declined to go into any detail about the in-



Pulliam

consistencies, citing a need to protect the ongoing investigation.

Bridgette Roulac told her side of the story Monday

while standing in the living room of the trailer she rents at 106-B Reginald and Mary Ave. in Edenton, the room where she allegedly shot Pulliam. Alice Roulac, Bridgette's grandmother, said Pulliam had often threatened to kill Bridgette and her children if she ever left him.

At the time of his death, Pulliam was under a court order to stay away from Roulac and he was facing two assault charges for incidents involving Roulac and a friend of hers.

Large bloodstains still stain-

See MURDER On Page 3-A

Community invited to dedication of River Walk

EDENTON — On Sunday, April 27, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon, you can be a part of a momentous event with the dedication of the J. Robert Hendrix Park and Cannon's Ferry Heritage River Walk.

According to Nancy Nicholls, executive director of the Chowan Tourism Development Authority, "This development has taken place beginning with a cooperative effort that began with the Heritage Development Council Identification Initiative in the fall of 1998. During this process, the Cannon's Ferry area and its rich herring industry was identified as a natural asset in Chowan County that needed to be preserved for our community."

Nicholls explained that in May of 1999, a State Inter-Agency Council made up of representatives from the State Historic Preservation Office, State Historic Sites, the Coastal Management Division of the Department of



Dedication of the J. Robert Hendrix Park and Cannon's Ferry Heritage River Walk will take place this Sunday at 2 p.m. Everyone is encouraged to attend. (Photo courtesy of Nancy Nicholls, Chowan Tourism Development Authority)

Environment and Natural Resources, the North Carolina Division of Tourism, the Department of Agriculture, North Carolina Arts Council, and the North Carolina Extension Service visited Chowan County and toured all of the potential sites for devel-

opment.

"While they were viewing the Cannon's Ferry area," Nicholls said, "Mr. Robert Hendrix joined the group and gave them an overview of what had taken place on the shores of the Chowan River many years back when it was a viable fishing site. At the end of that day, the Inter-Agency Task Force presented recommendations at a public reception that was hosted at the Barker House. During this time, the potential of the Cannon's Ferry site as a River Walk area where visitors could picnic, fish, paddle, and learn about the industry through pictures and interpretation was highlighted."

Chowan County approached the Albemarle Resource Conservation and Development Council with the concept of developing a public heritage riverwalk at the Cannon's Ferry land owned by Robert Hendrix in August of 2000. Hendrix granted Chowan

County a long-term lease for this site and grants by the Albemarle Resource Conservation and Development Council, from Coastal Management and the North Carolina Parks and Recreation Trails Program in 2001-2002 got the construction underway.

"The interpretive signage depicting the site's herring industry history was gathered by Ginger Morelock, a regional folklorist," Nicholls said. "These interviews enabled Ms. Morelock to

learn about life at Cannon's Ferry from neighbors, fishermen and former fishery workers. She also received the many photos that are displayed at the site today. A donation of a herring boat that was once used will also be on site in the near future for all to view."

"Make sure and either take Cannon's Ferry Road to the River Walk or paddle over and enjoy this most spectacular view of the Chowan River," she added. "It's really something to see."

The Chowan County Board of Commissioners
and
The Chowan County Heritage Development Council
Invite you to join them for the
Dedication of the J. Robert Hendrix Park
and
Cannon's Ferry Heritage River Walk
On Sunday, April 27, 2003
2:00 o'clock pm
Light Refreshments will be Served
On the Chowan River • 317 Cannon's Ferry Road

Jones to receive NC Folk Heritage Award April 23

Artists who all help tell North Carolina's unique story by working with their hands or singing, playing, and sharing stories from their hearts will be honored at the North Carolina Arts Council's Folk Heritage Awards Wednesday, April 23, at 7:30 p.m., at Stewart Theatre on the NC State University campus. Grammy Award-winning musician David Holt of Asheville will serve as master of ceremonies.

Winners from Eastern North Carolina include wheelwright emmett Parker Jones of Tyner.

"I was raised in my father's shop," says Jones, a fourth generation wheelwright. His earliest memories of working with his father began when he was about three years old and standing on a five-gallon cot-



Emmett Parker Jones

tonseed bucket to reach the crank to the blower that fired his father's forge. For more information about the awards, call communications manager Joe Newberry at (919) 733-2119 or e-mail joe.newberry@ncmail.net.



Main Street forum held here

Business owners and citizens joined town officials at a community forum designed to seek comments about the idea of Edenton becoming a Main Street community. Rodney Swink, state director (above), explains benefits of the program. (David Taylor photo)

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