

THE CHOWAN HERALD

Vol. LXX, No. 1 Wednesday, August 25, 2004 Single Copies 50¢

Recent domestic violence stirs concern, outreach

Both suspects had previous criminal history

BY SEAN JACKSON
Staff Writer

Two separate cases of domestic violence ending in murder have rocked Chowan County, the latest when an Edenton woman was stabbed to death in front of her Twiddy Avenue home last week.

Pamela Joye Virzi, 47, was killed Aug. 17, less than a week after Anita Jackson Leary was found dead at her Sandy Ridge Road home. William Joseph Moore, 46, of 205 W. Main St., Winfall, has been charged with murder after allegedly stabbing Virzi to death. The morning of the murder, Moore been found guilty of violating a domestic violence order taken out by Virzi earlier this year.

He was captured shortly after fleeing the murder scene to the former site of Albemarle Boats on West Queen Street. Moore worked at Albemarle Boats' new site on Midway Drive. It



Photo by Bud Weagly for The Chowan Herald

A large crowd of mourners arrives at Beaver Hill Cemetery as domestic violence victim Pam Virzi is laid to rest. Her death, and that of another Edenton woman, Anita Leary, just days earlier, caused an outpouring of grief and sorrow across the community.

was that fact that led District Court Judge J.C. Cole to fine Moore but not issue an active sentence during Tuesday's hearing, court officials have said. The boat-building company reportedly had told Moore he would lose his job if jailed again.

Virzi was mowing her grass when Moore arrived, eyewitnesses have said. The two reportedly talked before Moore attacked her shortly after 7 p.m. Virzi pleaded for Moore to stop stab-

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Domestic violence touches families across our area

BY HOLLY WILSON
M.E.D., NCC
Albemarle Hopeline

Recent tragic murders make it absolutely clear how necessary services for abused women and children are in a community. The domestic violence murder of a woman and/or a child is an occurrence that often makes an entire community sit back and realize that, yes, domestic violence is everywhere, even in a seemingly peaceful community. We need to end the silence that surrounds violence against women and children. Only then will tragedies like these be avoided.

What is Domestic Violence?
Domestic violence occurs when one person in an intimate relationship establishes control and

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Hayes plan okayed

BY SEAN JACKSON
Staff Writer

Told it was the most important decision it would make this decade, the Edenton Town Council approved the first step of the proposed Hayes Farm subdivision.

The town planning board had recommended council reject developers' rezoning request. During a nearly 2-hour long public hearing, opponents and supporters of the project alike appealed to council. Opponents said the plan would pour too many people into the southern edge of town and decay the existing business district. Supporters said those businesses would actually flourish and the town could control how it will grow.

"I just feel like the plan is an insult to the good people of this town," John Gagnon, a soil scientist with the U.S. Department of Agriculture who lives in Edenton, said.

Gagnon estimated the devel-

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70 years of community service



The late J. Edwin "Buff" Bufflap, co-founder and first editor of The Chowan Herald, poses with a young boy and his duck on the sidewalk in front of the newspaper.

Bufflap, Lupton began paper during Depression

BY REBECCA BUNCH
Managing Editor

Chowan Herald co-founder J. Edwin "Buff" Bufflap used to delight in telling folks that people thought he and business partner Hector "Hec" Lupton were crazy to attempt to start a weekly newspaper in Edenton during the Depression. But they knew better. That little newspaper celebrates its 70th birthday on August 30th.

The newspaper has certainly seen its share of changes over the years. Former Publisher Pete Manning recalls that when he first came to work here in 1946, the Herald "was publishing only four to six pages a week and putting about everything realized back into the business to purchase more up-to-date equipment."

Undeterred, however, Bufflap and Lupton decided to begin another newspaper and *The Perquimans Weekly* was born. Its editor, Max Campbell, later purchased that paper from them.

In the mid-1960s, the pair sold

the Herald to J.P. Huskins of Statesville, owner of the *Statesville Landmark and Record*. Huskins' brother-in-law, L.F. "Bud" Amburn moved to Edenton to become publisher and oversee day-to-day operations. Huskins sold the Herald in 1989 to David Whichard of Greenville, NC.

Whichard, whose family owned *The Daily Reflector* and a group of other daily and non-daily papers across eastern North Carolina, invested considerable effort in advancing the professionalism of the operation.

Whichard said Friday that he looks back on his days as owner of the Herald with great fondness and is pleased to see how the paper has grown and prospered over the years. "I remain proud to have been associated with the paper," he said, "and I am sure the community is proud of it as well."

In 1995 the Herald was sold to Cox Enterprises which retains ownership today.

Tremblay Coach of the Year

BY SEAN JACKSON
Staff Writer

Edenton Steamers head coach Joel Tremblay did more than just lead his club to regular and post-season titles. He also walked away with personal honors.

Tremblay, an assistant coach at Wayne State University in Nebraska, was named the Coastal Plain League Coach of the Year last Tuesday. Edenton reeled off a 32-10 regular season mark, including a CPL-record winning percentage. The Steamers took both first and second-half championships.

Earlier this month, they swept four games in Hampton, Va. to claim the team's first-ever Pettit Cup trophy. They outscored opponents in the 3-day tournament 34-7.

Katy Ebersole, president of the club's board of directors, said Tremblay showed his tal-

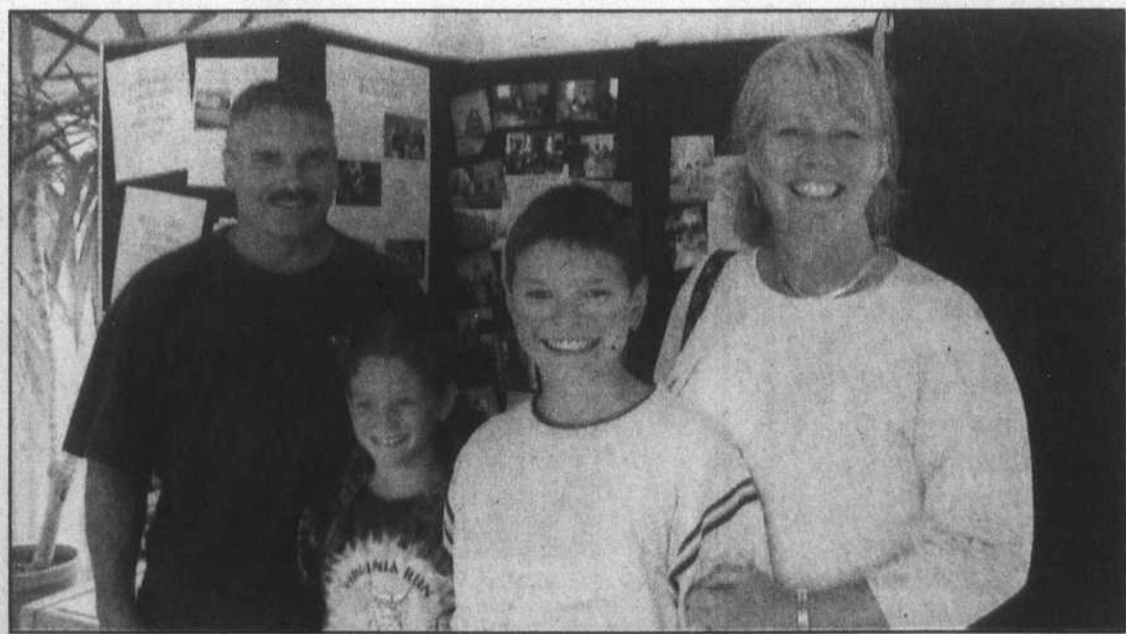
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Visitor Center welcomes its 700,000th visitor

Jim and Beth Knittle, along with their children Andrew and Lindsay, received a special welcome at the Historic Edenton State Historic Site Visitor Center on August 13th. Beth Knittle was the 700,000 person to visit the visitor center since it opened in 1968.

Beth Knittle, whose mother

Lillian Leary Balzer, grew up in Edenton, was thrilled to receive a gift bag of items donated by Historic Edenton Sate Historic Site, the James Iredell Association, The Edenton Woman's Club, Edenton-Chowan Chamber of Commerce and the North Carolina Northeast Partnership.



Jim and Beth Knittle, with their kids, Andrew and Lindsey, at the Visitor Center.

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Stop by the Boy Scout Hut or CMS to purchase Chicken Plates While they last

The Chowan Middle School PTA **BARBECUE CHICKEN FUNDRAISER**

Tickets available by calling Jackie at 482-4224 \$6.00 PER PLATE Saturday, August 28th 4:00 ~ 6:30 p.m. 100% of the proceeds will be spent on students and teachers needs.

EAT IN or TAKE OUT STOP BY ON YOUR WAY HOME!