

THE CHOWAN HERALD

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Chowan welcomes wellness director

BY EARLINE WHITE
The Chowan Herald

Raising awareness among hospital employees and the community at large is the primary goal of Chowan Hospital's new Wellness Coordinator, India Foy. A native of Wilmington and graduate of UNC-Greensboro, Foy wants to make sure that patients know the consequences of their habits and have the tools available to them to make a change.

Each day hundreds of patients walk into a doctor's office expecting to get at least a fair report of health only to

learn they have high blood pressure or cholesterol. By encouraging people to take a more active role in their health, Foy hopes

that citizens will increase their health knowledge and lead healthier lifestyles.

"Nutrition, physical activity and tobacco use are the three primary behavioral habits that adversely affect one's health that can be changed," Foy said from her new desk within the rehabilitation center at Chowan Hospital. "Becoming aware and making the necessary steps to change these habits would dramatically decrease illness and the possibility of (premature) death."

Foy replaces Sonya McGill who made her mark on the community and hospital employees by implementing health programs for the staff and initiating new routes for the Community Wellness Van. McGill recently left the area to pursue a career with Human Resources for the state of South Carolina. "Sonya will be greatly missed and we wish her the best as she leaves/moves on to get married," Mary Kay Laughton, Director, PR/Marketing Community Relations for Chowan Hospital said.

While only a month into her

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Foy

Arrests made here in connection with EC shooting

BY SEAN JACKSON
The Chowan Herald

The third suspect wanted in conjunction with an Aug. 4 shooting in Elizabeth City was arrested on Aug. 6 in Edenton on drug charges.

Walter Allen Norman, 22, of 1425-B Soundneck Road, Elizabeth City, was charged with trafficking cocaine, sale and delivery of a controlled sub-

stance within 300 feet of a school, and possession with intent to sell and deliver cocaine.

Norman had been sought by Elizabeth City police in connection with a shooting at the 1100 block of Wood Street. Two other suspects from Elizabeth City, Antonio Decarlos Williams, 18, of the 200 block of Pritchard Street, and Alonza Biddle Jr., 19, of the 1100 block



W. Norman



E. Ferebee



J. Ferebee

of Wood Street, were both charged with assault with a deadly weapon with intent to

kill, inflicting serious bodily injury, stemming from the shooting.

Edenton Police Chief Greg Bonner said Monday that police Officer Brian Ferraraccio spotted a suspicious vehicle parked on East Hicks Street around 1 a.m. on Aug. 6. Another vehicle coming down the street apparently spotted Ferraraccio's patrol car and made a U-turn, Bonner said. Ferraraccio, assisted by Of-

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2005 Petitt Cup Champions



Staff photo by Sean Jackson

The 2005 Coastal Plain League champion Edenton Steamers hoist their Petitt Cup trophy at J.P. Riddle Stadium in Fayetteville on Sunday. The Steamers cruised over the Florence RedWolves 9-2 in the title game to cap a 38-19 season. Over four games, Edenton outscored opponents 30-4, with Steamers pitchers tossing two shut-outs along the way. Shortstop Ryan Khoury was named the tourney's top offensive player, going 5-for-12.

Annexation approved by town council

Long-planned development nears completion

BY SEAN JACKSON
The Chowan Herald

Saying it's a move to boost Edenton's tax base and population, the Town Council approved the voluntary annexation request by the developers of Wharf Landing during the panel's Aug. 9 meeting.

The subdivision — slated to contain 90 condominium units, a marina, boat slips, and a waterfront inn and restaurant — is located on the Chowan River, just northwest of Edenton.

"I think this annexation is a good example of an economic development opportunity for the town," Edenton Town Manager Anne-Marie Knighton said.

Developer Paul Waff told council that two buildings — including 12 condo units — are in the final stages of construction. The 20.55-acre tract has been under development for years, Waff said.

"Now it's actually coming together," Waff said prior to council's unanimous approval of his annexation request.

Councilman Willis Privott toured the site with Waff on Aug. 8 and liked what he saw.

"I could see (that Waff has) gone the extra mile

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Prosecutor: Capital trials may need special session

Backlog of homicide cases due to spike in domestic violence

BY SEAN JACKSON
The Chowan Herald

Steering capital murder trials through the courts system takes patience, cooperation with opposing attorneys, and careful review, a local prosecutor said last week.

Assistant District Attorney Mike Johnson has several such cases pending in Chowan County, stemming from a 2003 slaying, and a trio of murders last year. Two of the 2004 killings occurred within a week of each other.

"It's kind of unusual for a small county," Johnson said of the murders last August.

On Aug. 17, 2004, Pam Joye Virzi was slain outside of her Twiddy Avenue home by her estranged boyfriend, William Joseph Moore of Winfall. Moore, 46, has been charged with first-degree murder for

stabbing Virzi, 47, to death.

About a week earlier, Chowan County Sheriff's deputies discovered the body of Anita Jackson Leary inside her Sandy Ridge Road home. Her husband, 40-year-old Cornelius Leary, has been charged with first-degree murder in that shooting.

Cornelius Leary is currently in prison in New York on unrelated charges. Johnson is seeking to extradite Leary through an Interstate Detainer Compact.

Leary had been released from a North Carolina prison in 2003 after serving 11 years of a 20-year sentence for common law robbery.

And in early January, 19-year-old Carl Ober III was charged with first-degree murder in the strangling death of his grandmother Joyce Smith Lee, 64. A female friend of Ober's, a juvenile, was also

charged in connection with Lee's murder.

Both Moore and Ober are scheduled for the Aug. 22 calendar for an administrative session of superior court. Judge Richard Parker will preside over the proceedings, according to state Administrative Office of the Courts Web site.

Also on the docket:

Defendants who have been charged in the November 2003 shooting of Jamel Boyce outside Edenton Manor Apartments could appear during an October session of superior court.

"Some of those people will hopefully be tried that week," Johnson said.

Kenyatta Coston, 25, pleaded guilty to accessory after the fact to felonious assault in May. He had originally been charged with second-degree murder. He may also be sentenced in October.

Also charged in Boyce's murder are Jamil R. Johnson,

Kenneth Bond Jr., Jermaine A. Bland, William M. Bland, Darrell A. Bentley, Sharif K. Byrd, Dwight A. Coston, Deon C. Copeland, and Edward L. Hill.

As for Moore's trial, Johnson said Moore's attorney, James Vosburgh of Washington, N.C., has not applied for a change of venue.

"That can happen in a (high-profile) case," Johnson said. "It's not a big deal if that does happen (in this case)."

Johnson anticipates that trial occurring after the first of the year, in January or February.

A special session may also be needed for Ober — who is legally blind — and the juvenile, if both plead innocent and the cases go to juries.

"It's not unusual (to have a special session) for a case like that," Johnson said.

Some defense teams relay on expert witnesses to testify on behalf of their clients, espe-



Moore



Ober

Violence statistics are misleading

BY EARLINE WHITE
The Chowan Herald

With the upcoming one-year anniversary of three fatal domestic violence cases in Chowan County, at least one local domestic violence expert is disputing a recent study by the Bureau of Justice Statistics which found that domestic violence is declining in our state. The study reported that the "rate of family violence fell by more than one-half between 1993 and 2002, from an estimated 5.4 victims to 2.1 victims per 1,000 U.S. residents 12 years old and older."

Patricia Youngblood, Director of Albemarle Hopeline which offers 24-Hour crisis counseling and court advocacy among other services, finds the Bureau's statistics startling and misleading.

"I believe that these statistics were taken from those crimes where the victims ac-

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