

THE CHOWAN HERALD

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'Showcase' adds funds to library expansion

Organizers put a new twist on first homes tour

BY REBECCA BUNCH
The Chowan Herald

Spirits are high and organizers are hoping for beautiful weather as the Friends of the Library get ready to greet visitors to their first-ever Decorators' Showcase, which gets underway tomorrow (Thursday) and continues through the weekend.

"This is going to be a really classy event," said co-chair Lee Lolkema. "It's going to be very, very exciting."

Lolkema, who along with Joanne Lesiewicz is co-chairing the showcase. Proceeds from the event will benefit the Shepard-Pruden Public Library in Edenton - specifically, the North Carolina Room and the Children's Room in the soon-to-be-built library expansion.

The showcase will feature five local homes decorated with book-related themes. These include:

- Volume I - The Tillie Bond House, 300 North Broad Street, located behind the Lords Proprietors' Inn, owned by Jane and Arch Edwards. Decorated by Regan Coxe and Geordie Robison, *The Old Man and the Sea*; Susan Wilkerson and Carolyn Perry, *Fancy That, A Room of One's Own and The Great Gatsby*; Elaine Schneider, Elaine Schneider Interiors, *A Gift from the Sea*; Bettie Vail and Martha Badger, Antiques Unlimited, *Memoirs of a Geisha*; Shelby Laczko, Boutiques 210, *Little Brown Bear Won't Take a Nap*.

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Two qualified candidates for sheriff campaigned hard to win the loyalty of Chowan County voters. Now, for just one of them...

It's in the bag

Dwayne Goodwin is chosen to lead the Chowan County's Sheriff's Office in 2006 and beyond

BY SEAN JACKSON
The Chowan Herald

Chowan County Sheriff's Deputy Dwayne Goodwin has defeated challenger Rhonda Copeland to become the county's next sheriff.

Goodwin won 75 percent of the vote in Tuesday's primary, while Copeland, an Edenton police detective sergeant, pulled in 25 percent of the vote. Goodwin garnered 1,656 votes, while Copeland earned 539 votes. Altogether, about 2,200 of the roughly 9,200 - or nearly 24 percent - of registered

voters in Chowan.

Goodwin, 36, had his largest victories in Yeopim (175 votes of 258 ballots cast, or about 80 percent) and Center Hill (185 votes of 232 ballots cast, or roughly 77 percent).

Copeland, 52, had her best showing in Wardville (102 votes of 271 ballots cast, or about 45 percent) and West Edenton (149 votes of 586 ballots cast, or roughly 39 percent).

Goodwin carried all six of the county's voter precincts.

Goodwin, whose grandfather, George

Lee Byrum, died Tuesday at the age of 95, also pulled in 193 - or 78 percent - of the 211 absentee ballots cast.

Goodwin said he was having "all kinds of emotions" shortly after learning of his victory.

"I've been working on this for the last three years or better," he said. "It's something I've wanted, wanted more than anything."

Goodwin, a 15-year veteran under retiring Sheriff Fred Spruill, also said Copeland ran a tough race against him.



Cole Johnston

Town plans to expand services to match new growth

Forty-five percent growth in population anticipated over the next six years

BY SEAN JACKSON
The Chowan Herald

For decades, Edenton has remained a cozy town, with a static population.

That's soon to change, with the town's head-count expected to spike by roughly 45 percent over the next six years.

While the town may keep its long-established personality, there will be a lot more of it to go around, Town Manager Anne-Marie Knighton said last week.

"Looking ahead to the next few years, I can't imagine a time when I'm more optimistic about the future of our town's ability to improve the quality of life for all of our neighborhoods, all of our residents," Knighton said. "But this budget year is going to be very, very challenging."

That challenge for Knighton and the Town Council will be just how to manage the tax rate with property values expected to soar after a recent revaluation. Final numbers are expected this month on new property values, Knighton added.

And with additional capacity for water and sewer services likely needed over the next few years, councilors must also decide how, and where, to appropriate money for upgrades. Then there's the potential need to boost funding to the police and

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Moore gets death in Virzi stabbing

Friends and family weep as

BY SEAN JACKSON
The Chowan Herald

The man sentenced to death by a Chowan County jury Wednesday could sit on death row for up to two years before his appeal is heard by the state Supreme Court.

The 12-member jury only took 27 minutes to sentence William Joseph "Bill" Moore, 48, to the death penalty. He receives an automatic appeal. Just what course of action Moore, who represented himself during the three-day trial, will take is unknown, Assistant District Attorney Michael Johnson said Monday.

"I don't know what his intention is in pursuing the appeal," Johnson said of Moore,



Moore

life in prison for the slaying of former girlfriend Pamela Joye Virzi on Aug. 17, 2004.

"These cases have the potential for going on for several years," Johnson said.

Moore waited 18 months before entering a plea, and was sentenced two months later. Johnson said he never presumes what a jury might decide.

who pleaded guilty to first-degree murder on Feb. 27.

Moore asked few questions on his own behalf during the trial and only offered a five-minute address to the jury during closing statements.

"I've never tried a serious murder case where the defendant represented himself, that I can remember," Johnson added.

Johnson called upon a number of witnesses to testify against Moore, including Virzi's 17-year-old daughter,

"I wasn't shocked by the result," he said of Moore's sentence. "I think I agree with the state's decision, obviously."

Johnson also said the jury's deliberation "seemed to be pretty fast."

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Lottery funding still leaves schools short

BY EARLINE WHITE
The Chowan Herald

North Carolina's new Education Lottery will not solve the budget woes that Edenton-

Chowan, or any other small school, faces in the upcoming year, Superintendent Dr. Allan Smith said as he explained the proposed 2006-2007 school system budget. The budget was formally presented at



Smith

Monday night's Board of Education meeting.

"This year's budget is different in terms of what we've been through the past four to five years with the economy's shrinking and cuts from the state and federal government," Smith said. "But hopefully the economy is starting to improve; preliminary indicators show that state revenue is increasing, and hopefully that will continue," Smith added.

However, the school system is currently facing a \$549,066 budget shortfall for the upcoming 2006-2007 school year. Many

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Decorators Showcase
EDENTON, NORTH CAROLINA

MAY 4 - 7, 2006
Thurs. Fri. Sat. 10-4; Sun. 12:30-5
Thursday—Special Red Hat Ladies Day*

Tickets \$20.00

now on sale at:

The Barker House 252 482-7800
The Visitor's Center 252 482-2637
The Shepard-Pruden Memorial Library 252 482-4112

Sponsored by Friends of the Library • Proceeds to benefit the Children's Room and N.C. Room