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Boyle is target of allegations

From staff reports

U.S. District Court Judge Terrence Boyle, of Edenton, is the target of allegations that he broke a conflict-of-interest law, fueling speculation that Boyle's nomination to a U.S. Court of Appeals seat is in jeopardy.



Boyle

Prior to the allegations that Boyle ruled on nine cases involving corporations in which he held stock, top Democratic leaders in Congress had already threatened to filibuster his nomination to the appellate court.

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Warrants issued for theft suspects

BY EARLINE WHITE
The Chowan Herald

Using tips given by local residents, the Chowan County Sheriff's Office, working in



Goodwin

operation with officers of the Edenton Police Department, were able to recover two stolen motorcycles in northern

Chowan County on Thursday, May 4 and another on Sunday, May 7.

At approximately 11 p.m. on May 4, Deputy Andy Bunch along with Edenton Police Officer Tim Hickman, followed a tip and a hunch that led them to two stolen motorcycles in the northern end of the county. The stolen motorcycles were reported missing from Moyock and Elizabeth City days earlier.

In a separate incident, and again using a tip from a resident, Investigator Dwayne

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Book-themed fundraiser poses interesting challenge for designers who are part of first-ever Decorators' Showcase to benefit Shepard-Pruden Library



Sean Jackson/The Chowan Herald

Elaine Schneider created her vision of "A Gift from the Sea" by Anne Morrow Lindberg in this room in the Tillie Bond house. Schneider operates her own design business in downtown Edenton.

Decorators are in the house

BY EARLINE WHITE
The Chowan Herald

Despite the ominous storm clouds that loomed above Edenton this past weekend, the first-ever Decorators' Showcase definitely brought out color in the local historic district. The homes tour, created by the Friends of the Library to raise money for the Shepard-Pruden Memorial Library expansion (specifically for the North Carolina Room and the Children's Room) far exceeded organizers' hopes, bringing hundreds of people into the local historic district.

"Before we went into this we talked about the three ways we were to measure (if the event was a success," said co-chair of the event, Lee Lolkema. "Number One - if we raised money for the library. Number Two - if the decorators, homeowners, artists, musicians and business resources all felt they would do it again. Number Three - if the people who came felt they got a lot of bang for their buck."

According to those guidelines, the premiere Decorators' Showcase was a hit. "We exceeded our goal

of \$10,000 which is just marvelous," Lolkema said. "I have spoken with all of the homeowners, save one, and the decorators and everyone said that they would love to do it again. They felt it was such a wonderful venue for their work and to get their name out. We had over 100 volunteers, making this a huge effort for the town; whenever we asked for help, no one said no. We are very proud that everyone came together and helped make this such a success."

The Decorators' Showcase prominently featured five local homes including the Tillie Bond House, the Norman House, the Cumby House, the Branning House and the Herr House. Decorators kept in mind their book-themed plans ranging from nonfiction decorating tip guides to inspiring children's books. Artists were also on site giving demonstrations of their craft and musicians delighted the tourgoers with soothing background tunes.

"Everything has its own charm," Kathy

See HOUSE On Page A3

Copeland says Partnership's days numbered

Authority needs to be brought back to Northeastern Commission to keep recruitment efforts strong

BY SEAN JACKSON
The Chowan Herald

Chowan County Manager Cliff Copeland says he believes the days of the Northeast Partnership's existence are numbered.

Copeland, a member of the Edenton-based economic development agency's board of directors, indicated Tuesday that the recent restructuring of the Partnership's executive board - and the turmoil surrounding the termination of former Partnership president and CEO Rick Watson combined with recent findings in a state audit that cited flaws in the organization's bookkeeping methods - may prove fatal for the agency.



Copeland

"I don't think the Partnership is going to survive," Copeland said. "For all practical purposes, I think the reorganization will abolish the Partnership."

Copeland said that a reorganization, enacted by the Partnership's oversight board, the Northeastern Commission, was "definitely needed."

However, Copeland said economic and industrial-recruitment efforts in the region should be overseen by a locally based organization such as the Commission.

"We don't need to relegate industrial development back to the state Department of Commerce," Copeland said. "It needs to be kept locally."

Copeland is not the only area official who believes the Partnership's fate is sealed. In fact, elected officials from six area counties met at the College of The Albemarle in Elizabeth City on May 4 to discuss the agency's future, or lack of one, *The Daily Advance* reported Sunday.

Pasquotank County Commissioners Matt Wood and Hank Krebs both said the Partnership must be dissolved during that meeting, *The Daily Advance* reported.

Copeland said the Commission, which provided funding for the Northeast Partnership, was left out of the information loop by the Partnership, which was supposed to report back to the Commission regarding how it was spending public monies.

"There was no reporting back to the Commission," Copeland said.

And Copeland voiced the hope that the Commission itself will survive all the past months of uncertainty and negative publicity about the Partnership and its alleged improprieties.

"A lot of people, including myself, feel the authority needs to be brought back to the Commission," he said.

The Partnership's next meeting is set for May 17 in Edenton. Commission members have said they would revisit the future status of the Partnership at that meeting.

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Southbound lane of bridge shut down after motorcycle wreck

BY SEAN JACKSON
The Chowan Herald

A southbound lane of the Chowan River Bridge was temporarily shut down on Friday as emergency officials worked to clear the scene of a one-vehicle wreck.

At 2:25 p.m. on Friday, a Honda motorcycle driven by Clarence Dillon Butler Jr., 55, of Rockingham, rolled over, throwing Butler and his passenger, Carol Butler, also 55 and from Rockingham, onto the highway, state Highway Patrol spokesperson Faye Gray said Tuesday.

According to a report filed by Trooper J.H. Blizzard, the

rear tire of Butler's motorcycle blew out, causing him to lose control of the bike that had been travelling in the

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Sean Jackson/The Chowan Herald

Traffic on the Chowan River Bridge was affected Friday by a motorcycle wreck resulting from a blown-out tire.

May Play Day



Sean Jackson/The Chowan Herald

The rope swing event at May Play Day on Saturday at the Rocky Hock Community Center was one of the more popular activities enjoyed by kids. See more photos on Page A-2.