Chipola Automotive Tech program to work on Wild Kingdom memorabilia

By J. Michael Brown, WMBB-TV—

Before there was cable, satellite TV and video on demand, television viewing choices were limited. But every week, one show—Mutual of Omaha’s Wild Kingdom—took viewers to the far reaches of the globe for a close-up look at animals in their natural habitat.

Jim Fowler, who traveled the world as a field correspondent and host of the show, was at Chipola College on Wednesday with a rusted old Jeep that transported him on some of those TV adventures.

Fowler, who’s now 82, is one of the world’s best known naturalists and a true television pioneer. Nearly 50 years after Wild Kingdom premiered, the sidekick of original host Marlin Perkins still has eyes on the natural world. “How we treat this earth is what it’s all about,” he said.

But on this day, it’s how that battered old 50’s era Willys Jeep is being treated that tops his agenda. “Boy it brings back a lot of memories,” said Fowler, as he sat behind the wheel of the vehicle parked in the Automotive Technology Lab at Chipola College. “I’m so excited.”

Fowler is excited that his friend Bob Pforte, a Marianna automobile dealer, is coordinating the restoration of two Jeeps by the 30 students enrolled in the Chipola automotive program. “This is a very historical vehicle,” said Fowler. “It was used in World War Two at the end of the war [and] we had this on quite a few Wild Kingdom shows.”

Instructor John Gardner isn’t yet sure what he and the students are up against. The vehicle was delivered to their shop on Tuesday.

Chipola will celebrate Homecoming the week of Feb. 4-9

Chipola will celebrate Homecoming 2013 from Feb. 4-9 with the Indians hosting Tallahassee for the big Homecoming games on Saturday, Feb. 9. This year’s theme is “Chipola Nation.”

Candidates for Mr. Chipola and Homecoming Queen will be introduced at 10 a.m., Wednesday, Jan. 30, in the Cafeteria. Voting for candidates will take place on Jan. 30, in the Cafeteria from 10-11 a.m., in the Student Activities Office (K105) from 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. and in Building Z from 5-6 p.m. You must be a currently enrolled student to vote.

Voting will continue on Jan. 31 in the Student Activities Office until Noon. The top two freshmen vote winners (women and men) and the top three sophomores or upper classmen vote winners will be named to the Homecoming Court. The sophomore or upper classmen winners will be crowned Homecoming Queen and Mr. Chipola at the Homecoming game on Feb. 9.

Dress up days for the week include:
Monday, Feb. 4 is Camouflage Day - wear your camo gear. Tuesday, Feb. 5 is Nerd Day - wear clothing that brings out your inner nerd. Wednesday, Feb. 6 is Blue and Gold Day - show your Indian spirit. Thursday, Feb. 7 is Decade Day - show your favorite decade.

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Small business seminars set at Chipola

Chipola will offer a series of small business seminars in the coming months. All seminars meet on Fridays, from 9:30 to 12:30 p.m., in Room M-108 of the Chipola Business and Technology building.

“Steps to Starting a Small Business” is Friday, Jan. 25. The seminar will focus on organizational requirements, licensing, financial assessments, insurance, marketing, loans, defining customers, location and employee requirements.

“Business Plans” is Feb. 15. The seminar will help participants discover which business type is best suited for their personality, and how to create a working business model to obtain financing and create a successful business.

A free seminar, “What the Veterans’ Business Outreach Center Can Do for You,” is March 22. The VBOC helps create, develop, and retain veteran-owned small business enterprises. The VBOC provides training through workshops, counseling, assistance, and resource utilization services to Veterans, Service-Disabled Veterans, Reservists, National Guard, and Active Duty business owners and entrepreneurs.

“Government Contracting” will meet April 19. This workshop helps business owners identify government agencies to which they can market their businesses. Participants will discuss the effective marketing and ways to find a proposal opportunity, and how to write a winning bid.

Cost of each seminar is $30. The first six Chipola students to sign up for any seminar will receive free admission. Students should call 718-2441 or sign up in person in Building M, Office 108.

Participants may register online at www.northfloridabiz.com. For more information, call 850-718-2441.

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and they haven’t had time to pinpoint its date of manufacture. They do know, however, that the Jeep is a military-issue, four wheel drive vehicle with a four-cylinder, overhead valve internal combustion engine.

But Gardner said his students are up to the challenge of working on a vintage vehicle in the electronic age. “All of the theory is going to be the same,” he said. “Everything will blend over to today’s technology so it’s going to be phenomenal for the kids... and that’s what we’re here for, to teach them and get them employable.”

Wild Kingdom premiered in January 1963 and aired on network prime time television until 1971, when it went into syndication. During its run, the show was recognized with 41 major awards, including four Emmys.

Michael Bramblett, an automotive student from Sneads, had his photo taken with Fowler and understands the significance of the class Jeep restoration project. “I’m really looking forward to getting my hands on it,” he said. “It’s a piece of history... it’s a piece of art.”

Fowler plans to put the Jeep back into service at his safari ranch in Albany, Georgia and feature it in promotions for Wild Kingdom’s golden anniversary.
Jazz Duo to perform for Chipola Artist Series

The Davis and Dow jazz duo will perform for the Chipola College Artist Series, Thursday, Feb. 7, in the Chipola Center for the Arts.

The show of Jazz standards will include a request-by-favorites second half in which the audience gets to pick blues selections.

The award-winning Davis and Dow jazz duo tackle jazz and pop standards with a daring sense of abandon. Their style is deeply rooted in the classic jazz tradition but with a playfulness that keeps the music fresh and fun. Their arrangements are unique and inventive, always seeking a new approach to everything they do.

Recognized as one of the finest and most versatile jazz singers of her generation, Julie Davis is everything from scat-singer to balladeer. She grew up listening to Duke Ellington, Count Basie, Ella Fitzgerald and others on her parents’ extensive vinyl collection. She is a stylist that seeks an original twist on everything she performs.

Kelly Dow is a world-class guitarist whose primary influences are Joe Pass, Jimmy Bruno, Django Reinhardt and the modern day European gypsy jazz virtuosos. He blends Be-Bop, Blues, Flamenco and Classical styles to create a strong individual sound delivered with sensitivity, power, and creativity.

Davis and Dow have toured Japan, London, and New York, composed and performed original music for the TV show “Food-Nation with Bobby Flay,” and produced “Divas of Jazz.” Their latest CD “Naked” won Best Jazz Album-Florida Music Awards, was featured in JazzTimes Magazine and voted Best Jazz Artists by New Times Magazine.

Tickets are available online at www.chipola.edu. Click “Fine Arts” and “Artist Series.” Online tickets may be printed at home, or with an order confirmation, will-call tickets will be available at the box office the night of the show. The Center for the Arts Box Office will be open 2 to 5 p.m., Jan. 31; and Feb. 4-6; and at 6 p.m. the night of the show on Feb. 7.

Tickets are $14 for adults and $10 for children under 18. Tickets for Chipola students and employees are $5 the day of the show.

The popular bluegrass/country comedy group, Three on a String, will perform April 11.

For information, visit www.chipola.edu or phone 718-2257.

Chipola hosts Northwest Florida Jan. 26

Chipola hosts Northwest in a pair of Panhandle Conference games, Saturday, Jan. 26, in the Milton H. Johnson Health Center. The women’s game tips off at 5:30 p.m., followed by the men’s game at 7:30 p.m.

Chipola plays at Gulf Coast on Saturday, Jan. 19 and at Tallahassee, Jan. 22.

The Chipola Lady Indians (17-2, 2-1) scored a 67-54 win over the Pensacola on Jan. 15. Jade Givens led Chipola with 15 points and was five of five from the free throw line with five assists. Jasmine Crawford scored 13 including a pair of threes. Lashonda Littleton had 12. Chipola led 30-26 at the half.

Chipola suffered a close 62-61 loss at Northwest on Jan. 9. Jasmine Crawford had a last second shot for Chipola, but it fell short. Chipola trailed 32-28 at the half, but tied the game three times in the second period.

The Lady Indians opened the season with a 74-63 win over Tallahassee on Jan. 5. Rayven Brooks, FCSAA Honorable Mention Player of the week, led Chipola with 19 points including four three-pointers.


The Lady Indians are led by Lashonda Littleton’s 15.7 points per game, with Kristine Brance just behind at 15.6 points per game, and Rayven Brooks at 14.6. Rahni Bell is also in double figures at 10.3 points per game, with Jasmine Crawford just behind at 9.8. Crawford also leads the team in steals at 3.1 per game and is second in assists at 4.6 per game, just behind point guard Jade Givens, who is averaging 4.8 assists per game. Littleton is the team’s top rebounder at 8.1 per game, with Brooks pulling in 7.5 per game.

The Indians (1-2) lost a close 45-42 game to Pensacola (1-2) on Jan. 15. The Indians were led in scoring by Mistor Thomas with 11 points. Carlos Morris had 10. Chipola led 23-20 at the half. The Indians (1-2, 18-2) shot only 24 percent from the floor and coughed up 14 turnovers. The Indians suffered their first loss of the season at the hands of arch-rival Northwest Florida State (80-65) on Jan. 9 in Niceville. The Northwest loss was Chipola coach Patrick Blake’s first misfire as a head coach after leading the Indians to a perfect 18-0 start.


For the latest scores, visit www.chipola.edu or call 718-2252.
Teacher workshop set at Chipola

The Future Educators Club will host its sixth Annual Teacher Workshop, Saturday, Feb. 2, from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Teachers and students interested in a career in education are invited to attend.

Future educators currently enrolled at Chipola with the assistance of the education faculty and education graduates will present the free workshop for area educators and education students. The day will include sessions for elementary, middle, and high school teachers. The students will present hands-on activities that can be used in the classroom with samples to take and use.

The program will include presentations and strategies in Math, Science, Reading, English, ESOL, and ESE.

In addition to the student-led sessions presentations will be made on Cooperative Learning Strategies and Techniques and Whole Brain Teaching.

The workshop will be held in the Literature/Language Building. Registration will begin at 8 a.m., with the first session at 8:15 a.m.

To ensure that sufficient materials are available, please RSVP at 718-2449.

Bethel is top employee

Glenda Bethel is Chipola College’s Career Employee for January. Bethel serves as an Operations and Technical Support Associate in Information Systems department and has worked at the college since 2004. Here, Bethel (left) is congratulated by Chipola president Dr. Gene Prough.

Hairspray cast

The cast of Chipola College’s production of the hit musical Hairspray poses for a photo during rehearsals. The show opens March 13.