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# THE CHOWAN HERALD



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## Edenton Housing Ranks As Best

By REBECCA BUNCH

The Edenton Housing Authority has received a Certificate of Excellence from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for the fiscal year ending 1994.

The local Authority received a rating of 98.57% under the criteria set by the Public Housing Management Assessment Program.

Ledford L. Austin, director of the Office of Public Housing, praised Byron Kehayes, executive director of the Town of Edenton's Department of Housing, for his "exemplary efforts and support of HUD programs. This recognition represents the excellent leadership and contributions of the Housing Authority's Executive Director, staff, and the Board of Commissioners."

Kehayes says that while he was gratified by the recognition, the credit for earning it

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Chowan County Forest Ranger Roger Spivey points out how a Southern Pine Beetle kills a pine tree. The beetles eat the living material between the bark and wood of a tree, depriving it of water and nutrients.

## Southern Pine Beetle Is Found Throughout Chowan County's Pine Population

By CLIFF CLARK

After 20 years of killing a relatively small number of trees, this summer the pine-tree munching Southern Pine Beetle has come to Chowan County with a vengeance.

"Over the last 20 years," said Chowan County Forest Ranger Roger Spivey, "each summer we have found about 10 to 15 spots where the beetle has attacked. But this summer we have seen over 50-plus spots where the beetle has been found."

Spivey said that the majority of the areas where the beetle has been found is in less than a half-acre of a stand of pine trees, but there have been a few spots where the beetle has attacked more acreage.

Currently, the only method to deal with the infestation is to cut out all the trees in the area that has been attacked, extending 100 feet from the last tree showing signs of the beetle.

When a tree is attacked, there is no hope of survival. The beetle begins eating the living material between the bark and the

wood. That living material is what channels water and necessary nutrients to keep the tree alive.

While the beetle is munching on the tree, it begins another life cycle, laying eggs that when hatched leave the tree to find another.

The obvious signs of attack are pitch tubes (pine sap that leaks from the hole the beetle creates when it enters the tree) and the ominous sawdust that accumulates beneath a tree. It takes about two months to kill the tree.

At that point, said Spivey, there are only two things you can do. "If it is too expensive, the forest owner can choose to leave the trees in the stand and hope the beetle will slow its movement through the stand or they can remove the trees."

Because the beetles do not damage the tree's wood, Spivey said that once they are attacked they can still be sold for pulpwood or saw timber, but the owner of the tree must act quickly.

"Once the tree has been at-

tacked and killed, the wood quickly dries out, allowing other insects to penetrate. If a landowner wants to make some money on the tree, they must remove the tree once it has been attacked," said Spivey.

Spivey said that a small number of beetles are always present in Chowan County's forests. The only thing that can severely limit them is a period of unusually cold weather. "If the temperature stays at five degrees for a number of days, it can kill the larvae that remain in the trees during the winter."

But without that natural occurrence, tree farmers can expect to lose approximately three percent of all of their pine trees over a 35 year period, according to statistics compiled by the NC Forest Service.

For reasons that have not been completely understood, the beetle will not usually attack trees that are eight to 10 years old and hardwood trees are completely unaffected.

Spivey said the beetle epidemic

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## Big Clean Sweep Set For Sat.

By REBECCA BUNCH

Nancy Morgan, personal assistant to Chowan County Manager Cliff Copeland, will serve as the coordinator for our community's first Big Sweep campaign on Saturday, Sept. 16.

The theme for the campaign, which will encompass town and county locations including Arrowhead Beach, Chowan Beach and Cape Colony, is "Leave Only Footprints on the Shoreline."

Morgan said that prior to this year, Chowan has been one of a handful of North Carolina counties that had not yet joined the nation's biggest annual clean-up campaign.

"We've done spring and fall clean-ups before, but not in the last couple of years," she said.

While getting things organized, Morgan turned for assistance to Capt. Al Howard who has led water quality improvement efforts in his Ar-

rowhead Beach neighborhood.

"He's the real expert, and has been giving me a lot of good advice," says Morgan. "My office has been the central point of contact for the campaign."

She says the job of getting people organized and ready for the Big Sweep '95 clean-up has not been nearly as difficult as she had thought it might.

"Everybody I've called has responded," Morgan said. "We held our first organizational meeting on Sept. 5. We had an excellent turnout and, I thought, a good team."

Chowan County team leaders will be: Leo Miller, Arrowhead Beach; Arnold Newbern, Chowan Beach; Nancy Signett, Cape Colony; Mike McArthur and Boy Scouts, Town of Edenton waterfront; Bonita Williams and local 4-H clubs/Ben Rose and Andy Elliott and the Kiwanis Club, access ramps and Pembroke

Creek; Kermit Layton and the Sunfish Park Sailors Association.

Supporting agencies will include: Doug Belch, Director of Chowan County Emergency Medical Services; Anne Blindt, Recycling Coordinator for the Albemarle Regional Solid Waste Management Authority; The Chowan Herald; Arrowhead Beach Property Owners Association; Chowan County; the Edenton-Chowan Chamber of Commerce.

Posters and other promotional materials for the area Big Sweep '95 clean-up are being provided by First Citizens Bank of Sunbury, N.C.

Anne Blindt predicts that the event will be "a real eye-opener for all involved." She says she hopes participants in the Chowan Big Sweep '95 will be motivated to become involved in other clean up activities such as the Adopt A Highway Program.

She attended the local group's first organizational meeting here Sept. 5 and says she was impressed by what she observed.

"Chowan's doing a great job. They're looking well-organized and they've got a lot of volunteers coming forward," Blindt says. "This is Nancy's first effort, and I think she's doing a tremendous job."

Collection points will be at the Soundshore Drive Recycling Center and at Evans Church on Hwy. 32, Blindt says. This will enable organizers to accurately gauge how much refuse they've collected at the end of the day.

To reward the volunteers and thank the organizers, Morgan says a cookout will be held at Arrowhead Beach after the clean-up ends.

Already encouraged by the volunteer response to this first clean-up, Morgan says she

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### Special Commemoration Planned

Edenton Tea Party Chapter DAR Regent Dorothy Bangert, left, joins Postmaster Deborah Welker in announcing that the local DAR has received approval for a Constitution Week Special Pictorial Cancellation Stamp to commemorate Constitution Week, Sept. 17-13. Anyone interested in receiving correspondence stamped with the Edenton Tea Party Constitution Week stamp can bring or send mail to the post office here and pick it up after it is stamped by DAR volunteers. Cancellation can be obtained up to 30 days after the cancellation date. Bangert and Welker said they believe the offer, which will be available nationwide, will be of special interest to stamp collectors. Mrs. Robert (Liz) Will is chairman of the event. (Staff photo by Rebecca Bunch)

## Auditions Scheduled For ELT

Auditions for the upcoming production of "My Fair Lady" will be held at Swain Auditorium, E. Church St., Edenton, at 7:30 pm on September 26, 27 and 28. The last of these dates will also be for call-backs.

This is the first joint venture of the Chowan Arts Council and the Edenton Little Theater and the production will be directed by Ross Inglis, who directed many of the Little Theater plays in the '60s and '70s. Musical direction will be by Rosalind MacEnulty, composer and musical director of "The Lost Colony." The choreographer will be Wanda Rossman, a well-recognized professional in her field. Joe Conger is the producer.

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## Opinions Divided On Rascals Court Ruling

By CLIFF CLARK

Parents expressed "shock" over the North Carolina Supreme Court's decision to uphold a lower court's ruling ordering new trials for Bob Kelly and Katherine Dawn Wilson in the Little Rascals Day Care sexual abuse case, while supporters of Kelly and Wilson were "elated."

"We are shocked by the Supreme Court's decision not to review the Little Rascals case," read a statement by parents of

the victims submitted to the Chowan Herald. "Shocked because we feel the Supreme Court owed it to the citizens of this great state to make certain there were in fact prejudicial errors in these cases before sending them back to be retried at another monumental expense to the taxpayers," read the statement.

Supporters of Kelly and Wilson and the other individuals indicted on the sexual abuse

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### Mr. Peanut Asks Plymouth's Mayor To Visit 20th Peanut Festival

Trying to get the peanuts boiling, Mr. Peanut has been visiting local towns to tell people about the upcoming 20th anniversary Peanut Festival. Last week, Mr. Peanut visited with Plymouth Mayor Jarahnee Bailey to invite her to Edenton for the festival, which will be held on Saturday, Oct. 7. A full day of activities are planned, including a parade and the "Battle Of The Bands."

