

The Chowan Herald

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Support for project urged

BY LAURIE HUFFORD
Staff Writer

This year's Memorial Day Ceremony at Chowan's Veterans' Memorial was well-attended. Master of Ceremonies, George Stokes, led the Pledge of Allegiance. The flag was lowered to half mast while Tom Dyson played "Taps". Lynn Bundy sang "Stars Spangled Banner" and the armed services wreaths were placed. Next came the laying of wreaths by Sons of the American Legion, Squadron 40; the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 40; and the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Edenton Teaparty Chapter.

Robert White, Post 40 Chaplain, gave the invocation, "...in loving memory of those who have given their lives for their country, in loving honor of those who continue to serve this land..."

George Stokes addressed the cause of building America's National Memorial for those who helped to win W.W.II.

According to the American Battle Monuments Commission, "The National W.W.II Memorial is a...tribute to the individual Americans who helped win W.W.II, the largest war of all time and the defining event of the 20th century. The Memorial honors the veterans... (and) those on the home front who contributed to the war effort, and the high moral purpose that motivated the nation's call to arms. Never before or since has our country shared such a common bond of purpose and determination. This will be the first national memorial acknowledging the commitment and achievement of the entire nation."

President Clinton authorized the building of this memorial May 25, 1993, but most of the funding (\$100 million) must be raised from private contributions.

"They're going to build this memorial if we send them the money," said Stokes. "We're not going to have a memorial that's just to veterans. Back in W.W.II... there was no one who backed off from a job that needed to be done..."

The W.W.II Registry of Remembrances, associated with the proposed Memorial, will list the names of Americans who participated in the war effort, and be kept on permanent public

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Retiring D.F. Walker Elementary School Principal Ralph Cole addresses the graduates at Friday night's graduation at Hicks Field. Looking on are Board of Education Chairman Glorious Elliott and Superintendent Dr. Allan Smith.

Cole encourages graduates to continue reaching for dreams

BY REBECCA BUNCH
Editor

Retiring D.F. Walker Elementary School Principal Ralph Cole was the keynote speaker at Friday night's commencement exercises for the graduating Class of 1999 at John A. Holmes High School. Cole's daughter, Gerri, was among the graduates.

Introduced by Salutatorian LeAnne Spruill, Cole told the graduates to always remain true to their dreams.

"Don't ever underestimate the power of your dreams," he said. "Just think, man would never have gone to the moon had someone not dreamed

of it...In each of us there lies the strength to make our dreams come true."

"You have worked hard, studied and practiced long hours and that effort and energy have afforded you a place in this event...graduation. Thirteen years ago, as you entered Walker's and White Oak's kindergarten classes, I came to know you and have watched you grow and mature over the years. I have come to appreciate your intelligence, your dedication, your endless and seemingly tireless efforts to achieve something great. I have witnessed the way in which you have given your

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Development wins approval

BY LAURIE HUFFORD
Staff Writer

At its most recent meeting, the County Planning Board, with members Glorious Elliott, Bobby Winborne, Fran Ward, Dan Ward, and Roger Spivey present, unanimously gave the "go-ahead" to Multivest, Inc., regarding its plat for Sandy Point Cove. These eight lots, probably to be put up for sale this week, are located at Sandy Point Beach (off of 32).

"That's about the 10th revision. We have met with Cliff (Copeland) and Holly (Columbo) three different times to make sure — we wanted to do things like you all (Planning Board) would like to see them and meet all the codes," explained Michael D. Ingalls, Director, Multivest, Inc. "I'm glad we spent that time... We want to have something there that everybody will be proud of."

Lot size is a minimum of .5 acre, with a minimum of 115'-120' of water frontage per lot. There will be county water, and a 60', rather than a 50' cul-de-sac. There is a requirement that homes built here have at least 2,000 sq. ft. of heated area under their roofs. Plat plans include 2 fire hydrants, double what is required, and there are common areas. A paved street with a formal entrance will be flanked by two common areas (tennis court possibilities were mentioned). There is another common area around a boat landing, which will be repaired by Multivest, Inc. All existing buildings on the property will be taken down, leaving pine trees, sand, and water.

"That's what intrigued me about this property. There's nothing like it anywhere else (sandy beach in back yard)," said Michael Ingalls. Each lot, besides touching water, will have a sandy beach.

Water lines will be 6" rather than the required 4", giving better volume and pressure. The company has already contacted (and gotten permission from) Mr. Wood about the closest place from which to bring the water in — off Sandy Point Road. The new line will come across and go under 32, and then go down the beach.

In addition to the lots in this plan, the com-

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Resource Team visits sites ID'd by Heritage Tourism Council

BY LAURIE HUFFORD
Staff Writer

As part of NC's Northeast 19 County Initiative for Heritage Tourism, the Interagency Resource Team FAM recently visited Chowan County. The Team spent one day touring sites previously identified by the Chowan County Heritage Tourism Development Council as those needing to be preserved or further developed.

The FAM team consisted of Caron Whitaker, Division of Coastal Management, Chad Thomas, Wildlife Resource Commission, Ricky Howell, Historic Sites, Myrtle Earley, NC Department of Agriculture, Ian Phylars, Division of Community Assistance, Dan Kidd, NC Tourism, Sports & Film Development, and Amy Brannock, NC Arts Council. Leslie Williams, Folklore Specialist, joined the group later. Nancy Nicholls, Chowan County Tourism Development Authority/Chamber representative, and Linda Eure, Site Manager, Historic Edenton Visitor's Center, accompanied the team. Other individuals, including Sue Clark (Arts Council), Claudia DiViney (Preservation NC Office), Junius Britton (museum), Bob Harrell (Albemarle Recreation Center), Bill Mansfield, Robert Hendricks (landowner), Mike Williams (Agriculture), Frances Inglis (Yeopim Township), and Ann-Marie Knighton (Town Mgr.), contributed to the tour.

At the close of the day, the Resource Team met with the community at the Barker House for a "wrap up" of what



Chowan Tourism Authority Director Nancy Nicholls (at far right) accompanies members of an Interagency Resource Team on a familiarization tour to a Cannon's Ferry location that was one of the sites identified as needing to be preserved or further developed by the Chowan County Heritage Tourism Development Council.

they'd seen.

"It was a real treat to see some of the hidden-away treasures that you all have here," Amy Brannock started off the meeting.

"...you have so much here that is drawing visitors...to the historic district," Amy said.

"We...asked the counties to look beyond those...to things that they thought might be potential tourist attractions or also, what are the 'sacred' places" (environmentally sensitive or things that would lose something if they had too much

traffic, or things the area might want to keep to itself).

"They (Chowan's group) have shown us a day full of wonderful things...our role is to give you our impressions of what we've seen and also to give you some ideas of resources (and)...of technical assistance that might be available at the state level — to help you develop ideas."

Dan Kidd defined heritage tourism as including history, nature, and culture. Much of Chowan's natural beauty and history is apparent. Its cul-

ture, however, is not.

Leslie Williams, Folklore Specialist, explained that, in her job, she documents traditional cultures, particularly those that have been handed down through informal networks rather than through formal education. In Chowan, she has looked at the maritime tradition, with boat building and net making, at special crafts, like quilting, and at the hunting tradition. Lately, she has been looking at African American farming.

"This is a region where ways

of life are so close to the land..." she said.

"One of the things that I think is important to capture is all the knowledge and the ways of life that elderly people have that has not been recorded," she stressed.

Net making, boat building, and farming tours were discussed. The idea of making audio tapes - driving tapes - containing music from local choirs, was presented. Church tours, scheduled for 3 or 4 times a year, or as part of an event, were suggested. Leslie Williams will provide information on how to gather oral histories, and the possibility of getting a national marker erected at Locust Grove Church will be explored. Hidden sites will be investigated. An underground railroad reportedly operated in the area at one time, so possible sites related to this will be sought, and people who may know about it will be interviewed. There may be funding available for public access boat ramps along the Chowan River. In the Cannons Ferry area, boardwalks for pedestrians, in place of the buildings, were suggested. The Albemarle Recreation Center's focus on education is constructive, but perhaps certain times of the year or on certain days, it could be open to the public. Sensitive marketing was also suggested to let people know about canoeing and kayaking at Bennett's Mill Pond. The Mill houses were considered a tremendous asset, as was the old Roanoke River Lighthouse, which was considered to be a great spot for maritime history, resources, exhibits, or archives.

Issues raised as concerns by the community were the loss of wetlands and the weed problem at Bennett's Mill Pond. Other citizen suggestions were for a maritime museum (and funding sources), family histories/genealogy, and the feasibility of "old-time" transportation (e.g., train, old boats).

The tour that generated all this discussion included a trip to the Edenton Cotton Mill Historic District and a visit to the Albemarle Recreation Center, an 80-acre farm with a collection of turn of the century farm equipment, and a demonstration. The tour also took the Team to Bennett's Mill Pond, a 200-acre southern cypress swamp mill pond, whose mill served this community as a source of corn meal. Currently, it is open to the public for non-supervised fishing and canoeing. Another site visited by the group was Colonial Park Waterfront, a public park owned by the town of Edenton, at the foot of Broad Street. This is part of the area included in the proposed Waterfront Development Plan. Locust Grove Methodist Church, on Drummonds Point Road, was a place of worship for African-American slaves even before it was built in 1865. In 1865, Edward Wood donated the land so that a church could be built. From this "Mother Church", all the other country churches in the area grew. On the first Sunday in December, both black and white residents come together for a special service. Of the 11 church members, 7 are in the choir, so it is not surprising

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SATURDAY, JUNE 5
Ryland Community Bldg.
4:00 - 7:00 P.M.

Faith Fellowship Baptist Church
Youth Barbecue Chicken Supper



\$5.00 Per Plate
Eat-In or Take-Out
Call 221-2239