

# THE CHOWAN HERALD

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## DesJardins receives prestigious Paul Harris Fellow Award

BY REBECCA BUNCH  
Editor

Longtime club member Lee DesJardins was honored last Thursday by his fellow Rotarians as he was named a recipient of its prestigious Paul Harris Fellow award.

The award was presented to him in recognition of his exemplary service to the Rotary organization, his humanitarianism and concern for others.

DesJardins, who has been a faithful member of the Edenton Rotary Club for the past 13 years, was vice-president and in line to become club president, has had to leave the organization due to health reasons. But his fellow Rotarians gave him a fine send-off, honoring him with this prestigious award and saluting him in song to the tune of "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow," led by club member John Becker.

Looking on as he received the honor were his wife, Marion, and her sister, Ann Phelps. DesJardins was pre-



Craig Miller, left, immediate past president of the Edenton Rotary Club, presents the organization's prestigious Paul Harris Fellow award to Lee DesJardins, as his wife, Marion, looks on. (Staff photo by Rebecca Bunch)

sented a certificate, medallion and a pin.

"Please accept our appreciation and sincere thanks,"

Miller said to DesJardins in making the presentation.

Lee DesJardins, obviously moved by the tribute," said

simply, "Thank you very much. It's a wonderful birth-

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## Commissioners anticipate sales tax aid budget

BY HELEN K. OUTLAND  
Staff Writer

Like many counties and municipalities throughout North Carolina, Edenton and Chowan County have to address the loss of tax-based revenue and the strain that is putting on county resources. So it was at Thursday evenings meeting of the Chowan County Commissioner's meeting that the financial crunch was the focus of discussion with community leaders seeking alternatives to unreliable state reimbursements.

A statement provided the commissioners by County Manager Cliff Copeland summed up the situation. "At this point, given the fact that State reimbursements have either been cut or placed in escrow during the last two years, is evidence of its unreliability as a stable source of revenue.

The North Carolina Association of Counties has proposed that reimbursements that to-

tal \$448,912 (3.02% of the General Fund Budget) in this year's County budget to be replaced by 1/2 cent sales tax. While this tax was scheduled to go into effect on July 1, 2003, both the Governor and Senate budget included provisions to make this tax effective August 1, 2002."

"All county budgets are under tremendous strain," the report goes on to say. "As the cost of Medicaid continues to increase somewhere between a 10-15% average of increase annually. As increased demands are placed on County budgets for education and other essential services, expanded sources of revenue must be identified. Implementation of the sales tax would not only remove uncertainty from our revenue structure, but also would provide us some much needed growth so that we can continue to both improve services and increase

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## Town will have to help with clean-up costs

Edenton hopes 'increase is minimal,' says town manager

BY ROBERT SHILES  
Cox NC Publications

Communities that belong to the 32-member North Carolina Eastern Municipal Power Agency (NCEMPA) will eventually be helping to foot the cost of the state's Clean Smokestacks bill, a legislative effort to clean up emissions from North Carolina's 14 coal-fired

power plants.

Edenton, Hertford and Elizabeth City are among the municipalities that will share the cost of cleaning up emissions from two coal-fired plants they own jointly with Progress Energy, Carolina Power & Light. The Clean Smokestacks Bill, signed recently by Gov. Mike Easley, is designed to "substantially" cut the coal-fired plant emissions of multiple air pollutants that can cause smog, haze and other pollution problems.

The cost of reducing emissions at the two plants, Roxboro Unit 4 and Mayo Unit 1, will have to eventually be passed on to power customers,

according to R.L. Willoughby, chairman of the Electricities Board of Directors. Electricities is the trade association that represents NCEMPA.

"The costs will have to be passed on to customers at some point," Willoughby said in a written statement. "Exactly how much the rate increase will be, or when it will go into effect, is still undetermined."

Steven L. Harrell, Elizabeth City's manager, Thursday echoed that "at this point" it is not known how much of an impact the potential rate increase will have on the city's electrical operations.

"Right now we are assessing what our (Electricities)

pro-rated share of making improvements to the plants we own will be," said Harrell, a member of the power agency board of directors. "This is something we have to get together with CP&L and work out.

"I'm not saying this will happen, but it could mean there will have to be an amendment to the power supply contract," Harrell added. "...There will be some costs involved, but what the final cost will be, I don't know."

The manager added that the directors of Electricities were planning to discuss the cleanup issue at an upcoming meeting in Raleigh.

"As an agency we are in favor of the legislation," Harrell said. "It makes sense to make our air as clean as possible for everyone."

In Edenton, Town Manager Anne-Marie Knighton expressed concern Thursday about the impact a power rate increase would have.

"We just hope that any increase is minimal," Knighton said. "We're in such tough times now in terms of electric rates. We want to minimize any increase to customers in the future." She added, however, that she believes the effort to clean-up emissions from the state's coal-fired plants is "the right thing to do."

### Orientation scheduled

Edenton-Chowan Schools have scheduled orientation sessions for all county schools on Aug. 1.

White Oak School and D. F. Walker School will have orientation from 4 p.m. until 7 p.m. School officials encourage parents and students to drop by the school any time during those hours to meet teachers and tour classrooms.

Chowan Middle School will have orientation for sixth-grade students and parents at 6 p.m. in the cafeteria.

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## White is named to replace Waff

RALEIGH-Gov. Mike Easley has appointed Stanford M. White of Nags Head to serve as the Division 1 Representative for the State Board of Transportation. He replaces Paul Waff of Edenton.

White is appointed to the 19-member board that is composed of representatives of business and industry, the environment, government-related finance and accounting and mass transit interests.

"As an active member of his community, Stan brings to the Board a wealth of knowledge and understanding of local transportation needs," said Easley. "He shares my commitment of providing a quality transportation system for all North Carolinians while also protecting the environment and meeting the needs of both rural and urban areas. I am

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## St. Paul's series not over

At the beginning of the summer holiday, Memorial Day 2002, Chowan Herald readers following the series, "A Celebration of Faith: 300 Years in the Life of St. Paul's," and special correspondent Anne Greer, left the story of the history of the parish at the year 1759, when the Rev. Daniel Earl was appointed rector of St.

Paul's.

In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, according to Greer, Earl became known as the subject of a number of colorful tales, most likely fiction. In fact, however, he is known historically as the parish priest of an Anglican church at a time

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## Chowan 4-H'ers gain confidence

Fear of public speaking has been rated as the #1 fear in America. Some fear it more than death. Area youth have been working hard to conquer this fear.

One of the cornerstones of the 4-H program is to help youth acquire skill, confidence, and poise in the art of public speaking. Public speaking is more than just talking; good public speaking is planned and has a specific purpose.

This year eight Chowan County 4-H'ers planned and delivered presentations or speeches at County Activity Day (competition on the county level). Five of these youth went on to compete at District Activity Day in Washington County.

Diana Mason prepared an artistic presentation on her Peking ducks in "The Life and Times of Polly and Walter." Diana earned a silver medal. Sydney Mason was awarded a silver medal on her demonstration "Water Safety: Rec-



Chowan County 4-H'ers planned and delivered public presentations or speeches at County Activity Day this year. (Photo courtesy of Amy Damrow)

reation, Hazard, and First Aid."

Keverly and Miles Dyson tried to persuade their audience to go to Venezuela in their presentation, "Come and Go with Us!" They were also awarded the silver medal.

Sarah Hupp competed again this year at the County, District, and State levels. Her speech, "Premarin: Cycle of Cruelty", won the bronze medal at the State Competition.

"Public speaking is such an important life skill," empha-

sized 4-H Agent Amy Damrow. "Through this aspect of the 4-H program youth learn the necessity of obtaining all available information on a given topic, the impor-

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Josie Copeland FUNDRAISER

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FRIDAY, JULY 26, 2002  
11:00-2:00 / 4:00-7:00

Donation \$6.00

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