

# THE CHOWAN HERALD

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## Soldier is shot, killed in wooded area in town

BY HELEN K. OUTLAND  
Staff Writer

Battery, 6th Battalion, 27th Field Artillery, Fort Sill, OK.

A visit home to spend time with family and friends ended tragically for a young Chowan County man early Sunday morning. Sergeant Ronnie Capehart was on leave from Fort Sill, Oklahoma when he was shot and killed on his way home after a night out with friends.

According to a passenger, he and Capehart had been at Baller's Lounge, a nightclub in Roper. They had left the club at approximately 4 a.m. en route to Edenton. The passenger stated that there was a vehicle following them and flashing its headlights. When Capehart and the passenger made their left turn from Haughton onto Poplar Neck, the passenger stated that he heard some shots and the rear glass of the car shattered. The vehicle crossed a ditch and veered into the edge of the woods.

According to the Chowan County Sheriff's Office at approximately 4:24 a.m. a call came into the Chowan County Communications Center 911 reporting that shots had been fired and a vehicle accident had occurred. When officers arrived they found a vehicle in the woods near the intersection of Haughton Road and Poplar Neck Road.

Sergeant Capehart was transported to Chowan Hospital, and later transported to Pitt Memorial Hospital in Greenville where he succumbed to his wounds.

Upon locating the vehicle Law Enforcement and EMS personnel they found the driver with a wound to the left temple area.

However, Bill Grate, the bartender at Baller's Lounge, according to a published account in the Daily Advance, has cast doubt on at least part of the account given to authorities by Capehart's passenger that

The man was later identified as Sgt. Ronnie Capehart, C



The body of Sgt. Ronnie Capehart was found in this vehicle in a wooded area near the intersection of Haughton Road and Poplar Neck Road. Capehart had returned home to Edenton while on leave from Fort Sill, Oklahoma. (Submitted photo)

night. Grate said that he left the lounge at five minutes past one (Sunday morning) and that he was the last one out the door. He also said that the only customers still at the lounge about midnight Saturday were a man who was staying at a nearby hotel, and two women. Baller's Lounge is located in Washington County, across the Albemarle Sound to the south of Chowan County.

According to the Sheriff's Office there are no suspects at press time. "This is an unfortunate incident for the family of Sgt. Capehart," said Sheriff Fred Spruill. "From the outside looking in, it appears that this young man was a decent person."

Sheriff Spruill would like to thank the NC State Bureau of Investigation, NC Highway Patrol, the Edenton Police Department, and Chowan County EMS for their assistance. He also asks that anyone with information on this incident contact the Chowan County Sheriff's Office at 252-482-8484.

## Bangert to be featured on show

New book details experiences of Edentonian, others



Edenton resident Bill Bangert, a veteran of the Cuban Missile Crisis, is shown being interviewed for a History Channel documentary set to air Oct. 13.

David C. Taylor, executive producer of TEAM Productions, visited Edenton recently to interview Bill Bangert of Edenton for a TV special on the Cuban Missile Crisis to be aired on the History Channel, Oct. 13 at 10 p.m. This October marks the 40th anniversary of the event.

Mr. Bangert who shared their experiences of that very

troubled time when the United States and Russia

came perilously close to World War III.

Lt. Bangert was serving aboard the destroyer USS Blandy as the chief engineer at the time of the Crisis and is one of the subjects of the book, "October Fury," by Peter Huchthausen just released to bookstores. The Blandy engaged a Russian submarine and tracked it for 17 hours forcing it to surface.

The story is told by members of the Russian Foxtrot Submarine crew and

## First Business and Education Summit takes place locally

The first of three Business-Education Summit meetings sponsored by the Edenton-Chowan Chamber of Commerce, Chowan County Schools JobReady and College of the Albemarle took place at the Golden Corral last week.

ment from the school and community college perspective, with presenters from Edenton-Chowan Schools, Perquimans County Schools and College of the Albemarle.

Chamber Education Committee chairman Win Dale ex-

The first summit meeting looked at workforce develop-

See SUMMIT On Page 7-A

## Candidates' forum

The Democratic and Republican candidates for U.S. House of Representatives in North Carolina's First Congressional District will present their views in a candidates' forum to be held in Edenton this Saturday, Oct. 5.

Broad Street, beginning at 11:30 a.m. Local radio personality Frank Roberts will be the moderator of the forum, which is sponsored by AARP North Carolina.

The forum will be held at Edenton's town council chambers, located at 500 S.

Democrat Frank Ballance and Republican Greg Dority are vying for the seat being vacated by Rep. Eva Clayton.



## James Iredell Day

This is the 251st anniversary of the birth of James Iredell. Last October Mayor Roland Vaughan proclaimed October 5th James Iredell Day in perpetuity, so that we can remember the contributions James Iredell made to our state and nation. Iredell played a crucial role in the ratification of the United States Constitution by North Carolina, and was appointed as an associate justice to the first United States Supreme Court by President George Washington in 1790.

## Bicycle Stars to visit Edenton this weekend

BY BRIAN WHITE  
Correspondent

The world of Cycle Speedway will pedal itself into the history books this weekend, as star racers from Great Britain, Poland, Holland, and Australia invade the Edenton Cycle Speedway for the inaugural "International Race Weekend," this Friday and Saturday, Oct. 4-5.

Headlining the International tour is two-time world champion, Dave Hemsley, from Great Britain. Don't miss seeing some of the world's finest bicycle racers from all over the

world battle it out against our American racers at the Cape Colony track, right here in Chowan County. Don't let this first time offer pass you by!

Gates open at 6pm, with racing at 8pm this Friday and Saturday. Autograph and picture sessions will be available on both nights.

For more information, please call the raceway office at 252-482-7989, or visit the website at [www.cycle-speedway.com](http://www.cycle-speedway.com).

Don't miss seeing the racers live on WITN 7 on Thursday during the 5pm newscast.



## Peanut Festival nears

The Edenton-Chowan Band Parents will host the annual Peanut Festival this Saturday, Oct. 5, with the parade starting at 10 a.m. and the Battle of the Bands getting underway at 1 p.m. at the Holmes Athletic Complex.

CHOWAN COUNTY SHRINE CLUB

BBO PIG PICKIN PLATES

MASONIC LODGE  
215 E. Water St, Edenton

FRIDAY, OCT. 4TH  
11 AM - 6 PM

\$5.00 Per Plate  
EAT-IN OR TAKE-OUT