

THE CHOWAN HERALD

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Edenton may seek entry into Main Street program

Town Council briefed on project's possibilities

BY REBECCA BUNCH
 Editor

The Edenton Town Council on Monday night voiced support for a plan that would allow Edenton an opportunity to be considered for inclusion in the North Carolina Main Street Program.

The program selects two to four communities every few years to work with experts, and a Main Street manager in their community, to focus on a

four point approach to furthering downtown business promotion efforts that also complement historic preservation efforts.

Town Manager Anne-Marie Knighton characterized the program as a way to "take downtown to the next level," adding, "I personally think it is worth the money, the time and the effort."

Mayor Roland Vaughan noted that the program "is conceptually different than any-

thing we've been asked to do." He noted that the Main Street program manager who would be hired to work in Edenton would be employed specifically to follow the format laid out by the program. "I'm excited about this," he said. "As long as the person focuses on following the Main Street format, I think we'll see countless benefits realized from it."

Richard Bunch, executive director of the Edenton-Chowan Chamber of Commerce, said his organization stands ready to wholeheartedly support the Main Street Program, should it be approved. "I can see this person (Main Street manager) working hand in hand with us.

It's a commitment we are willing to make. We think we need to move forward."

Councilmen Sambo Dixon and Steve Biggs said they felt the concept was one that could offer a lot of benefits to the community. "There are certainly advantages to it," Biggs noted.

A public forum on the issue will be held April 14 (see adjacent story).

In other action, the Council: named Brenda Spruill, membership director for the Edenton-Chowan Chamber of Commerce, to fill the unexpired term of Livy Goodman, who recently resigned from the Historic Preservation Commission.

Committee looks to promote downtown; public form set

The Town of Edenton and the Edenton-Chowan Chamber of Commerce would like to invite all citizens of the town and county to join together in a community outreach meeting to discuss the possibility of the Town of Edenton being accepted into the North Carolina Main Street Program.

A public forum will be held Monday, April 14, at 5:30 p.m. in the Town Council Chambers, 500 South Broad Street (in the downtown Edenton building that houses the Police Department and 911 Central Communications).

Rodney Swink, director of the North Carolina Main Street Program, will attend. He will give a brief explanation of the Main Street Program and its history, what it is, what it is not, what they do,

and then take questions.

The NC Main Street Program, administered through the NC Department of Commerce, Division of Community Assistance, helps communities revitalize and promote their downtown areas within the context of historic preservation.

Two to four towns are selected every two or three years by a highly competitive and lengthy application process. The NC Main Street Program works through what is called the four-point approach - organization, design, promotion, and economic restructuring. All four of these components are essential to the success of the program.

Please join in helping to shape the future of historic downtown Edenton.

Local committee prepares to spread the word

BY REBECCA BUNCH
 Editor

A committee made up of town officials, Chamber members and members of the local Marketplace Guild is laying groundwork for an effort to have Edenton included in the state's prestigious Main Street Program.

Those involved said at a meeting Tuesday morning at the Chamber offices that they feel the program is one that

would best meet the needs of the local business community - to continue to have a thriving business district while respecting the importance of historic preservation.

They pointed to the many achievements already realized by neighboring Hertford which joined the program in August 2000. Their program is run by a manager and overseen by a board of directors.

Brenda Washlesky, former Main Street Manager for

Hertford, is working closely with the Edenton committee in an advisory capacity and is helping with plans for an upcoming public forum to be held here April 14 to allow the public to learn firsthand about the program's potential (see adjacent article).

During their Tuesday meeting the committee developed a recommendation to have the Main Street program here initially encompass an area running from Church Street back

to the downtown business district, including Water Street up through the Northeast Partnership building, and down North Broad Street to the Historic Edenton Visitor Center, and down Court Street to the Chowan Arts Council and its Gallery in the Swain building.

Washlesky emphasized that under the terms of the program, that area could be altered to encompass other areas within the Historic District as the effort moves forward.



Getting some good advice

White Oak School second graders and a chaperone talk with Judge J.C. Cole during a recent fieldtrip to the courthouse. White Oak School second graders in Suzanne Palmer's class had their day in juvenile court recently, taking home memories of judicial procedure, a young man's account of the detention facility, and hugs from the judge. Judge J.C. Cole welcomed the students to the courtroom as he presided over several cases, and escorted the children to his chambers during a recess to answer questions. After explaining the definition of "juvenile delinquent" and the difference between detention in a school context and detention in a judicial context, Cole offered up some easy-to-remember advice for staying out of trouble: "Don't fight. Don't hit. Don't take things that don't belong to you," the judge said. "Do what your parents and teachers tell you to do, and you'll be okay."

U.S. forces face tough fight with Iraqi forces

BY GEORGE EDMONSON
 Cox News Service

WASHINGTON — When U.S. troops ran into the first heavy resistance in Iraq, they were experiencing the work of some of Saddam Hussein's most loyal and hardened troops, including the paramilitary

Saddam Fedayeen. The hand-picked militiamen are said to be widely feared and brutal. The name translates to Saddam's martyrs or men of sacrifice.

"They basically carry out a reign of terror against anyone who doesn't agree with what the regime is about," said

Mark Burgess, a research fellow with the Center for Defense Information, a Washington think tank.

Most of the resistance troops have faced so far comes from Saddam's Special Security Organization and the

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Legion starts a 'Support Our Troops' drive locally

Floyd's Corner to serve as drop-off point

American Legion Post 40, Edenton, is joining with Chowan Hospital to sponsor a "Support Our Troops" Drive.

Items needed include:

- prepaid international phone cards
- disposable cameras

- toiletries
- sunscreen
- socks
- pens, pencils, writing paper

- non-perishable snacks

"Letters or cards written by the general public or from school groups to boost the morale of our troops are also a welcome addition to any package," said Ron Green, post commander.

The drop-off point for these

items will be at Floyd's Corner on Virginia Road, Edenton. There will be a designated U-Haul marked with a banner for the contributions, courtesy of Barbara and Floyd.

For more information about this important and meaningful community project, anyone having questions is encouraged to contact Ron Green at 221-2144 or Elizabeth Mumm (Chowan Hospital) at 482-6242.



Tour in your own backyard

The Chowan County Tourism Development Authority offers local Hospitality Industry employees the opportunity to take the Historic Edenton Trolley Tour and receive information on our area that will be helpful to people who are visiting our area. This tour is available to anyone in the industry who is interested in taking advantage of this opportunity to learn more about what a visitor may enjoy while touring Edenton. Two tours were given by the Historic Edenton Visitor Center staff during February and March with participants representing the Hampton Inn, Captain's Quarters Inn and many Barker House volunteers. Trolley tours are available Tuesday through Saturday at 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 3 p.m. and 4 p.m. from the Visitor Center. Please call Nancy Nicholls at 482-3400 if you or anyone else at your business would like to sign up for a little "tour in your own backyard". (Photo courtesy of Nancy Nicholls, Chowan Tourism Development Authority)

THURSDAY MARCH 27TH AT 5:30 PM
on the grounds of First Assembly of God

Sportsman Spectacular
 RODS, REELS, TACKLE BOXES AND MANY OTHER DOOR PRIZES WILL BE GIVEN AWAY!

FREE MEAL INCLUDING BAR-B-QUE

1201 WEST QUEEN STREET IN EDENTON FOR MORE INFORMATION, OR IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTION CALL: 252-482-4789

North Carolina