

THE CHOWAN HERALD

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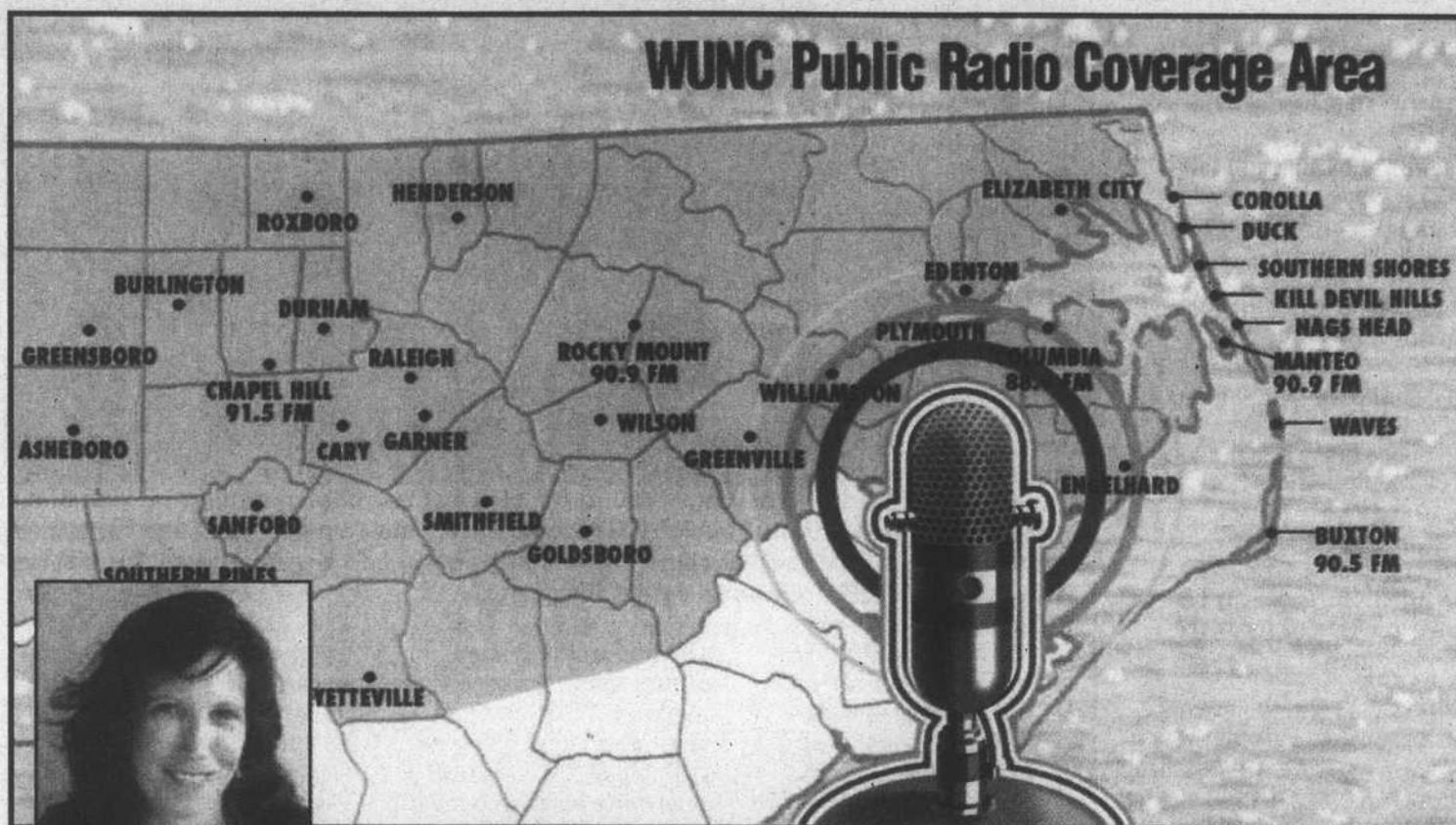
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National Public Radio coming to area

If you have somehow been mysteriously picking up National Public Radio on your car stereo recently, it is because WUNC Public Radio has been testing its new signal over the past few weeks as it gears up to officially begin broadcasting Monday, September 1, at a new radio station located in Columbia, North Carolina. WUNC's award-winning news and information service will be heard at 88.9 FM, reaching west to east from Greenville to the Outer Banks, and north to south from Elizabeth City to Hyde County.

"I am excited about the opportunity to provide quality public radio programming to all our listeners, including residents of Edenton, Elizabeth City, Washington, and Williamston," says Joan Siefert Rose, WUNC general manager. "These communities have been among the few in North Carolina that have not had access to a strong signal for National Public Radio news and North Carolina-based local programming. I also am glad to extend our service to listeners in some of the most rural counties in the state."

Rose went on to say that she felt that the addition of a new station in northeastern North Carolina was particularly significant because it is the last remaining part of North Caro-



Veteran Public Radio journalist Melinda Penkava is the new host of *The State of Things* on WUNC Public Radio. This show weaves together lively and insightful conversations that explore the North Carolina experience. The program is just one of many that WUNC will offer Northeastern North Carolina.

lina that does not have access to Public Radio. "With this complete coverage, we can now do much more localized coverage of northeastern North Carolina which has stories of interest to the general public, not just in the region. This is

a great opportunity for each part of the state to compare news and issues that are occurring across the state and to see how each region is affecting the other one. It puts the news into a more definite context for all North Carolinians."

She also feels that this broader, more extensive coverage of North Carolina by Public Radio is important for the identity of the state's residents. "I think that people who live in North Carolina, even if they are not originally from

the state, strongly identify with the fact that they are North Carolinians. Not necessarily as Southerners, but again, as North Carolinians. This more expansive coverage by Public Radio will really give us an opportunity to see what

truly makes us distinctive as a state. Giving this kind of localized coverage that focuses on all parts of North Carolina will be tough, but if we don't do it, who will?"

WUNC is licensed to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Chancellor James Moeser says, "WUNC's expansion represents UNC-Chapel Hill's commitment to serving all citizens of the state by offering information that connects them with the rest of the world. WUNC's decision to provide the first public radio service to this region reaffirms its public service mission to the residents of North Carolina."

The completion of construction on the 50-thousand watt station follows many years of advocacy for enhanced public radio service to the region by North Carolina Senate Pro Tem Marc Basnight. Basnight says, "I'm thrilled that WUNC is expanding the presence of public radio in eastern North Carolina. I'm a big fan of its programs, and I hope it will bring as much education and entertainment to other listeners as it does to me."

WUNC broadcasts a combination of news and talk programs from National Public Radio (NPR) and its Chapel Hill-based programming staff.

See RADIO On Page 3-A

Facility could add area jobs

The second largest egg processing company in the United States is considering Hyde County for a location for its state-of-the-art, environmentally friendly egg laying and production facilities. Rose Acre Farms of Seymour, Indiana, is proposing to build the egg-producing facility on the Hyde Park Canal.

The new facility would produce about 3 million eggs each day. Company executives Victor Rigternik and Tony Wesner said it would also provide 125 full-time jobs in the county.

To produce the eggs about 4 million chickens would be housed in 14 poultry houses. The facility would use about 4 million bushels of corn and million bushels of soybeans each year to feed the hens.

Alice Keeney, Hyde County Planner, wanted everyone to realize the company was not making a proposal at this time but said, "Hyde County (is) their number one choice at present." It will be about another thirty days before a final decision is made.



A rare find

Two rare wooden grave markers from the mid-19th century, still in good shape, were discovered recently by Deputy Chowan County Clerk Carrie Byrum and summer intern Beth Elliott. The discovery was made during the pair's attempt to locate and map the locations of all known private and public cemeteries in Chowan County. The markers were found in an old cemetery near Tyner. The county would like to receive any information on existing gravesites as part of the survey. Project Coordinator Carrie Byrum can be reached at (252) 482-8431. (Photo courtesy of Peter Rascoe)

Community prayer service nears

A group of area ministers will have a community prayer service on Thursday, Sept. 4 at 6:30 p.m. at the flagpole of John A. Holmes High School. All ages and denominations are invited to join in prayer for the children, teachers, staff and administration of Chowan County schools.

"This is a continuation of effort on the part of all area churches to gather in prayer for all of our young people," Willie Rankins, Leader of Jericho Ministries. "We need to get past color and denomination and be unified in prayer and praise for the blessings of our children and school system."

Waterspout spotted

Last Thursday evening, visitors to Edenton's downtown waterfront were treated to the sight of a unique weather phenomenon known as a waterspout. Waterspout formation typically occurs at the end of the summer and early fall when cold air moves across a body of water and results in large temperature differences between the warm water and the overriding cold air. They tend to last from about two to twenty minutes, and move along at speeds of 10 to 15 knots. Thursday's waterspout over Edenton Bay lasted about 10 minutes. (David Winslow photo)



Rocky Hock Opry returns Sept. 5-7

BY TAMIKA SPRUILL
Staff Writer

The Rocky Hock Ruritans Cancer Relay for Life Team will present another night of music and entertainment with the Rocky Hock Grand Ole Opry. The Opry will take place at the Rocky Hock Playhouse, 126 Evans-Bass Road, Friday and Saturday, September 5 & 6 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, September 7 at 3 p.m.

The Rocky Hock Ruritans Cancer Relay for Life Team came up with the idea of an Opry to feature local talent for a family-fun entertainment event to raise money.

The Rocky Hock Grand Ole Opry Band consists of five multi-talented and versatile musicians, four of which live in the Rocky Hock section of Chowan County. Steve Evans, bass guitar, "Big Daddy" Sam Morris, drums, Jack Evans, rhythm guitar, and Brian Smith, keyboard/piano make up the Chowan County four.

Smith is also the group's technical guru who sets up the PA system and ensures crystal clear vocals and instruments. The lead guitarist, Johnny Milteer, hails

from Ahoskie. Milteer has eight years of professional Nashville Grand Ole Opry experience with acts like Stonewall Jackson and Billy Walker.

Most of the acts performing this year have performed in the past and include "Big Tom" White, Kendall Birchhead, Jim Boyce, Kim Grant, Andrew Evans, Sarah Elliot, and Andy and Shelly Faircloth. Laughs galore will be provided by comedy acts "Cousin Minnie Pearl" (Cindy Lewis) and "Flatbilly Bob" (Steve Evans). The "Rocky Hock Gnat Swattin' Boys" a.k.a. the Soggy Bottom Boys will also be appearing.

This year's performance also promises to be a success. The Saturday, September 6 show is already sold out and there are a limited number of tickets available for Friday and Sunday's performances.

Tickets are still available at Byrum True Value Hardware and Byrum Craft Shop at 314 S. Broad Street. For more information call 482-2131 during the day or 221-4875 at night.

Labor Day closing

The *Chowan Herald's* business office will be closed next Monday in observance of the Labor Day holiday. Anyone wishing to submit any type of advertising or news items should plan to have them in our office by noon this Friday. Thank you!

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