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Final Decision Made on OLF

BY ANGELA PEREZ
Staff Writer

Washington County officials confirmed late Tuesday that the Navy plans to announce the location of the controversial proposed OLF site will be Washington County. According to Plymouth Town Councilwoman Mary Ann Byers, the Mayor's office was notified of the decision by Congressman Frank Ballance.

In response to the Navy's expected decision, which at presstime was scheduled to be made public Wednesday, Congressman Ballance issued the following statement Tuesday

afternoon.

"I am deeply disappointed that the admirable effort of so many Washington and Beaufort County residents in stating their concrete objections to and making their dedicated case against an OLF in their community were unsuccessful."

He went on to say, "I applaud Mayor Brian Roth of Plymouth and Bunny Saunders of Roper and other elected officials as well as the hundreds of families who joined together in a strong

fight to maintain the integrity of their community and I will continue to support them in every way possible as this decision goes forward."



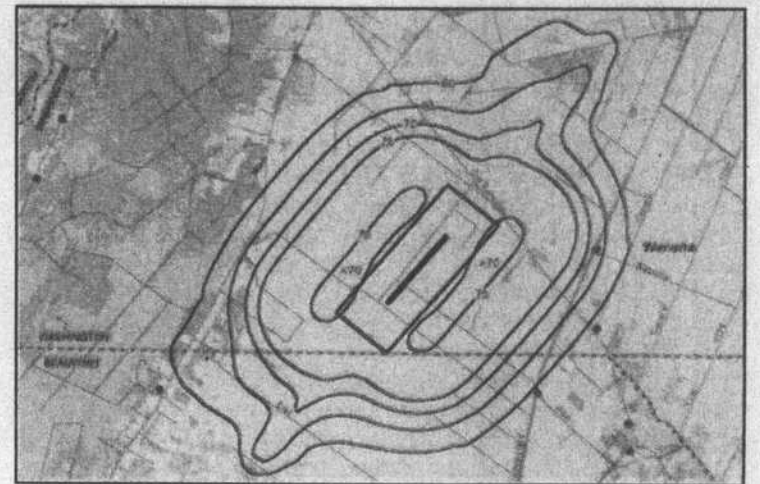
REP. FRANK BALLANCE

Edenton Town Manager Anne-Marie Knighton expressed her feelings about the Navy's decision. "I am heartbroken," said Knighton. "I really thought that the Secretary would do the right thing and

choose Craven County. And I am heartbroken for our friends and neighbors in Washington County. In terms of Chowan County, now that the final decision has been made, I am relieved that Perquimans and Bertie counties are completely off the table."

Chowan County Manager Cliff Copeland responded to the decision by saying, "We are certainly disappointed that one of our neighboring counties has received this news. However, we are also quite relieved that the OLF is not going to Perquimans or Bertie counties."

Attempts to contact the Navy for confirmation by presstime Tuesday were unsuccessful.



Proposed site of the OLF in Washington County

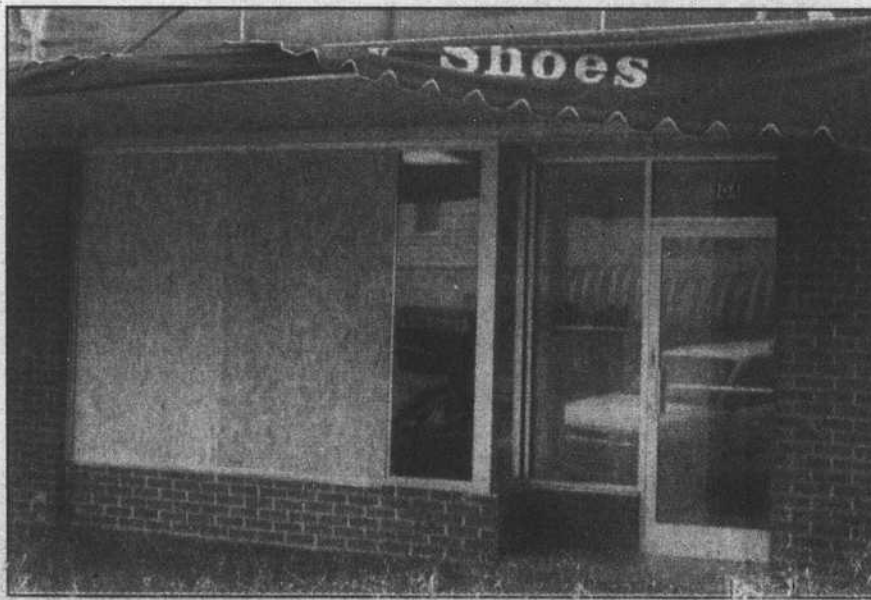
Two charged with business & school break-ins

BY TAMIKA SPRUILL
Staff Writer

Sound Feet Shoes and John A. Holmes High School were both robbed when culprits chose the working man's holiday to help themselves to other's property.

On Sept. 1 (Labor Day) at approximately 2:12 a.m. Officer Rhonda Copeland and another officer responded to an alarm activation from Sound Feet Shoes on South Broad Street. On arrival the officers found that a brick had been thrown through the glass window. Merchandise found outside of the building alerted police to the fact that a break-in had occurred.

After notifying the manager, the investigating officers were able to establish that twenty hats valued at \$500 had been stolen from the store. After further investigation and due to information received from a confidential



Chowan County residents Lamar Ferebee and Tion Johnson have been charged with felonious breaking & entering and larceny. The suspects threw a brick through the store window and stole \$500.00 worth of merchandise. (Staff photo by Tamika Spruill)

witness who had seen the suspects in the area at the time of the break-in police were later able to arrest two suspects.

According to Edenton Police Chief Greg Bonner, Lamar Ferebee of 1352 N. Broad Street and Tion Johnson of 118 Cox Avenue were both arrested and charged with felonious breaking & entering and larceny. Ferebee is being held on \$4,000.00 secured bond and Johnson on \$3,000.00 unsecured bond.

Police were able to recover all of the hats stolen from Sound Feet Shoes and were able to determine that Ferebee played a key role in the unsolved Sound Feet Shoes robbery on August 3 of this year. Ferebee gave police vital information concerning his involvement in that break-in. He was later charged with two additional counts of breaking & entering.

As a result of information received from the Sound Feet Shoes break-in,

officers investigated John A. Holmes High School and discovered it too had been broken into on the night of September 1. Police received information about two black males seen leaving the school campus with book bags. Officers found that forced entry had taken place and burglars had broken into the principal's office. A number of items were stolen including a CD player, a video camera and three radiophones with chargers.

Through further investigation, Sgt. Copeland obtained another arrest warrant for Ferebee for breaking & entering and larceny of John A. Holmes High School. The warrant was served on Ferebee Sept. 8. Ferebee was placed under an additional \$5,000 secured bond. Police were able to identify the other suspect involved but are withholding his name pending further investigation. Some of the stolen merchandise was retrieved.

Teacher assistants are certified under No Child Left Behind Act

Edenton Chowan Board of Education recognized nine teacher assistants at the September board meeting for being the first recipients of Department of Labor certification.

Each teacher assistant completed a minimum of six courses to receive the certification that satisfies the new requirements for teacher assistants under the No Child Left Behind Act. Chowan County Schools Superintendent, Dr. Allan Smith expressed pride at the dedication of the staff.

"We knew these women were strong assets to the system even before the new requirements came out," Smith stated. "When they were called upon to meet the new standards they

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Edenton-Chowan Schools' first group of teacher assistants to receive certification under the new No Child Left Behind Act were honored at the September Board of Education meeting. Shown, from left, Superintendent Allan T. Smith, Patrice Bell, Deborah Brothers, Sharon Bunch, Rosa Carter, Annette Jordan and Board Chairman Gene Jordan. Not shown, but also receiving certification, are Mary Williams, Genny Wells, Michelle Copeland, and Linda Flemming. (Photo by Glenda Jakubowski, Edenton-Chowan Schools)

Commissioners hire consultant

BY TAMIKA SPRUILL
Staff Writer

The County Commissioners had a full agenda for their monthly September meeting that included recognition of a countywide communication problem.

According to County Manager Cliff Copeland, the county has received several complaints about communication between the Sheriff's Office, Fire Department and 911 Communications Center.

"We have significant prob-

lems with in-county communications," Copeland stated. "To solve the problem we will retain a consultant to come in and help us develop a communication plan to address the county's communication problems."

Another issue Copeland had dressed in the manager's report was the deterioration of the downstairs plaster in the Old Courthouse. The plaster which has gotten worse than originally thought, will require an additional \$200,000. Money that the

See HIRE On Page 3-A



Man, that's some good eating

The American Legion's Shrimp Fest '03 was a huge success. Captain Bob's provided all the yummy steamed shrimp, coleslaw, hot and crispy hush puppies and baked beans you could eat. Great music and unlimited food and drinks at the self-serve buffet pleased the crowd in attendance. Everyone left the fairgrounds full and happy. Steamed shrimp lovers ate to their hearts content and then took 10 - 15 minute breaks to prepare for the next round of good eating. (Bud Weagly photo)

5K Peanut Run part of Festival

The Edenton/Chowan Recreation Department, along with its generous sponsors, is proud to announce the inaugural Edenton Run for Peanuts.

This 5 km road race and 1-mile fun run will be held on Oct. 4, starting at the Courthouse Green and winding through Hayes Plantation and Historic Downtown Edenton.

The course is flat and very fast, appealing to racers from throughout the region. Registration is from 7:15 am until 7:45, with the race starting at 8 am. Awards will be given to the top 3 male and female finishers, as well as the top 3 finishers in each age group in the 5 km race.

Early registration (prior to

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Porter pleads guilty to murder charge

BY TAMIKA SPRUILL
Staff Writer

Jermaine Porter pled guilty to second degree murder in a plea arrangement for his role in the death of Albert Young during the murder trial in Chowan County Superior Court. Porter was facing a first-degree murder charge and accepted the plea arrangement when it was determined that Young's murder was premeditated and deliberate. Porter had a previous confrontation with Young in early 2002, when Porter was caught at Young's apartment that Young shared with his live-in girlfriend, Margaret Jackson of Hertford. Young attacked and stabbed Porter and Jackson with a screwdriver several times.

Young was shot on October 18, 2002 when he was called to a vehicle driven by Porter near the corner of Oakum and

Albemarle Street. Young later died as a result of internal blood loss from a gunshot wound to the chest. Porter left the scene in a burgundy Mer-

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