

THE CHOWAN HERALD

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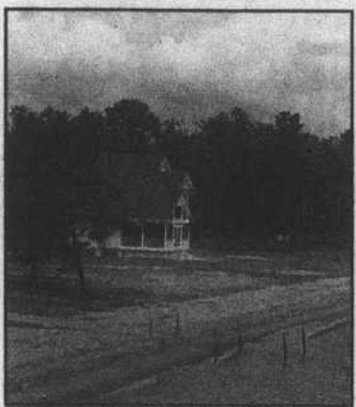
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Team continues domination of Coastal Plains League
Steamers clinch second half title
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Rocky Hock Playhouse provides a creative outlet
after school special
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Moratorium is not on agenda in Chowan

Developments on schedule



Sandy Point is expected to have as many as 1,500 dwelling units upon completion.

BY SEAN JACKSON
The Chowan Herald

In response to recent news reports concerning moratoriums in some North Carolina counties, Chowan County officials said Monday that they have no plans to halt the development of subdivisions locally.

A countywide moratorium on multi-home developments — a growing trend in the region — is not in the works here, County Manager Cliff Copeland and County Planner Elizabeth Bryant said.

Moratoriums are often imposed while local governments delve into their water and sewer systems' capacities. Stoppages aren't handed down for the sake of stopping residential growth, the county manager said.

"The county can't just come in and stop development," Copeland said.

Bryant agreed. "A lot of our surrounding counties have instituted moratoriums," she said, "but they have to address specific issues."

Both Copeland and Bryant see the looming growth of homes — and the resulting population increase — as a potential benefit for Chowan County and Edenton.

And there is no shortage of projects in the pipeline.

The largest project, Sandy Point, is planned to have as many as 1,500 dwelling units — mostly single-family homes, with a sprinkling of condominiums. Sandy Point, located south of Edenton on the Albemarle Sound, will also have shops, restaurants, and a marina.

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On 'Holladay'



Staff photos by Earline White

Visitors arrive at Holladay's Island by boat prior to the dedication ceremony held last week. Below, Commissioners Wayne Goodwin and Louis Belfield unveil an official site marker at Cannon's Ferry. Ribbon-cutting ceremonies were also held at both locations.

Tourist attractions dedicated

Local officials attend unveilings for Cannon's Ferry, Holladay's Island

BY EARLINE WHITE
The Chowan Herald

From the Civil War to the upcoming Edenton Bay Challenge, whether in peace or in times of conflict, the waterways which surround Chowan County have been more than just a source of beauty. Last Thursday two unique sites, one for history buffs and another for the outdoor enthusiast, were unveiled at the Cannon's Ferry Civil War Trail and Holladay's Island ribbon cuttings.

Alongside the still, deep waters of the Chowan River, town and county leaders as well as members of the public witnessed the dedications of two highly anticipated tourist attractions.

The Civil War Trail designation at Cannon's Ferry recognizes "Buffalo Country" where the boundary between Federal-occupied counties to the east and Confederate-held counties on the west was a pivotal site during wartime. One of 30 Civil War Trail sites in northeastern North Carolina (and of approximately 600 throughout the program), Cannon's Ferry commemorates the Union Buffalo at Wingfield Plantation and fort (located one mile south of the marker) which had a profound effect during the war. Attacked three times from both sides of the water, the buffaloes held firm at their fort, every assault un-

successful.

Richard Dillard Dixon, direct descendant of Dr. Richard Dillard, secessionist and owner of the Wingfield Plantation, was on hand for the dedication along with those who made the day's events a reality. Accompanying Dixon was his brother, Edenton Town Councilman Sambo Dixon and sister, Betty B. Pruden. Also on hand reenacting famed Buffalo leader Capt. Jack Fairless was Robert Parker of Sunbury. Parker portrayed the man who led the Union sympathizers at Wingfield during 1862-1863. Peter Rascoe, Edenton-Chowan Special Projects Officer, commented at the dedication that "this marker was funded by the Edenton Historical Commission and the Chowan County Tourism Development Authority. Four highway feeder markers on NC Highway 32 and Cannons Ferry Road allow travelers to become familiar (with) the main sign's attractive location here at the Cannons Ferry Riverwalk and Robert Hendrix Park."

Nancy Nicholls, Director of Tourism for Chowan County, said, "Chowan County is seeing a lot of interest from Civil War travelers all over the world that have been frequenting sites in Maryland and Virginia for the past few years. Now, they are looking forward to learning more about what took place in North Carolina



and we are very pleased to be able to share the significant role that we played in the war."

Robbie Laughton, Director of the Edenton-Chowan Parks and Recreation, along with the Chowan County Commissioners, then unveiled the Holladay's Island sign recognizing the 200-acre uninhabited island as a remote wilderness experience for outdoor enthusiasts to enjoy.

"First observed by non-native visitors in 1586, Holladay's Island is the newest addition to the Albemarle Regional Canoe/Kayak Paddling Trail and offers something entirely new in Chowan County," Laughton said. The island, only accessible by water, is home to 5 camping platforms on which people statewide have already shown interest, Laughton added. The platforms were made possible through a grant from the National Recreational Trails with NC Department of

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College of Albemarle set to receive funds

Nearly two million in works for county projects, including COA

BY SEAN JACKSON
The Chowan Herald

With North Carolina lawmakers poised to hammer out a state budget — possibly within a day or two — Chowan County stands to reap nearly \$2 million in funding for the 2005-06 fiscal year.

Chowan County Manager Cliff Copeland told *The Chowan Herald* on Tuesday afternoon that state Sen. Marc Basnight, state Senate Pro Tem, called personally to tell him that a joint House-Senate Conference Committee had appropriated \$1.85 million for several projects in the county.

The House and Senate were both scheduled to meet late

Tuesday afternoon. Copeland said he expects the more than \$17 billion budget will be passed with the Chowan monies included.

"It's a done deal," he added.

The biggest chunk targeted for the county is a \$1 million appropriation for renovations to the College of The Albemarle's Chowan Center on North Oakum Street. Copeland said those monies would help finish renovations to two buildings and a parking lot on the campus.

Marge Soper, the center's Workforce Development Coordinator, was pleased to hear that the campus would continue to be improved as

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Basnight



Holloman

Insurance tactics scare seniors

Medicare concerns prompts warnings, advice from UHS

BY EARLINE WHITE
The Chowan Herald

News of aggressive marketing of Medicare Advantage plans by insurance companies have caused concern among senior citizens throughout eastern North Carolina. With hundreds of competitive prescription drug cards and recent Medicare reform laws, marketing by health benefits companies may seem misleading and confusing. Seniors are advised to think carefully when choosing coverage supplements and to research plans thoroughly before making a decision.

Only weeks ago a Louisville-based health benefits company, Humana Inc., confirmed that two of its agents were working in Chowan County despite the fact that Chowan Hospital, which is owned by University Health Systems based in

Greenville, did not accept their payment terms. Those seniors who signed up for the plan are now required to pay all charges out of pocket, until they disenroll with the program, local officials said.

Bill Hayes with UHS has said that agents working in the area for Humana enrolled seniors, allegedly by giving them ambiguous information about the coverage plan. Several of the agents allegedly went door-to-door in order to attract enrollees, which is not an illegal practice, but is against the Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services guidelines that regulate all similar insurance companies. The agents allegedly described the Humana Gold Choice program as a free Medicare supplement. Medicare, however, does not fund the plan, and local health care

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"The Tears of St. Lawrence"

Damrow calls it a day

Extension Agency's 4-H leader returns home to continue education, successor yet to be named

BY EARLINE WHITE
The Chowan Herald

After almost six years of working with Chowan County's youth, Amy Damrow has left her position at the Cooperative Extension Agency as the 4-H Youth Development Leader.

Damrow's many on-the-job achievements included motivating children to become involved in their communities, develop their own voice and

strive for excellence. Damrow was instrumental in organizing a talk with House Representative Bill Culpepper where the young people could voice their concerns and ask questions that directly relate to them and their future. She pushed the students harder as they ran for the finish line at the Outer Banks 5Kids Run. She was at every 4-H event, congratulating the youth on their hard work and giving out hugs when their own hopes



Amy Damrow

may have been bigger than reality. She saw many of her students

See DAMROW On Page A2

BOE seeks long range vision

Community involvement is sought on August 17 session

From staff reports

Edenton-Chowan Schools Board of Education members decided at their August meeting to schedule a work session regarding long range plans for the high school.

The session, scheduled to take place on Aug. 17 following the system Convocation, is intended to create a process for engaging the community in planning for the long-range development of John A. Holmes High School, said su-

perintendent Allan T. Smith.

"We won't actually begin construction for several years," Smith said. "But it's imperative that we begin the planning stages now, and that we involve our stakeholders in those plans."

Other business considered by the board included:

- Financial Report - Emma Berry presented the financial report for the year up to July 31. The system is still awaiting

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