

THE CHOWAN HERALD

Vol. LXXII, No. 33

Wednesday, August 24, 2005

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Aces sink Pirates 26-6 in opener



see Sports B1

Fall Sports Preview



see Sports B1



Staff photo by Earline White

Det. Sgt. Rhonda Copeland watches as a fellow officer arrests a suspect Friday night.

Detectives making impact

Herald staffer patrols with police unit

BY EARLINE WHITE
The Chowan Herald

It's Friday night, midnight. While most people are sleeping soundly in their quiet homes, flashing blue lights come racing from different directions. A call goes out over the communication system: "We need backup." Ramrods and kicking in doors. Drugs, weapons and cash seized. And the Edenton Police Department's Detective Division takes another criminal into custody.

Since 2004, the Detective Division, headed by Detective Sgt. Rhonda Copeland, has been working to rid the streets of crime. Averaging at least one drug raid per week (in addition to the routine felonious charges of robbery, fraud and homicide, among others), the detectives have seized over \$50,000 in cash, approximately 35 weapons, and countless amounts of cocaine, crack and marijuana.

With one of the highest rates of solved cases and a considerable number of convictions, the Edenton Police Department's Detective Division is busy at work helping to 'clean up the streets'.

"It was too much to handle on my own," Copeland said of her lone beginning as a detective in Edenton. Back then there were several instances of robbery, particularly at businesses. Felonious cases such as those needed special attention and required more paperwork, taking away time needed for patrols and other routine duties.

Police Chief Gregory Bonner made the decision to form a detective division last March to combat certain areas, like robbery, breaking and entering, and drug trafficking; freeing up time and obligations within the department. Officers Aaron Davidson and Dwight Rawlins were switched to the division. According to Copeland, few robberies have taken place since the division's implementation and feels that there is a direct correlation between the division's formation and crime.

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Savoring summertime



Staff photo by Susan Moore

Kids had a great time running and playing during the last of the Shepard-Pruden Library's Summer Reading Program sessions.



Staff photo by Earline White

Parks and Recreation Department Director Robbie Laughton (at right) listens as parents discuss their concerns about playground equipment.

Playground equipment, safety the focus of group

BY EARLINE WHITE
The Chowan Herald

Concerned parents met with Town Manager, Ann-Marie Knighton, and Edenton-Chowan Parks and Recreation Department Director, Robbie Laughton, to map out direction and spark initiative among the community to help replace the potentially dangerous playground equipment at Colonial Waterfront Park.

"The biggest things we have to tackle at this point are researching the proper equipment and investigat-

ing potential grants," Belinda Baker, Chairman of the Playground committee said prior to the meeting Tuesday at Acoustic Coffee.

"Right now we are trying to find people willing to head different committees for the project," Baker said. Grant-writing, fund-raising, public input, locating companies, and accepting bids are but a few of the project's elements.

Over the past 10 years, playgrounds have changed dramatically, Laughton explained to the group. "Those things

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Kellogg Supply Co. to open Edenton store

Town council weighs traffic issues with new business interests

BY SEAN JACKSON
The Chowan Herald



Councilman Dixon

The developers for a planned commercial subdivision off of Virginia Road in north Edenton unveiled a hint of what is to come on their undeveloped property at Monday night's Town Council meeting.

With a Dare County-based Kellogg Supply Company interested in locating at the site, Lloyd Griffin III, son of property-owner Lloyd Griffin Jr., said his family is willing to pay for a stoplight to be installed at the intersection of Virginia Road and Whitemon Lane.

Councilors, who approved a rezoning request by the Griffins earlier in the meeting, acknowledged that increased traffic would be a growing concern as the proposed commercial site was developed.

"We already know we have a problem there now," Councilman Steve Biggs said.

Griffin said the building supply business, to be located near the rear of the newly zoned parcel, would likely not create enough traffic by itself to require a stoplight. But he said state Department of Transportation officials have indicated a traffic light would eventually be needed to handle added traffic at the intersection, which also includes

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Plans taking shape for new subdivision

From staff reports

A new subdivision on Coke Avenue is taking shape, and plans are for Colonial Village to bring 120 new homes to Edenton.

Within walking distance of downtown and the Colonial Village Shopping Center, the development is in its first phase of construction, with streets and curb and guttering, as well as underground utilities already finished, according to a press release sent to *The Chowan Herald* earlier this month.

Prices for the homes are set to begin at \$169,000, the release stated. Plans are to have the project finished in roughly two years.



This is one style of housing that developers plan to make available at Colonial Village.

"The homes in this new development will have many features designed to give residents a true sense of place including wrought iron style fencing, old fashioned carriage street lamps, matching mail facilities, three open space areas and covered front

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Back to school

Edenton, 'Inner Banks' subjects of PBS documentary

BY EARLINE WHITE
The Chowan Herald

Edenton and the "Inner Banks", which stretch from South Carolina to Virginia, will once again be prominently featured in a documentary, this one titled "Cruising Carolina", scheduled to premiere during UNC-TV's Festival in February 2006.

Long before highways connected the remote regions in northeastern North Carolina, waterways were its routes for exploration. "Cruising Carolina", the film based on the

new, sixth edition book "Cruising Guide to Coastal North Carolina", is author Claiborne Young's definitive guide to cruising the waters, and the complementary film will highlight the best of Young's written guide.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for the entire region," Town Manager Anne Marie Knighton said. "We are very excited about the showcasing of Edenton in this important documentary. Mr. Claiborne Young's books are like the bible for cruising boaters and I think this documentary is a

great way to show eastern North Carolina's harbors and waterfront communities."

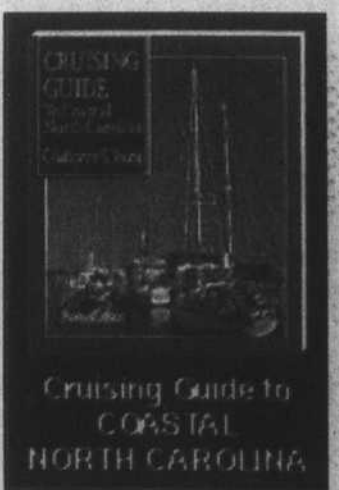
Young noted that many reasons were the driving force behind the new edition, especially technology. Global positioning, nautical maps, as well as the effects of past hurricanes and dredging make the book a must.

The video shows up close the charming towns that dot the scenic waterways; their beauty and appeal. The video highlights recreational opportunities, historic sites, museums, shopping and tourism

venues (including agriculture, ecology and heritage themes) at each stop.

The initial segment, currently being shot, features the Dismal Swamp Canal, Hertford and the Perquimans River, Elizabeth City, as well as Edenton and the Chowan River. From the remote northeast corner of NC to the Chowan River, the largest river in the Albemarle Sound, this multi-part documentary sets out to expose the area's rich history and 'hidden treasures'.

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'Cruising' comes to PBS

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