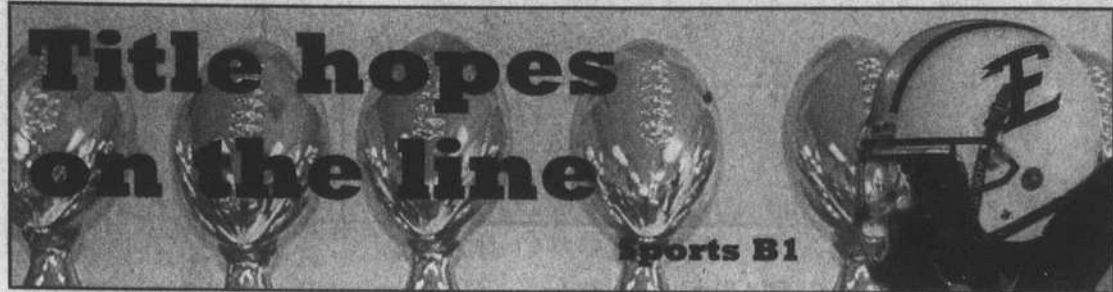


THE CHOWAN HERALD

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Title hopes on the line

Sports B1



King of the road

Community C1

Elections on tap for Tuesday

From Staff Reports

With three incumbents running unopposed for their Town Council posts, turnout is expected to be low on Nov. 9, but elections officials are gearing up nonetheless.

At-large Councilman Jerry Parks, Third Ward Councilwoman Phyllis Britton, and Fourth Ward Councilman Willis Privott will be the only names on ballots next Tuesday.

Polls open at 6:30 a.m. and close at 7:30 p.m. Voting sites are: East Edenton precinct, Chowan Ag Building, 730 N. Granville St., and West Edenton precinct at 824 N. Granville St. at D.F. Walker Alumni building. Curbside voting will be available while polls are open.

One-stop voting continues through 1 p.m. Saturday. Those ballots can be completed at the new elections office at 103 E. King Street.

Halloween is "Just Right"



Staff photo by Earline White

Among the youngsters participating in this year's Halloween Parade in downtown were Goldilocks and the Three Bears, aka Madeline and Eliza Grace Carver with their furry friends. Elana Gavigan also took part in the festivities. Local merchants too dressed up for the occasion and handed out candy in front of their stores to excited children.

Chowan courts to hold special session in Nov.

Backlog of cases costing Chowan residents more

From staff reports

Senior Resident Chief Superior Court Judge Richard Parker announced Monday that a special session of Superior Court is now scheduled for Chowan County for the week of November 28 - December 2.

"I recently met with representatives from Chowan County including Sheriff Fred Spruill, Clerk of Court Mike McArthur and County Manager Cliff Copeland, who expressed strong concern over the backlog of cases and resulting, pressure being placed on the local detention facility," Parker said in Monday's press release. "Many inmates are now housed in jail facilities in nearby counties. This, of course, is costing Chowan County considerable sums of money in increased jail fees. With the next session of Superior Court not scheduled until February 1, I feel we need to take action now. Judge Tillet will be the presiding Judge and I know he is extremely concerned about the backlog."

District Attorney Frank Parrish pledged his support. "It is imperative to dispose of as many cases for defendants pre-trial confinement as possible," Parrish said. "I will work with Brinkley Faulcon and Mike Johnson, assistant district attorneys assigned to Chowan County, to move as many of these cases in this category as we can."

"Pre-trial confinement occurs when defendants are unable to satisfy conditions of release. Housing defendants in that sta-

tion is a substantial, significant cost to Chowan County. My understanding is that the Chowan County Jail is at more than double capacity."

"It is crucial that we work with county officials, alleged victims of crime and attorneys for the accused to give each of these defendants a day in court as promptly as possible."

Chowan County Clerk of Court Mike McArthur also expressed his support. "The Clerk's Office will work with the District Attorney to ensure that all the paperwork is processed to ensure that no cases are dropped because of any technicalities," McArthur said. "We will be pulling an unusually large jury pool so that a lack of potential jurors will not slow the Court. I thank Judge Parker, Judge Tillet and District Attorney Frank Parrish for their cooperative efforts to address this significant problem."

Sheriff Fred Spruill commented, "I am, of course, very concerned over the backlog of pending cases. Some of these cases have remained open for years. I am confident that we are now addressing the problem. Our detainees deserve a speedy trial and if found guilty, they belong in prison and not the county jail. The Sheriff's Department will support Judge Tillet and District Attorney Parrish in any way possible. I thank Judge Parker for scheduling this special session of court."

Veterans' groups plan event

The 2005 Veterans Day Ceremony is set for the annual event's customary observance time on Nov. 11 (Friday) at 11 a.m. at the Chowan County Veterans Memorial. The memorial is located at the corner of Court Street and East Queen Street in Edenton.

Sponsored each year by a committee of area veterans' groups and veterans' descendant groups, the ceremony is marked by a traditional laying of the individual armed services wreaths, and by patriotic

See VETERANS On Page A2

Three Edenton men arrested on firearms, drugs violations

One defendant could face sentence of up to 25 years

BY SEAN JACKSON
The Chowan Herald

An Edenton man was arrested on federal weapons charges late last month and has been turned over to U.S. Marshals in Greenville, police Chief Greg Bonner said Monday.

Troy Gilliam, 29, of Hopewell Road, was arrested on Oct. 22 for weapons charges, in addition to being charged with possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. He is being held in a federal facility in Greenville without bond, Bonner said.

Edenton Police Det. Aaron Davidson arrested Gilliam af-

ter a "brief foot chase," Bonner said. Officer Craig Davenport assisted in the arrest. Gilliam was indicted by a federal grand jury on Oct. 12.

Gilliam was one of three men charged with fatally shooting an Elizabeth City man, Lepaul Willis, two years ago, Bonner said. The new charges could land him extensive jail time.

"Gilliam could possibly face as much as 25 years (behind bars) if he's convicted of federal weapons violations," Bonner said. "He will remain in federal custody until trial on the new charges."

According to the state De-

partment of Corrections Web site, Gilliam was charged with involuntary manslaughter in February 2003. He was released from prison in March.

Police contacted the U.S. Attorney's office and federal Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms officials during the investigation, the chief added.

On Oct. 27, Davidson and Officer Derrick Knox arrested two Edenton men on drug and weapons charges, respectively, after stopping a vehicle on Dr. Martin Luther King Avenue. Bonner said the officers stopped the 1990 Mercury

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On Page A3 . . .

Boys and Girls club receive major gift

Pembroke Hall the focus of development plans

King Street landmark would see houses go up on site

BY REBECCA BUNCH
The Chowan Herald

The heart of Edenton's historic district may be the site of new development if a local landowner has his way.

Neighbors and other citizens who have opinions to share regarding the proposed project will have an opportunity to be heard during the November meeting of the Edenton Historic Preservation Commission.

A hearing on plans to add

four homes to the site where historic Pembroke Hall sits on King Street has been scheduled for Nov. 14. That meeting will take place at 1:15 p.m. in the Town Council Chambers and is open to the public.

During the hearing, property owner Jerry Smith, who resides at Sea Island, GA will seek a certificate of appropriateness for the project. Pembroke Hall itself has been on the market for "four or five years," he said.

The price tag for the Greek Revival style house, built in the

mid-1800's, and its 2.5 acre lot? \$3.5-million dollars, with no takers so far.

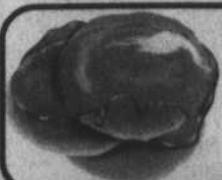
The property on which Pembroke Hall sits was subdivided into three parcels in 2003 and was in compliance with existing regulations, according to Town Manager Anne-Marie Knighton. However, those regulations have since been altered through amendments made to the town's Unified Development Ordinance (UDO).

See PLANS On Page A2



Staff photo by Sean Jackson

Pembroke Hall and surrounding property will be the focus of a Nov. 14 hearing to determine if several additional houses can be built at the site.



Eggs, Sausage & Grits
\$6.00 Donation

Pancake Breakfast Benefit
Edenton Baptist Church
Fellowship Hall
BENEFIT FOR BUDDY & ANGELA KOTEL

November 5th
6:00a.m. till 10:30a.m.

