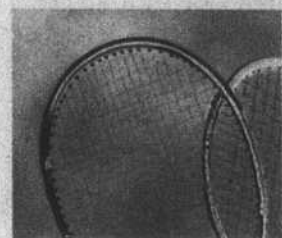


Mary Caron helps put students to work at COA



Inside, A3



Aces seek to defend court titles

Sports, A8

Springing forward

Daylight Savings Time begins 2 a.m. Sunday, three weeks earlier than usual. *Set your clocks!*



New PD unit on the beat at Chowan Hospital
Inside, A4



Earline White/The Chowan Herald

House crosses Edenton Bay

Isabel-damaged home to live on at Wharf Landing

BY SEAN JACKSON
Staff Writer

Paul Waff and Judy Adams peered at the hurricane-ravaged house and shared a few words about its fate.

It would be gone from its waterfront resting spot on Pembroke Circle in just over an hour. Having been beaten by the floodwaters from Hurricane Isabel several years before, Adams wanted to rebuild on the site.

Waff, owner of Waff Contracting Inc., didn't want to see the house torn down. Moving it to new digs on the banks of the Chowan River made more sense to him.

"The house is mine now," Waff said as the six-room home began its trek from land onto a barge last week.

Aided by Worth Hare & Son House Movers Inc., Waff helped guide the home onto a barge that would haul its hefty cargo across Edenton Bay, around a bend, and then upriver to Wharf Landing.

Waff said the house would become the dockmaster's quarters at his new development near the Chowan River Bridge.

But the move itself was enough to draw a crowd. About 20 onlookers gathered in a vacant lot (another loss to Isabel) as the house began its journey.

Loaded atop wooden beams and steel girders, the house began its trip with a few tugs from a truck driven by Sonny Jones.

Aboard the barge, a crane operated by Marshall Evans pulled a cable attached to the front of Jones' rig.

After a jerky 10 feet or so, Waff and Worth Hare Jr. called a stop to the movement.

Nothing was wrong. But as each move up onto the barge was finished, workers scrambled to rearrange the thick boards Jones' rig crept over.

It would have been a quicker move, Waff said, if not for a tall cypress tree just south of the house. Waff decided not to cut the tree down, which led to a

move at an angle — not the typical straight shot.

Still, it took just 50 minutes for the house to reach its temporary resting spot on Waff's barge. Waff decided not to complete the trip on the water that day, last Thursday, as high winds threatened. The house reached its new home yesterday.

For the two crews, it was all in a day's work. But it takes more than a day to get such a job done, Waff said.

"This is about a two-week job from the start to the time we set it down," he said.

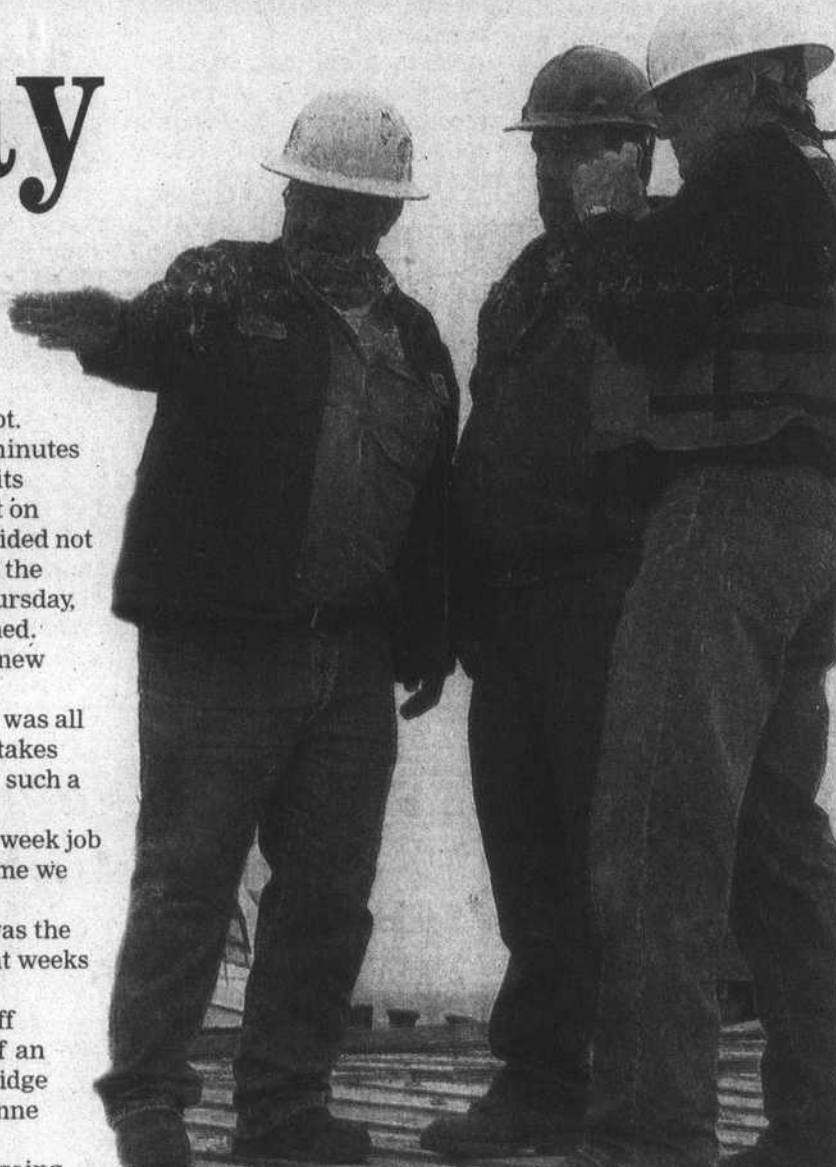
The house-moving was the second big job in recent weeks for the crews.

Late last month, Waff oversaw the removal of an abandoned railroad bridge that spanned Queen Anne Creek.

The bridge won't be going back up, Waff said. Plans are to reuse whatever can be salvaged.

Much like the house on Pembroke Circle.

"Instead of tearing it down," Waff said, "we decided to move it."



Sean Jackson/The Chowan Herald

From left, crane operator Marshall Evans and contractors Worth Hare Jr. and Paul Waff consider moving a six-room Pembroke Circle home onto a barge so it can be floated to Waff's development on the Chowan River. There it will be used as the dockmaster's quarters for a marina at Wharf Landing.

Boat plant to ship in 40 jobs

Average wage to be \$14 an hour at Chowan facility

BY SEAN JACKSON
Staff Writer

Construction of Millennium Marine USA should begin within the next three months, Edenton-Chowan Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Richard Bunch said.

The Canada-based boat-builder has tapped Chowan County to be the home to its newest facility, located at the airport industrial park.

Using a \$75,000 grant from state coffers, the company had been eyeing the Chowan site for several years.

A local development team had been working to secure the deal since last October.

"It was determined by our economic development corporation that this was a good match," Bunch said.

Millennium is expected to create nearly 40 jobs and invest \$1.5 million over the next several years.

The average hourly wage is expected to be roughly \$14 an hour, according to a news release. The county's standard wage is nearly \$12 an hour.

Millennium's top official also felt Chowan was a good match for his company.

"After three years dreaming of opening a boat manufacturing plant in the United States, Northeastern North Carolina has made my dream come true," said Cory Guimond, president of Millennium Marine. "My decision was based on location, the skilled workforce available and the existing boat building industry."

State officials also applauded the decision.

See BOATS, Page A2 >

INDEX

A Local

- Land Transfers A5
- Opinion A7
- Sports A8, 10

B Classifieds

- Buy/Sell/Trade D1
- Service Directory D2
- Employment D3

C Community News

- Upcoming Events C2
- Society C4
- Obituaries C8
- Church C9, 10

D 2006 Tax Listings

County rezones Soundside Road tract

BY EARLINE WHITE
Staff Writer

Despite public opposition at Monday's county commissioners meeting, the board unanimously voted to approve a rezoning of 42-plus acres on Soundside Road from agricultural to general business district.

A request for rezoning was

submitted by Mark and Dossey Pruden last month for their property adjacent to the airport's industrial area.

At Monday's meeting Pruden said that he had no particular plans but felt that the business district was an appropriate request for the area.

Following questioning and meeting with the Edenton-Chowan Planning Board, a recommendation for approval

was given to the commissioners.

Among those who spoke out against the rezoning was realtor Janet MacKenzie, representing a potential property owner in the area.

MacKenzie said that the lack of architectural guidelines established for such a district and the wide variety of options available for industry under it were her major ar-

eas of concern.

"Mr. Pruden may have good intentions for the property, but future owners may not. Under this district the owner can open a bar/tavern right beside a church," MacKenzie said.

The pastor of the neighboring Albemarle Baptist Church, Greg Brinson, also addressed the commissioners on his similar con-

See ZONING, Page A2 >



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Saturday, March 10, 2007
Supper - 5:00PM - 7:00PM
Auction - 7:30PM - UNTIL

Rocky Hock Ruritan Club
PANCAKE SUPPER/AUCTION
Rocky Hock Community Center

PLATES \$5.00/Person