



Cycle Speedway season heats up
Sports, B1



Locals prepare for National Day of Prayer May 3
Inspiration, C10

Let's mow!

Hog Fest invades Legion this weekend
See story below



With U.S. Sen. Elizabeth Cole now opposed to the OLF in Washington County, the plot thickens.

How much more likely are OLF opponents to prevail with Dole in the fight? Is Dole's decision good or bad for Chowan and Perquimans county residents?

What happens next?

BY SEAN JACKSON
Staff Writer

Rocky Hock plant closes its doors

Over 90 workers will lose their jobs at dye plant

BY SEAN JACKSON
Staff Writer

More than 90 workers at Edenton Dyeing and Finishing are losing their jobs in the wake of the plant's shut-down, local officials said.

The textile plant in northern Chowan County is closing after roughly four decades of operation under different owners.

"They have indeed shut down," County Manager Cliff Copeland said Monday.

Edenton-Chowan Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Richard Bunch also confirmed the shut-down. "I know our textiles are in trouble," Bunch said.

The closing comes on the heels of an announced closing in February at George C. Moore, an Edenton elastics manufacturer. George C. Moore is set to close Friday.

Dye plant official Joe Drum said it was a difficult decision for the owners to make. The plant employs 91 workers, Copeland said.

"They're telling them as we speak," Copeland said of the workers being told of the closing.

While the county could lose some tax revenues due to the shut-down, the job losses is what hurts, Copeland added.

"You always hate to see a big taxpayer shut down," Copeland said. "But the big issue is the employees being out of work."

Bunch agreed that the job losses are

See CLOSING, Page A2 >



Robert Steinburg
Republican Party Chair

"If the OLF comes to anywhere in northern North Carolina, it would be a disaster — economically and environmentally — for Chowan County and the entire area."



Cliff Copeland
Chowan County Manager

"Perquimans was not the preferred site last time so we hope the same reasoning prevails... This entire process has been flawed, so I hope the Navy will start from scratch."



Richard Bunch
Exec. Dir. Chamber of Commerce

"The Perquimans site has always been a problem, with major flight paths crossing over northern Chowan County."

"It really puts us in a bad position if the Perquimans site falls in line."



Derrick Wadsworth
Democratic Party Chair

"I don't think that the other counties' chances will increase at this time."

"I do think that we should continue to support our neighbors because in the end we need a consolidated front to have any chance of winning."



Anne Marie Knighton
Town Manager

"My gut feeling is the Navy is going to go with Site E in Craven County, or as Sen. Dole suggested in her letter, find some state land that is suitable."

INSIDE

Locals voice concerns about OLF. Page A8.
Related story. Page A2.



Steve Biggs
Town Councilman

"It's good, absolutely. I think what it does, is it puts all the sites in North Carolina off the playing field. If it's not good for one, it's not good for any of them."



Bobby Darden
Perquimans Co. Manager

"Her letter [to the Navy] was broad enough to include all the sites where it's not wanted."

"I very much read that as including Perquimans County. Certainly, we feel better. We feel a little more at ease, but we're not completely at ease."



Ben Wood
Chowan Co. Property Owner

"Yes, sir [Dole's position will help the OLF opposition]. Very definitely. We've appreciated that she's out [there with us], and we're wondering why she hasn't been out a little earlier."

5 things not to miss at HOGFEST

The two-day family-fun extravaganza to be held Friday and Saturday is the first of what organizer E.C. Toppin hopes becomes an annual event in Edenton.

The show opens at 10 a.m. each day. Admission is \$3/person, \$2/seniors at the door.

4. Friday Night Barn Dance

New Creation of Bertie County will blow the roof off the old red barn at Friday night's dance beginning at 7 p.m. There will be a little something for everybody itching to shake a leg. Admission is \$8 at the door.

5. People's Choice Barbeque Cook-off and Vending

Fire departments, civic clubs and area churches will hit the coals Saturday to compete for a total of \$1,000 in cash prizes.

Teams are still encouraged to register for the competition by calling the Legion at 482-4057.

And don't forget

— Kid's pedal tractor drag races
Youths ages four to nine will be competing for trophies and ribbons. There will be a \$10 entry fee; pedal tractors are provided.

— Beer and wine garden

Open from 1 p.m. to 11 p.m. on Friday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday

(E.C. Toppin contributed to this article.)



Sod warriors from across the country will compete Saturday in the national lawn mower races during HogFest.

1. State Championship Lawn Mower Races

The nation's fastest racing lawn mowers will converge on the Legion fairgrounds at 1 p.m. Saturday.

The turf titan competition will feature racing in four classes with speeds reaching 60 mph. The race is one of more than 16 STA-BIL national competitions held each season and is sanctioned by the US Lawn Mower Racing Association.

Admission is \$8 at the gate.

2. Backyard Cook-off

Amateur barbecue cookers from the area will compete for bragging rights in two classes, pork ribs and chicken, and for several cash prizes. If you think you're the best barbecuer, it's not too late to sign up. Call the Legion at 482-4057 to register.

3. Arts and Crafts Show and Sale

Over 20 area artisans of wood, glass, and natural materials will showcase their wares in a two-day indoor show and sale.

INDEX

A Local

Crime A4
Land Transfers A5
Opinion A8

B Sports/School

Recreation News B1
NASCAR B2
Outdoors B3

C Community News

Upcoming Events C2
Society C4
Obituaries C8
Church C 9,10

D Classifieds

Buy/Sell/Trade D1
Service Directory D2
Employment D4

Pilgrimage weekend captured in photos

Community, C1



6 89076 44813 0
©2006 The Chowan Herald
All Rights Reserved

Rocky Hock Opry Friday & Saturday April 27 & 28 - 7:30 PM
Sponsored by Rocky Hock Ruritan - Relay For Life Team
E.A. Swain Auditorium Edenton, NC
Mail orders call 252-221-4875 or 252-340-3438
Tickets \$10.00 Available At
Byrum True Value Hardware - Downtown Edenton 252-482-2131
Acoustic Coffee - Downtown Edenton 252-482-7465
Nixon Family Restaurant - Rocky Hock 252-221-2244
Woodard's Pharmacy - Downtown Hertford 252-426-5527
Billy Smith - Suffolk, VA 757-925-4541