

Peanut Festival comes to town Saturday

9 a.m. Peanut Run, 11 a.m. Peanut Parade, 5 p.m. Battle of the Bands SEE BELOW

CHOWAN HERALD

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HERE AND THERE

Thomas Armstead stays on the



Lowe's store clears a hurdle

- Plan supported, 6 to 1
- Farm Fresh is not a definite

By Sean Jackson
Staff Writer

Town planning leaders support a revised design for Edenton Commons that includes Lowe's Home Improvement Center.

By a 6-1 vote Monday night, the Planning Board recommended approving a permit for developers to bring Lowe's to the shop-

ping center, located near the intersection of Whitemon Lane and N.C. Highway 32.

Town Council is expected to hold a public hearing — and could possibly vote — on the permit Nov. 13.

Meador Harriss cast the only dissenting vote during Monday's meeting — which drew a crowd of about 170 people — held at Edenton Baptist Church.

Developer Jon Wheeler said he has an agreement with Lowe's, but not with Farm Fresh.

Harriss questioned if the supermarket chain would ever build at Edenton Commons.

"We do not have a deal with Farm Fresh," developer Jon Wheeler said. "I would love it to be Farm Fresh, but I don't know that."

Officials said Edenton Commons Shopping Center could bring up to \$230,000 in sales and property tax revenues. The county could see an as much as \$777,000 to \$1.2 million.

Overall, the site could create as many as 400 jobs, Wheeler said. Lowe's could hire as many as 100 workers, company official Nicky Wagner said.

Harriss' motion to delay a vote on a rezoning of the site failed.

He said the board needed more time to review opinions of a financial impact assessment given to the town by Wheeler.

Board member Audrey Bond said retail growth would benefit Edenton.

"I think competition is good," she said.

Board chairman Craig Miller also said adding Lowe's improved the site.

Terry Waff, a board member who also chairs Edenton's Destination Downtown group, said she was not biased by her connections to downtown businesses.

"Edenton is a part of Chowan County," she said, "and what affects one, af-

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School board to consider uniforms and construction

By Rebecca Bunch
Staff Writer

When local school board members gather for their annual retreat later this month, they will be discussing two weighty issues — school construction needs and school uniforms.

The agenda calls for the board to spend the morning session discussing construction. The afternoon session will be devoted to briefing the board on the results of a survey on uniforms followed by discussion among the board members.

Discussing options

Dr. Allan Smith reminded the board at their monthly meeting Monday night that they would not be able to take any formal action until their October board meeting. "But we can begin to discuss some options," he said.

The retreat is scheduled to take place Oct. 10 at the Edenton-Chowan Technology Center.

County Manager Cliff Copeland is expected to attend, according to Smith.

Also on Monday night, the board heard a presentation from Rose Hawkins, director

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FAIR SETS ATTENDANCE RECORD



Earline White/The Chowan Herald

More than 2,000 kids turned out Wednesday for youth day at the fair.

The Chowan County Regional Fair experienced its most successful year as it celebrated its 60th anniversary this past week.

There were 150 new first time exhibitors with 600 plus additional quality exhibits.

Over 27,000 people visited the fair this year, exceeding attendance records every night except Thursday when it rained all around but not

at the American Legion Fairgrounds.

The success enjoyed by the Chowan County Regional Fair is due to the support of the region and the dedication of 150-plus volunteers who work diligently to produce a top quality community service affair.

Planning for the 61st annual Chowan County Regional Fair has begun.

It is not too early for exhibi-

tors to start planning for next year. Several current vendors, commercial exhibitors and potential vendors have already asked for space for 2008. Anyone with questions call 252-482-4057 or visit the Web site at chowanfair.com.

All proceeds made by the American Legion through the fair go back to the community through various Legion programs and donations.

Sandy Point gets final permit

No date yet for groundbreaking at Sandy Point; site clearing at Beechwood almost complete

By Sean Jackson
Staff Writer

More than three years after its plans were launched, Sandy Point subdivision is a go.

Developer Sam Young received word Friday that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers had issued its permit for the waterfront subdivision, the last one needed.

"We're delighted," Young said. "The land is now entitled to be developed."

The 1,600-home subdivision will straddle the northern end of the Albemarle Sound Bridge — just several miles from downtown Edenton.

Young had no specific date for when construction would start.

Permits have been slow to come, officials have said. The discovery of underwater grasses last summer added to the delay.

But it's a project well worth the wait, Chowan County Manager Cliff Copeland said.

"It's a big day," Copeland said. "I'm extremely excited. It's been a long, hard battle."

Copeland and Town Manager Anne-Marie Knighton praised Young for sticking with the project — expected to bring millions of dollars in tax revenues to the county — through the delays.

"A lot of developers would have thrown their hands up and gone home," Copeland said of Young.

"Sam Young and his team worked incredibly hard to get to this point," Knighton said. "What a gem this project is going to be for our region and our state."

Young said he will now focus on hiring contractors for construction, and on final designs for the project — which includes retail areas, parks, and inland harbors.

It will be at least a year before any of the buildings are completed, he added.

"It can't happen immediately," he said of the project, which touts "New Urbanism" as its chief design characteristic.

New Urbanism strives to provide connected, up-

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Young

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32nd annual Peanut Festival on its way

By Earline White
Managing Editor

It'll be a day filled with peanuts, parents, and pageantry as the annual Peanut Festival kicks off Saturday at 9 a.m. in Historic Edenton.

The fourth annual Edenton Peanut 5K Run/Walk at Queen Anne Park will lead the day's festivities at 9 a.m.

In addition to the 5K Run/Walk, Chowan Hospital will host a one-mile Fun Walk beginning at Queen Anne Park and a wellness fair from 9 a.m. to noon.

Both events are open to people of all ages and perfect for families and friends to join together and participate in.

The Peanut Run/Walk is an out and back flat course starting at Queen Anne Park and running through Historic Hayes Plantation and Edenton Bay subdivision.

The Fun Run also starts at Queen Anne and is a flat loop course through the downtown area.

Presentation of awards will follow the conclusion of the 5K Race. Medals will be awarded to the top

three overall male and female winners, and the top three male and female finishers in age divisions.

Then at 11 a.m., Mr. Peanut will once again lead the Peanut Festival parade down Broad Street, rain or shine.

The hour-long parade will begin at Golden Corral, turn right onto Broad and end at Broad and Water streets.

It's not too late for entries. Contact Joyce Lassiter at 482-4985 or 312-4448.

So far 60 entries are signed up to take part including the local schools

and churches. Don't miss the big tractors, big trucks and loud horns.

The annual Peanut Festival Battle of the Bands will end the day's action beginning at 5 p.m. Marching bands from all over north-eastern N.C. will compete at the John A. Holmes Athletic Complex for trophies to take home.

And when your belly starts to rumble, look around for the county's pride — peanuts — raw, roasted, fried or made into brittle.

The sailboat races sponsored by the Edenton



Mr. Peanut will once again lead the Peanut Festival Parade at 11 a.m.

Yacht Club will also take place that afternoon. Head toward the bay to check out the racers and their vibrant colors.

For more information about the Peanut Festival call the Edenton Chamber of Commerce at 482-3400.

Saturday
October
6th

Edenton Chowan Band Parents
Chicken /BBQ Plates 11-2pm & 4-7pm

\$7/plate
pickup plates at
Athletic Complex

"Battle of the Bands"
Competition

32nd Annual Peanut Festival

Come join us for good food and entertainment

5:00 pm \$7/person

