

# CHOWAN HERALD

482-4418

Wednesday, October 7, 2009

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## Chowan to get \$2M from Golden LEAF

### Money must be used for jobs, development

By Rebecca Bunch  
Staff Writer

Chowan County will become the second area county to receive \$2 million as part of a Community Assistance Initiative started by the Golden LEAF Foundation in Rocky Mount. Chowan's ranking as a Tier I county has made it eligible for the funds, which will

be available in the spring. Golden LEAF President Dan Gerlach and the organization's vice president of programs/community assistance and outreach, Patricia Cabe, were on hand at Monday night's Board of Commissioners meeting to explain the how the grant process works. Gerlach said Golden LEAF officials will host a series of

county meetings after the first of the year to gather public input on how the funds should be spent. Identifying the county's strengths, weaknesses, and setting goals will be part of the process, he said. "We have a lot of work to do," Gerlach said. Cabe said the public discussions will be "a key component" of the goal-setting ses-

sions. "It's a unique discussion," she said. "It's sometimes a little messy but always productive."

The funds can be used to fund efforts such as job growth and economic development. But there are restrictions.

None of the funds can be awarded to private individuals for the purchase of land or

buildings. Camden County also received \$2 million from Golden LEAF as part of the initiative earlier this year. Camden officials decided, after holding a series of community meetings, to use its Golden LEAF funding developing water and sewer infrastructure on U.S. Highway 17 North. Golden LEAF, created by

the Legislature a decade ago, uses proceeds from the state's settlement with tobacco companies to fund economic development projects in rural, tobacco-dependent communities and Tier 1 counties, those categorized by the N.C. Department of Commerce as economically disadvantaged. As part of its Community Assistance Initiative, Golden LEAF has set aside approximately \$2 million for use by each Tier 1 county, including Camden and Chowan.

## Council asked to back grant for wells

Town already has \$40K for project

From staff reports  
Chowan Herald

Town Manager Anne-Marie Knighton is encouraging Town Council to seek more than \$105,000 in grant funds for the first phase of a proposed well-field expansion project.

The council is expected to consider the request at its October board meeting. The expansion, in its earliest stage, would involve identifying three test well sites.

Knighton noted in a presentation to the council last week that during 2006-07, when the community was expecting a surge in residential growth, Richard Spruill, a noted hydrologist, and the Wooten Company were asked to provide a long-term analysis of the town's water supply needs.

"We recently asked the Wooten Company to update the water supply demands based on a revised projected build-out and population growth," she said.

"The projected growth rate has diminished significantly, but we still need to be planning for more capacity," Knighton added. "After taking with the engineers, it is our recommendation that we move forward with phase one of the water supply expansion plan."

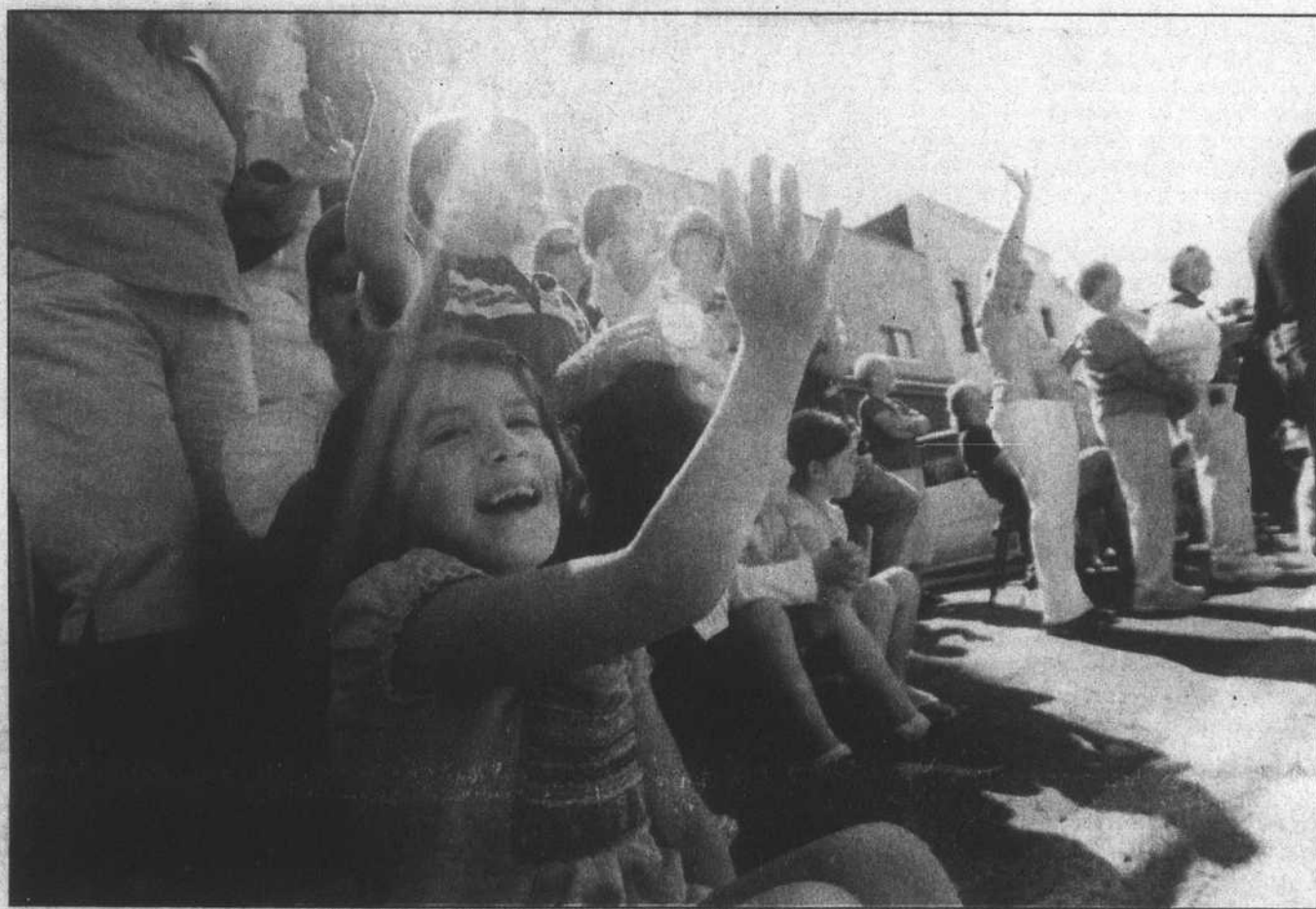
Knighton noted that the town will have "good information and data" from Spruill on where the test well sites have the best chance of producing the yields and quality of water to meet the community's needs.

To pay for phase I, Knighton and her staff have put together a budget "that would take advantage of Rural Center grant funding and a USDA low-interest loan."

She said if the council approves, the town would request a \$108,000 Rural Center grant to supplement a \$40,000 grant that has already been received.

"To go forward with this first phase, we estimate needing only a \$72,000 low-interest loan from USDA," Knighton said.

## Peanut festival



PHOTOS BY JUSTIN FALLS/THE DAILY ADVANCE

Gretchen Bass, 7, waves to the parade members at the Peanut Festival Parade on South Broad Street in Edenton, Saturday, Oct. 3.

## Bands, cars, riders entertain at annual parade

From staff reports  
Chowan Herald

It was a day made for a parade, and the annual Peanut Festival Parade didn't disappoint.

As local citizens and visitors watched from the parade route along Broad Street, they were treated to the lively music of three bands: John A. Holmes High School, Chowan Middle School and Bertie High School.

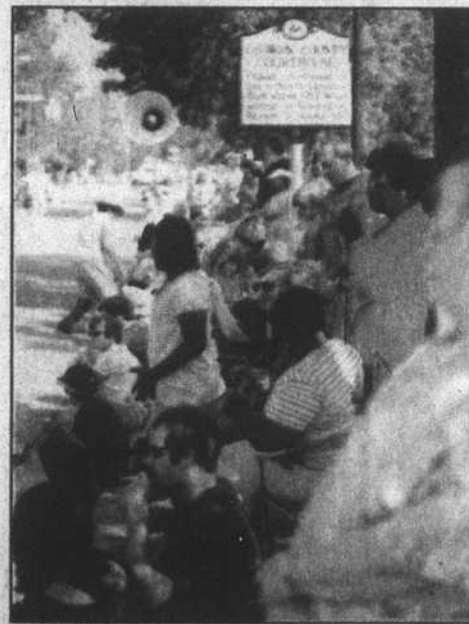
A group of classic cars including a 1955 Crown Victoria was a big hit with the crowd.

So was a teal-colored pick-up with Sam the Grand Slam Clam, mascot of the Edenton Steamers, aboard and waving enthusiastically.

There were also riders on horseback and a group of bright green classic John Deere tractors — some dating back to the 1940s — that drew applause from parade-goers of all ages.

Andy's Restaurant staff and its mascot handed out candy to kids who were wearing big smiles.

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Residents watch the Peanut Festival Parade make its way down South Broad Street in Edenton, Saturday, Oct. 3.

## West Craven wins the Battle of the Bands

Hundreds watch 16 bands in competition

From staff reports  
Chowan Herald

Musical styles from around the globe were part of this year's "Battle of the Bands" competition.

Mixed in were some classic rock, pop classics made famous by the Jackson 5, a tribute to Civil War songs and even compositions de-

voted to outer space.

West Craven High School Marching Band of Vanceboro, N.C., ended the day taking top honors as Band of the Day with the highest overall score.

Class AAAA West Craven also won the Gebhardt Award for the best overall marching score.

The Strother Award was won by Greene Central High School Marching Band for good sportsmanship and professional attitude.

The show, which began at 4 p.m. at the Holmes Athletic Complex in Edenton, found parents and other family members, along with fans, tapping their feet and keeping time with the music.

Among them was Bill Haley of Edenton. Haley said he and his wife enjoy coming to hear the bands even though they don't have any family members performing.

"I played in the band when I was in high school and college," he said, "and if we are

in town, we like to be here."

Also among the hundreds crowding into the stands was Connie Coker of Roanoke Rapids who said she had come to cheer on Roanoke Rapids High School's Marching Yellow Jackets.

"My daughter, Ashley, is part of the color guard for the band," Coker said. "They were in their first competition last week, and they won first place."

First up were the Marching Falcons of South Central

High School in Winterville, N.C., making their first appearance at the competition.

With "Flight" as their theme, they performed "Fanfare for the Third Planet," "Into the Light," and "Ascend."

They were followed to the field by the Columbia High School Marching Wildcats and their "Spanish Fire" presentation which consisted of "Aztec Fire," "Chips & Salsa,"

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## Boys & Girls Club to partner with CMS

Power Hour to replace SOS program

By Rebecca Bunch  
Staff Writer

The Boys & Girls Club in Edenton will soon expand its "Power Hour" and other activities to include students from Chowan Middle School.

Allan Smith, superintendent of the Edenton-Chowan Schools, said the partnership is extremely important to children and their families. "We feel everyone can benefit, especially the stu-



Smith

ents," he said. Smith said that the school system will be using Power Hour to replace the SOS (Save Our Students) initiative that was eliminated this fall when the state cut its funding.

Smith explained that "Power Hour" focuses on encouraging students to do their homework in a supervised setting, thereby developing good study habits.

He said that CMS students who participate in the program at their school will become Boys & Girls Club members, and after Power Hour is completed each Monday through Thursday they can go to the club's new headquarters on Morristown Road to take part in other activities.

Transportation will be provided by the school system.

Meanwhile, elementary and high school students who join the Boys & Girls Club can take part in Power Hour at that location.

Smith said that after talking with Jerome Levisy, Boys & Girls Club director, he felt the club's involvement with

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