

## Bertie plant would give crop options

By **RITCHIE E. STARNES**  
Editor

A pilot extraction facility planned for Bertie County would benefit all of northeastern North Carolina.

Calls to build the medium sized facility would be helpful to area farmers looking to bolster cash crops, according to Anita Johnson, project director for the N.C. Northeast Development Foundation

located in Edenton. The facility would provide a processing site, which would smaller farms identify alternate use of crops.

Advanced agriculture technology remains critical to the region's 16 counties still dependent on farming where land is the most significant asset. The addition of the pilot extraction facility could be a harbinger of more technology, Johnson said.

"It can change the face of the region over the next 20 years," Johnson said. "We can have a new economic niche for this region."

Here in Chowan County, the sage crop has already been identified as crop with alternate value. Sage is used in such productions as perfume.

Richard Bunch, Chamber of Commerce director, said the region could experience a boost in ethanol production.

He pointed to an earlier identified medicinal extract from tobacco.

"It can't be anything, but good for the area," Bunch said. "We've got some of the best farmers in the business."

"A good year for the agricultural community is good for everyone," he added.

The proposed processing plant in Bertie would be the benefactor of a \$150,000

See **CROP**, 4A

## COA campus moving July '11

By **RITCHIE E. STARNES**  
Editor

Chowan County leaders officially informed the College of The Albemarle Tuesday morning that plans include moving the school's Edenton-Chowan campus next summer.

Last week, COA officials expressed concern that Chowan County had yet to give details of its plans to move out of the Edenton Village Shopping Center and into the D.F. Walker Alumni Building. At an enterprise committee meeting Tuesday morning, attended by Campus Dean Lynn Hurdle-Winslow, commissioners informed her that the move would take place after July 1, 2011, part of the 2012 fiscal year's budget.

"The only caution I have is that we start classes in a month and a half (of that date)," Hurdle-Winslow said.

If plans included moving the campus, COA leaders had hoped to began moving earlier and in phases, but to do so would prove too costly for the county.

"It would actually costs us more this year to do that," said Commissioner

See **COA**, 6A

## Man shot in left ear

**RITCHIE E. STARNES**  
Editor

A 21-year-old Edenton man was shot in the ear last Thursday night after an altercation in a motel parking lot, according to Edenton Police Chief Jay Fortenbery.

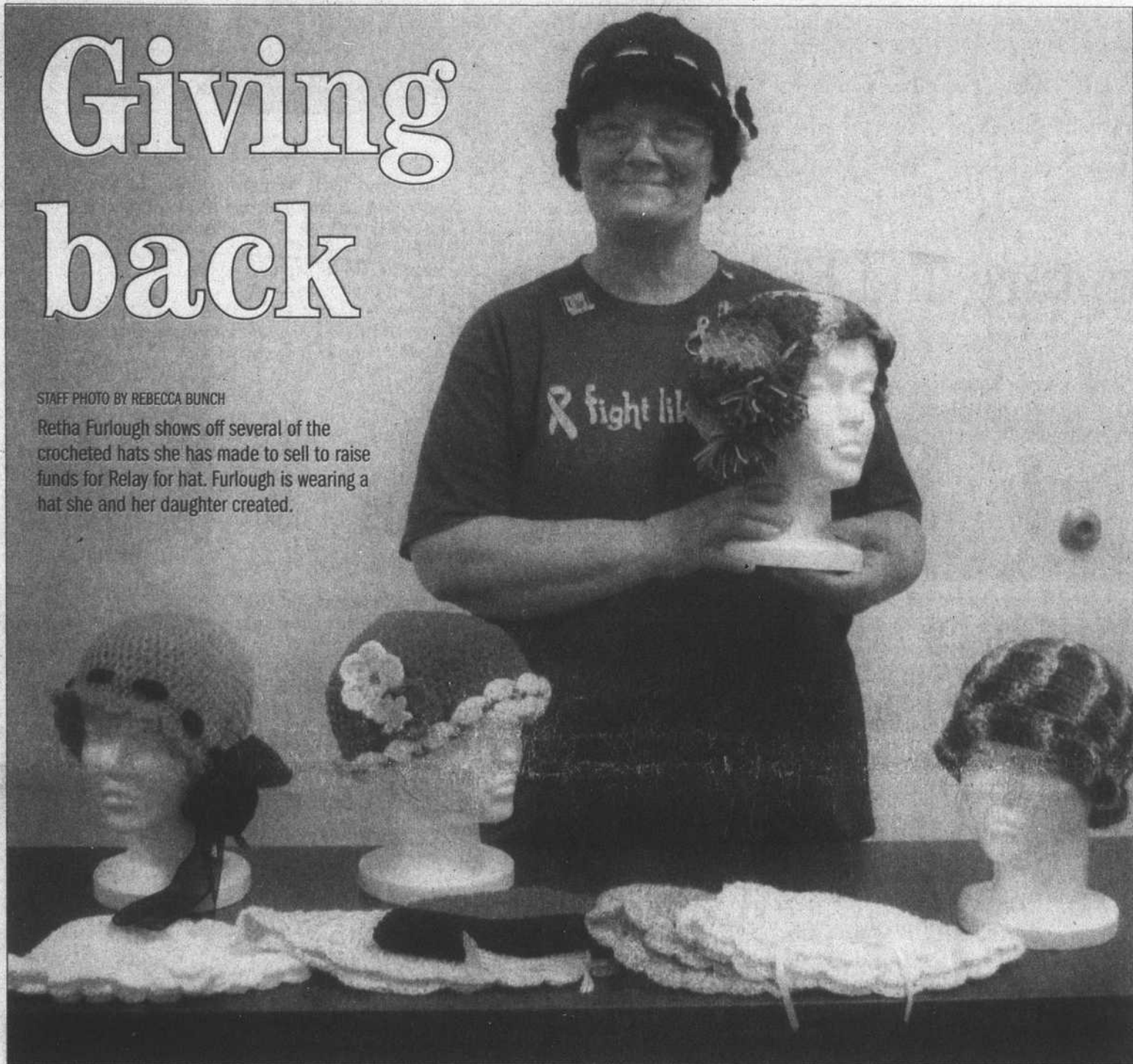
Blake Bass was shot in the left ear around 9:31 p.m. in the parking lot of the Coach House Inn Motel on North Broad Street, Fortenbery said. Bass and Lyndell Box, 56, of Clinton were sitting in a van in the parking lot when a subject confronted the men. An apparent argument ensued

See **EAR**, 2A

## Giving back

STAFF PHOTO BY REBECCA BUNCH

Retha Furlough shows off several of the crocheted hats she has made to sell to raise funds for Relay for hat. Furlough is wearing a hat she and her daughter created.



## Crocheted hats benefit Relay for Life

By **REBECCA BUNCH**  
Staff Writer

What had been a hobby for Retha Furlough has become a way she can raise money and awareness for a cause she believes in — cancer research.

Furlough, a breast cancer survivor who works in the housekeeping department at Chowan Hospital, crocheted a batch of hats to encourage women going through chemotherapy with her. Since then, she has begun selling her hand-sewn hats and toboggans to raise money for Chowan-Perquimans Relay for Life that takes place next month.

The hats and toboggans are available for viewing, and for purchase, at the hospital. Furlough said that when making a hat she knows it will be worn by a cancer patient, she always includes a card with a personal message that tells them she is praying for them.

"It's like giving them a special hug, when they put on one of my hats after they've lost their hair because of treatment," Furlough said. "I want them to know that they are not going through this alone."

It takes about 2 1/2 hours to make each of her creations, Furlough said. Hats without flowers or other extras are going for \$8; those with flowers and other additional

work are \$10 each.

"Half of everything I make on the hats will go back to Relay," Furlough said.

No pattern is used, said Furlough, who has been crocheting for about 20 years, and each hat is unique.

Given the opportunity to promote her hats, Furlough doesn't lose sight of the chance to promote something else — mammograms. That's what saved her life, she said, and she wants to get that message out to other women.

"It only takes 15 minutes to get one," Furlough said. "What's 15 minutes when it

See **HATS**, 2A

## Commission candidate files by petition

Challenger's name to appear on ballot

By **RITCHIE E. STARNES**  
Editor

Add another candidate to the District 1 Chowan County Board of County Commissioners race af-

ter a challenger filed by petition, according to the Board of Elections.

Douglas A. Hollowell will be among the trio of candidates vying for a seat on the county commission that represents northern Chowan County. His name will appear as an unaffiliated Candidate on the November ballot along with Republican Robert T. Hutchins and Democrat Jeff A. Smith.

"I believe I've got a lot to offer the county," Hollowell said Monday.

*"I beleive I have a lot to offer the county...My pledge is to help all people and not just one party."*

**Douglas A. Hollowell**

Candidate running for County Commissioner seat

"My pledge is to help all people and not just one party."

It was during the official filing period that Hollowell first inquired about seeking the office, only to learn that

he had missed the deadline to change his party affiliation, according to Rebecca Lowe, Board of Elections director.

To run, his only option was to file by petition.

"When you file by pe-

tion, you're required to get 4 percent of the registered voters in your district," Lowe said.

Hollowell needed to collect at least 139 signatures of his district's 3,466 registered voters. On April 6, Hollowell submitted a petition with 218 signatures with 188 deemed valid, Lowe said.

Hollowell lives in Tyner and works as a certified public accountant in Elizabeth

See **PETITION**, 6A



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