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Legion state commander: 'This is just great' Harris lauds work of Post 40 in putting on Regional Fair

BY REGGIE PONDER
Editor

Patricia Harris could hardly believe her eyes when she first caught a glimpse of the Chowan County Regional Fair last week.

The newly elected state commander of the American Legion — she's been in that position since June 15 — said the fair is a sign of the local post's willingness to work hard and an indication of the strong ties the Edenton group has forged with the community.

"It's fabulous," Harris, who

arrived on the evening of Sept. 25 for Military Appreciation Night and stayed until later in the week, said during an interview at the fairgrounds Thursday evening. "I just didn't understand the magnitude of what they were capable of doing. I'm impressed. This is just great. And to think, this is in the backyard of a post."

Harris said when she was at the fair, there was evidence all around her of work that had been done by Post 40 and of ways that community volunteers had pitched in to help out.

"You just could not get a bet-

ter picture of a Legion family," Harris said. "We are a volunteer organization, and you can just see that all over the place here."

Harris said much credit goes to E.C. Toppin, the president of the Chowan County Regional Fair Board of the American Legion Post 40 in Edenton.

"E.C. is doing a top job right here," she said.

Harris' visit to Edenton and environs last week was her first trip to the Albemarle since



STAFF PHOTO BY REGGIE PONDER

Patricia Harris, state commander of the American Legion, enjoys a visit to the Chowan County Regional Fair Thursday.

See HARRIS, 3A

Quinn looks for finished projects

BY REBECCA BUNCH
Staff Writer

A desire to see the completion of initiatives begun since he was elected in 2010 as an at-large member of the Edenton Town Council has prompted incumbent Bob Quinn to file for re-election.

"Frankly, because I have initiatives begun that I do not want to leave until I am confident they will be accomplished," Quinn said when asked why he decided to seek a second term.



QUINN

Quinn said, for example, that Demolition by Neglect and improved Minimum Housing standards are established and under way, but that he also wanted to see more derelict housing in town come down or be restored. There are targeted buildings within the Historic District where conditions must be addressed, he said.

Quinn added that he was also very concerned about recent problems in the community that were the result of rowdy and unruly behavior that he described as "highly negative actions that reflect heavily on the quality of life in Edenton."

"I want to see us continue to apply pressure to make sure that does not happen again," Quinn said. "I introduced a vision of a 'Crime Free Town'. I want to be part of that happening."

Quinn said if re-elected he would continue to work toward creating "a commonality of purpose" among all those who are stakeholders in the community — from shopkeepers to corporate leaders, students to retirees — and

See QUINN, 2A



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Week of perfect weather greets Fair

From staff reports

Chowan County Regional Fair officials said attendance was "about average" for this year's fair that ended Saturday at midnight.

E.C. Toppin, who serves as president of the fair's board of directors, said that 11,423 full-price tickets were purchased this year. He said that adding in the children who came to the fair free on Wednesday during the school day and senior citizens who were admitted at no charge on Thursday boosted the number of those attending this year to about 17,000.

Toppin added that 1,267 of those attending the fair purchased special \$10 walk-around tickets that did not include rides. Regular admission tickets were \$18 each, he said.

One bright spot was the weather, Toppin said.

"The weather was perfect for the fair," Toppin said.

He added that he felt a tough economy and continued high unemployment had kept some people from coming.

Toppin added that the fair board will be looking at attendance as it looks

See FAIR, 4A



STAFF PHOTO BY THOMAS J. TURNEY

Addison Bell, 6, and her grandfather Jimmy Allidgood (center) react as they ride a roller coaster called the Cobra at the Chowan County Regional Fair, Thursday, September 26. See more photos on page 4A.

Digital experience arrives at Taylor Theater

STAFF PHOTO BY REBECCA BUNCH

Taylor Theater Manager Bob Krochmal proudly shows off new digital projection equipment that allows local moviegoers to experience a crystal clear motion picture on each of the theater's screens as well as Dolby surround sound.



BY REBECCA BUNCH
Staff Writer

Crystal clear motion pictures. Dolby surround sound so sharp you can hear a character on the screen run his hand through his hair.

That's the experience movie-goers will now have when they step inside to see a movie at the Taylor Theater, according to manager Bob Krochmal.

"I've been running around all week like a 6 year old," a beaming Krochmal said Sunday evening. "It's incred-

ible. It amounts to a one thousand percent upgrade in sound and picture compared to what we had before."

"I think it's amazing," said his daughter, Belinda Respass, who works at the theater. "I want to clap every time I watch a preview."

Krochmal said the movie theater that shows two movies a night and matinees in side-by-side theaters now provides the ultimate movie-going experience.

See DIGITAL, 3A

Preservation NC conference here this week

BY REBECCA BUNCH
Staff Writer

Preservation enthusiasts are encouraged to take part in Preservation North Carolina's annual three-day conference that will take place in Edenton Wednesday through Friday, Oct. 2-4.

Registration is open to the public and will take

place from 1-4:30 p.m. at Providence Baptist Church, 214 W. Church St. Claudia DeViney, director of PNC's northeast regional office in Edenton,



DEVINEY



DIXON

said that the last time one of the organization's annual conferences was held here was a few years before she came to work for PNC in 1998.

DeViney said people who came to that conference still use the word "magical" to describe Edenton.

"It's hard to top magical but I think we can do it," DeViney said. "We have some great speakers planned and some wonderful places for them to visit."

Conference highlights will include a virtual tour of

the Edenton Cotton Mill Village Wednesday from 4-4:30 p.m. that will allow participants to see the major restoration effort that has taken place there. Participants will have the chance to see some "before" photos as they enjoy a welcome reception at the Mill Village

See CONFERENCE, 2A

38TH ANNUAL
PEANUT FESTIVAL &
BATTLE OF THE BANDS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5TH
CHICKEN/BBQ PLATES 11AM - 2PM & 4 - 7PM
\$8.00 PER PLATE, BY LEON NIXON CATERING

Fun/Games JAH Lawn 10am-2pm
COMPETITION BEGINS 4PM
JAH ATHLETIC COMPLEX
\$7 per person. Children 6 & under Free

Good food
and musical
entertainment for all.

PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT JOHN A. HOLMES HIGH SCHOOL & CHOWAN MIDDLE SCHOOL BANDS