

CHOWAN HERALD

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County reaches deal with state on fixing discharge

BY REGGIE PONDER
Editor

Chowan County officials have agreed to move forward with a process to bring the county's water treatment plant into compliance with state regulators' requirements for the discharge of water from the treatment process.

Although the county's treated water meets state drinking water standards, the water discharged from the treatment process at the Valhalla plant into a nearby pond has been found by state environmental officials to be higher in some minerals than what is appropriate for groundwater.

For that reason, the state is call-

ing on the county to stop discharging the treatment by-product into stagnant water. A likely solution will be building a holding tank at the site and re-routing the discharge to a stream.

At its Sept. 6 meeting the Chowan County Board of Commissioners voted to enter in a Special Order by Consent with the state that requires

the county to meet a series of deadlines for planning and implementing a solution to the discharge problem.

Bill Diehl, a consulting engineer who has helped negotiate the terms of the SOC on behalf of the county, told the county commissioners that under the SOC the county will pay a one-time fine of \$5,000, with the state waiving further fines as long

as the county meets the deadlines established in the order.

The SOC requires the county to submit to the state a report on alternatives by July 2017. A comprehensive site assessment also will be required, which will be done by Greenville-based Groundwater

See WATER, 2A

COUNCIL PRESIDENT: TPP GOOD FOR PEANUT GROWERS

BY REGGIE PONDER
Staff Writer

The controversial Trans-Pacific Partnership has been panned by presidential candidates Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton but gets a vote of confidence from one of the nation's leading peanut marketing experts.

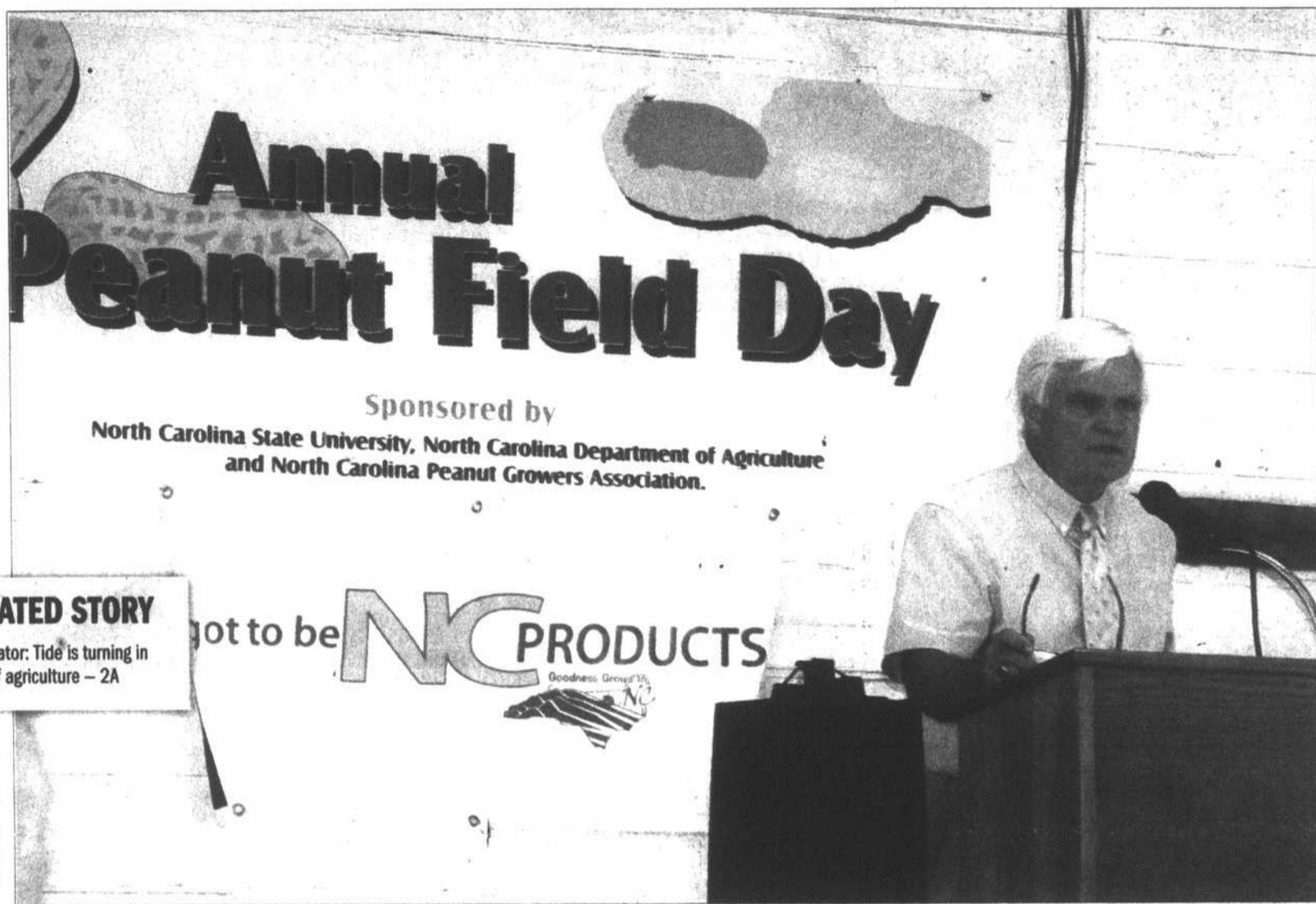
"The TPP is a great deal for American agriculture and a really good deal for U.S. peanuts in particular," American Peanut Council President Patrick Archer told the N.C. Peanut Growers Association last week at the association's annual membership meeting.

The meeting was held Thursday in conjunction with the Peanut Field Day at the Peanut Belt Research Station in Lewiston. The American Peanut Council represents peanut growers, shellers and manufacturers.

Archer said the Trans-Pacific Partnership has gotten a bad rap in this election cycle but offers promise to continue the expansion of American peanut exports to China, which totaled 150,000 metric tons in the first six months of this year.

T.R. "Dell" Cotton Jr., manager of the Peanut Growers Cooperative Marketing Association, in his remarks at the annual meeting agreed that China is becoming an increasingly important export market for American peanuts.

"I think everybody in our in-



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■ Senator: Tide is turning in favor of agriculture - 2A

Robert R. "Bob" Sutter, chief executive officer of the N.C. Peanut Growers Association, addresses the association's annual membership meeting Thursday in Lewiston.

dustry understands that China is going to be a big player in the U.S. over the long haul," Cotton said.

Archer said that in general

the export market for peanuts is very good.

Overall exports are up 85 percent this year, he said.

"Our export market has

never looked better," Archer said.

About a fourth of the peanuts grown in the United States are exported, accord-

ing to Archer.

Archer said that as recently as three years ago the United States exported very few peanuts to China. But now China

is the largest export market for American peanuts, he said.

See PEANUT, 2A

Ross speaks at opening of Chowan Democratic HQ

STAFF PHOTO BY REBECCA BUNCH

U.S. Senate hopeful Deborah Ross is introduced by Chowan Democratic Party Chair Bill Miller during a campaign appearance in Edenton on Thursday. Her visit coincided with the official opening of the local Democratic Party headquarters here.



BY REBECCA BUNCH
Staff Writer

During a campaign stop in Edenton Thursday afternoon that marked the official opening of the Chowan County Democratic Party headquarters, U.S. Senate hopeful Deborah Ross spoke about the urgent need to make sure citizens get registered and have the opportunity to vote.

"We need the callers and the haulers," she said. "There's a job for everybody. We are going to win in November."

In fact, Ross added, she was slightly ahead of her opponent, incumbent Sen.

Richard Burr, in the most recent polls. She predicted her support would only grow as a dedicated group of volunteers continues to work on her behalf.

"We have the enthusiasm factor," she told the lively crowd assembled to greet her.

She asked all her supporters to please roll up their sleeves and get to work on her behalf as she engages in a fast-paced campaign designed to garner her enough support to replace Burr in representing North Carolina at the national level. The stakes are high, Ross said, but the reward could be in

having a senator that actually believes in first-class constituent service and wants to represent all the people of the state.

"You know, this is the most important election we have had in decades," she said. "We have a lot of work to do to be successful."

Ross noted that she was no stranger to Edenton and had participated in a session of the North Carolina General Assembly held at the historic 1767 Chowan County Court house as a state representative. She added that she had long admired the town's "rich

See ROSS, 4A

Wings Over Edenton air show to be held Sept. 24

From staff reports

The 2016 version of the Wings Over Edenton air



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show will be held Sept. 24 at the Northeastern Regional Airport.

A highlight of the event will be free "Young Eagle" rides for children from 9 a.m. to noon.

The rides are presented by the Elizabeth City chapter of the Experimental Aircraft Association.

"It should be a fun day," said Mimi Reiheld, one of the organizers of the event.

There will be old aircraft on display, along with old cars and some radio-controlled aircraft.

American Legion Post 40 will have sandwiches for sale during the air show.

Audit: Clerk's office not compelling timely filings

BY REGGIE PONDER
Editor

The Chowan County Clerk of Court's Office was cited in a state audit earlier this year for not compelling the timely filing of estate inventories.

"The clerk's office did not compel the timely filing of estate inventories or collect estate fees in accordance with state law, resulting in a delay and possible loss in the collection of court costs and fees," the audit report states.

While Chowan Clerk of Court of Court Mike McArthur concurred with the audit finding and agreed to make changes to bring the office into full compliance, he also in a statement to the Chowan Herald this week attributed the audit finding to the office's effort to treat families with courtesy as they deal with the loss of family members.

"For 22 years I have assisted families during their most difficult times as they

See CLERK, 4A

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