

CHURCH BRIEFS

Edenton Church of God

An Inside Yard Sale will be held on Saturday, July 22 starting at 7 a.m. at the Edenton Church of God. There will be many items to choose from. Call 331-3998 for more info. Also, come join us July 23-26 for Revival Services featuring Evangelist Rev. Donald Gregory from Roanoke Rapids. Sunday's services will start at 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. The remaining services will be held starting at 7:30 p.m. nightly. The church is located on Johnston Street and everyone is welcome. Rev. Donald Sawyer is the host pastor.

Edenton United Methodist Church

Come join us at Edenton United Methodist Church for services on Sundays at 9 a.m. in our Family Life Center and at 11 a.m. in the sanctuary. Sunday School is at 10 a.m. for all ages. Nursery is provided for all services as well. Call 482-3269 for further information.

First Presbyterian Church

Everyone is welcome at First Presbyterian Church at the corner of West Queen and South Moseley Streets in Edenton. Sunday services begin at 11 a.m. Come join us for worship, fellowship and light refreshments.

Grace Community Church

We look forward to our first Vacation Bible School — Operation Arctic from Answers in Genesis in which we will uncover the coolest book on the planet — the Bible! Our opening event of July 30 at Grace Community Church on Soundside Road in Edenton will begin at 5 p.m. with a free hotdog grill and VBS registration. Each evening thereafter we will meet from 6-8:30 p.m. We can be reached at (252) 426-2511.

New Welch's Chapel

On Saturday, July 22, at 5 p.m., the men of New Welch's Chapel in Edenton will present

a program, "Men in White," featuring Clint Freeman and Unity of Merry Hill, NC. Come out and enjoy. Then, on Sunday, July 30 at 2 p.m. the church will begin revival services. Rev. Andre Powell of Lebanon Grove Missionary Baptist Church in Gatesville, NC will render the Sunday evening service. He will be accompanied by members of his church choir, ushers and church family. Dinner will be served following the service in the fellowship hall. Revival for the week at New Welch's Chapel will consist of three nightly services starting Wednesday, Aug. 2 and ending on Friday, Aug. 4. Rev. Alvin Boone of Melton Grove Missionary Baptist Church in Hertford will be the revivalist for the week. Various choirs will sing and services will begin at 7 p.m. each night.

Providence Missionary Baptist Church

Vacation Bible School will be held at

Providence Missionary Baptist Church on July 18-20 from 6-8 p.m. at 214 West Church Street in Edenton. Rev. John R. Shannon is the pastor.

Whosoever Will COGIC

Angela Welch and her daughter Kayla will be the featured speakers at the July 22 session of the I Am Somebody Youth Ministry. The meeting starts at 10 a.m. and will be held at the Whosoever Will Church of God in Christ, 4109 Walker Drive, where the Rev. Jerald Perry is pastor. Angela Welch is property manager for Waterford Place and Wedgewood Apts. And attends New Life Ministries. Kayla Welch is a senior at John A. Holmes High School and a member of the National Honor Society. She was the 2017 recipient of the Youth of the Year award presented by the Boys and Girls Club of Edenton/Chowan County. Come let us help you be the best you can be!

TRADITION

Continued from 1B

into basketball and track and field.

But in the back of my mind, there has always been a what if. What if I had played baseball or softball instead of basketball?

At some point in his life, my dad had a similar what

if moment. He was a jock in high school but also smart. As he recalled, he had college scouts actively recruiting him in wrestling and baseball. But he didn't feel like he fit in as an athlete nor as a smart kid. So, he gave up and for a while was neither. Then my aunt introduced her brother to my mom and things changed. It was too late to save his

high school sports career, but he found something more.

In telling me his high school story, my father was trying to keep me from following his path and giving up on my athletic abilities. He told me he wondered what would have happened if he kept true to himself and keep pursuing his passions back then. I didn't

listen to his speech as well as I probably should have. I did something quite similar to what he did. But I made a bit of a comeback. In 2012, I started running again. While I'm no Kara Goucher or Shalene Flanagan, I found a part of me that I lost.

Refinding that love continues to being me a lot of blessings. When my husband

asked me to throw out the first pitch for the Edenton Steamers game sponsored by the Daily Advance and the Chowan Herald, I didn't hesitate. I always wanted to participate at a baseball game. And now I have. My dad was watching from heaven — the best view at Historic Hicks Field.

I brought dad with me as I took a laminated card from

his funeral to the pitcher's mound. I brought him in the form of the practice pitches I sent to my 6-year-old son. I brought him in the eyes of my two oldest kids. They have my eyes — which are my dad's eyes.

The Steamers are a great team. If you haven't watched them yet this season, you should. It was an honor to throw out the first pitch.

Pettigrew Regional Library awarded two grants

From staff reports

Pettigrew Regional Library has been awarded two grants that will be available this summer. The first grant, written by Judi Bugniacet, the Director of Pettigrew Regional Library (PRL) is the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant for lifelong learning and literacy, totaling \$32,000.00. The grant will be used to purchase 6 laptops, a mobile charger

and a portable printer for each library in the Region, to be used for workforce development.

The libraries in Chowan County, Perquimans County, Tyrrell County and Washington County will be partnering with the North Eastern Workforce Development Board (NWDB) to provide computer training to library staff and our communities in order to help our patrons obtain jobs. The library staff will

be teaching resume courses, dressing for success and how to use the NC Works databases in order to help reduce joblessness in our counties.

LSTA grants are made possible through funding from the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act as administrated by

the State Library of North Carolina, a division of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources.

The second grant, also written by Judi Bugniacet, is a Cannon Foundation Grant to provide technology to the new library being built in Perquimans County. This grant, for \$75,000.00, was awarded to purchase computers, for adults, and children, pro-

jectors, TVs, an interactive display system for the computer room, and the software and installation of the technology. This will provide the technology needed for the computer room and the program room, both new services that will be offered in the library. This will allow the library to provide classes for local libraries given by the state library, as well as computer classes

for the patrons. The program room will be used for special events and regular programming by the library, on a larger scale than they have been able to provide in the past, for all ages.

The Pettigrew Regional Library is making every effort to bring new services to our libraries that will benefit our patrons, community and staff as a whole.

Soccer lads poised for 'game changer'

From staff reports

"Well doon, lads! One tooch, an' oof ya' goo." Coach Chris Whalley, with his bright up-tempo manner and thick English midlands accent, brought his considerable coaching skills to Edenton's Purser Soccer Complex last week. Coach Whalley also brought his considerable soccer resume. After playing with Nottingham Forest FC in his native land, he in 2009 coached Lees-MacRae College to a number one national ranking and the NCAA D II na-

tional championship game, and won National Coach of the Year Runner-up honors for his work. In 2014 he took the helm at the Chowan University soccer program and in two years led the team to a top-twenty-five national ranking, an NCAA tournament bid, and an NCAA Regional Championship.

Coach Whalley is self-effacing about his successes, but enthusiastic about imparting his soccer knowledge to his protégés. During the four day camp, he alter-

See SOCCER, 6B

RECREATION

Continued from 1B

call. Oh my, I was excited.

One week later my mother and I drove to Laurinburg, NC. At only two hours from my home town of Wilson, it was too far for me to drive by myself my parents thought. So off we went.

Upon arriving in Laurinburg, I dropped my mom off at the Taco Bell, and told her I should be back in about thirty minutes. Over two hours later I arrived back to pick her up excited about the opportunity ahead. I have over the top to arrive home to tell my dad I had been offered a job, before I even graduated. I finished the first summer session of classes at NC State, and completed my course work for graduation at Sand Hills Community College while working at the Director at the Scotland Place.

After marrying in October 1998, my husband and I decided Laurinburg was a bit too small for us. With only 15,000 in the town and more than that in the county, we wanted an area with a little more to offer and moved to Tuscaloosa, Alabama. After only two years there, I missed eastern NC and he

looked for employment in NC and VA.

We looked at a map of eastern NC, and both thought how lovely Edenton would be since it was surrounded by water. We came for a short visit in July 2000, and he stayed. I went back to Alabama to finish work and by September 2000 we were both settled in Edenton, NC.

I do see the irony in knowing that a town of 15,000 in 1998 was too small, but by 2000 a town of 5,000 was just big enough.

The staff at the Edenton-Chowan Recreation Department welcomed me as a volunteer in 2000, and offered me employment as the Center Director of the new Northern Chowan Community Center in 2001.

Life has moved fast and we have been making memories in Edenton ever since. We thought we would stay for three or four years. And seventeen years later we are still here, and I am still loving the profession of Parks and Recreation.

Join the staff from the department each week, as we offer the Recreation Round Up. Snapshots of your local recreation department staff, programs, photos, recaps, and upcoming events. ¶

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