

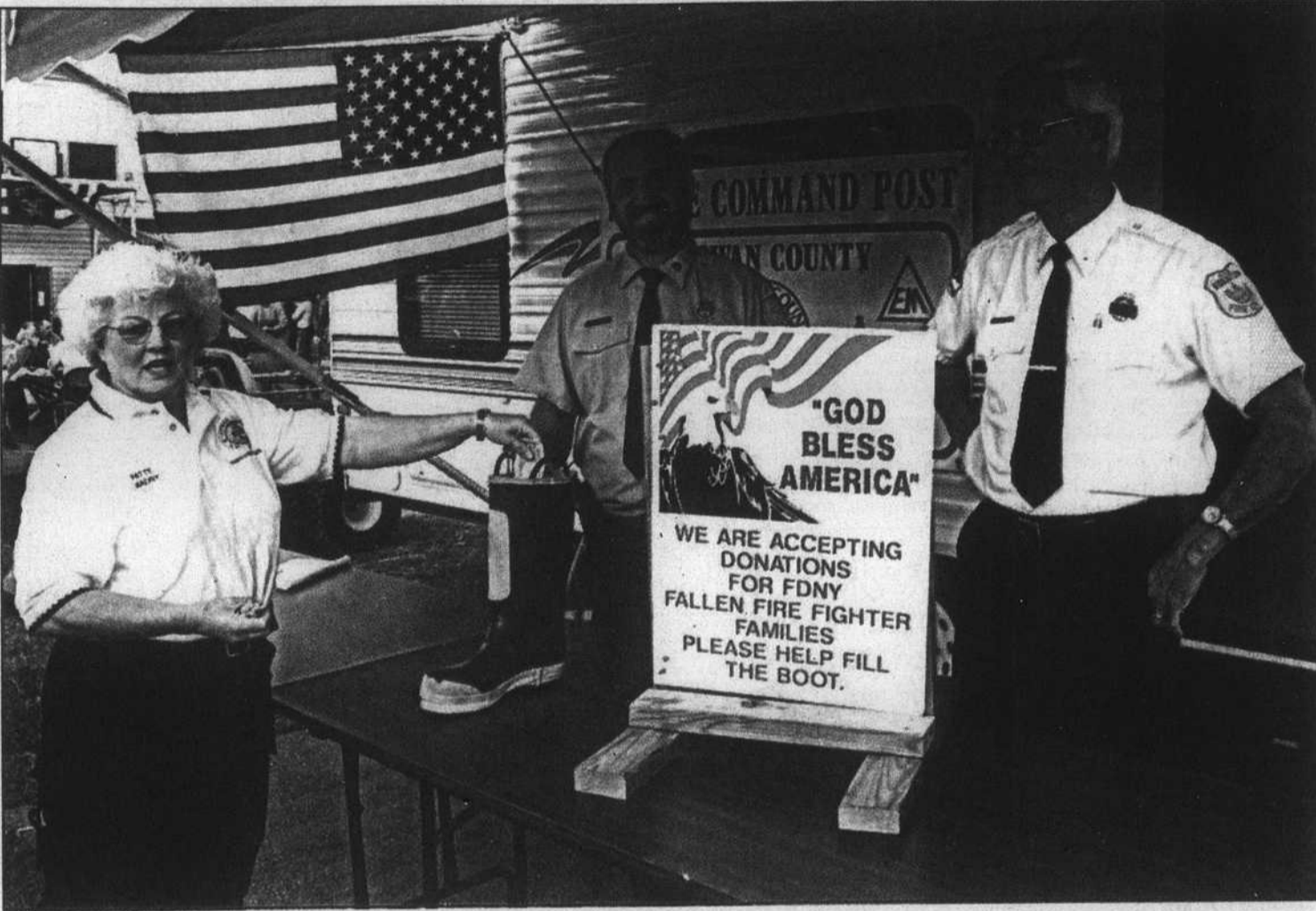
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THE CHOWAN HERALD

Vol. LXVIII, No. 46 Published in historic Edenton . . . The South's prettiest town. Single Copies 50¢



Council looks at ways to add parking spaces

BY REBECCA BUNCH
Editor

After more than a year of studying possible options, the Edenton Town Council last Tuesday evening adopted a resolution that outlined ways the town can add additional parking spaces in the downtown area. That plan involves reconfiguring two parking lots and increasing the number of off-street parking places.

According to information presented by Town Manager Anne-Marie Knighton, a study of existing downtown parking lots has shown that each lot could comfortably hold twice the number of vehicles that they presently accommodate.

The plan approved by council would add 40 additional parking spaces at Colonial Park on the downtown waterfront and an estimated 54 more

parking spaces behind Peebles Department Store.

This comes after an earlier possibility, constructing a downtown parking deck, was scrapped by council after it was deemed too expensive. The deck would have cost an estimated \$100,000.

Engineers studying the issue have also said they believe the town can gain an additional 22 spaces on West King Street. Knighton said adding 16 to 17 more spaces would probably be a more realistic number, as that would allow adequate space for automobiles to pass each other while parking.

At a council committee meeting in October, Knighton noted that "I think it will take a lot of pressure, off parking. It will help immensely, and will take pressure off the side streets where neighbors are having some concerns."

Chowan EMS holds fundraiser

Local fire and EMS personnel held a "fill the boot" fundraiser recently. According to Patty Madry (at left) the fundraiser was a joint effort on the part of Edenton Fire Department Station 1, Chowan County Fire Department Station 2, and Edenton Chowan Rescue/EMS. The departments collected \$1,753 that will be forwarded to the families of fallen firefighters in New York. Looking on as Madry bags a donation are firefighters Danny Dalton, at left, and Gary Swanner. (Staff photo by Helen Kerr Outland)

County commissioners receive update on pipeline project

BY HELEN KERR OUTLAND
Staff Writer

One of several important issues approached by Chowan County Commissioners during their Tuesday morning meeting was an update on the Natural Gas pipeline. The commissioners were presented with an update on the projected service areas in Phase I of the project. They also received an outline of the criteria utilized to determine service.

"Phase I of the project encompasses Edenton and the airport area," begins County Manager Cliff Copeland. "That includes the major industrial sites and some residences. Phase II will fall right in behind the completion of phase I."

According to the county there are criteria to be met, franchise issues, and evalua-

tion of residential areas to see if they are candidates. "This is an ongoing project," adds Copeland. "We do not want anyone to feel that lack of immediate activity in their neighborhood also means that the project has been completed. It is not like the water company, as a private company is providing the service." More work is slated for the spring.

The commissioners were updated as well on the issue of the May primary. According to the board the Senate has passed a bill for the extension of the primary from January to February. Although nothing is written in stone, the due process of the law surrounding the bill will involve and affect any major decision making at this time.

Commission Chairman Pete Dail was pleased to inform those present the North Caro-

lina Code Officials Qualifications Board has appointed Chowan County Building Inspector, Holly Colombo to its Mechanical and Plumbing Exams Revision Committees. "Holly is doing an exceptional job for Chowan County and is to be congratulated on the appointment," said Commissioner Dail. "This is a compliment to Holly and to Chowan County."

Chad Sary was introduced as new Planner for Chowan County. "We continually address the growth of Chowan County," Dail added. "And we are very pleased to have someone of his (Sary) caliber." Sary thanked the board for their vote of confidence saying, "I am glad to be here and my door is always open."

Dana Hamill from the See PROJECT On Page 7-A



County Manager Cliff Copeland explains the various phases of the natural gas pipeline project during Tuesday morning's county commissioners' meeting. (Staff photo by Helen Kerr Outland)

Christmas in Edenton: Revolutionary Holiday

(Editor's Note: An article pertaining to this year's Christmas Candlelight Tour appears in the holiday edition of the Coastwatch magazine. Excerpts are reprinted here with their permission. Copies of the edition are available for viewing at the Shepard-Pruden Library in downtown Edenton.)

BY PAM SMITH

On a brisk December morning in 1774, the mistress of the house busily plans for a festive holiday in the thriving colonial port of Edenton.

Anticipating the exchange of visits with families from plantations that ring the town, she's glad to have stocked up on staples before

the onset of bad weather. Early wintry storms blow trouble for ships entering the Albemarle Sound through the Roanoke Inlet to deliver goods from around the world. They also need favorable conditions to leave port weighed with naval stores and agricultural products from the region.

The mistress makes a mental list of dinner and party fare: The oysters will be harvested just in time to shuck and serve. The groaning board will be filled with smoked meats and fish, fresh game, sweet potatoes, greens, dried fruits, beaten biscuits — and sweets aplenty.

See HOLIDAY On Page 7-A

Gun locks promote safety

BY HELEN KERR OUTLAND
Staff Writer

The Chowan County Sheriff's Office recently announced their partnership with Project HomeSafe. Project HomeSafe is a nationwide program whose purpose is to promote safe firearms handling and secure storage practices among all firearms owner.

The project is funded by the National Shooting Sports Foundation in conjunction with a grant from the United States Department of Justice. HomeSafe has distributed more than three million gun-lock safety kits throughout the county.

"The Sheriff's Office is pleased to be partnered in this program," began Chowan County Sheriff Fred Spruill at Wednesday morning's presentation the Edenton Kiwanis

Club. "The gunlocks our agency has now, are free." The latest statistics pub-

lished by the Center for Disease Control states that the See LOCKS On Page 9-A



Sheriff Fred Spruill demonstrates the use of gun safety locks



Chad Sary

Planner hired here

BY HELEN KERR OUTLAND
Staff Writer

Chad Sary's desk is piled high with legal books, papers, and framed diplomas. He has been in his new office for two days and trying to get settled. Sary has been hired as the new County Planner for Chowan County and is also glad to be

See PLANNER On Page 8-A

Happy Thanksgiving To All

