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THE CHOWAN HERALD

Vol. LXIX, No. 47

Published in historic Edenton . . . The South's prettiest town.

Single Copies 50¢



Barker House to be tour headquarters

The Barker House, located on the downtown Edenton waterfront, will serve as headquarters for this year's Christmas Candlelight Tour, set for Friday, Dec. 13 and Saturday, Dec. 14 from 4-8 p.m. An Old-Fashioned Oyster Roast being held both nights of the tour, will be held on the grounds there. For more information on this year's tour see the Albemarle Magazine inserted in this week's Chowan Herald. Tour and oyster roast ticket info is available by calling the Barker House historic site at (252) 482-7800.

Town council okays cellular tower lease

BY REBECCA BUNCH
Editor

If you've been frustrated by the quality of your cell phone reception, help may be on the way.

In an Oct. 24 memo to the mayor and town council, Town Manager Anne-Marie Knighton noted that in recent months she had written letters to U.S. Cellular and Alltel "complaining on behalf of the many citizens who have complained to us about the poor cellular coverage in Edenton." Knighton noted in the memo that as a result of these letters, her office had been contacted by U.S. Cellular which had expressed interest in obtaining a lease agreement to install a 20-foot antenna on the town's Park Avenue water tower.

At last Tuesday night's town council, U.S. Cellular reps Sam Hughes and Colleen Shepherd made a presentation on their

company's proposed plan to provide better cellular reception to their customers in the community.

Under the terms of the proposed agreement which was approved by the council, U.S. Cellular would pay \$1,200 a month for a five-year renewable contract. In response to a question from Councilman Steve Biggs, Hughes said the company anticipates renewing at least every five years for the next 30 years.

Hughes added that the town would be consulted on all phases of the project and that her firm understood its contract would allow it non-exclusive rights to use the tower, meaning that other firms would also be able to place equipment there if they wished.

Knighton noted that under the current plan, two or three more attachments to the tower would be possible.

Suspect charged with burglary

BY HELEN K. OUTLAND
Staff Writer

An unsuccessful attempt to rob BB&T in Edenton early Sunday morning resulted in the arrest of an Edenton man.

At about 5:30 a.m. Edenton Police Officers Steven White and Dennis Smith responded to an alarm call at the BB&T Bank located at 322 South Broad St. in Edenton. Upon arrival Officer White observed 23-year-old Roshawn Gibson, of 502 West Albemarle Street, standing next to an exterior wall of the bank. White and Smith immediately apprehended Gibson.

A subsequent search of the suspect revealed he had in his possession a bag contain-

ing burglary tools. As officers began a search of the area they discovered a second level doorway to the bank had been demolished.

"From there it appears the suspect traveled to the first floor of the bank," said Edenton Police Chief Greg Bonner. Officers discovered that the doors of two safes and the main bank vault found on the first level had sustained damage. Officers also discovered that the bank's alarm system had sustained damage. "It appears that the suspect did gain access to an area of the bank where small amounts of change and cash were kept," added Chief Bonner.

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Jamel R. Boyce



Kenneth T. Holley



Franklin S. Jones

Three are being sought

BY HELEN K. OUTLAND
Staff Writer

According to Edenton Chief of Police Greg Bonner his department has issued warrants for three individuals. Two of those are sought as the result of a shooting. A third is being sought on robbery charges.

According to Chief Bonner on November 1, at approximately 9:30 p.m. an employee of First Southern Cash Advance, 1316 North Broad Street, was preparing to make a deposit into a night drop box when he was attacked and the deposit bag he was carrying was stolen. "This individual had driven to a local bank and

was about to drop a money bag into the night drop box when the theft occurred," says Chief Bonner. "According to the victim, a black male, wearing dark clothing and a mask, approached him and a struggle ensued over the money bag." The victim further related to

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Bunch receives ad award

Sue Bunch of the Chowan Herald in Edenton has won second place in the North Carolina Statewide Classified Advertising Contest. Ms. Bunch has worked for the Chowan Herald since 1968.



Bunch

The ad contest, for the Fall 2002 Back to School, ran for eight weeks starting the week of September 9 and running through October 28, 2002. Each sale representative earned a \$25 and a gold star for each new business advertiser and new business ad renewal submitted during the contest.

The listed participants gen-

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Animal Shelter adds runs to serve tri-county area

BY HELEN K. OUTLAND
Staff Writer

For Mary Bass and her staff at the Chowan-Gates-Perquimans Animal Shelter the days start early and often run late. Earlier this year the Chowan Gates Shelter also took on the responsibility of animal control in Perquimans County.

Gates and Perquimans have one Animal Control Officer in each of their counties.

The shelter in Chowan has their hands full. But, everything that can be done for animals brought to the shelter is done. Euthanasia, although unavoidable, is a last resort. "I don't do this job for the pay," says Bass "And it breaks my heart every time we have to euthanize a cat or a dog. If people think we don't have a heart, they are sadly mis-



Animal Control Officer Mary Bass greets Marty

taken."

Bass and her staff show the heart put into their jobs as they go that extra mile to make sure the animals receive the very best while in their care. Every resource at their disposal is utilized. "This job is not 9 to 5, Monday through Friday," Bass says. "It is Monday to Monday, 24-7."

It would be simple enough for the animal shelter to pick up strays, abandoned, or abused cats and dogs and put them down, but the staff goes well beyond simplicity. Their extra efforts are not part of their job description. "For instance we go to schools and do programs on animal care and responsibilities," adds Bass. She says that the education process has started in Perquimans with after-school presentations.

Bass also maintains a record of breed specific adoption organizations across the country. These organizations can find and place the dogs with people who understand the breeds such as German Shepherds and Rottweilers. The same effort is put into finding homes for the Heinz 57 varieties. At present, there is one pure bred dog in her care, found roaming loose, that will require breed knowledgeable owners. "This is a wonderful dog and would not have survived long," says Bass. "Nor does the dog need to be adopted out to just any setting." Bass will find the right place for the purebred.

"There are many things that people can do to ensure the safety and protection of their dogs and cats so they do not end up in a similar situation,"

says Bass. "They can spay or neuter their pets and help ease the heartbreak of this job." Bass goes on to explain about a new tracking device called Microchip that can be placed under the skin of a pet with a simple injection process. It can be used to help locate pets should they wonder off or be stolen. "It is a fairly inexpensive device," she says. "When an animal is rescued by us, or shows up in a vets office, they can be scanned and the implanted chip will reveal information on the dog, who owns it and where it comes from. We want to get these babies back home."

Although Bass deals regularly with stray animals, she all too often has to deal with animals that have been ne-

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Be Sure To Check Out The **The CHOWAN Herald** *The Albemarle magazine* Historic Edenton Featuring Historic Edenton's Candlelight Tour