

THE CHOWAN HERALD

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Snowfall brings freezing weather, but few mishaps

BY REBECCA BUNCH
Editor

While local residents struggled with below-freezing temperatures that resulted in frozen pipes at their homes, and the inconvenience of driving on snowy roads, overall, according to Chowan County Emergency Services Director Doug Belch, "Good common sense was used (in dealing with the situation) last week."

Belch said that it was apparent people here took the weather forecasts concerning the impending snowstorm seriously, and made the appropriate advance preparations.

"They prepared well in advance of the storm, going to the grocery store, making sure they had enough heating oil, etc.," he added. "After the snow fell people stayed home, they



A solitary park bench (above) covered with snow awaits warmer weather and visitors to Edenton's Courthouse Green, as the historic Chowan County Courthouse stands watch in the background (photo courtesy of Nancy H. Smith); at left, onlookers bundled up to watch a wrecker pull an overturned truck belonging to Nixon's Fishery from a ditch on a snowy Chowan County road during last week's snowstorm which brought frigid temperatures and lots of snowfall to Edenton and Chowan County. (Staff photo by Mia Noble) Related snow photos on page A-7.



were off the roads and this reduced the chances of anyone being injured. Even kids that got out and played in the snow appeared to stay close to home."

Belch went on to say that while there were some traffic accidents resulting from the hazardous driving condi-

tions, there were no fatalities. "We did have a couple of wrecks, but no one was seriously injured. Overall, I would have to say that the general public prepared very well and took heed of the weather advisories they were hearing."

Chowan County Manager

Cliff Copeland praised county workers who responded quickly and efficiently when called upon for assistance.

"All our county agencies performed well with the adverse conditions," Copeland said, "and continued to provide essential services to our residents."

"Our 911 Center, Sheriff's Office, and our two fire departments, Center Hill Crossroads Fire Department and the Edenton Fire Department, never closed. Also, our wafer department continues to address the many leaks caused by last week's frigid temperatures," he said.

Town Council votes to delay utility rate hike

In light of the extremely cold weather being experienced locally, the Edenton Town Council voted Monday night to delay a planned 2.5% retail electric rate increase for one month.

Instead of going into effect Feb. 1 for energy consumption during the month of January, the rate increase will be deferred until March 1.

The council decided instead to utilize an appropriation slated to go into the Rate Stabilization Fund. That fund serves as a reserve to help offset rate increases.

"Established several years ago, the fund was tapped into last winter to offset a wholesale rate in-

crease for approximately six months," said Town Manager Anne-Marie Knighton.

Councilman Willis Privott described the delay as "an act of compassion" by the council. "We know our rates are high, and a rate increase on top of the coldest month in years would have been a real hardship on our customers," he said.

Councilman Jimmy Stallings said that using the funds earmarked for a future rate increase now makes good sense. "The purpose of the Rate Stabilization Fund to offset rate increases. Let's use the funds now and give our citizens a bit of a break," he said.

Las Vegas Night rolls in Feb. 7th

If you'd like to enjoy a fun-filled evening of games, delicious foods and the chance to win a Las Vegas hotel and airfare package, all for the price of a \$50 ticket, mark your calendar for the Chowan Regional Health Care Foundation's "Las Vegas Night" fundraiser on Friday, February 7.

Scheduled from 7 p.m. until midnight at the National Guard Armory in Edenton the fundraiser will benefit charitable projects directed at improving the health status of residents served by the medical community of Chowan County. Call the Foundation office at 252-482-6440 to reserve your place.

The event price of \$50 includes a light supper of delicious foods provided by our talented local restaurants, chefs and caterers, and three hours of fun games managed

by a professional event company. At 10:00PM, more action begins with a raffle and a Live Auction conducted by Wallace Evans.

Some of the Raffle and Auction items include a 2-hour Sunset Dinner Cruise on the Albemarle Sound courtesy of Edenton Cruises and catered by Nancy Hagen, painted piece of furniture by Debbie Boyle, Decorating Package courtesy Regan Cox, Pat's Upholstery and Edenton Dyeing and Finishing, Day of Beauty includes facial courtesy of Julie Spivey, Beautiful - U, foiling, haircut and style courtesy of Lori Knapp, Kuttin Up, one-hour massage courtesy Dawn Forehand, Life's Balance and manicure and pedicure courtesy of June Pierce, 16" x 20" portrait courtesy of Precious Moments

See VEGAS On Page 3-A



Job Fair held here

Area residents fill out paperwork during a Job Fair sponsored by the George C. Moore Company at the COA Chowan County Center in Edenton last Saturday. Company officials were on hand to talk with potential new employees about the company's products and needs. The event was co-sponsored by the Northeast Partnership, the Edenton-Chowan Chamber of Commerce, COA and the Employment Security Commission. (Staff photo by Bud Weagly)

Herald wins press award

The Chowan Herald has been named recipient of a second place award in the Best Special Section category of the annual North Carolina Press Association competition for "Celebration," its salute to noteworthy African American citizens from our community.

"This award is particularly meaningful to us because 'Celebration' allowed us to profile so many individuals who have made a difference in the quality of life here in Chowan County," said Herald Editor Rebecca Bunch.

"Our staff worked very hard to produce this outstanding piece of work," said Publisher David Crawley. "We are honored to receive this award."

'Operation Toasty Toes' supports overseas troops

BY REBECCA BUNCH
Editor

* Susan Campbell of Edward G. Bond American Legion Auxiliary Unit 40 is a woman with a mission. She is currently seeking local volunteers to help support the work of Operation Toasty Toes, an effort to show our support for our men and women serving in the military overseas.

"Operation Toasty Toes involves the making of hand-made knitted and crocheted slippers and/or ear warmers for our Armed Forces stationed overseas," explained Campbell. "It gives average citizens a grassroots way to aid our troops in America's fight against terrorism."

Campbell said that the campaign was begun several years ago by Mrs. Irene Silliman of

Madison, OH, a 76-year-old grandmother, who received a letter from her grandson David, a U.S. Navy serviceman. In it, he told her how cold his feet were, and asked if she could make him and a few of his friends slippers like the ones she had created years ago for her own husband, when he was a POW in Korea. Silliman got together with two friends and they sent 100 pairs to her grandson's ship. The slippers proved so popular that David soon wrote again, asking for 220 additional pairs so that the remaining crewmembers on the ship could also have a pair of the warm slippers. Silliman solicited the aid of 50 family and friends, making a commitment to send 1,000 pairs within six weeks, and they did.

The campaign originated by Silliman and her friends has

now expanded to encompass seven chapters making the slippers and more than 200 Auxiliary units assisting in whatever way they can.

"This can be our way of showing our support in Chowan County, too," Campbell said. "Let's show the other counties in North Carolina that we might be small but we can do the job, too!"

Patterns for the slippers are available by contacting Susan Campbell at (252) 482-2386, who notes that these patterns are the only ones being accepted because they will ensure at least 100 to 125 pairs per box.

Campbell notes that the Armed Forces are encouraging the use of bright colors, considering this a morale booster.

Financial donations are also being accepted for the project.

LAS VEGAS NIGHT

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2003

7 - 10 pm - (Gaming, Silent Auction, Light Supper) 10 - 12 pm - (Live Auction of great prizes)

National Gaurd Armory

\$50⁰⁰ per ticket per person,
call 482-6440 for more information

To benefit charitable projects of the Chowan Regional Health Care Foundation

\$50 per person includes a chance to win a TRIP to LAS VEGAS! Some Live auction prizes include: Trip to New York with Lion King Tickets, dinner, airfare & Hotel; Beauty Packages, Decorating Package, Dinner Party, Catered Sunset Cruise, Portrait, and much more.