

# THE CHOWAN HERALD

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## Burglar is caught on tape

### Drug suspects also charged

BY SEAN JACKSON  
The Chowan Herald

A Durham man was arrested Sept. 15 on burglary charges after Edenton police recognized him from a local eatery's surveillance videotape that showed the man allegedly robbing the restaurant after hours.

Police Chief Greg Bonner said Monday that his officers tracked down David Wayne Richardson, 37, at an Edenton motel after recognizing him from the tape. Richardson was charged with felony breaking and entering, felony larceny, and felony possession of stolen property.



Richardson

He was jailed at the Chowan County Detention Facility under a \$50,000 secured bond. He was also placed under a \$5,000 bond stemming from charges filed against him in Orange County, Bonner added.

"I just commend the officers for a job well done," the chief Monday of the investigating officers, which included Det. Sgt. Rhonda Copeland, Det. Aaron Davidson, and Sgt. Tim Hickman.

Bonner said Richardson had been staying at the Colonial Motel for about a month, and had allegedly robbed a number of local businesses. Stolen property, including cash and coins, was recovered during the arrest.

Richardson has already had his first court appearance and is now awaiting a probable cause hearing, the chief added.

Chief Bonner also said Monday that a two men were recently arrested on drug-related charges. The arrests came after routine check by Edenton police of a trio of men hanging out at Tyler Run. The third man was not charged by police.

Marcus Antonio Logan, 18, of 234-F Happy Home Road, Tyner, and Dexter Jermell White, also 18, of Edenton, were arrested on Sept. 8 after police Officer Joseph Felton

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## Rose named Teacher of the Year

BY GLENDA JAKUBOWSKI  
Edenton-Chowan Schools

The Edenton-Chowan school system is proud to name Chowan Middle School teacher Molli Rose as its 2005-2006 Teacher of the Year.

"I know the selection panel members must have found it

hard to pick just one teacher from the pool of exceptional candidates they met with," said Edenton-Chowan Schools superintendent Allan T. Smith. "We were guaranteed, with these candidates, to have the best of the best represent us as Teacher of the Year. Molli will bring her love of children and

her phenomenal teaching skills with her as our school system ambassador as she moves forward in the Teacher of the Year selection process. We are very proud of her."

Rose's fellow candidates for the county Teacher of the Year

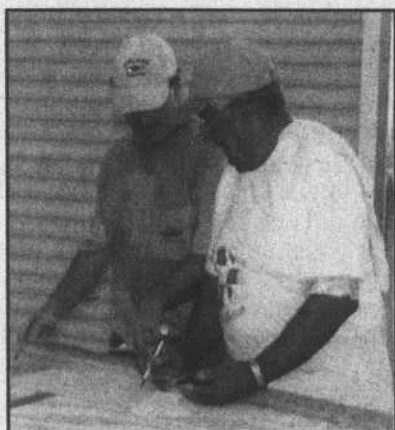
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Supt. Allan Smith, left, congratulates Teacher of the Year Molli Rose (beside Smith) and her fellow nominees.

GLENDA JAKUBOWSKI PHOTO

## Local residents have responded to the fervent pleas for help along the Gulf Coast in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina



## Pay it Forward

BY AMELIA T. REIHELD & FATHER AL NARVAEZ  
Special to The Chowan Herald

Imagine, if you will, that a Category 5 hurricane has barreled up the Albemarle Sound, and slammed into Edenton, pushing a 35-foot storm surge ahead of its 200 mph winds.

Imagine further, that the entire historic district is leveled, with not a single building left on its foundations from Water Street to Queen Street. Imagine that there's not a single usable building for as far back as Albemarle Street. Imagine that everything left standing, even miles inland, has extensive damage from wind, rain, contaminated floodwater, mold, and mildew. The remaining houses shelter several families each. Nearly all the stores, gas stations, and churches and hospitals are closed or severely damaged. Most tapwater is undrinkable. There are few air conditioners working. Now, imagine this sort of damage in a swath extending all the way from Elizabeth City to Rocky Mount, to the Virginia state line and beyond.

That's what the people of coastal Mississippi are dealing with. A hundred thousand people have lost everything they owned, from baby pictures to bowling trophies, from family heirlooms to the brand new car. The insurance settlements will take weeks, perhaps months. Many people lacked sufficient insurance coverage, and many will find what they thought was wind damage ruled to be flood damage, and thus not covered by their homeowner's policy. Worse yet, just because the house is gone and the car destroyed, doesn't mean the payments for them aren't still

due on the first of the month.

It was a heartbreaking scene that greeted the sixteen Edenton residents who went to Long Beach, Mississippi last week. In a trip organized by St. Paul's Episcopal Church and St. Anne's Catholic Church, the group went to help out in a relief center operated by Mississippi's Lutheran-Episcopal Disaster Relief organization. We saw hundreds of people filing into the Coast Episcopal School, each hoping to find some basic toiletries, some food, and medical care, as their homes, doctors' offices, drugstores, and grocery stores were flattened.

The elementary school had opened its doors almost before the rain had quit, to house a clinic staffed by doctors and nurses from Duke University. The word had gone out around the nation, and donations were pouring in by the 18-wheeler-load. Diapers, paper towels, and toilet paper were stacked to the ceiling. Canned goods, toys, snacks, breakfast foods, baby foods, soap, shampoo, tooth brushes, used and new clothing, cleaning supplies, rakes and shovels, all arrived faster than they could be sorted and distributed.

Volunteers from as far away as northern Canada came with sleeping bags and work boots, to sleep on classroom floors, to help clear brush, to help with the food distribution, and to help those who were wearing all they had left in the world, find a pair of shoes that fit.

Clergy from all over the U.S. were there offering prayers, hugs and consolation. And in many cases, the workers who were there from dawn to dusk, helping to unpack and distribute the do-

See KATRINA On Page A2

Mimi Reiheld Photos: (at left) Larry McLaughlin and Father Al Narvaez of Edenton build a door for the Mississippi clinic's new storage building; (at right) A lifetime's work and memories, gone with the wind. This resident has just rescued all that's left of his small electrical contracting business - a hammer and a step ladder.

## Chowan tax rates to rise

### County faces first re-evaluation since 1998

BY SEAN JACKSON  
The Chowan Herald

Property owners in Edenton and Chowan should brace for a rise in the tax value of their homes and farmlands next year.

During a presentation to the Edenton Town Council during that board's Sept. 13 regular meeting, County Tax Supervisor Lynda Hendricks told town officials that a recently completed revaluation of all real property in the town and county indicated that prices for homes sold is outrunning the current tax values established in 1998.

Hendricks pointed out the disparity in sale and tax value numbers by showing council the costs of 19 homes and business properties sold over the past couple of years.

"Sometimes it's close," Hendricks said, "sometimes it's a tremendous difference."

Examples of that difference included:

- A home on Twiddy Avenue with a tax value of \$50,606 that sold for \$91,000, or 44 percent higher than the tax value;
- A Boswell Street home sold in September 2003 with a tax value of \$44,411 that sold for \$85,000, a 48-percent difference;
- A home in the Cotton Mill Village valued at \$72,518 that sold for \$145,000, a 50-percent difference;
- A Queen Street home valued at \$44,000 that sold for \$150,000, a 71-percent difference;

The tax value/sales cost range was only 15 percent different at a North Broad Street residence (valued at \$59,328) that sold for \$70,000.

"That person (who sold the home) was staying pretty close to the tax value," Hendricks added.

Hendricks said that local governments — which impose property tax rates under state statutes — could lower the tax rate after revaluations of fair market value rates boost the value of homes and farmlands.

Notices of the new property value schedule could begin being sent out by Nov. 3, Hendricks said. The new appraisal values, set to be "on the books" by Jan. 1, would be due on Jan. 5, 2007, she added.

Pearson Appraisal Services Inc. of Richmond Va. conducted the revaluation.

The new property values are expected to put similar homes at similar values throughout Edenton and Chowan County, Hendricks said.

"It equalizes the tax burden," she added.

The revaluation process is required under state law.

"It's not because we want to," perform re-evaluations, Hendricks said, "it's because we have to."

In other business, council took no action of a request for a conditional use permit by Lloyd Griffin Jr. to have his property on Whitemon Lane designated for the subdivision of commercial lots.

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In the mood for  
Fair Food



Staff photo by Earline White

A message on the marquee lets passersby know that Taylor Theatre has closed for repairs once again. The theatre hopes to reopen within the next two weeks.

## Taylor Theatre down, not out

BY EARLINE WHITE  
The Chowan Herald

It took them over a year to recover from Hurricane Isabel and it seemed that things at the Taylor Theatre were well on their way to normal. But one year after their long-awaited reopening Taylor Theatre's marquee is once again dark.

Moviegoers may have taken notice that over the past few weeks Hollywood's premiering movies were being shown on only one of the theatre's two screens. The roofing that had been peeled back like a sardine can during Isabel had once

again been shaken loose by strong winds. The ceiling had fallen in on one side of the theatre, Chowan County Planning Director Elizabeth Bryant said, therefore posing a possible threat to patrons. The screening room on the left of the theatre was then closed for repairs while the one on the right remained operational for the showing of summer blockbusters.

Last week the repair work on the left screening room was complete and ready for approval when Inspector Holly Columbo pointed out that the plaster on the original ceiling,

which stretches the expanse of the entire theatre, also needed repairs above the neighboring screening room. Currently, crews are working on repairing the other screening room as well as completing some measures of preventative maintenance.

As of press time the owner of the theatre, Bob Krochmal, had not asked for a follow-up inspection on the repairs, and could not be reached for comment. However Taylor Theatre's answering service states that a reopening should take place within the next two weeks.