



Raid nets \$17K in drugs

Trio face charges for cocaine, ecstasy

By RITCHIE E. STARNES
Chowan Herald

EDENTON — Law enforcement officials arrested three people and seized more than \$17,000 in drugs during a raid on two residences earlier this week. Deputies with the Chowan County Sheriff's Office

and agents with the State Bureau of Investigation and the N.C. Division of Alcohol Law Enforcement stormed both homes simultaneously around 7 p.m. last

"This was two separate investigations that collided into one."

Sheriff Dwayne Goodwin

Wednesday night, Chowan Sheriff Dwayne Goodwin said.

At 224 Happy Home Road,

See BUST on Page 3A



CHOWAN HERALD PHOTO BY RITCHIE E. STARNES

Law enforcement authorities seized 5 ounces of crack cocaine, 300 tablets of ecstasy and an undisclosed amount of cash in a pair of drug raids in Chowan County, Wednesday night.

Woman found dead outside

From staff reports

An elderly woman was found dead outside her Horniblow Point Road home early Monday morning, according to Chowan County Sheriff Dwayne Goodwin.

Sanitation workers found the body of Ruth Burnett Phillips, 89, outside her 138 Horniblow



Phillips

Point Road home shortly after 8 a.m., Goodwin said.

Goodwin said no foul play is suspected. Deputies will have to wait on the results of an autopsy for a cause of death.

Goodwin did not know how long the woman had been outside. He said she was wearing casual clothes at the time. Someone had last talked to her on Sunday.

The victim was the surviving wife of the late Al Phillips, a former chairman of the Board of Commissioners.

Holmes' Lassiter named Regional Teacher of Year

From staff reports

John A. Holmes High School business teacher Vann Lassiter was named Regional Teacher of the Year.

Lassiter's honor makes him a candidate for the state Teacher of the Year for 2010-11. The announcement came during a surprise presentation at Monday night's school board meeting held at Chowan Middle School.

Lassiter will advance to state competition later this spring as one of eight teachers representing education regions across the state.

"We couldn't be more proud of Vann," said Superintendent Allan Smith. "He is an outstanding teacher who is passionate about his students and community and he is dedicated to providing unique learning opportunities for our students."

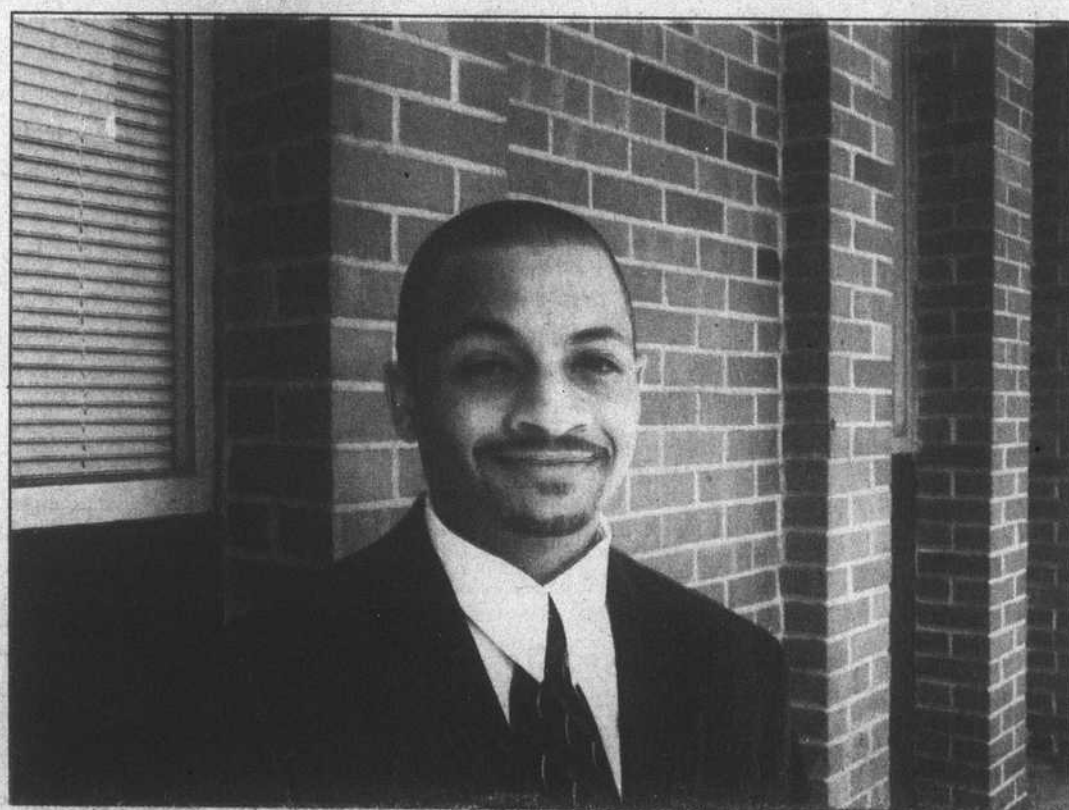
"He is a model for his profession and a role model for his students and colleagues," he added. "His energy and enthusiasm is inspiring for any young person aspiring to become a teacher."

On hand to congratulate Lassiter was Jessica Garner, reigning N.C. Teacher of the Year.

A product of the Edenton-Chowan school system, Lassiter, 25, is now in his fourth year of teaching at the high school. His focus is on digital communications and computer applications.

A North Carolina Teaching Fellow, Lassiter graduated from N.C. State University with a B.S. degree in business and marketing education. He later earned a Masters in curriculum and instruction at

See LASSITER on Page 2A



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Vann Lassiter, a business teacher at John A. Holmes High School, has been named Regional Teacher of the Year. His nomination makes him a candidate for State Teacher of the Year for 2010-11. Lassiter's selection was announced as a surprise at Monday's Edenton-Chowan Schools Board of Education meeting.

Community leader Livy Goodman dies

From staff reports

For the second time in less than a week of the new year, the town of Edenton has lost another of its leaders with last Wednesday's death of Livingstone "Livy" Taylor Goodman at age 86.

After moving to Edenton in 1985, Goodman embraced his new home by volunteering for various civic organizations. Not long after his arrival, he was elected to the Town Council for two terms.

"He once said to me 'everywhere you go you should work to make things better than when you found them,'" said John Dowd, former Edenton mayor and Goodman's good friend.

In addition to his 1987-1993 stint as a councilman, Goodman also served as chairman on the Edenton Preservation Committee from '99-'03, and the board of directors for the Edenton Steamers Foundation. He was also an active member of St. Paul's Episcopal Church.

Goodman was passionate



Livy Goodman

about the upcoming restoration of the 1886 Roanoke River Lighthouse and positive impact it would have on Edenton's heritage tourism.

"Livy was a giver, not a taker," said Olin Sykes, who worked with Goodman on the Edenton-Chowan Foundation. "Ever since he moved here, he has been giving back to the community and church. He never expected anything in return."

Dowd described Goodman as emotionally stoic, while always furiously productive.

See GOODMAN on Page 2A

Parvo outbreak infects pet

Animal shelter did not know of virus

By Rebecca Bunch
Staff Writer

Bringing home a cute puppy during the holidays can seem like a good idea, but that isn't always the case as one local pet owner learned.

Around Christmastime Donna Kennedy of Arrowhead Beach adopted a mixed breed puppy from the Tri-County Animal Shelter. When she took it home, the puppy, that she named Foxy, seemed healthy and happy.

Kennedy took photos of Foxy dressed in reindeer antlers, and let the puppy spend time with family and other pets in the house.

But her joy turned to concern days later when the puppy began showing signs of illness.

See PARVO on Page 3A



SUBMITTED PHOTO

This puppy, Foxy, was adopted during the Christmas holidays from the Tri-County Animal Shelter. The dog appears healthy and happy in this photo; however, days later the dog fell ill and was euthanized after testing positive for the Parvo virus.

County move expected to hurt downtown

Existing building could face demolition

By RITCHIE E. STARNES
Editor

News that Chowan County employees will be vacating the county office building has left many to worry about the financial impact on downtown Edenton and the future of the 84-year-old structure.

Downtown leaders fear the employee relocation will likely contribute to a significant

loss of downtown commerce. Historical preservationists worry that a closed building could lead to the demolition of a structure that shares in local historical significance.

County commissioners unanimously approved Jan. 4 the board's planning and enterprise committee's recommendation to proceed with the office consolidation.

Plans include that the first floor offices be vacated by November with those offices moving to the county's Public Safety Center. As many as 15

employees will be relocated by November with the relocation of the county manager's office, finance director, tax office, planning and inspections, and water department. The remaining offices would vacate by the end of 2011.

"I think losing anyone from downtown has an impact," said Jennifer Moore, Destination Downtown director. "We're such a small town, losing anyone matters. When you're there all day, you have

See MOVE on Page 2A

Schools' budget needed sooner

By Rebecca Bunch
Staff Writer

Superintendent Allan Smith briefed members of the school board Monday night on plans to revise the school system's timeline for submitting its budget to the county.



Smith

Smith said the action was being taken due to Chowan County's effort to create an earlier 2010-2011 budget.

"Since our budget priorities must first account for cost increases beyond the board's control and restoration of cuts in local appropriations, the process will be more centralized this year," Smith said.

Smith said he, in consultation with school principals and key system-level staff, would "create a series of budget options

See BUDGET on Page 3A



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