



Golden LEAF hears final pitches

11 projects vie for \$2M

By RITCHIE E. STARNES
Editor

One final pitch to Golden LEAF officials left 11 finalists excited about their respective chances to secure project funding.

Last Wednesday ap-

plicants appeared before Golden LEAF leaders at the non-profit's Rocky Mount office where they made last ditch presentations while also fielding questions about their projects. All of the Chowan County entities hope to secure funding from the Golden LEAF Community Assistance Initiative.

"I think everybody did

an excellent job of presenting their cases. They left everything on the court," said Dan Gerlach, Golden LEAF president.

Applicants were given only four minutes to make their final pitch, followed by a series of questions from Golden LEAF staffers and a board member.

"As the meeting unfolded it became quite clear

that each of the Chowan presenters were well versed in their subject and since there were in-depth questions on each proposal it was a great opportunity to clarify anything that remained unclear," said Cy Rich, chairman of the Edenton Chowan Partnership and one of the applicants.

Golden LEAF's feedback

left project representatives optimistic about their prospects.

"The presentations went very well," said Edenton Chowan Schools' Superintendent Allan Smith. "Strong arguments were given for each of the 11 proposals. The feedback from Golden LEAF staff and board member was positive. Hopefully, Golden

LEAF will be able to fund all of the Chowan County proposals."

Golden LEAF has earmarked as much as \$2 million in funding toward assisting Chowan County's economic development. At \$2.3 million, the 11 proposals exceed the financial commitment.

See PITCHES, 2A

HONORING THE FALLEN



STAFF PHOTO BY REBECCA BUNCH

Members of the North Carolina Chapter of Rolling Thunder display a POW-MIA flag that was later presented to surviving family members of the late Cpl. William Coffield, the first Chowan County casualty of World War II. The ceremony was held at American Legion Post 40, Sunday.

Trust listing could aid Kadesh repairs

Damages caused by Hurricane Isabel

By REBECCA BUNCH
Staff Writer

The Town Council unanimously passed a resolution that could lead to additional resources for the restoration of Kadesh A.M.E. Zion.

The March 12 resolution supports the nomination of the 1897 church — which sustained heavy damage during Hurricane Isabel in 2003 — to the National Trust for Historic Preservation's list of America's 11 most endangered historic places.

The National Trust began maintaining the list in 1988 and has so far identified 242 sites that warrant saving.

Councilman Sambo Dixon, who is a member of the National Trust's Advisory Council, made the request for the resolution.

"Kadesh is in jeopardy

of not being restored," Dixon said.

Dixon said that if successful the effort to add Kadesh to the list could bring new resources to the table that could result in the completion of restoration work at the church.

"It's an enormous honor to get on that list," Dixon added.

Members of the congregation continue to worship together at a new location on Badham Road, but they still consider the old Kadesh church on East Gale Street their spiritual home, Dixon said.

He said that while the historic church needs significant work before it can resume its original purpose, "They (members) hope and feel that (the Badham Road site) is a temporary location. Anything we can do to help them come back home, we need to do."

Councilman Bob Quinn agreed that the congregation would benefit from the church's restoration.

So, too, he said, would the town.

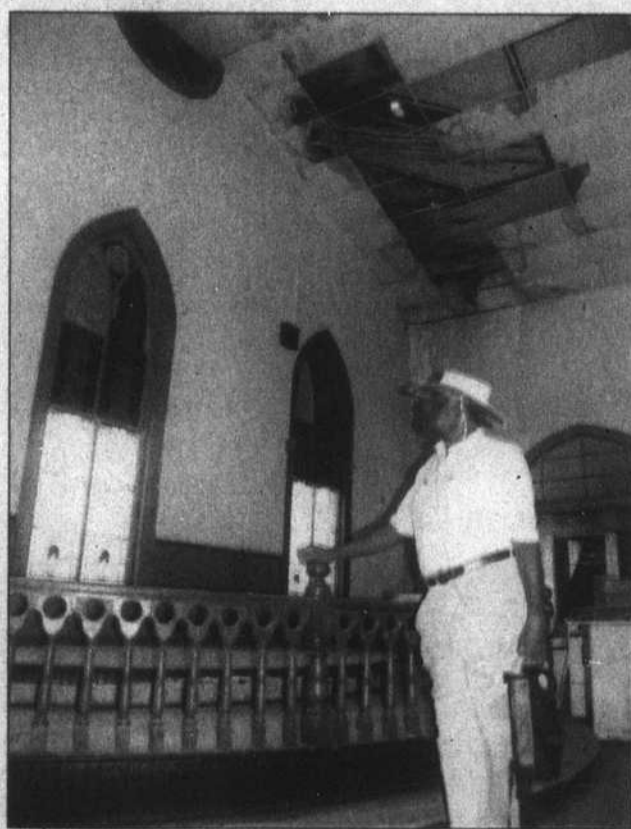
"It would mean a tremendous amount to the community," Quinn said.

In 2011, the Rev. Edna Lawrence, who was serving as pastor at Kadesh when the hurricane struck, said that the 65-member congregation would have had to raise \$800,000 to fund the necessary repairs in two phases.

Phase I of the project that cost about \$267,000 resulted in the stabilization of the church's foundation as well as repairs to the roof and other parts of the building where water leaks were a problem.

The congregation was able to pay for that work with the aid of insurance funds and a \$200,000 bank loan.

Despite subsequent fundraisers over the years, church members have not been able to raise the additional funds necessary to restore the church's interior.



CHOWAN HERALD FILE PHOTO

Kadesh A.M.E. Zion Church member Fred Joyner looks at boarded-up stained glass windows in the sanctuary following Hurricane Isabel. Above, the ceiling also shows damage from the hurricane's heavy rainfall.

Driving record nixes taxi permit

Applicant can reapply next year

By REBECCA BUNCH
Staff Writer

An Elizabeth City man withdrew his application to operate a taxicab service in Edenton after it was revealed that he had a suspect driving record.

The March 12 decision by applicant Cory White, 25, came after several council members expressed reluctance to grant the permit. Police Chief Jay Fortenbery also said he could not recommend that the permit request be granted.

"After reviewing the town ordinance (governing such permits) and looking closely into the criminal and drivers history of Mr. White, I cannot recommend him for a taxi permit in the town of Edenton," Fortenbery told the town council.

Records show White's criminal history included a possession of marijuana conviction in 2004 as well as a conviction for misdemeanor breaking and entering the following year. In 2006, White had a probation violation.

See PERMIT, 2A

Bill would shift school property under county

By REGGIE PONDER
The Daily Advance

Edenton Chowan Schools



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is among area school districts concerned about proposed state legislation shifting ownership of some school property from a local board of education to the county board of commissioners.

The Edenton Chowan Board of Education voted unanimously Monday night to support a resolu-

tion opposing Senate Bill 236. Currituck's Board of Education voted last week to oppose the proposal on the recommendation of Currituck Schools Superintendent Allison Sholar.

The Elizabeth City-Pasquotank Board of Education was scheduled to talk about the proposed legislation during its committee

meetings Monday.

Sholar reported to the Currituck school board that Currituck County Manager Dan Scanlon had told her Currituck County officials oppose the proposal.

Pasquotank County Manager Randy Keaton said last week that the county commissioners in

Pasquotank haven't discussed the issue at all.

Keaton pointed out that Pasquotank owns a lot of the school sites in the county anyway since the construction of some of the newer school buildings is still being financed through the county.

See BILL, 2A

ROCKY HOCK BAPTIST CHURCH COMMUNITY WIDE * SATURDAY, MARCH 23RD
113 Rocky Hock Church Road **EASTER CELEBRATION** 11:00 AM-1:00 PM
CONTACT CHURCH OFFICE FOR MORE INFORMATION 221-4133 FOOD & REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

EGG HUNT GAMES INFLATABLES LIVE MUSIC