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Aces Roundup: Get caught up on the latest sports at Holmes High School — 7A

482-4418

Wednesday, September 18, 2013

50¢

Schools, parents reach compromise

■ Bus drop-offs policy for students to be adjusted

BY REBECCA BUNCH
 Staff Writer

A parent's request that the school system re-examine its policy about bus drop-offs for students has led to an adjustment in the policy.

At the school board's Sept. 9 monthly meeting

— delayed a week due to the Labor Day holiday — James Geramita, father of a third grader in the Edenton-Chowan school system, asked that a new policy limiting the number of places a student could be dropped off by a school bus driver be reconsidered. The policy, adopted this year, set that limit at two drops per student per week — school

and one other location. Brad Bass, transportation director for the school system, said Friday that the policy had been amended to allow three stops per student to better accommodate working parents. Those primarily impacted by the decision were elementary school students who must rely on the school system or family members to get

where they need to go. Bass said that the policy has been tweaked so that a three stop per student policy would immediately go into effect. He said that parents must choose a maximum of three drop-off places and that the schedule must remain consistent for the rest of the school year.

Geramita said that his daughter takes dance les-

sons/gymnastics and attends art classes after school, and attends daycare when she is not taking after-school classes. Until the change in policy, he said, that schedule had been problem-free.

"We've had no problems until this year," Geramita said, referring to the policy change. "My wife and I both work and we don't get home until 5 or 6 at night."

The limited number of stops a school bus could make under the new policy, he said, had created a huge problem for the couple because his wife must now leave work for about half an hour at a time to take their daughter where she needs to go.

Bass, who was at the

See COMPROMISE, 2A

Police inspect Steinburg letter

■ Letter claims ex-ferry worker was murdered

From staff reports

The Edenton Police Department is investigating an ominous letter that Rep. Bob Steinburg received at his home.

Steinburg, R-Chowan, told the Daily Advance in Elizabeth City that he has received a letter from an anonymous source that he claims backs up the view that N.C. Ferry Division employee Daniel Noe was murdered in 2005 to keep him from cooperating with state and federal probes of the ferry division.

Investigators at the time determined that Noe committed suicide.

The letter, mailed to Steinburg's residence last week, not only claims Noe was murdered, but names



STEINBURG

See LETTER, 4A

A LITTLE TASTE OF EDENTON



STAFF PHOTO BY REBECCA BUNCH

Kristen Castiglione, left, helps Belinda Flynn and her daughter Callie serve guests at the Taste of Edenton event held Friday night at the downtown waterfront. Flynn and her husband Patrick own the Edenton Coffee House where live music is performed on Friday nights. See story from the event on 1B.

'Common core' views widely differ

BY REGGIE PONDER
 Editor

Some leading conservatives in Chowan County say common core and new essential standards are a top-down reform being imposed on states by federal education officials, but local school officials describe the common core as a grassroots movement that started with the states.

Chowan County Republican Chairman James Robison last week said Lt. Gov. Dan Forest, Gov. Pat McCrory and many state legislators are very concerned about the implementation of common

See 'CORE', 4A

Man suffers serious injuries in farm accident

From staff reports

A Hobbsville man suffered serious injuries in a farm accident Monday.

The man, identified by sources in the local farming community and some

county authorities as a resident of Hobbsville, was repairing a combine when a header fell on him, according to local authorities.

Chowan County Sheriff Dwayne Goodwin said

he could not confirm the identity of the man injured in the accident, but he said the accident occurred on a farm in the Tyner community and that a forklift had to be used to lift the header off of the man.

The accident occurred around 8:45 a.m., according to Goodwin.

The man injured in the accident was treated by local emergency medical technicians at the scene and then transported by

Nightingale helicopter to a trauma center, according to Goodwin.

The helicopter took the man to Sentara Norfolk General Hospital, according to unconfirmed reports.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

City Council candidates discuss new police station

From staff reports

The question of where to locate a new police station is the topic for discussion this week among candidates for Edenton Town Council.

The question for this week: "Do you think the town is doing enough to get citizens' input about where the new police station should be located, and how much weight do you think that input should carry when the final decision is made?"

This series of "Question of the Week" items the Chowan Herald is running in advance of the Nov. 5 Municipal Election is intended to provide council candidates an opportunity to address a number of important issues. In addition, the newspaper also will be interviewing candidates for

See QUESTION, 2A

Do you think the town is doing enough to get citizens' input about where the new police station should be located, and how much weight do you think that input should carry when the final decision is made?



BOB QUINN
 AT-LARGE SEAT
 INCUMBENT

Yes, I do feel the town is doing a very good job in giving citizens the opportunity to give their input as to the location of the new police station. As all should be aware we held a Neighborhood Redevelopment Community Meeting on August 6 at COA Culinary School meeting room. We had over 70 attendees, a broad and diverse group of attendees. Our consultants spoke giving a full overview of the meeting and its purpose. Attendees were divided into several groups and responded to specific areas relating to the location of the Police Station. The group understood

See QUIJNN, 2A



NORMA SIMPSON
 3RD WARD SEAT
 INCUMBENT

I think that the town took a step in the right direction with the Neighborhood Redevelopment Community Meeting that was held Aug. 6 at the COA campus. There were over 70 people there, which I think is a sign that people do care about where the new police station is located. It was clear from comments made by citizens that they care a great deal about their neighborhoods and how the location will play into their desire to keep the town safe. Additional comments will be received from the Stakeholders Committee that the mayor named.

I think the town and the council will certainly consider the ideas put forth by these two groups before a final decision is made.



ROSCOE POOLE JR.
 3RD WARD SEAT

No, I do not. I know the town is conducting discussions to get the citizens' input about where the new police station should be located and as it now stands, to me, the best location is the vacant lot on Oakum Street, not because it is designated as a crime area but because the vacant lot is large enough to support the need for many years compared to the time and cost to acquire other property with houses. I believe if the study group will get churches in town involved it could carry a lot of weight when the final

See POOLE, 2A



LORIANN CURTIN
 4TH WARD SEAT

Town Council has appointed an 'Advisory Group' of citizens, which I'm a member of, to work with planners in determining which criteria are important for considering a location. There has been a public workshop for citizen input, even though there was no direct outlet for individual ideas, I was pleased to see so many people from all over town in attendance.

Is it enough? Not really. There seems to be a predetermined preference of location. One that involves purchasing and demolishing privately owned

See CURTIN, 2A



ELTON L. BOND JR.
 4TH WARD SEAT

I am only aware of three public meetings held so far and a fourth meeting scheduled for Sept. 26 to get public input on where the new jail should be located. The location of the new jail is not only going to affect the people in the neighborhood it is put in but it is going to have an effect on the entire town. I feel we should have gotten input from our businesses and from several different neighborhoods. After all, it is not going to be an Oakum Street community jail but a Town of Edenton jail. I don't think there has been enough input from

See BOND, 2A

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