

Edenton artist sees God's hand in life, art - 6B

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Wednesday, March 5, 2014

Snow, sleet hinder activities, driving

From staff reports

Snow and sleet cancelled some meetings and activities this week and created dangerous conditions on area roads.

Edenton-ChowanSchools

dismissed Monday at 11:30 permitted. a.m. due to weather conditions. The schools were closed Tuesday for students and 10-month employees, while 12-month employees ning was rescheduled to were asked to report for Wednesday at 6 p.m. work as road conditions

The meeting of the Chowan County Board of Commissioners that was day scheduled for Monday eve-

was cancelled for Tuesday. County government offices opened at 10 a.m. on Tues-

The National Weather Service called for an overnight low of 20 Monday night and Chowan County Court a high of 36 on Tuesday.

several motor vehicle accidents Monday afternoon, attributed mainly to slick road

snow and sleet.

Local officials reported the Monday afternoon accidents.

The National Weather Service predicted an overnight conditions resulting from low of 32 for Tuesday night, with a high of 44 for today. No serious injuries were A chance of rain also was in reported in connection with the forecast for today.

Activist backs lot for police station BY REBECCA BUNCH

Staff Writer

While option 1 is the recommendation of town staff for the proposed new home of the Edenton Police Department, the decision won't be final until the town council votes on the issue.

Some citizens like Lori-Ann Curtin are hoping that

means they still have a chance to encourage council members to keep an open mind on options



2, 3 and 4 rather than settling for the recommended site.

Curtin was a candidate in last year's town council election for the 4th Ward seat. Councilman Elton Bond Jr. won the election to that seat.

Curtin attends most council meetings and has written letters to council members outlining her concerns about the relocation.

Howard begins work as county manager

horizon for the community BY REGGIE PONDER

New Chowan County Manager Kevin Howard sees a lot of energy in the county.

What has caught my attention since coming here is all the positive things: The chance of continued growth, the possibility of the hotel project - I think that could be a big boost for downtown if they can get that working," Howard said during an interview in his office Monday morning. "Being down-town Saturday and seeing it so active is exciting."

Howard took the reins of Chowan County government Monday. He is living in the county-owned manager's house and has been in town since last Wednesday.

Howard comes to Chowan County from Caswell County, where he had been county manager for nearly seven years.

He replaces Zee Lamb, who left after two years as Chowan's county manager to become Nash County's county manager Jan. 1.

Clifton Hardison, the county's director of social services, had been serving as interim county manager.

Howard has much to work on as he begins the new job. This is a property revaluation year for the county, and all indications are there will be a significant overall decline in property valuation.

Although Howard shepherded Caswell through a property revalu-

Sees positive things on the Editor

> Chowan County Manager Kevin Howard takes notes at his desk Monday morning as he begins his new job here. Howard previously was county manager in Caswell County.

to provide animal control services control in different ways, whether beginning July 1. Sheriff Dwayne under the Sheriff's Department, Goodwin has given notice that his under the Health Department, di-

trol reported directly to the county manager, Howard said. Howard said he was busy "ab-

STAFF PHOTO BY REGGIE PONDER

See STATION, 3A

Officials to weigh wind farm MOL

BY REBECCA BUNCH Staff Writer

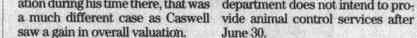
Town council members discussed a request for a memorandum of understanding from Apex Energy during their Feb. 24 work session but did not reach a consensus on the request.

The request comes as a result of meetings between the town's Airport Commission and officials from Apex, the firm that wants . to construct a wind farm on property under lease north of the U.S. 17 Bypass, Town Manager Anne-Marie Knighton said. The property in question is located outside the city limits and falls under the zoning control of Chowan County government.





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Another concern county officials face right now is how best across the state handle animal

vide animal control services after June 30.

Howard noted that counties can be done," Howard said.

rectly under the county manager or in some other fashion.

"There are a number of ways it

In Caswell County, animal con-

sorbing information" on his first day at the Chowan post.

Howard had been Caswell's

See HOWARD, 3A

SMA head lauds Edenton's people, quality of life



STAFF PHOTO BY REGGIE PONDER

Bill Lanzen, chief executive officer of Standard Medical Acceptance, talks about the company and why it chose to relocate to Edenton at the 2014 State of the Region event in Williamston, Friday.

BY REGGIE PONDER Editor

The top executive at Standard Medical Acceptance told the audience at last week's State of the Region event that Edenton's people and the community's quality of life were pivotal in the company's decision to locate here.

Bill Lanzen, the chief executive officer of SMA. also said the availability of a high-speed fiber connection was absolutely critical in the relocation decision.

SMA, currently headquartered in New York City, started the process

INSIDE

More from Friday's State of the Region event - 4A

of looking for a new site in June of last year and made the decision to come to Edenton by November, Lanzen explained.

The company hopes to have people down here and some kind of operation in place in April, Lanzen said. Asked later about the timetable, Lanzen acknowledged the schedule is still fluid and he didn't want anyone to think he was promising a specific

date.

He added that a lot will depend on how long it takes to complete renovations at the company's office space in the Town Hall building.

But Lanzen said he expects to have an operation in place at the new site at least by late spring.

"We're going to enjoy living here," Lanzen told the group gathered in Williamston for the annual State of the Region event.

Lanzen also explained the unique niche that SMA fills for hospitals

See REGION, 2A

Three running unopposed in local elections

BY REGGIE PONDER Editor

Three of Chowan County's local elected officials are unopposed now that the filing period has closed.

Commissioner Ellis Lawrence is unopposed in his bid for reelection to a District 3 seat on the Chowan Board of Commissioners.

Mike McArthur and Sheriff Dwayne Goodwin also

are unopposed. McAr-

thur on Monday thanked those who have supported

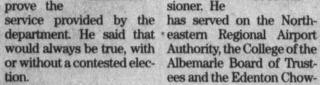
LAWRENCE him over the years.

"I look forward to four Clerk of Superior Court more years and thank my supporters and those who have stood with me all 20

ears McArthur said. Goodwin said that he

tion.

Law rence, a Democrat, is currentlv serving his first term as county commis-



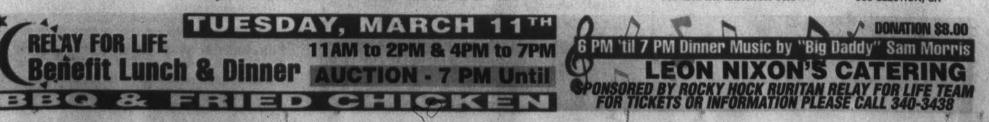
GOODWIN

an Partnership Board.

Lawrence said he believes he has done a good job in his first term.

"I think I did a pretty good job the first time around and I'm working with a pretty good group of guys there," Lawrence said. The record speaks for itself. We don't seem to have the problems that the surrounding counties have."

See ELECTION, 3A



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continually seeks to prove the

service provided by the would always be true, with or without a contested elec-

MCARTHUR