

CHOWAN HERALD



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FARMERS MARKET
OPENS SATURDAY — 1B

50¢

Students: 'Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers'

■ Science students take stand against invasive hydrilla

BY REGGIE PONDER
Editor

Science students from John A. Holmes High School led a discussion at Arrowhead Beach Saturday about the need to control the invasive water weed hydrilla.

Among the public officials who turned out for the event was Rep. Bob Steinburg, R-Chowan, who noted he missed

Gov. Pat McCrory's speech at the Elizabeth City State University Commencement in order to attend the Arrowhead Beach gathering.

The event was held at the Arrowhead Beach Clubhouse and was sponsored by the Arrowhead Beach Property Owners Association.

Steinburg said that since being elected to the N.C. House of Representatives in 2012 he had learned much about hydrilla. He thanked Holmes High School science teacher Steve

Karl and the students for their work to raise awareness of hydrilla and how to stop it from spreading.

Steinburg said it was refreshing to see young people taking this issue on and providing leadership on it.

"This is an extremely serious issue that none of us should take lightly," Steinburg said.

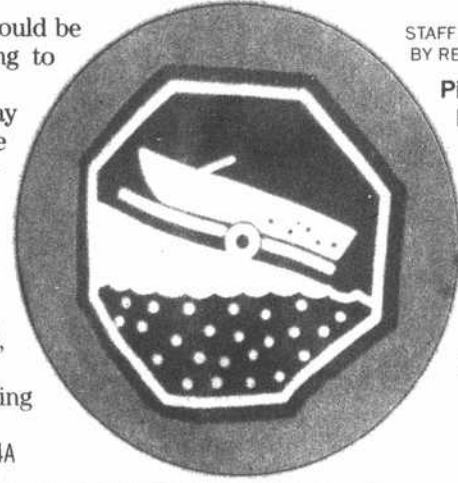
Without constant vigilance, the Chowan River's usefulness as a commercial waterway — including its use by barges serving the Nucor Steel plant

in Bertie County — could be threatened, according to Steinburg.

"This waterway could very easily be choked off," Steinburg said.

A successful strategy will require participation by other counties in addition to Chowan, Steinburg said.

The state is putting



STAFF PHOTO
BY REGGIE PONDER

Pictured is the logo seen on the backs of students T-shirts. Beneath the logo, not in photo, is written: 'Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers!'

See HYDRILLA, 4A

Norris leaving for job in Florida

BY REBECCA BUNCH
Staff Writer

Town of Edenton Public Works Director John Norris has resigned. He has accepted a position as division director of storm water, streets and traffic for the city of St. Petersburg, Fla.

Town Manager Anne-Marie Knighton said she was sad to receive his letter of resignation last week because he has been an outstanding employee who is highly respected by those he supervises.

In a letter to the mayor and town council, Knighton said Norris had told her that besides Edenton, St. Petersburg — a city where there is a population of 250,000 people — was the only other place he really would love to live and work. He and his family will be leaving later this month to move there. His resignation will become effective May 29.

"He always told me Edenton was his dream job, and the only other place he would consider moving to was St. Petersburg," Knighton said. "This city has an incredible reputation in the national world of public administration — so career-wise, this is an incredible opportunity for John."

"As a manager I am crushed to lose a valued member of our team but I am also very proud that a member of our team is joining this outstanding

See NORRIS, 4A

'GOD BLESS AMERICA'



STAFF PHOTO BY REBECCA BUNCH

Pastors Randy Pierce and Jonthan Downing were among the speakers at Thursday's National Day of Prayer observance inside the 1767 Chowan Courthouse. Pierce is pastor at First Assembly of God, while Downing and her husband Andy are co-pastors at Shalom International. See story and more photos from National Day of Prayer on 6B.

Lassiter named CMS principal

From staff reports

During a special meeting Monday, the Edenton-Chowan Board of Education approved John Lassiter to become the principal of Chowan Middle School effective July 1.

Lassiter was recommended for the position by Superintendent Rob Jackson following a two-month application and selection process.

Lassiter will follow Tanya

Turner, who will serve as assistant superintendent for the school system next school year.

"I am very excited that Chowan Middle School will continue to enjoy outstanding service from a principal with lifelong ties to the area," Jackson said. "Mr. Lassiter's proven ability in instructional leadership will help to ensure that the school continues to be regarded as one of the finest Middle

Schools in the state."

Lassiter is currently an assistant principal at Currituck High School serving in that role for the past two years. Prior to his role as assistant principal, he began his teaching career at John A. Holmes High School in 2009 as a math teacher and later moved to Perquimans County High School to teach before entering into school

See LASSITER, 4A

School meal prices to rise in 2015-16

From staff reports

Meals in the Edenton-Chowan Schools will get a little more expensive when school starts next fall.

Breakfast prices for students will rise from the cur-

rent \$1 to \$1.25 at the start of the next school year, a move that Karen Tynch, child nutrition director for the school system, said was being necessary because of increased costs.

"We have not increased (the cost of) breakfast in six years, so we need to (raise) the price due to increased food costs," she said.

Tynch explained to the school board at its May 4 meeting that the cost of school lunches would need to

increase by 10 cents next year to meet federal requirements.

"The USDA (United States Department of Agriculture) requires that school districts work towards meeting the \$2.70 per meal price for paid students (at lunch)," Tynch said. "The \$2.70 amount equals what the USDA gives us for a free student meal minus what we receive from USDA for a paid student meal."

The board unanimously voted to approve the requested increase for both meals.



FILE PHOTO
Edenton's Cody Byrum slides into home against Currituck during a game in this year's Albemarle Easter Tournament.

Aces at home tonight in first round of playoffs

From staff reports

The Edenton Aces baseball team is at home tonight for the first round of the 2A staff playoffs.

The team will host South Lenoir today (Wednesday) at 7 p.m.

The team didn't want to capture a conference championship on the heels of a loss, but that's what happened anyway last Tuesday. That didn't stop the Aces from polishing off their Northeastern Coastal Conference title in style Thursday by beating Pasquotank 7-2 at Hicks Field.

Edenton (14-5, 10-2 NCC) could have made it official last Tuesday at last-place Hertford County, but took a 2-0 defeat in Ashokie.

Instead, second-place First Flight (9-7, 8-4) helped the Aces' cause the same day by falling to Bertie.

Against the Panthers, Austin Melton was 3-for-3 with three RBIs and a homer.

Patrick Downum notched an RBI double and Cody Parks brought in two runs with a double.

Cole Turner started and threw five innings while Matthew Benfield came in for the final two frames.



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