

# Coffee House to host program on butterflies

BY ROBBIE SALAK

Chowan Edenton Environmental Group

Did you know that some Monarch butterflies migrate from Nova Scotia to Mexico? Did you know that one generation of Monarchs live only 4 to 6 weeks, while another lives up to 8 times longer? Did you know that the female Monarch can lay her eggs only on the milkweed plant, because their leaves are the only thing the caterpillars can eat? The next time you see one of those beautiful black and orange Monarch butterflies take a good look: soon there may be no more of them to see. They are in danger of extinction. Learn why, and why it is important to save

them. The Chowan Edenton Environmental Group will sponsor "Goodbye Monarch Butterfly?" on Sept. 12 at 10:30 a.m. at the Edenton Coffee House. The program will be presented by Jean Carter and Christina Gregory, grassroots activists who have planted over 28,000 milkweed seedlings at 21 sites in Halifax County to help preserve this species.

The program will run for about an hour followed by a question and answer period. It is the first in a three-part series called "Protect Our Pollinators". The series is aimed at raising awareness of the important role that pollinators play in the earth's well-being

and in the production of our food supply. Our pollinators are threatened by loss of habitat, pesticides and pollution, loss of food supply, changing climate and much more.

Most people know that without pollination food crops (as well as flowers) cannot produce and reproduce and that bees, butterflies and hummingbirds are important pollinators. But, some people do not know that all three of these pollinators need our help. Learn about honeybees and hummingbirds at our other upcoming fall programs. Dates and times will be announced later.

The program will run for about an hour followed by a question and answer period.

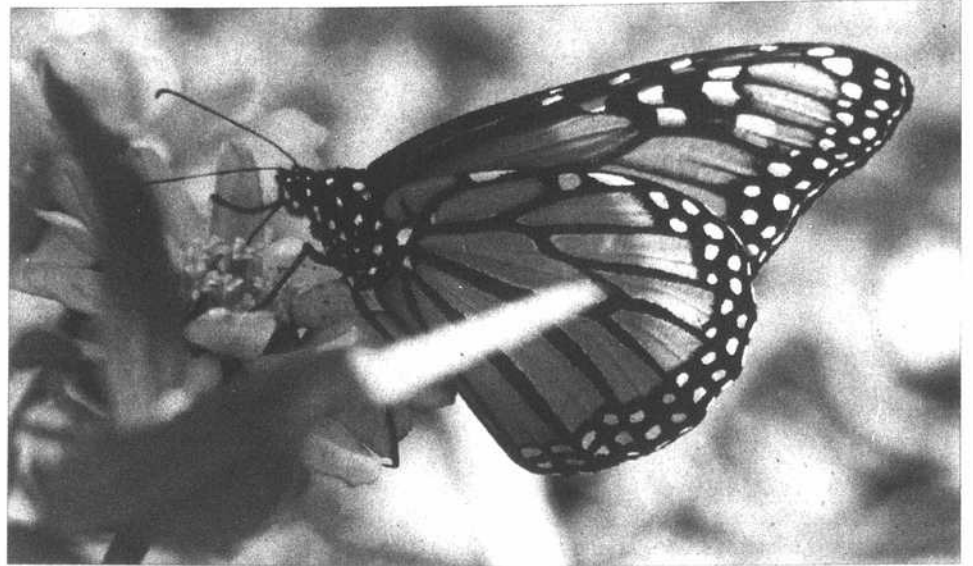


PHOTO COURTESY JUDY JESSOP

The Chowan Edenton Environmental Group will sponsor "Goodbye Monarch Butterfly?" on Sept. 12 at 10:30 a.m. at the downtown Edenton Coffee House. Grassroots activities Jean Carter and Christina Gregory, who have worked to preserve the species, will present the program. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend the hour-long program. A question and answer session will follow.

## CRIMEWATCH

### Edenton Police

#### ARRESTS

• Aug. 25 — Ronald Lee Bell Jr., 43, of Dicks Street, was arrested on one misdemeanor count of failure to appear.

• Aug. 25 — Diamond Jewel Dillard, 20, of Wedgewood Apts., was charged with one misdemeanor count of failure to return rental property.

• Aug. 24 — Tyler Jordan Belton, 20, of Walker Drive, was arrested on one misdemeanor count of failure to appear.

• Aug. 22 — Bradley Richard Dawson, 30, of North Broad Street, was charged with one misdemeanor count of domestic assault on a female.

#### INCIDENTS

• Aug. 26 — Assault and injury to personal property on North Broad Street.

• Aug. 26 — Breaking and entering and larceny on West Carteret Street.

• Aug. 24 — Injury to personal property on Virginia Road.

• Aug. 22 — Hit and run on Old Hertford Road.

### Chowan Sheriff

#### ARRESTS

• None reported

#### INCIDENTS

• None reported

## USDA announces incentives for biomass crops

From staff reports

U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency (Administrator Val Dolcini announced last week that enrollment had begun for farmers and forest landowners seeking financial assistance for growing new sources of biomass for energy or biobased products within designated project areas. The funds are available from the Biomass Crop Assistance Program, which was re-authorized by the 2014 Farm Bill.

Biomass energy facilities or groups of producers may submit proposals for new BCAP

project areas. Proposals will be accepted on [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) through Nov. 6, 2015. USDA will also allocate \$7.7 million towards four existing BCAP project areas in New York, North Carolina, Ohio/Pennsylvania and Kansas/Oklahoma, targeting the establishment of an additional 10,500 acres of shrub willow, giant miscanthus, and switchgrass for energy. Project area sponsors include Chemtex International, Aloterra Energy LLC, Abengoa Biomass LLC and ReEnergy Holdings LLC. Farmers and forest landowners may enroll for biomass establishment and maintenance payments for

these four sites through Sept. 25, 2015.

In June, USDA began accepting applications from foresters and farmers seeking financial assistance for removing biomass residues from fields or national forests for delivery to energy generation facilities; the deadline for those applications is Sept. 4, 2015. The retrieval payments are provided at a cost-share match of \$1 for \$1 up to \$20 per dry ton with eligible crops including corn residue, diseased or insect infested wood materials, or orchard waste. The energy facility must first be approved by USDA to accept the

biomass crop, and deliveries to the facilities can continue until Dec. 11, 2015.

The 2014 Farm Bill authorizes funding each year for the program to assist with the establishment and delivery of biomass for energy or biobased products. To date, BCAP has provided incentives for producers across more than 48,000 acres in 71 counties and 11 different project areas. For more information on the program or to enroll in updates, visit [www.fsa.usda.gov/bcap](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/bcap) or contact your local FSA county office. To find your nearest FSA county office, visit <http://offices.usda.gov>.

## Charter school a factor in declining enrollment

BY REBECCA BUNCH

Staff Writer

While the total impact of students leaving the Edenton-Chowan Schools to attend a new charter school in Elizabeth City remains uncertain until the state budget is finalized, school officials say it will make a difference.

Superintendent Rob Jackson said that 24 students from the local school system have enrolled at the Northeast Academy of Aerospace and Advanced Technologies.

"Financially, this represents a loss of approximately \$10,000 per student," Jackson said. "The actual amount will be available after

the state budget is approved for the year."

He added that while official student enrollment numbers would not be available until after the 10th day of school, which is Friday, the number of students attending the Edenton-Chowan Schools has dropped.

"In comparing the average attendance at each school for the first five days of school to the average daily attendance for the first five days of school last year, the school system currently has 117 fewer students attending school," he said.

"Currently, the school system has an average daily attendance

of 2,028 for the first five days of school," Jackson added. "The school system had an average daily attendance of 2,145 for the first five days of school during the 2014-2015 school year."

Jackson said that according to the United States Census Bureau, Chowan County experienced a .6 percent decline in population between 2010-2013. The population decline accelerated to a 1.5 percent decline in population from 2010-2014, he said.

"This apparently accelerating decline in county population, together with students withdrawing to attend the charter school, has contributed to this decrease in at-

tendance," he said.

The superintendent emphasized that while system-wide enrollment is down, the school system's commitment to each individual student "remains resolute."

"I am proud of the school system's accomplishments during the 2014-2015 school year and look forward to even more student and staff success in the year to come."

Jackson said that students are hearing, and will continue to hear, the heartfelt message "I believe in you!" every day throughout the current school year.

"We believe in our students. We believe in their families and we believe in our staff," he said.

## ASSISTANTS

Continued from 1A

have changed by the time their next meeting rolls around.

"I hope we have one (finalized state budget) in

time for our next monthly meeting which will be on Oct. 6, that they will have this resolved," he said. "Whether they will remain anybody's guess."

The school board unanimously adopted an interim budget resolu-

tion for fiscal year 2015-2016 at its July 7 monthly meeting. At that same meeting the board voted 5-1 to continue the driver education program and to begin charging a \$65 fee — the maximum amount allowed by the state — for

students who take driver education classes during the current school year. Prior to the removal of the state funding that had paid for the program in previous years, the school system had never charged students for taking the

classes.

School board member Gil Burroughs voted against the proposal, noting that the fee would not cover the entire cost of the program and would necessitate the school system taking money from its

fund balance to make up the difference.

He said he felt academic subjects needed to be the school system's focus.

"I'm reluctant," Burroughs said at the time. "It's a question for me of priorities."

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
 Town of Edenton  
 Coastal Waterfront Access Grant Application

The Edenton Town Council will conduct a public hearing on **Tuesday, September 8, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.** in the Council Chambers on a proposed grant application to NC Division of Coastal Management for replacement of bulkhead in Colonial Park.

A copy of the pre-application is available for inspection at Town Hall or online at [www.townofedenton.com](http://www.townofedenton.com).

Anne-Marie Knighton  
 Town Manager

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**TOWN OF EDENTON GARBAGE COLLECTION LABOR DAY SCHEDULE 2015**

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7TH**  
 "HOLIDAY" NO COLLECTION

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8TH**  
 EASTSIDE SOLID WASTE WILL BE PICKED UP

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9TH**  
 RECYCLABLES WILL BE PICKED UP

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10TH**  
 YARD WASTE WILL BE PICKED UP

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11TH**  
 WESTSIDE SOLID WASTE WILL BE PICKED UP

**CHOWAN HERALD**

(USPS 106-380) Vol. 81, No. 35  
 Published Every Wednesday  
 Cooke Communications North Carolina, LLC  
 Entered as a second class matter August 30, 1934 at the Post Office of Edenton, North Carolina, under Act of March 3, 1879.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES  
**Daily Advance home delivery area \$27.00**  
 (Chowan, Perquimans, Pasquotank, Camden, Currituck, parts of Gates)  
 Elsewhere in continental United States \$46.00

POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO:  
 The Chowan Herald • P.O. Box 207 • Edenton, NC 27932  
 Telephone: (252) 482-2623 Fax: (252) 482-4410  
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