

CRIMEWATCH

Edenton Police

ARRESTS

Sept. 6 — George John Weber III, 26, of North Broad Street, was arrested on one misdemeanor count of injury to personal property and one misdemeanor count of trespassing.  
Sept. 5 — Randy

Bobby Harrison Jr., 27, of Whitemon Lane, was arrested on one misdemeanor count of failure to appear.  
Sept. 2 — Qytisha Shakirra Williams, 23, of North Broad Street, was arrested on one misdemeanor count of second degree trespassing.  
Aug. 26 — Ricky Sha

Chesson, 45, of Elizabeth City, was arrested on one felony count of rape.

INCIDENTS

Sept. 10 — Communicating threats on North Broad Street.  
Sept. 8 — Larceny on North Broad Street.  
Sept. 5 — Dog bite on West Gale Street.

Sept. 5 — Larceny on Hampton Drive.  
Sept. 4 — Injury to personal property on North Broad Street.  
Sept. 2 — Hit and run on North Granville Street.

Chowan Sheriff

ARRESTS

Sept. 9 — Stephen

Brooks Tatem, 35, Gilbert's Beach Road, was arrested for failure to appear.  
Sept. 3 — Bembry E. Thomas, 52, of Mexico Road, was arrested for failure to appear.  
Sept. 3 — Michael Devon Cooper, 33, of Windsor, was arrested for failure to appear.

Sept. 3 — Danika Sharona Scott, 22, of Coke Avenue, was arrested on two counts of failure to appear.  
According to the sheriff's office all of these cases involved failure to pay child support.

INCIDENTS

None reported.

Perquimans eyes stricter wind energy regs

BY PETER WILLIAMS  
The Perquimans Weekly

Even as one wind power project moves forward, Perquimans County elected and appointed officials agreed last week to consider tighter regulations on more new industrial wind farms.  
The Perquimans County Commission directed the county attorney to take a look at what's involved in imposing a moratorium on new wind projects. The idea was to freeze new development until the county planning board can review any proposed changes to the wind ordinance.  
Two days later, the county planning board did agree to review changes and take up discussion again at its next formal meeting. Thursday's meeting was a work session.  
Both meetings drew

packed crowds. The commission and the planning board traditionally meet in the commission meeting room on the first floor of the courthouse annex. That can seat about 45 people according to County Manager Frank Heath. The crowd Tuesday was so large that the meeting was moved to the courtroom on the second floor. The courtroom can seat twice as many, but still there weren't enough seats.  
Thursday's planning board meeting drew a smaller crowd, but it too was held upstairs in the courtroom.  
The county has already approved one wind project — Desert Wind. A symbolic groundbreaking was held in July and now the company — Iberdrola Renewables — is ready to start in earnest.  
Philips & Jordan, a heavy equipment contractor based

in Tennessee, will be holding a job fair in Elizabeth City today for heavy construction equipment operators and laborers. The project, now dubbed Amazon Wind Farm US East, is located in northeast Perquimans County and northwest Pasquotank.  
The jobs event is from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. at 101 Medical Drive in Elizabeth City.  
A second wind project — Timbermill — has been proposed by Apex Clean Energy, but no formal plans have been submitted.  
That hasn't stopped some residents who don't want to see the project.  
One resident of the Bear Swamp area, said he only recently heard about plans by Apex. The 15,000-acre wind project would straddle the Perquimans-Chowan line.  
While Apex has yet to formally submit plans for a

conditional use permit from either county, he believes the prospect needs to be taken seriously.  
"For the company to have spent as much as they have, it's just common sense there will be something coming in the very near future," he said.  
The man moved to Perquimans 12 years ago. He and his wife have three children who are home schooled. He fears the impact of having a wind turbine just 1,500 feet from their house.  
"We can move," he said. "We might take a loss on the house, but some folks can't move."  
Some express concerns about how the Apex project would impact hunters.  
Kevin Chandler, the local public relations manager for Apex, said that shouldn't be an issue.

"We remain committed to bringing this potential \$500 million economic investment to both Perquimans and Chowan Counties, and we will do so in a way that's compatible with local traditions," Chandler said. "When it comes to hunting, we will honor all hunting leases on land within our project area and improve roads to provide better access to hunting areas. We can assure hunters that there will be no long-term effects to their hunting rights because of Timbermill Wind."  
Apex first proposed the project in October 2013. Two months later Chowan County adopted an amendment to its wind ordinance to allow for structures of up to 600 feet high. That action put Chowan's wind ordinance in line with one Perquimans County already had on the

books. Before December 2013, wind towers in Chowan could be just 250 feet.  
The Chowan Planning Board has since amended that ordinance to increase the setback between turbine towers and adjoining property owners and homes.  
The revised recommendation calls for a minimum setback of 1,500 feet from a residence or non-participating property for large facilities — regardless of tower height.  
Heath said as he understands it the moratorium — if adopted — would last only until the planning board reviewed changes to the wind ordinance.  
"Right now we don't have a formal application," he said. "When that happens, there will be public hearings. The public will have the opportunity to speak."

Holmes sees higher ACT scores, but SAT dips

BY CORINNE SAUNDERS  
The Daily Advance

John A. Holmes High School saw a higher percentage of graduates reaching the benchmark of a composite score of 17 on the ACT this year, but the school posted lower average SAT scores this year than in 2014.  
Most area high schools in the region saw better results on college entrance exams in 2015.  
Five out of eight area high schools saw better results on the ACT. American College Testing, which all juniors in the state are required to take.  
Six of eight schools had seniors post better SAT Scholastic Assessment

Test) results than did the Class of 2014.  
In addition to John A. Holmes, Camden County High School and CamTech High School in Camden County, Northeastern High School and Pasquotank County High School in Pasquotank County, saw a higher percentage of graduates reaching the benchmark of a composite score of 17 on the ACT this year. That score is the minimum required for admission to University of North Carolina system campuses.  
Currituck County High School and J.P. Knapp Early College High School in Currituck County and Perquimans County High School in Perquimans County saw smaller percentages of

students meeting the ACT benchmark than in 2014.  
ACT scores are tabulated on a scale of 1 to 36, and the average national score for 2015 was 21, according to the ACT website.  
North Carolina's average ACT score was 19, putting it one-tenth of a point higher than its 2014 score. Nonetheless, the state tied for the second-to-lowest score by state in the nation.  
Twenty-eight percent of students nationally met the "college ready" benchmarks for all four areas — reading, English, math and science.  
In North Carolina, 18 percent of students met all four benchmarks.  
North Carolina has lagged behind the national college-

ready average since 2013. In both 2011 and 2012, 30 percent of N.C. students had met all four benchmarks, compared to 25 percent of students nationally.  
Since the ACT was added to the state's accountability measures, most districts have seen drops in the number of students taking the more traditional college entrance exam, the SAT.  
The State Board of Education released SAT scores on Thursday, a day after releasing accountability data such as ACT scores, school performance grades, academic growth measures and graduation rates.  
According to an Associated Press story, national student performance on

the SAT in 2015 continues the mostly downward trend over the last five years.  
The College Board, the nonprofit that administers the exam, said in a report that students' mean score in reading was 495, down from 497 the previous year. For math, it was 511, down from 513. Writing scores dropped three points, to 484 from 487.  
The highest score in each SAT category is 800.  
In 2010, average scores were 500 in reading, 515 in math, and 491 in writing.  
Nationally, 50 percent of students took the SAT, and the average combined score was 1490. That's a 7-point drop from 2014.  
About 42 percent of test-

takers nationally earned at least the benchmark combined score of 1550 that indicates they're likely ready for college-level work or career-training programs, according to The College Board.  
In North Carolina, 62 percent of students took the exam this year, and the average score was 1478 — a 5-point drop from 2014.  
Currituck County Schools was the only district to achieve an average SAT score higher than the state average, with both high schools posting average scores above 1,500. CamTech High School in Camden County was the only other area school to score above the state average.

Town eyes grant to replace bulkhead in park

BY REBECCA BUNCH  
Staff Writer

The town of Edenton may soon have funds needed to

replace a deteriorated bulkhead in Colonial Park.  
Town Manager Anne-Marie Knighton said during the town council's monthly

meeting on Sept. 8 that a preliminary application for a Coastal Waterfront Access Grant has been accepted by CAMA and the town has been invited to submit a final application for \$100,000 to begin work at the site. Total estimated cost of the project is \$134,800.  
"That is a good sign we will be funded," she said.

Knighton's report came prior to a public hearing held on the proposal at the council meeting.  
The only speaker during the hearing was Captain Mark Thesier, a tour boat operator whose 22-foot all-electric boat, the Liber-Tea, provides tours along Edenton Bay. Thesier spoke in support of the project.

Knighton said the application would be completed in early October and a decision from CAMA should be received in January.  
According to the pre-application the town has made what Knighton termed "band aid repairs" to the bulkhead that has continued to deteriorate.  
"We are at the point where we are afraid that one good storm will blow the bulkhead to pieces," she said. "We are requesting funds to replace approximately 420

feet of severely deteriorated bulkhead at Edenton Bay. The plan is to install heavy duty vinyl that is warranted for 50 years."  
A description of the area in question contained in the pre-application explains where the problem area is located.  
"From the east side of the Town's property, adjacent to the Barker House, the repair is to start near the corner of the porch, in line with where the cannon is located," Knighton wrote.

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chowanherald@ncweeklies.com