

CRIMEWATCH

CORRECTION

An article published in the Monday, May 12, 2014 edition of The Daily Advance and the Wednesday, May 14, 2014 edition of the Chowan Herald incorrectly reported that lawsuits filed by former Chowan County Schools administrator Mary E. Felton against the Chowan school district over her failure to win promotion to principal were based on allegations of racial discrimination. Felton's lawsuits made a number of allegations against the school district, but racial discrimination was not listed in the complaints. Felton did file a federal civil rights complaint in July 2012 that did allege she was the victim of racial discrimination.

Edenton Police

**ARRESTS**  
 • Jan. 29 - Katashee Vikea Parks, 25, of Paradise Road, was arrested on one misdemeanor count of failure to appear.  
 • Jan. 28 - Mary Holley Mitchell, 52, of Cason Street, was charged with one misdemeanor count of assault and battery and one misdemeanor count of communicating threats.  
 • Jan. 26 - Frances Antoinette Dowell, 45, of

Macedonia Road, was apprehended on a fugitive warrant from Suffolk, Va. She was charged with one misdemeanor count of larceny and one misdemeanor count of assault.  
 • Jan. 25 - Danny Stephon Goodman-Grant, 24, of Oakdale Drive, was issued a criminal summons for one misdemeanor count of injury to personal property.  
 • Jan. 23 - Desi Eulish Pierce, 60, of North Granville Street, was charged

with one felony count of assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injury.  
 • Jan. 22 - David Alan Stallings, 48, of North Oakum Street, was arrested on one felony count of larceny, one felony count of financial card fraud and one felony count of impersonation.  
 • Jan. 22 - Ebony Janet Phelps, 29, of East Gale Street, was issued a citation for one misdemeanor count of possession of less than 1/2 ounce of a Schedule VI controlled substance.

INCIDENTS

• Jan. 31 - Hit and run at the corner of North Broad Street and Virginia Road.  
 • Jan. 31 - Vandalism at Wedgewood Apts.  
 • Jan. 31 - Hit and run on North Broad Street.  
 • Jan. 30 - Larceny on Oakdale Drive.  
 • Jan. 25 - Vandalism on Paradise Road.  
 • Jan. 23 - Breaking and entering at the NC Division of Motor Vehicles office on North Broad Street.

Man charged with arson in Chowan Beach fire

From staff reports

The house where Dylan Burton was killed more than two years ago was destroyed by fire Thursday night and one of Burton's close friends has been charged with setting the fire.

Brandon Christopher Harrison, 23, of 3400 Rocky Hock Road, was placed in the Chowan County Jail under \$25,000 secured bond, charged with second-degree arson and second-degree burglary in connection with the fire at the house on Pamlico Trail in Chowan Beach where Burton was shot to death on the evening of Dec. 22, 2013, according to Chowan County Sheriff Dwayne Goodwin.

Joshua Byrum was acquitted in Chowan Superior Court recently on a charge of voluntary manslaughter in connection with Burton's

death.

Byrum and a younger brother were living in the Pamlico Trail house in December 2013 but the house had been vacant since the shooting, according to Goodwin.

Harrison and his brother, Randy, were with Burton at Byrum's house on the evening Burton was killed, according to testimony in the trial.

Byrum's attorney, Andy Gay of Wendell, argued that Byrum acted in self defense after being punched multiple times.

Goodwin said Thursday's fire appears to have been in retaliation for Burton's death.

The Center Hill Crossroads Fire Department extinguished the blaze with assistance from the Edenton Fire Department. There was no damage to the adjacent house, Goodwin said.



This mobile home at Pamlico and Tuscarora in the Chowan Beach subdivision was destroyed in a fire Thursday night. A Chowan County man has been charged with setting the fire.

STAFF PHOTO BY REGGIE PONDER

USDA to invest \$150M through CSP to improve working lands

From staff reports

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack last week announced that \$150 million in funding is available for agricultural producers through the Conservation Stewardship Program.

USDA's largest conservation program, by acres impacted, that helps producers voluntarily improve the health and productivity of private and Tribal working lands. USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service

plans to add an estimated 10 million acres to the rolls of CSP during fiscal 2016.

NRCS accepts applications for CSP throughout the year, but producers should submit applications by March 31 to a

USDA service centers to ensure they are considered for enrollment in 2016.

Participants with existing CSP contracts that will expire on Dec. 31, 2016 have the option to renew their contracts for

an additional five years if they agree to adopt additional activities to achieve higher levels of conservation on their lands. Applications to renew are also due by March 31.

NRCS also makes CSP available to producers as

an additional opportunity to participate in regional landscape-level conservation efforts including the Sage Grouse Initiative, Lesser Prairie-Chicken Initiative, Longleaf Pine Initiative and Ogallala Aquifer Initiative.

APPLICATION

Continued from 1A

engage speakers in discussion over public comment.

As the commissioners were considering the adoption of the meeting agenda, Commissioner Keith Nixon asked that the Apex presentation be taken off the agenda, with

the Apex representative being able to speak during public comment.

Nixon said he wanted to ensure that commissioners didn't ask questions during the presentation because of concerns raised by the county attorney about the need for the county commissioners not to do anything that might compromise their impartiality during a quasi-judicial hearing on a conditional use permit for the wind energy project.

In response to Nixon's concerns, Commissioner Alex Kehayes said his understanding was that questions were acceptable as long as they were of a general nature.

Nixon made a motion to strike the Apex presentation from the agenda.

But Commissioner Emmett Winborne said he saw the presentation as an educational matter. He also said it was his understanding that the board had asked Apex to present updates every few months on the status of the proposed wind energy project.

Winborne said it was his view that Apex was a business client coming in and saying where the company stands on the project.

Commissioner Greg Bonner said he agreed with Winborne and thought the item should remain on the agenda.

Commissioner John Mitchener said he didn't see what would be gained by taking the item off the agenda.

Chairman Jeff Smith, who is not participating in votes or discussions about the wind energy matter because of discussions Apex has had with members of his family regarding the prospect of part of the family farm being included in the wind energy facility, turned the gavel over to Nixon for the handling of Nixon's motion.

Nixon is the board's vice-chairman.

Nixon's motion failed 3-2 with only Nixon and Kehayes voting for it.

During the public comment period at the meeting, four speakers addressed the board — all of them regarding some aspect of the wind energy issue.

Brian Ferraraccio, who is running for an at-large county commissioner seat as a Republican, said Denmark requires four times the total height as a setback for wind turbines. In addition, he said, Denmark requires compensation for property value loss that results from the construction of a wind energy facility.

Denmark also allows only 10 hours of shadow flicker a year from wind turbines, compared with the 30 hours a year allowed in Chowan's cur-

rent wind energy ordinance, Ferraraccio said.

Ferraraccio asked why requests for changes to the wind energy ordinance from the company, Apex, had been considered and approved, while citizen requests for ordinance amendments had been looked down on.

Bob Kirby said he is concerned that the board was not listening to the advice of the county attorney and was concerned that if the commissioners were not careful the conditional use permit process for a wind energy facility could become tainted and the county could end up in court.

"Please don't let that happen," Kirby said.

Don Herr said he lives in Edenton and is invested in the town. He said he believes in alternate sources of energy and thinks that embracing alternative energy makes the county look progressive, which could attract other businesses.

The county should be progressive and forward-thinking, he said.

Ron Cummings said natural gas is clean and very cheap. He said he is for any energy that doesn't hurt the people, but believes wind energy will hurt the people.

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Be advised that the Town of Edenton is now accepting bids to mow the grass at the Northeastern Regional Airport. Contract will be for cutting approximately 225 acres using airport equipment or contractor can bid using their equipment. For details contact Bud Powell at 482-4415. All bids must be submitted by 3/1/16.

**TOWN OF EDENTON**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

ON THE TWO PROPOSALS SUBMITTED FROM DEVELOPERS FOR THE PURCHASE OF THE FORMER CONGER/NE COMMISSION BUILDING

The Edenton Town Council would like to hear input from the citizens on the two proposals that have been submitted from developers for the purchase of the former Conger/NE Commission Building located at 119 West Water Street, Edenton, NC. Proposal from Williamson County Investments Corp (Austin, TX) that would create two restaurants and retail space in exchange for the Town donating the building to the corporation and proposal from John Glover (Raleigh, NC) to create a brewery and pub in exchange for the Town selling building for the appraised value of \$282,000. The public hearing will be held on Monday, February 22, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. at Swain Auditorium, 200 East Church Street, Edenton, NC. Information on the two proposals submitted by the developers can be found at www.townofedenton.com

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