

First Annual Fund Raiser Gala

Access to Affordable Health Care

October 15, 2016 - 6:30pm

Kermit E. White Center - Elizabeth City State University

Dr. M. Joycelyn Elders, Key Note Speaker

SEE INSIDE FOR MORE INFORMATION

Testimony complete in wind permit hearings

BY REGGIE PONDER
Editor

Apex Clean Energy Inc. and opponents of Apex's proposed Timbermill Wind Project completed their presentation of evidence last week in hearings on the conditional use permit application for the project.

During four days of hearings before the Chowan County Board of Commissioners, Apex presented testimony on topics such as health, sound and property values. The opposition offered testimony

from its own witnesses, including two who spoke about the project's potential impact on soil and water resources.

The county commissioners held hearings Monday and Tuesday evenings, all day Wednesday into Wednesday evening, and Thursday evening.

Apex also had presented evidence at a hearing in August.

Apex, a company based in Charlottesville, Va., has applied for a conditional use permit to build a 300-megawatt wind energy generation facility in the Bear Swamp

and Center Hill areas of Chowan and Perquimans counties. The project requires a CUP in each county.

The proposed project includes 105 wind turbines projected to be nearly 600 feet high at maximum tip height.

The plan calls for 48 of the turbines to be located in Chowan County.

At the beginning of the session Thursday evening, Patrick Flynn, a property owner participating in

RELATED STORY

Timbermill hearing claims impact on water, crops - 2A

the case against the proposed wind energy generation facility, announced that the opposition, which had been represented by attorney Bill Bryan, had decided to conserve its assets by dispensing with counsel.

Flynn represented himself in the hearing Thursday evening. He said would like to reserve his closing statement until just before the commissioners begin their deliberations.

Attorneys for Apex also plan to present closing arguments at that time.

The commissioners will meet at 5 p.m. on Oct. 17 to set a time for the deliberations on the CUP application. Before deliberations begin copies of the transcript of the hearings will be provided to Commissioner Emmett Winborne, who was absent last week, and to Commissioner Ellis Lawrence, who was absent Thursday.

Apex presented testimony that

See PERMIT, 4A

FAIR QUEEN



Courtney Perry, Miss Chowan County Fair 2016, gets a congratulatory hug from 2015 Miss Chowan County Fair Samantha Jordan. See the story and more photos on 1B.

County delays decision on additional body armor

BY REGGIE PONDER
Editor

The Chowan County Board of Commissioners is holding out for more information before deciding whether to buy additional body armor for officers of the county sheriff's office.

Andy Bunch, the chief deputy of the Chowan County Sheriff's Office, presented the request to the county commissioners at their regular meeting Monday night.

Sheriff Dwayne Goodwin said these vests are not worn all the time as the regular bullet-proof vests are. Rather, they are designed for response to live shooter incidents and other especially dangerous situations.

The sheriff's office proposed that the

snap-on bullet-proof panels be paid for with revenue generated by officers' escorts of wind turbine components for the wind energy project in Pasquotank County.

Goodwin said the county has been receiving \$375 for each wind turbine escort. The plan is to use some of that money to pay for the bullet-proof vests.

Goodwin and Bunch said these vests can be carried in the vehicle and put on en route to an incident. They also can be worn over the regular body-worn vests as supplemental armor.

Bunch explained that the vests are made of a Kevlar material with steel added to it. "This is a supplement to the body armor that we already have," Bunch said.

See ARMOR, 4A

Partnership still in pursuit of second grocery store

BY REBECCA BUNCH
Staff Writer

Larry Lombardi, executive director of the Edenton Chowan Partnership, said Monday afternoon that local officials are continuing the search for a second grocery store for Edenton.

"It has been and remains a top priority for the Partnership," said Lombardi, who took over the leadership role at the nonprofit on June 1, replacing inaugural director Frank Miglorie.

Lombardi said among those to whom the agency has reached out are two European-based grocery chains, Lidl, which is working to establish a presence in Virginia and North Carolina, and Aldi, which is focused on increasing its presence in the U.S. grocery market.

Lombardi acknowledged that local efforts have been hampered by the Food Lion continuing to hold the lease on its old location at Edenton Village Shopping

Center after opening at its new site at Chowan Crossing Shopping Center. Many grocery chains, he said, would prefer to come into an empty grocery store and then remodel it to suit its particular needs rather than build a freestanding store elsewhere.

But, he said, that fact just makes the endeavor more challenging, not impossible. Lombardi said he remains "cautiously optimistic" that

See STORE, 4A

Public aid wanted in solving shooting

From staff reports

Chowan County Sheriff Dwayne Goodwin is seeking help from the public in identifying the person who shot Tyquan Fleming early Sunday morning, Oct. 2.

The shooting took place at approximately 2:55 a.m. at a house located at 213 Yellow Hammer Road. The shooting was preceded by an argument and a fight, the sheriff said.

Fleming, who is in his twenties, is in the hospital at Vidant Medical Center in Greenville with non-life threatening injuries.

Anyone having information concerning the incident is asked to contact the sheriff's office at 482-8484.



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Chowan braces for wind, rain from Matthew

From staff reports

Edenton and Chowan County - still reeling from flooding a couple of weeks ago - are bracing for possible strong winds and heavy rainfall this weekend as Hurricane Matthew runs its course.

Chowan County officials met Tuesday for initial emergency planning.

At least two events scheduled for this weekend already have been cancelled.

A pirate encampment and pumpkin painting activity planned for Historic Edenton this weekend have been cancelled due to concerns about Hurricane Matthew.

"We will plan an alternative date to host the pirates and pumpkin painting separately after the storm," said Bob Hopkins, site manager for the Historic Edenton State Historic Site.

Taste of Edenton is slated for Friday evening at the town waterfront near the Penelope Barker House Welcome Center. The Edenton Historical Commission, which sponsors the event, will make a decision regarding whether to move forward on Wednesday afternoon and plans to post an announcement on Facebook.

The National Weather Service reported Tuesday that based on the latest track, there is "increasing

confidence of moderate to significant impacts from Hurricane Matthew" across northeastern North Carolina late Friday into Sunday.

Flooding rains are possible, especially since the ground is already very saturated 4-8 inches of rain is possible late Friday into the weekend, according to the National Weather Service. Also, significant coastal flooding is possible, especially across Hampton Roads into northeastern North Carolina this weekend. The ultimate extent of coastal flooding is still highly dependent on the track and intensity of the storm.

The NWS also reported there is a 20-40 percent chance of tropical

storm force winds this weekend at any point across the region. Due to the already saturated ground, trees will be more susceptible to being downed, even from winds as low as 40 mph.

In anticipation of the storm, Gov. Pat McCrory at the request of Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler has declared a state of emergency for 66 counties in the state, including Chowan and other counties in the region.

The emergency order waives weight, size and hours of driving restrictions for agriculture vehicles and also allows utility companies to position their trucks ahead of the storm.

Brewpub developer to meet with town officials soon

BY REBECCA BUNCH
Staff Writer

Town Manager Anne-Marie Knighton said Monday she expects Raleigh businessman John Glover, who hopes to establish a brewpub in the building formerly occupied by the Northeast Commission, to return to Edenton soon to meet with town officials.

She said that at present

he and his team are working to address several concerns previously raised by Councilman Bob Quinn.

"The issues pertain to the flood proofing of the building and the design of the outdoor dining area, the area to the east of the building with an appropriate buffer between



KNIGHTON

the property and the park," Knighton said.

She added that Glover's architects and engineers are at present working on each of these items of concern.

"In fact, the architect requested some flood elevation information from me late last week," Knighton said. "He request-

ed the elevation of all the exterior doorways. Because the building is located in a flood zone, if more than 50 percent of the appraised value of the building is spent on improvements, then the building must be flood proofed."

Knighton said she and Quinn had a meeting scheduled Monday morning to review draft covenants worked on by Quinn, which

would then be sent to Glover for his review and any feedback.

"I expect Mr. Glover to come to Edenton in the next few weeks to meet with Councilman Quinn, respond to all his questions, and then we will schedule him (Glover) to present to the council during a meeting his plans and responses

See BREWPUB, 7A

HISTORIC EDENTON GHOST WALK
Oct. 14 & 15 - Call 252-482-3400 for Tickets - \$10.00
Tour Headquarters, 108 North Broad Street