



Silhouette artist creates likenesses of local children - 1B

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Wednesday, November 23, 2016

County adopts ordinances restricting alcohol, tobacco

BY REGGIE PONDER
Editor

The Chowan County Board of Commissioners last week adopted ordinances prohibiting the use of tobacco products in county buildings and county-owned vehicles and banning - with limited exceptions - the consumption of alcoholic beverages on county

property. The ordinances were first voted on at the commissioners' Oct. 17 meeting. Both passed 6-1 in October. But because the votes were not unanimous a "second reading" was required, meaning the ordinances had to be voted on again at a subsequent meeting.

That second reading took place at the Nov. 14 meeting. The votes

again were 6-1, but the second thumbs up was enough to make the ordinances official.

The tobacco ordinance builds on a longstanding county policy that smoking is not allowed in county buildings. It takes the policy and gives it the legally enforceable status of an ordinance, and also expands on the "no smoking" rule to prohibit the use of all kinds

of tobacco products in county buildings and in county-owned vehicles.

The ordinance does not ban the use of tobacco products on the grounds outside county buildings.

The alcohol ordinance codifies a longstanding county policy that allows the county manager to permit alcoholic beverages to be consumed on county property on

a case-by-case basis.

The ordinance as adopted last week bans the consumption of alcoholic beverages on county property but authorizes the county manager to approve exceptions on a case-by-case basis for the Swain Auditorium and 1767 Chowan County Courthouse Green.

See ORDINANCES, 4A

Talking to Santa



Nodie Dillard, a second grade student, talks with Santa about her Christmas wishes during the White Oak Holiday Show and Oak Fest held at the school on Saturday. See more photos from the White Oak Holiday Show inside on 3B.

KIM OBER ULLOM PHOTO

Shooting victim treated at hospital

From staff reports

Andre Sanders, 31, was treated and released at Vidant Chowan Hospital after being shot Sunday afternoon while walking on Oakum Street.

On Sunday at 4:30 p.m., Officers responded to a report of shots fired in the 200 block of North Oakum Street. Shortly after, officers were called to Vidant Chowan Hospital regarding a shooting victim.

Sanders reported being shot while walking in the 200 block of North Oakum Street. He was shot one time in the leg and described the suspect as a dark-skinned, heavy build, black male, about 5 feet, 9 inches tall, wearing all black and a black mask on the lower part of his face, according to police.

Sanders was treated and released from the hospital. Officers recovered several shell casings and are looking for more information on the suspect in this case.

Anyone with information is asked to call Sgt. Laura Wilkins of the Edenton Police Department at 252-482-5144.

"We want your information, not your name," said Chief Jay Fortenberry. "Remember, if you see something, say something."

Brew-pub developer, town officials mull project details

BY REGGIE PONDER AND REBECCA BUNCH
Staff Writers

The developer who has expressed interest in buying the former Northeast Commission Building on the Edenton waterfront for development as a microbrewery and pub could meet again soon with the Edenton Town Council.

John Glover is continuing to study the building and weigh options for the project.

The Raleigh businessman was one of two prospective buyers

who responded last year to town officials' solicitation for proposals from parties interested in buying the building, also known as the Conger Building and the former ice plant.

Town Manager Anne-Marie Knighton was slated to have a conference call today with Glover today (Wednesday) to discuss covenants, get an update on the progress that Glover's architect and engineers have made on flood-proofing options for the building and firm up dates for Glover to meet with the town council.

Some members of the town council have expressed support for the brew-pub project while others have been opposed to alcohol sales and service adjacent to a town park and Administrative Committee Chairman Steve Biggs, in particular, has questioned whether the town should sell the building at all given its location at the waterfront.

Town council member Bob Quinn has found himself somewhat in the middle, raising questions about the practicality of the development in that location but

also indicating an interest in determining whether it could be made to work.

MaryScott Haigler of Progress Edenton, a network of concerned citizens who have supported the sale of the building and the development of the brew-pub, noted this week that the group was still awaiting further action by the town council.

"Members of Progress Edenton have been keeping abreast of what is going on and hopefully awaiting a positive outcome," Haigler said Monday.

Public comment at a public hearing the town council held on the future of the building was overwhelmingly in favor of selling it and also strongly in favor of Glover's proposal to develop the structure as a brew-pub.

But council voted earlier this year not to sell the building.

Biggs expressed concern about commercial development in the midst of the town park and council members Norma Simpson and Elton Bond opposed the brew-pub

See BREW-PUB, 4A

Deadline extended for Hurricane Matthew recovery assistance

From staff reports

Jan. 9.

The deadline to apply for Hurricane Matthew-related grants from the Federal Emergency Management Agency and Disaster Loan Assistance from the federal Small Business Administration has been extended to

Jan. 9. A FEMA/SBA mobile disaster assistance center was set up last week in front of John A. Holmes High School. The center's last day at that site was Monday.

The centers are mobile and continue to move to new sites. SBA officials suggest that if you are a Chowan County resident and need to meet with someone about assistance you should go online to www.sba.gov and enter "Chowan County" to find out where in the area you can go for assistance.

SBA provides loans for people who have damage from the hurricane. For housing the rate is as low as 1.5 percent. The loan can help out if your insurance settlement is not enough to cover the work you need to do.

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SBA and FEMA officials suggest that you register with both agencies.

As of Nov. 18, more than \$152 million has been approved in federal grants, loans and flood insurance payments to those affected by the flooding in the state,

according to FEMA officials.

More than 73,000 people in 45 counties have contacted FEMA for information or assistance. The agency has provided more than \$76.4 million in grants, including \$53.8 million for rent or repair of disaster-damaged housing.

The National Flood Insurance Program has received more than 5,600 claims and paid more than \$32.7 million to policyholders, including advance payments to help homeowners get started

quickly on repairs.

The SBA has approved \$41.4 million in disaster loans to enable more than 1,100 applicants to rebuild.

Federal agencies supporting the state include the SBA, Department of Housing and Urban Development, Department of Transportation, Army Corps of Engineers, Department of Health and Human Services, Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Agriculture,

See ASSISTANCE, 4A



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ROCKY HOCK Opry FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2nd, 7:00PM
 RELAY FOR LIFE Christmas Show Sponsored by the Rocky Hock Ruritan's Relay for Life Team
 Tickets \$10.00 SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3rd, 7:00PM
 Perquimans Co. High School Auditorium Hartford, NC
 Tickets Available at various locations or call 252-221-4875 or 252-340-3438. Email rockyhock opry@live.com