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Council plans to pave a quartet of streets

BY REBECCA BUNCH
 Staff Writer

Four Edenton streets — Twiddy Avenue, Luke Street, West Hicks Street and West Carteret Street — have been identified as priority one sites in a plan being worked on by town officials.

Members of the town council received a briefing on the plan at their Aug. 28 work session from Derrick Smith, project manager for the Greenville based Wooten Company office.

"The streets were evaluated for eight different distress conditions."

Derrick Smith
 Wooten Company project manager

Smith said that streets in town had been given a rating by the town ranging from priority 1 for the most distressed to priority 4 for those least in need of work. At the town's request, the Wooten Company performed an evaluation of town street

conditions and a condition survey to verify what repairs would be necessary.

"The streets were evaluated for eight different distress conditions," Smith said during a PowerPoint presentation on the project. "Conditions were classified as

slight, moderate or severe." Distress conditions the Wooten Company looked at included:

Alligator cracking that is normally caused by inadequate thickness. Other causes, Smith said, include drainage issues or poor subgrade. The solution? Surface patching or resurfacing, depending on the severity of the problem.

Block or transverse cracking caused by shrinkage that takes place with age and is not due to structural failure.

The solution? Cracks can be filled.

Reflective cracking that is normally the result of an old concrete road being paved over that over time allows cracks to be seen where joints in the concrete exist. The solution? Repairing old concrete joints by crack filling.

Rutting that takes place in wheel paths or at the edge of pavement. The condition, Smith said, happens when pavement and subsurface compress, causing structural

failure. The solution? Resurfacing.

Raveling, a condition caused by the wearing away of a street's surface by loosened aggregate. The condition occurs due to the weathering of old asphalt, he said. The solution? Resurfacing.

Bleeding which is a condition where excess asphalt cement rises to the surface. The solution? Resurfacing.

Ride Quality during which road distortion affects the

See PAVE, 2A

Algae blooms grow more common

BY COLLEEN KARL
 For the Chowan Herald

The Chowan Edenton Environmental Group (CEEG) hosted a special community event focused on understanding and monitoring algal blooms in the Chowan River and Albemarle Sound. The program, A "Sound" Waterway? — Monitoring Environmental Changes in the Chowan River, attracted local citizens on Aug. 26 in Edenton.

Elizabeth Fensin, NCDEQ Algal Ecologist, provided an overview of the general biology and benefits of algae, and then highlighted some of the differences between beneficial algae and the blue-green algae which are classified as cyanobacteria. She shared pictures of the major blue-green algae species commonly found in our waterways and reminded the audience that these algae are much like plants — for optimum growth, they need sunlight, warm temperatures and nutrients.

The "blooms" in our region are not new according to historical data. From 2000 to 2016, a total of 38 and 43 blue-green algal blooms were reported and verified from the Pasquotank and Chowan River Basins respectively. The occurrence of blooms does seem to be on the increase since 2015 and 2016 had 5-6 reported events, and already this year we have experienced eight documented blooms in the same region. The increase could also be explained by the fact that we are doing a better job of reporting bloom events to NCDEQ when we see them. Our state environmental agencies can be best informed if we continue to report

See ALGAE, 3A



Courtesy of the Waff family, these historical photos show the Confederate memorial statue being moved in June 1961. Back in the day, the Waff Brothers were the contractors for moving the monument.

Taking a look at monument's history

BY MILES LAYTON
 Editor

Rather than write this like a standard news story, I'll stick to my strengths — writing directly to friends, neighbors and the community.

Like many people, each of us has been asked what we think should be done about the Confederate monument in downtown Edenton.

It's a hard question to answer because offering a candid opinion may risk offending or losing a friend, which is a far more valuable commodity than hot air spent on a century-old statue. We may not always agree on everything, but I like to think that most of us agree about the more important things — family, community and the Aces — than what separates us.

When County Commissioner John Mitchener spoke to me about this issue, he suggested that I check Chowan Herald's archives at Shepherd-Pruden Library to see what those folks thought in 1961 when the monument was moved from the Courthouse Green to the tip of Broad Street.



Thanks goes to Librarian Jennifer Finlay and Nicole Bowman-Layton for their research skills.

Before heading to our local archives to learn why the monument was moved, here is a bit of my own research from UNC-Chapel Hill's formidable archives about the monument's origin.

According to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill's archives, the Bell Battery Chapter of

the United Daughters of the Confederacy organized a fundraising drive in the early 1900s to build the monument that cost \$2,000 to build and features a 19-foot tall granite shaft topped off by a 7-foot tall bronze figure.

According to the archives, fundraising for the monument began in 1901 when 9-year-old W.D. Pruden Jr. made the first donation — 2 cents — to the project. By 1904, the chapter had secured enough funds to erect the base and shaft, which were dedicated on June 3, 1904. On that day, 75 veterans were in attendance for the services which included the conferring of 12 Crosses of Honor and the "Rebel Yell" given by their recipients. The bronze statue was unveiled on May 10, 1909.

Around the turn of that century, a lot of Confederate monuments went up across the South for many reasons. Maybe first and foremost, a lot of Civil War veterans were dying. Makes sense because the Old North State supplied a large number of troops to the Confederate armies. The last days of the Confederacy

See MONUMENT, 4A

Cook will not seek a 4th term

BY JON HAWLEY
 For the Chowan Herald

Northeastern North Carolina's state senator since 2013 is stepping down, citing redistricting and a desire to spend more time with family.

Sen. Bill Cook, R-Beaufort, announced he will not run for re-election in 2018, explaining his reasoning in a press release Tuesday afternoon.

"I've tried to be a good servant to the people of Eastern North Carolina. However, the recent redistricting changes have prompted me to reevaluate my commitment to my family," Cook said. "And as much as I love the folks of Eastern North Carolina, I love my family more. I have decided to not seek another term in the state Senate. I am blessed to have a wonderful family and I need to spend more of my life with them — especially my grandchildren."

Cook, 72, currently serves Senate District 1, which covers eight counties including Camden, Currituck, Pasquotank and Perquimans. That is expected to change, however, as the General Assembly is poised to approve new Senate districts in compliance with a federal court's ruling.

Over Cook's opposition, the Senate approved new maps on Monday that would make Beaufort part



COOK

See COOK, 2A

Bertie honors Sgt. Callahan

BY LESLIE BEACHBOARD
 For the Chowan Herald

WINDSOR — Etched in stone.

Last Friday a service was held to honor the life and service of Sergeant Meggan Callahan by adding her name to the Fallen Officers Memorial next to the Bertie County Courthouse on Dundee St.

An inmate at Bertie Correctional Institute killed Callahan, a prison guard, in

her line of duty on April 26.

Family, friends, coworkers and public officials gathered at the memorial to unveil Callahan's name newly added to the list of fallen officers.

Bertie County Vice Chairman Ernestine Bazemore welcomed everyone to the occasion.

Chaplain Riccardo Hardison led the opening prayer.

A representative from the Department of Public Safety expressed condolences

from the department and spoke about how Callahan was an important asset to Bertie Correctional Institute.

Friends and coworkers of Callahan had an opportunity to speak about her and give condolences to the family.

Bertie County Commission Chairman John Trent spoke to Callahan's family about her service and tragic death.

See CALLAHAN, 7A

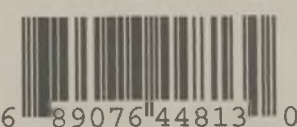


PHOTO BY LESLIE BEACHBOARD/BERTIE LEDGER-ADVANCE

Sergeant Meggan Callahan's name was added recently to the Fallen Officers Memorial next to the Bertie County Courthouse on Dundee Street.



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