

# Chowan Commission approves solar resolution

BY MILES LAYTON  
Editor

Chowan County Commission approved a spate of items during Monday's meeting to topics ranging from the airport to solar tax exemptions.

The commission approved a resolution that asks the Legislature to repeal a law that excludes 80 percent of the appraised value of solar energy from ad valorem taxes. The law

affects future tax values associated with solar farm equipment.

In other business, County Manager Kevin Howard provided an update on contaminated soil mitigation at the former county office building/Hinton Hotel. The county will be getting estimates to see how much it is going to cost to remove soil that may be contaminated from removing an oil drum years earlier. Either now or in the future, the county is

going to be on the hook for removing the soil as is required by state law.

Also, the commission tabled a request from the Airport Commission that asked the county to designate the rental revenue from the county-owned aircraft hangar to the town so as to assist with operations and maintenance of the airport. The county would still own the hangars, but the town would get the proceeds needed to assist

with managing airport operations.

And, the commission approved a contract between the county and Mike Lowery who was hired recently as Chowan County EMS Director. Lowery will be paid \$17,500 annually for the post.

Also, the commission discussed an upcoming vacancy to hire someone to replace a retiring technician because Scot Alons is retiring in January. If someone is

hired before Alons retires, the county wants to pay that person in addition to Alons so as to get that new hire up to speed before Alons retires. These costs will be split between Perquimans and Chowan counties.

And, commissioners approved a proclamation declaring October as National Long Term Care Residents Right Month.

Also, the commission reappointed Tim Phelps as one the county's ETJ ap-

pointees to the Edenton Planning Board.

And, the commission approved an amendment to the lease agreement between Chowan County and the College of the Albemarle for use of the COA campus.

And Howard offered an update as to progress being made toward FEMA funding for repairs at Bennett's Mill Pond. Though the federal funds have been approved, they are frozen until congress takes action, he said.

# Battle of the Bands takes place this Saturday

BY REBECCA BUNCH  
Staff Writer

More than a dozen bands from across North Carolina and the Tidewater Virginia area will take part Saturday in the Battle of the Bands, the center-

piece event in the 42nd Annual Peanut Festival.

Proceeds will benefit the bands in the Edenton-Chowan school system. The festival is hosted by the Edenton-Chowan Band Parents, Inc.

"Thirteen bands will compete for the prestigious Band of the Day Award, the Strother Award and the Gebhardt Award," said Marching Aces Band Director Lynn Dale of John A. Holmes High School. "Five of these groups are past Band of the Day winners. Bands from the Tidewater Virginia, Outer Banks, Lenoir and Edgecombe county areas will

converge on Edenton to earn first, second and third place awards in Music, Visual, Effect, Percussion, Drum Major and Color Guard categories."

The band competition will cap off a day-long series of events that will begin with arts and crafts on the lawn at the high school at 9 a.m., followed by the Peanut Festival Parade starting off at 11 a.m. Superintendent of Schools Rob Jackson will serve as emcee for the parade.

Delicious BBQ/Fried Chicken Lunch plates catered by Nixon's will be available for pick-up at the Boy Scout Hut adjacent

*"Thirteen bands will compete for the prestigious Band of the Day Award, the Strother Award and the Gebhardt Award."*

Lynn Dale

John A. Holmes High School Marching Aces band director

Aces, who will perform but not compete, participating bands are scheduled to include Perquimans High School, Hertford; Columbia Middle School/High School, Columbia, NC; Manteo High School; South Lenoir High School, Deep Run, NC; Cape Hatteras Secondary School, Buxton, NC; Pasquotank High School, Elizabeth City; Indian River High School, Chesapeake, VA; Gates County High School, Gatesville; Southwest Edgecombe High School, Pinetops, NC; Riverside High School, Williamston; Hampton High School, Hampton, Va.; Currituck County High School, Barco, NC; and Camden County High School, Camden, NC.

performing the National Anthem. Competition will begin at 4 p.m. Admission is \$8 (free for children age 6 and below) and programs will be on sale for \$1 each. Concessions will also be available during the competition.

"Air-grams for your favorite band will be available and a traditional Bake Sale Booth will be set up," Dale said.

Besides the Marching

to the high school from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. Dinner plates will be available from 4-7 p.m. during the Battle of the Bands will be available behind the stadium on Oakum Street. Plates are \$9 each for each meal.

Gates will open at 4 p.m. for the Battle of the Bands. An opening ceremony will get underway at 3:50 p.m. with the Chowan Middle School 8th Grade Band

## CHIEF

Continued from 1A

said the explosion would have destroyed everything within a 20-mile blast zone. He directed the logistical efforts of first responders from multiple emergency management agencies as assisted by the U.S. Marines in their quest to prevent this catastrophe.

"I was never scared, just concerned. That was the only time I ever called my wife (Jennifer) and told her that I loved her while I was on a fire scene," said Forlines, who has been married 27 years.

Forlines has saved more than a few lives during his long career. Governor Pat McCrory awarded him a citation for his service arising from saving folks exposed to CO2.

Forlines went above and beyond by helping folks survive Hurricane Matthew.

"I've rescued people from all kinds of situations," he said. "You don't do this job for notoriety."

Forlines recalled one

*"I've rescued people from all kinds of situations. You don't do this job for notoriety."*

Craig Forlines

Edenton fire chief

story about how a lady spun out on a rainy day and drove into a canal.

"When she spun out, the car flipped and ran into a big canal," he said. "The car ended upside down in the water that was muddy, murky. She was able to dial 911 before the water started coming in her car. Luckily, we were very close, so we dived in, popped open the window and pulled her out."

Another time, Forlines spoke of rescuing a man who was buried as he was doing trench work.

"What happened was the workers were putting in a sewer tap. The man bent over and a wall of dirt collapsed on him," he said. "The man was completely covered up — buried alive. The men on top called 911. We all started digging and got to him in time to get him out. He's still alive

today and doing well. So there's been lots of interesting things during the past 30 years."

There's no rest for the faithful, so don't expect Forlines to sit back, watch daytime television or maybe listen to the scanner. No, Forlines will be teaching the basics of fire inspection code enforcement to college students at six area colleges.

Also, Forlines will continue to busy by building his airplane.

"I've got plenty to keep me occupied," he said.

Speaking of repairing things, Forlines and firefighters repaired and restored a 1923 R.E.O Speedwagon fire truck. Runs great. Siren too.

As with Forlines' legacy — so far — that truck is something that will endure. Much thanks for your service Chief Forlines.

## STATUE

Continued from 1A

Roger Coleman said he supported the idea that the monument prominently situated in the town square should not stand as such a visible symbol of a community that represents history.

"I agree that it should not be the centerpiece of our town," he said.

And Bill Miller pointed out that while the monument has been there for many years the space could more appropriately be reconfigured to honor all servicemen from the community who have died.

"I think what that monument honors is not something to be proud of," he said.

Jean Simpson said she was raised to be proud of who she was and that she wasn't bothered by driving

by and seeing the monument at the foot of Broad Street. But she added that to many "it represents slavery. You weren't a person, you were property."

She suggested that a statue of a Union soldier should be added to the site.

Lois Thompson said she would also like to see a likeness of Frinks at the site.

"I followed him, I looked

up to him," she said.

After the discussion drew to a close, Vaughan and Knighton offered their thanks for the opportunity to hear from those who sat in a circle and shared their thoughts and desires concerning the future of the monument that evening.

Knighton agreed.

"My heart is full," she told the group. "I so appreciate you opening your hearts to the mayor and I."

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## Notice of Municipal Election for Town of Edenton

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN PURSUANT TO GENERAL STATUTES 163-33 (8) by the Board of Elections of Chowan County, North Carolina, that:**

A Municipal Election will be held on Tuesday, November 7, 2017 for the Town of Edenton, North Carolina. The polls will be open on Election Day from 6:30 a.m. until 7:30 p.m. The polling places and locations are as follows:

**East Edenton Polling Place**  
National Guard Armory William B. Gardner, Sr. Building  
702 North Broad Street, Edenton NC

**West Edenton Polling Place**  
Chowan County Agricultural Center  
730 North Granville Street, Edenton NC

**REGISTRATION:** All voters registered in the Town of Edenton are eligible to vote in the Municipal Election and need not re-register. Registration applications must be postmarked or delivered in person by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, October 13, 2017. Same Day Registration is available at Absentee One-stop Voting period.

Seventeen year olds who will be eighteen (18) years of age by November 7, 2017 may register prior to the 2017 Municipal Election and vote in said election. Residents of the Town may register in person at the Board of Elections office, 730 North Granville Street, Suite D, Edenton, NC 27932. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. -5:00 p.m., Monday -Friday. Registration applications are also available at the public library, schools and on-line at [www.nsbe.gov](http://www.nsbe.gov).

Absentee by Mail voting will begin on Friday October 6, 2017. Request can be made at the elections office.

One- Stop early voting will begin on Thursday, October 19, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. at the Chowan County Board of Elections office – 730 N Granville St Edenton.

For other information or questions contact the Chowan County Board of Elections office at 252-482-4010 or email [rebecca.lowe@chowan.nc.gov](mailto:rebecca.lowe@chowan.nc.gov)

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