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Wednesday, November 1, 2017

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Homecoming King and Queen crowned — B3

## 'Time is now to show up, stand up and speak up'

BY REBECCA BUNCH  
 Staff Writer

Learning from the struggles of the past and passing on the lessons learned was the message brought by speaker Joyce Mitchell to those attending the Annual Freedom Fund Banquet hosted by the Chowan County Branch of the NAACP Saturday evening.

The theme for the banquet, held at Leon Nixon Catering in Edenton, was "The Time is Now to Show Up, Stand Up and Speak Up."

Mitchell, of Bertie County, is the state president of the Democratic Women

of North Carolina. Brenda Little of the Chowan County NAACP introduced her to the audience.

"Joyce is a person who gives one hundred percent plus," Little said. "And she is known as an outstanding motivational speaker. Get ready for a powerful message."

And it was. "We have to honor our legacy," Mitchell told the crowd attending the banquet. "We know what it is to struggle, we know what it is to survive. Remember that you have to honor that legacy and pass it on."

Part of honoring that lega-

cy, Mitchell said, is working not just to create the best life we can for ourselves but to extend a helping hand to our brothers and sisters who may not be doing as well as we are.

"My blessing is going to come because I'm helping you," she said. "The material things you have in life, you can't take them with you. You need to reach back and see who else you can help."

Master of ceremony for the banquet was retired educator and former county commissioner Louis Belfield. He is also a member of the local NAACP

branch.

"It is imperative that we move forward together," he said. "It is time for us to show up, stand up and speak up. As people of faith we know we can't go wrong by invoking the name of God."

Darnell White, president of the Chowan County NAACP, extended a warm welcome to those in the audience.

"We are delighted that you took the time to be here tonight," she said. "We are glad to have you."

Brandon Mayo and

See NAACP, 3A



STAFF PHOTO BY REBECCA BUNCH

Keynote speaker Joyce Mitchell, President of the State Democratic Women of North Carolina, addresses the crowd at the Chowan County Branch of the NAACP Annual Freedom Fund Banquet on Saturday night at Leon Nixon Catering in Edenton.



STAFF PHOTOS BY REBECCA BUNCH

Recipients at the 47th Annual Appreciation Banquet for Chowan County Emergency Services personnel were: (front row, l-r) Ed Hall, Chowan-Edenton Optimist Club Youth Award and Darryl Slade, 4-H Top Cop Award; (back row, l-r) Kris Johnson, Law Enforcement Officer of the Year, Derast Bonner, Fireman of the Year, and Walter Copeland, Emergency Medical Technician of the Year. Other award recipients included Cord Palmer, Fraternal Order of Police, John McArthur and Jeff Edwards, co-recipients of the Governor's Heroism Commendation (not pictured).

## Much thanks and praise goes to first responders

BY REBECCA BUNCH  
 Staff Writer

The community's first responders — police, deputies, firefighters, and others — were the guests of honor at the 47th Annual Appreciation Banquet for Chowan County Emergency Services personnel held last Thursday evening.

The banquet, sponsored by the American Legion Edward G. Bond Post 40 Family, took place at the Legion headquarters in Edenton. A steak dinner was prepared by Legion members and served by cadets from the John A. Holmes High School JROTC.

The keynote speaker was

retired Army Staff Sergeant Timothy Payne of Chosen Leadership, Raleigh, NC. Payne, who retired in 2014 after an 11-year military career, now serves as an ambassador for disabled combat veterans.

Payne, a recipient of the Purple Heart and other service-related medals and awards for his service in Iraq and Iran, said he was inspired by the horrific events of 9/11 to serve our country.

He described his decision to serve as "the greatest honor and privilege in my life." From it, Payne said, he learned values such as loyalty, duty, and integrity, and

See RESPONDERS, 4A



Chowan County Sheriff Dwayne Goodwin, left, and Deputy Sheriff Andy Bunch, right, congratulate Darryl Slade, the winner of this year's 4H Top Cop Award, during the 47th Annual Appreciation Banquet for Chowan County Emergency Services last Thursday evening during a ceremony at the American Legion in Edenton.



PHOTO BY KIP SHAW

One of the dishes offered at Taste of Edenton.

## Taste of Edenton scores five stars

BY MILES LAYTON  
 Editor

Taste buds satisfied? Yep. Check.

Good time had by all in Edenton!? Double Check.

Eighteen vendors — Triple check!

Taste of Edenton was a success by all flavorificious accounts.

"Taste of Edenton was great," said Joy Harvill, a key organizer. "We had a smaller crowd this year due to homecoming and a wedding, but it was so enjoyable that I think we will now limit the number of ticket sales. Other than the wind, which made it pretty chilly on the water end of the tent, it was perfect weather."

First, the winners of "Best Bites" was/were COA won both "Best Dessert" and "Best Decorated Table"; 309 won "Best Sea Food"; The Table won "Best Land Food."

Food from all across Edenton's culinary landscape set sail for this port known for its good taste.

"I love this event be-

See TASTE, 6A



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## Food pantry continues holiday tradition

From staff reports

The Edenton-Chowan Food Pantry will again distribute special holiday baskets to 300 local families during the upcoming Season of Sharing.

The Season of Sharing meal was started 32 years ago when the Edenton-Chowan Food Pantry was founded by members of St. Paul's Episcopal Church. This volunteer ministry is now supported by

"The challenge this year is that we are serving 60 more families than were served two years ago."

Roger Coleman  
 Edenton-Chowan Food Pantry director

18 area churches and many local service clubs including the Rocky Hock Ruritans.

Beginning December 4, families currently served by the pantry will receive a special holiday meal in addition

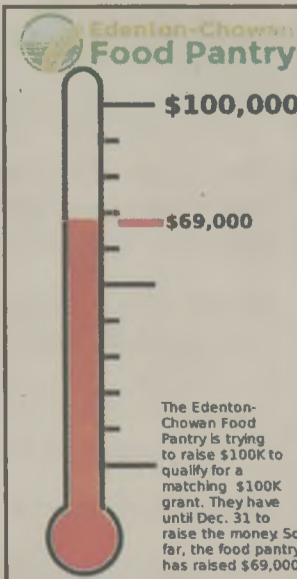
to their regular monthly food items.

"Traditionally, we have provided families with all the fixings needed to prepare a holiday meal," according to pantry director Roger Cole-

man. "This includes a large chicken or turkey, dressing, canned vegetables, rolls, cranberry sauce, fresh potatoes and dessert."

Coleman is asking the community to assist with this Season of Sharing meal by donating canned goods such as peas, corn, green beans, cranberry sauce, and dry goods including stuffing and cake mixes with icing.

See PANTRY, 2A



Live Drama ---HEAVEN'S GATES & HELL'S FLAMES NOVEMBER 12-14, 7 PM NIGHTLY  
 Edenton First Assembly, 1201 W. Queen St. 482-4789