

High winds cause outages, may have flipped truck

From staff reports

Albemarle area counties were feeling the effects of a major nor'easter pounding the East Coast on Friday, as more than 400 power outages were reported and a tractor-trailer overturned on a bridge in Chowan County.

Chowan sheriff's officials said the tractor-trailer flipped over on the Chowan River Bridge shortly after noon. The truck's driver was not injured.

While the N.C. Highway Patrol will make the final determination of what caused the wreck, Chowan officials believed it was in due part to strong winds on the bridge.

Town Manager Anne-Marie Knighton said an outage was reported about 8:30 a.m., affecting an area from the American Legion Fairgrounds to Wharf Landing near the Chowan River Bridge and to Hickory Fork Road. She said approximately 80 customers were affected, but service was restored to about 25 of them by 9:15 a.m. She said service was restored to the remaining 55 customers by 11:15 a.m.

She said the town's electric department staff also installed a new pole, which tightened up power lines that had been flapping against each other in the wind.

Elsewhere, Dominion Energy

spokeswoman Janell Hancock said 11 Dominion customers in Currituck County were without power. Another five in Camden County, two in Pasquotank County and one in Chowan County were without power, Hancock said.

In Perquimans County, Emergency Services Director Jonathan Nixon said four outages reported by Dominion.

Albemarle Electric Membership Corp. spokesman Chris Powell said a few isolated and scattered outages had been reported on AEMC's system. Those were at Hertford Beach, on Burgess and New Hope roads, and in Tyner and South Mills.



CHOWAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE PHOTO

A wrecker begins to remove a Pepsi delivery truck that overturned on the Chowan River Bridge, Friday afternoon. Chowan sheriff's officials believe the high winds buffeting the region as part of a major nor'easter slamming the East Coast may have played a role in the accident.

CRIMEWATCH

EDENTON POLICE DEPARTMENT ARRESTS

■ Feb. 24 — Brandon Maurice Blount, 31, of Mexico Road, was arrested on one misdemeanor count of failure to appear.

■ Feb. 23 — Darren Jermaine Valentine, 29, of Cabar-

rus Street, was arrested on one misdemeanor count of failure to appear and one misdemeanor count of driving while license revoked.

INCIDENTS

■ None reported.

CHOWAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE ARRESTS

■ March 2 — Rashonda Lucille Welch, 35, of Center Hill Road, was arrested on one misdemeanor count of failure to appear (criminal summons or citation).

■ March 1 — William Charles Byrum, 33, of Virginia Road, was arrested on one misdemeanor count of

failure to appear (domestic violence protection order charges).

■ Feb. 26 — Diana Gonzalez Camargo, 29, of South Carolina, was arrested on one misdemeanor count of failure to appear (controlled substance, possession of marijuana up to ½ ounce/

Nash County).

■ Feb. 22 — Shawn Kenyata Medy, 22, of Crown Street, Brooklyn, NY was arrested on one misdemeanor count of larceny and one misdemeanor count of possession of stolen property.

■ Feb. 22 — Christopher Arron Phillips, 22, of 1359

East 56th Street, Brooklyn, NY was arrested on one misdemeanor count of larceny and one misdemeanor count of possession of stolen property.

INCIDENTS

■ Feb. 25 — Larceny from a motor vehicle on Schooner Landing Drive.

CITIZENS

Continued from 1A

fire trucks. Other highlights during his time in office include the establishment of Winfall Landing Park on the Perquimans River and the installation of a \$6.4 million sewer system that has benefited the entire town.

In fact, Yates said it was the desire of Winfall residents to secure a new sewer system that first got him involved in community affairs. Based on contacts he made through that effort, he was encouraged to run for mayor, he said.

About that time, he said, the mayor who was in office became ill and wanted to

take a leave of absence but also wanted to get paid. So Yates volunteered to serve in his place until such time as he could return. That decision led to his eventual election as mayor.

"God works in mysterious ways," Yates said. "I had no idea what I was getting into. But I didn't let that deter me."

Instead he kept pushing forward and working for needed improvements to the small town he had come to love.

When asked what advice he would give others in the

African American community about getting involved in helping their communities achieve progress, Yates said collaboration, commitment and communication were key elements of success.

"You've got to work together," he said. "Go to the meetings in your community. Listen and ask questions. You've got to be prepared to ask questions to find out what's going on."

Both Hertford Mayor Horace Reid and Creswell Mayor Edwin Blount said that people like Yates had

served as an inspiration to them and a source of information on how to accomplish things in their own communities.

"I've sometimes felt like Daniel in the lion's den," Blount acknowledged.

Simpson agreed that serving on a public board came with many challenges. She said that was something she learned after deciding to give it a try after then-Councilman Willis Privott came knocking on her door asking her to do it.

"It's not easy being on a board," she said. "People

complained, they didn't respect me. It takes prayer now in this day and time to be on any board. I miss it, I pray for the board (town council)."

Hardy-Bond said after the gathering that she felt a solid foundation had been established for future activities and events to be held that would encourage members of the black community to seek a greater voice in local government and other venues where they could make a difference in the quality of life here.



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**CHOWAN
REPUBLICAN CONVENTION**

SATURDAY, MARCH 24TH

The Chowan County Republican Convention will be held on Saturday March 24th starting at 10:00 am in the lobby of the Chowan Public Safety Center, 305 W. Freemason St., Edenton. The business of the convention will be to elect delegates to the Republican 3rd Congressional District and the Republican State conventions. All Republicans registered as of January 31st or who have moved to the county after that date or who have turned 18 by February 23rd and are registered are eligible to vote. Also, we have invited all Republican candidates who will be on the Chowan ballot to speak, introduce themselves to their voters and to answer questions. Call Chairman Jim Robison at 312-7711 with any questions.

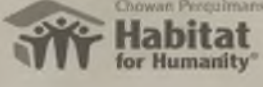


EDITOR'S NOTE

Due to space and time constraints, a story about the Chowan County Commission's Monday meeting will appear in next week's edition.

Commissioners discussed a Farmland Preservation survey, learned about NC Department of Transportation projects and had a lively discussion about whether to allow welding shops in agricultural zones.

Other items that were discussed included a request to purchase radios for Sheriff's Office patrol cars and whether to replace the Soundside Road Recycle Compactor.



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HUGGINS

Continued from 1A

cial parts of my job as Miss North Carolina."

As part of Read Across America Week and Dr. Seuss's birthday, Huggins read them the book about some guy who just didn't want to try anything new — green eggs and ham. In the end, the...whatever that creature was...had some of the breakfast fare and liked it. After Huggins read the book, she announced that the kids were going to get a big prize. They didn't know they were getting a book.

"How many of you like surprises?" she asked as the kids got all excited. "Oh my goodness. Well, I like surprises too. Thanks to a grant from the CITGO corporation, each kindergarten will be getting a book!"

Huggins' tour took her to schools in Pasquotank and Perquimans counties in recent days. She challenged the White Oak Elementary kids to keep working hard and to become whatever they want to be. Huggins told kids that it took her five tries to achieve being crowned as Miss NC.

"I believed in myself," she said. "Every year, I went back better and better and I learned. Finally, this past



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Heather Denny's kindergarten class at White Oak Elementary takes a moment to smile for the camera with Miss North Carolina.

year I presented to the judges the best Victoria Alexis Huggins I could possibly be. And they determined that I was the best person for the job of Miss North Carolina. If I can become Miss North Carolina from a 2-stoplight town of St. Pauls that hard-

ly anybody knows about at the very bottom part of our state, then you can become whatever you want to be."

The kids started clapping before they echoed Huggins remarks as she said, "If at first you don't succeed, you try try again."

Doesn't take a Disney princess to know that dreams can come true. Huggins asked for a show of hands as to how many students wanted to become teachers, police officers or doctors.

"Those are some wonderful dreams," she said. "I want to encourage you. There is no dream too small and there's no dream too big that you cannot accomplish as long as you work hard, you believe in yourself and you get an education."

Hakana matata!

PLEASE JOIN US!

SATURDAY, MARCH 10

10 AM TO NOON

The Cooperative Extension Building, 743 N. Granville Street




Photo by James LaCorte

LET'S TALK RESILIENCY IN EDENTON

We will be exploring hazard-related issues you have experienced, discussing important assets in our community, & identifying flood-prone areas through a mapping session.

This event is sponsored by the Town of Edenton and the Chowan Edenton Environmental Group. The workshop will be facilitated by the Division of Coastal Management as part of a resiliency project being conducted with the Town. We hope to see you there!

CHOWAN HERALD

(USPS 106-380) Vol. 83, No. 10

Published Every Wednesday
Cooke Communications North Carolina, LLC

Entered as a second-class matter August 30, 1934 at the Post Office of Edenton, North Carolina, under Act of March 3, 1879.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Daily Advance home delivery area \$27*
(Chowan, Perquimans, Pasquotank, Camden, Currituck, parts of Gates)

Elsewhere in continental United States \$46

*Plus applicable sales tax. Activation fee of \$1.99 will be collected with all new subscriptions.
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