



Soccer camp prepares Aces' warriors — 1B



Area supports Jones

"Fundraisers held Saturday to help Edenton businessman Frank Jones raise a necessary \$20,000 for living and other expenses as part of his entry into the Duke Transplant Program drew large numbers of people, organizers said. — 3B

Top teachers honored

A trio of top educators — Heather Terrell, Shaunte' Hunt and Victoria Brinson are teachers of the year for Edenton-Chowan County Schools. — 4A



Legion honors Herald

The Chowan Herald has received a third place 2018 News Media Award for its coverage of American Legion Post 40's events and activities. — 4B

Phelps leads fundraising

Democrat Cole Phelps has edged ahead of his Republican opponent, state Rep. Bob Steinburg, in fundraising for their Senate District 1 race, new campaign finance reports show. — 6A

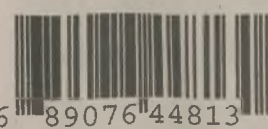


BBQ pro to appear on TV

A local pitmaster will compete on Food Network's Chopped Grill Masters this summer. Adam Hughes of Edenton is one of four North Carolina pitmasters competing on the show. — 3B



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BOE approves interim budget

BY MILES LAYTON
Editor

Edenton-Chowan Board of Education approved an interim budget resolution for 2018-19 fiscal year and learned more about statistics, good and bad, that have an impact on the county and school system.

County Commission allocated \$3.575 million to the school system with capital outlay at \$409,272. Food Service fund will be nearly \$1.3 million while the state will provide almost \$13 million and the federal share of the budget will provide about \$1.3 million. The total overall

See BUDGET, 4A



MILES LAYTON/CHOWAN HERALD

Edenton-Chowan Board of Education recognized the hard work by those Aces who completed the nursing assistant's program offered at John A. Holmes High School. From left to right: Health Sciences Teacher Casey Spear, Kayla White, Maleyah Bunch, Keshona Spivey, Courtney Ranger, Kinlee Chappell, Destiny Waff, Alison Cooke, Board of Education Chairman Gene Jordan.

Committee seeks balance of town-county

BY MILES LAYTON
Editor

Edenton-Chowan Board of Education and the County Commission have formed a joint committee to explore whether to build a new, high school or repair/renovate the existing John A. Holmes High School.

During the July 10 meeting, BOE Chairman Gene Jordan appointed himself, Paul Clifton and Richard Browder to the committee.

Commission's members are Chairman

See BALANCE, 4A

The one that didn't get away

BY MILES LAYTON
Editor

Forget the dolphins and talk of sharks in our waters.

Consider this — Danny Taylor caught a gigantic catfish that reliable rumor has it may be the biggest one ever caught in the Chowan River.

Sunday morning, fishermen from Pembroke Creek to Rocky Hock and beyond competed in the Chowan Catfish Challenge Tournament held out of Tunis Landing in Winton.

Rather than fishing in safe shoreline coves, Taylor took his rod and reel cast his line out in the deep waters of the Chowan River. His bait of choice was cut brim and white perch.

A half hour after leaving the dock, Taylor's line began to tug. He didn't need a bigger boat, but his net wasn't strong enough to catch the blue catfish, the largest species of catfish in North America. The fish weighed 82.2 lbs and was more than 56 inches long with a girth of 34 inches.

"I actually tried to net the fish, but my net wasn't big enough," Taylor said. "I broke my net, but I was able to get one hand in her mouth and then I grabbed it



PHOTOS BY STEVE GRZANKA

Danny Taylor and John Kellett, director of Chowan Catfish Challenge Tournament, have just weighed Taylor's catch — 82.2 lbs., 56 inches long and with a girth of 34 inches. Taylor caught the behemoth blue catfish early Sunday morning in the Chowan River.

with the other hand and just pulled her in the boat on top of myself."

Though there was a huge catfish flopping around in the boat, Taylor wasn't frightened.

"No, I wasn't scared," he said, "but I was scared of losing her. That's the biggest fish I've ever landed."

Taylor of Gates County is not a professional fisherman, though he does spend a lot of time on the water.

"I've been fishing pretty much my whole life," said Taylor, 47, who works at Ashton Lewis Lumber of Gatesville.

See FISH, 8A



Though Taylor didn't need a bigger boat to net this catfish, he did break his net trying to haul in this trophy fish.

What do heroes look like now?

By Jonathan Tobias

Tuesday July 10, Tham Luang Cave in Chiang Rai Province: On the far side of the world in Thailand — from a dark flooded cave with rising monsoon waters ... through nearly three miles of twisting constricted crawlspace (much of which was completely underwater) so squeezed-in that it would send any sane adult into flailing claustrophobia.

Divers led out twelve young boys and a young coach, an ex-Buddhist monk, out of the dark waters and into the free space of daylight. They had been trapped in the dank, cold and wet darkness for almost two and a half weeks.

The rescue process seemed exceedingly slow. But unseen by the watching and waiting world, each member of the Wild Boar Soccer team was taken, one by one, by a diver in front and a diver behind through the treacherous passage. The front diver carried the air tank of the boy between. Spare air tanks had been stashed along the way. The boys were given a sedative by an Australian physician who had entered the cave along with four Thai Navy SEALs. The doctor and the SEALs stayed with the coach and the boys for a week, not leaving the cave until every boy and the coach were rescued.

Joy and exultation greeted the soccer team, now weak and frail, as they emerged from the cave. Triumphant cries of "Hooyah" rang out from the SEALs at 6:30 pm local time (7:30 am here in Edenton) on Tuesday when coach Ekapol Chanthawong, 25, was the last to be pulled from the cave.

But, as in all stories of redemption (for that is the meaning of "rescue"), there was tragedy, too. One of the Thai Navy SEALs, Saman Gunan (38), lost consciousness while placing spare air tanks along the rescue passage, and died shortly after.

And the Australian doctor, an anesthesiologist

See TOBIAS, 2A

Albemarle Loop offers voyage of discovery

BY MILES LAYTON
Editor

Edenton, the town by the bay tends to attract a lot of boaters and sailors.

In recent weeks, sailboats associated with the Albemarle Loop were moored in our waters to embrace Chowan County hospitality.

The Albemarle Loop was organized to promote marinas and tourism growth in the Albemarle Sound area. This boating route encircles the calm waters of Albemarle Sound and into the fresh water estuaries of the mainland.

A dozen town docks and commercial marinas have pitched in to offer free docking, discounts at local restaurants and attractions,



MILES LAYTON/CHOWAN HERALD

Boaters seeking close and distant shores recently docked in Edenton as part of the Albemarle Loop tour, which hits marinas up near and far throughout local waters.

including the historic town of Edenton, Dismal Swamp State Park, Civil War sites,

museums, galleries, wineries and the "boaters' resort", Albemarle Plantation. One

stop, Elizabeth City, was just named a "Certified Retirement Community" by the state of North Carolina, a distinction it shares with Edenton.

The Albemarle Loop can be a 3-week discovery.

"We're proud of this area, and proud of how the Loop brings new visitors to the area," said Gary Lico, a key organizer of the Albemarle Loop.

A "Passport" ties it all together, with awards for certain levels of visits. A more extensive story about the Albemarle Loop will be appearing in a future edition.

For more information about how to acquire a passport and learn more about the Albemarle Loop, please contact Lico at 203-570-7753.

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VS MARTINSVILLE MUSTANGS
GATES COUNTY NIGHT
KIDS RUN THE BASES

JULY 21 @ 7PM
VS MOREHEAD CITY MARLINS
PERQUIMANS COUNTY NIGHT
STRIKE OUT ALS
LIVE PREGAME MUSIC
KIDS RUN THE BASES