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Aces cruise to win over Red Barons — 1B

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Wednesday, October 24, 2018

75¢

Big wind discussion blows through candidate forum

BY MILES LAYTON
Editor

The Chowan Herald hosted a county commission candidate's forum Thursday at the 1767 Courthouse.

Candidates addressed questions about wind energy, school building needs and jobs.

For a complete record of what the candidates said in the forum, go to the Chowan Herald's Facebook page.

Republican Bob Kirby is running against Commission President Jeff Smith, a Democrat, for District 1,

Seat 2.

Larry McLaughlin, an unaffiliated candidate, is running against Commissioner John Mitchener, a Democrat, for District 2, Seat 2.

Due to the space demands associated with publishing a comprehensive story, the story will be divided with the first part about wind energy while the second part will tackle whether the county needs to build a new school.

Mike Ervin, executive director of the Edenton Historical Commission, served as the forum's moderator.

After brief introductions to introduce themselves to

the audience who attended the forum, candidates addressed an open ended question about wind energy as it relates to the proposed Timbermill project.

Mitchener, who is running for re-election, served with the commission when decisions were being made to greenlight the project, pending federal and state permits.

Mitchener said commission listened to the public and educated itself so as to make the best decision.

"I think the commissioners did a good job for

See FORUM, 2A

PHOTO BY NICOLE BOWMAN-LAYTON

Mike Ervin, executive director of the Edenton Historical Commission, deserves praise for his service as moderator for the county commission candidate's forum on Thursday at the 1767 Chowan County Courthouse. A gentleman to the core, Ervin guided the forum with civility and diplomacy.



Blackbeard remembered

Chart your course to Ocracoke for the annual Blackbeard's Pirate Jamboree Oct. 25-28, 2018 to commemorate the 300th Anniversary of Blackbeard's historic last battle directly off the shores of Ocracoke Island. — 7B



Walk shares legends

Maybe you couldn't see dead people walking among the living, but you could certainly imagine them during the annual Historic Edenton Ghost Walk. After 350 years of history, there was bound to be some haunted sites here, there and everywhere. — 6A



Volleyball season ends

Lady Aces' volleyball team fell to Manteo and Perquimans in recent matchups. — 3B

Speller speaks to NSDAR

The Albemarle region is celebrating the 350th anniversary of its founding this year through a variety of commemorative activities, including special events in each of the northeastern counties. — 7A



Bands perform well

After wowing crowds with a top notch performance during Friday's halftime show, John A. Holmes High School's Marching Band took top honors at Saturday's Panther Band Classic at Pasquotank High School. — 9A

Ribbon cutting held for 'Showplace of the Albemarle'

BY NICOLE BOWMAN-LAYTON

For the Chowan Herald

When you look at the Taylor Theater in downtown Edenton, you are immediately struck by the clean white and glass surrounded by brick, old-looking buildings. Since Edenton was once a Colonial-era powerhouse, you'd expect some historical charm at play at the Chowan County seat.

When you look up, you see the big sign, "Taylor," in lights. One after another, the letters blink on and off in sequence until they all start flashing at once. It's retro, hip. The Showplace of the Albemarle is alive and well after being closed for almost a year.

In June 2017, a storm damaged an already worn roof, making the Taylor Theater, then under the management of Belinda and Ryan Repass, close its doors. The property owner refused to repair the damage. So the community rallied to save Edenton's iconic and only movie theater.

After a city council meeting in November 2017 in which the theater's fate was discussed, community members gathered enough money to buy the building and restore it. Destination Downtown Edenton helped find grant money to help repair the theater's facade.

The blinking lights are the handiwork of Ryan Repass. He and his wife Belinda became the managers/owners of the Taylor Theater and were instrumental in the restoration process. While the late Paul Waff and his crews repaired the building



PHOTOS BY NICOLE BOWMAN-LAYTON

Ryan Repass, who owns the Taylor Theater with his wife Belinda Repass, hands out popcorn during the theater's grand re-opening and ribbon-cutting ceremony.

from the roof down to the carpet, Belinda and Ryan lined up vendors and called film-making companies to get the latest films.

It opened a little over a year later — July 6 — showing two family-friendly, super hero movies — "Ant-Man and the Wasp" and "Incredibles 2."

On a recent October evening, the movie theater opened its doors for its grand re-opening and ribbon-cutting. The walls are fresh, white — free of

See TAYLOR, 3A



Visitors attending the Taylor Theater's grand re-opening talk while waiting in the lobby for the ceremony to start Thursday.

Residents cast ballots in early voting

BY NICOLE BOWMAN-LAYTON

For the Chowan Herald

Early voting is already way up for next month's mid-term election, with election offices in Chowan and Washington counties already reporting more voters in three days than cast ballots during the entire early voting period prior to election day for the May 8 primary.

Total votes cast for the Nov. 6 election in Chowan County as of Friday afternoon was 704, according to Chowan County Director of Elections Terry Meyers. That's nearly six times as many voters — 121 — who cast ballots during the first three days of the primary.

Tyrrell County reported that voting has remained steady, with 132 ballots cast on Friday.

While the exact numbers weren't available at press time, Washington County Board of Elections Director Dora Bell said the office has been really busy. She said that she estimated that the Plymouth facility has had about triple the amount of ballots cast compared to the primary.

One-stop voting for the Nov. 6 general election continues at county board of elections offices weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. through Friday, Nov. 2 in Chowan County. In Tyrrell County, one-stop voting is from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday. Washington County's hours are 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday. All three counties will hold one-stop voting from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 3.

'On my honor': McArthur leads Cub Scouts Pack 164

BY NICOLE BOWMAN-LAYTON

For the Chowan Herald

On Oct. 17, 1996, John McArthur became an Eagle Scout after spending many nights at the Boy Scout Lodge in front of John A. Holmes High School.

These days, the father and detective of the Chowan County Sheriff's Office, is at the building along Broad Street to lead cub scouts.

Some days, McArthur's uniform, can get a little hot in the lodge. His long-sleeved khaki shirt is decorated with various patches. He wears the olive green tie his father — longtime coun-

ty clerk Mike McArthur — wore as John's scout master, and olive green pants. The sleeves can be rolled up to provide a bit of comfort, but like the uniform McArthur wears during the day, the scout master uniform matters. Cub Scouts, youths ages 5 to 10, matter.

According to the Pack 164 committee member Alex Kehayes, scouting matters because it instills honor in our youth. During a recent trip to Georgia, he watched as a great-nephew received his Eagle Scout cord. The speaker talked to Kehayes about what scouting provides.

See SCOUTS, 3A

Edenton Daily News offers time capsule history lesson

BY MILES LAYTON

Editor

Every now and then, someone comes across a rare historical find that offers a glimpse, maybe an explanation, into times long since gone.

Most recently, Millard Bond discovered what most people thought had been long lost to history — the Edenton Daily News.

"I was floored at the information that was available then," Bond said. "What was kind of neat to me were the phone



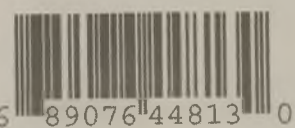
MILES LAYTON/CHOWAN HERALD

Once upon a time, Edenton had its very own daily newspaper. Copies of that newspaper, long lost to history, are few and far between, but Millard Bond found a few hidden in an antique mirror.

See NEWS, 4A



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