

Longtime postal carrier Maurice Bunch retires

Delivered Edenton's mail for more than 30 years

BY MILES LAYTON
 Staff writer

Maurice Bunch has retired after 36 years on the job as the downtown Edenton postal carrier.

Friday was Bunch's last day.

"Oh what a day, oh what a happy day!" he said in a telephone interview as

party goers were cheering for him in the background.

Bunch's familiar face was seen by many as he walked between 16,000 and 17,000 steps each day on his route through Edenton. On that note, Post Office recognized Bunch's service for being on the job more than 30 years and having logged at least 1 million miles. To qualify for Million Mile Club status, a professional driver must

have driven accident-free for either 30 years or a million miles.

And if you think about that distance, that's roughly two round-trips to the moon or 40 trips around the earth's 25,000 mile circumference. No wonder Bunch is in such good shape.

When Bunch was asked if he's ready to retire — he's still very spry at 60 years old — he said, "I'm

ready to retire. I want to spend time with my family."

Probably safe to say that Bunch's smile, easy-going demeanor will be missed. Many times as Bunch delivered the mail at the Chowan Herald, he stopped into share a bit of news or even photo such as that picture last summer of the coyote, who was

See BUNCH, A2



SUBMITTED PHOTO
 Longtime US Post Office employee Maurice Bunch clocks out for the last time Friday after retiring with 36 years of service.

Celebrate America's independence

Kick off July 4 with NSDAR

Hewes bio, Declaration of Independence to be read

BY SANDRA LANCASTER SPERRY
 For Chowan Herald

Chapter Regent Anne Rowe and Ceremony Chairman Beth Taylor invite everyone to attend the 20th annual July 4th Ceremony, sponsored by the Edenton Tea Party Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR).

This ceremony will be held at 10 a.m. Thursday, July 4, at the Joseph Hewes Monument on the Historic 1767 Chowan Courthouse Green.

Attorney Hood Ellis will present a biographical sketch of Joseph Hewes and Town of Edenton Mayor Roland Vaughan will read the Declaration of Independence in its entirety.

See NSDAR, A2

JULY 4 CELEBRATION

The Chowan Edenton Optimist Club's Fabulous Fourth of July celebration will be held Thursday, July 4, in Edenton's waterfront park. Activities will begin at 4 p.m., with a flag-raising by Cub Scout Pack 164. Fireworks are expected to go off at about dusk, around 9 p.m. In case of inclement weather, the fireworks will be rescheduled to July 5.



Rocky Hock Baptist Church hosted its Independence Day fireworks display this past weekend.

PHOTO COURTESY KIM ULLOM

King speaks at event

Change addressed during CBI graduation speech

STAFF REPORT

Edenton Police Chief Henry King was a keynote speaker at a recent graduation ceremony in Elizabeth City.

Loving Light Community Outreach Inc. held its CBI

graduation June 18 for participants from Chowan/Gates, Dare, Currituck, Washington and Hyde counties.

King gave the address aimed at the community stakeholders, those who support the graduates.

King centered his speech around Luke 22, verses 31-32:

See KING, A2

High will seek 1st Ward seat

Local lawyer announces candidacy for town council

BY MILES LAYTON
 Staff writer

A local legal eagle has announced his candidacy for the 1st Ward seat on Edenton Town Council.

William Hackney High Jr., who has a long pedigree of public service, said he offers a strong platform that will do much to improve town.

Generally speaking, High said he will be a strong advocate for improving streets and water system, seek better broadband access, attract/retain young workers and families, do more to strengthen economic development for

See HIGH, A2

Practice firework safety on Fourth of July

In 2017, fireworks killed at least 8 people in US

BY BILLY BASS
 For Chowan Herald

Summer is synonymous with backyard barbecues, parades and firework displays. But along with all the festivities are plenty of visits to emergency rooms, especially during the month of July.

In the year of 2017, at least eight people lost their lives and some 13,000 were injured.

Also during the day of July 4, more fires are reported than any other day during the year. Children under the age of 15 experienced about 36 percent



BASS

of the injuries and males of all ages were involved in 70 percent.

Fireworks are the cause of 1,300 structure fires, 300 vehicle fires, and nearly 17,000 outside and other fires.

The National Safety Council advises everyone to stay away from all consumer fireworks and only enjoy public firework displays.

See SAFETY, A2

Be respectful when setting off fireworks

Loud noises can upset veterans, pets

SUBMITTED REPORTS

When you think about Independence Day, you often think about delicious food, family, and fireworks that light up the night sky. However, for some, fireworks can be a source of stress, especially for pets and those veterans who

suffer from PTSD.

The loud noises can sometimes be a trigger, according to the US Marine Corps. Although not every individual who lives with PTSD may be affected, many veterans are stepping up to raise awareness of those who might be.

Many veterans with PTSD can mentally

See FIREWORKS, A3

Down East begins work on Perquimans home

Isaac White House, near Bethel, built in 1700s

BY NICOLE BOWMAN-LAYTON
 Editor

BETHEL — Tucked away behind a wall of trees along a curvy stretch of Holiday Island Road, a stately white plantation home in Perquimans County is receiving some tender loving care from Edenton-based Down East Preservation.

After sitting vacant for

about 10 years, the Isaac White house recently was purchased by Kent Will family, of Greensboro. According to Down East owner Dawson Tyler, Will owns Old Town Wood Floors and has come to northeastern North Carolina on several occasions to help Down East with its preservation efforts in the area.

"I think some younger people are gravitating toward country living because of the amount of detail and work that went

into the ways used to be done," Tyler said of the trend he is seeing of younger families shunning city life for life in rural areas.

"There is a societal change where people want to get away from technology and social media."

During a recent tour, Tyler noted that the building is "infinitely saveable." The structure is in decent condition.

However, short

See HOME, A2



NICOLE BOWMAN-LAYTON/CHOWAN HERALD

Dawson Tyler, owner of Down East Preservation, pulls out some of the original plaster out of a wall upstairs in the Isaac White House. The plaster contained horse hair, which made it quite durable, Tyler said.



HIGH

What's Happening in Chowan County

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Fannie A. Parker groups compete at states. — B5

Obituaries — A3

JD Peele Sr.
 Jane Brothers Swindell

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**Chowan Edenton Optimist Club
 40th ANNUAL
 Fabulous 4th of July**

**COME TO EDENTON'S WATERFRONT
 EAT DINNER AND ENJOY
 NORTH CAROLINA'S LARGEST
 "Over the Water Fireworks Show"**

**Entertainment by
 DJ COWBOY
 (Adam Evans) of Edenton
 EVENTS START AT 4:00 P.M.**

**LOTS OF FOOD,
 FUN, CRAFTS,
 RAFFLES AND
 GAMES FOR
 CHILDREN!!!**

**Please Support Our Fabulous 4th of July
 WE NEED YOUR FINANCIAL HELP!
 MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO
 CHOWAN EDENTON OPTIMIST CLUB
 108 Meadow Lark Dr., Edenton NC 27932
 IRS Tax Exempt ID # available upon request
 Rain Date July 5th**