

CHOWAN HERALD

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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2019

\$1



EARTHWORKS EXHIBIT OPENS AT CHOWAN ARTS COUNCIL — A8

NEWS

Mayor praises town employees for clean-up efforts — A5

COMMUNITY

Cupola House brunch, auction set for Sept. 22 — A6

SPORTS

Live Your Dash 8K held Saturday — B1

COMMUNITY

Bee Downtown CEO knows the buzz of beekeeping, business — B4

Group: Repair library now

Conference room closes to due water damage cancelling events

BY MILES LAYTON
Staff writer

Friends of the Shepard-Pruden Library urged the Chowan County Board of Commissioners to take action regarding the deteriorating state of affairs that has forced the closure

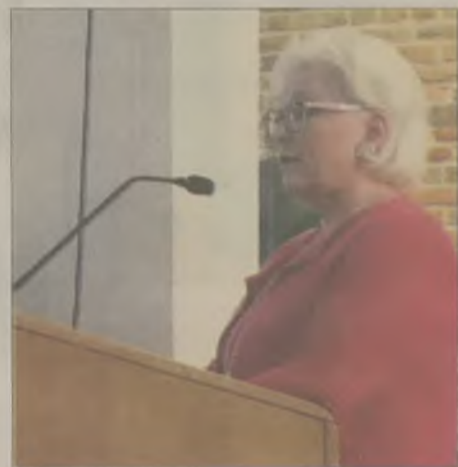
of a major conference room for the foreseeable future.

Vonna O'Neill, a long-time member of the Friends, read a letter to the commission, which can be found on the Opinion page A4, that states that the conference room was shut down due to water-related health and safety issues, that includes mold and mildew. O'Neill also presented the commission a long list of main-

tenance requests that have not been addressed in 2019.

"I view this library as a home for this community where people from all walks of life have access to the same resources to enrich their lives," she said. "It's the place where we operate as a civilized society to the benefit for all. It is normal viewed as a

See LIBRARY, A2



MILES LAYTON/
CHOWAN HERALD

Vonna O'Neill, member of the Friends of Shepard-Pruden Library, reads a letter Monday to the Chowan County Commission.

'One person can make a difference'

Organizer Leon Evans honored during annual 9/11 ceremony

BY NICOLE BOWMAN-LAYTON
Editor

One single day 18 years ago changed American forever.

Sept. 11, 2001, now known as Patriots Day, was a day in which 19 "cowards" carried out a

See DIFFERENCE, A5



NICOLE BOWMAN-LAYTON/CHOWAN HERALD
Barry Overman, current Pasquotank County commissioner and former firefighter, speaks during the 9/11 Memorial on Sept. 11.

INSIDE

Chowan County residents talk about 9/11 — A5

Week honors United States Constitution

Annual ceremony will be held Saturday at 1767 courthouse

BY SANDRA LANCASTER SPERRY

For Chowan Herald

In recognition of the observance of Constitution Week, the Edenton Tea Party Chapter, NSDAR will take part in Constitution Week with a 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 21, program celebrating Constitution Week. The program will be held at the Historic 1767 Chowan County Courthouse.

The program will include a welcome by Edenton Tea Party

See WEEK, A5

INSIDE

Judge Boyles to speak at Constitution Day ceremony — A6

A LOOK AT THE POSSIBILITIES



Students get out of school Monday at John A. Holmes High School.

NICOLE BOWMAN-LAYTON/CHOWAN HERALD

DDE releases concept drawing

Proposal for high school site includes performing arts center
SUBMITTED REPORT

Destination Downtown Edenton Inc. released a professional schematic design that shows the feasibility of maintaining the current Broad Street location of John A. Holmes High School.

The Board of Directors of Destination Downtown Edenton, Inc. is advocating to keeping the high school in its current location on Broad Street. After much discussion and questions from the public, the board decided to hire Clearscapes architects to show that in fact, a new facility with an added Performing Arts Center and Natatorium would be feasible at the current high school location.

Site plans created by Clearscapes depict the option of keeping and renovating the historic high school facade while demolishing and rebuilding additions to create a new modern facility. The plans show the possibility of new,

SCHOOL FORUMS

Due to press deadlines, coverage of Tuesday's public forum regarding the future of John A. Holmes High school does not appear in this edition. Look for coverage at dailyadvance.com or on our Facebook page, facebook.com/thechowanherald.

INSIDE

For a look at Clearscapes conceptual drawing, see page A2.

improved and expanded parking for students, staff and events.

The plan greatly improves traffic patterns on campus and advocates for a bus and car-pool drop off lane. An added rear fence and fewer entrances and exits were included in the plan in an effort to make the campus more secure.

"The high school is such an important part of our community we can't imagine Edenton without John A. Holmes. It's life, it's education, it's part of our identity. John A. Holmes is

one of the first things people see when they arrive in Edenton," Mayor Roland Vaughan said. "It sends a message to visitors that education is important here, our children are important here. This plan proves the High School can be a top-notch facility and remain here in the heart of our community."

Destination Downtown Edenton Inc. has been advocating decision makers be loyal to the existing campus.

In a resolution passed by DDE last year, the board expressed its dedication by saying: "DDE fully and completely supports all efforts by individuals, businesses, and organization to retain John A. Holmes High School at its current location, and endorses a plan to remodel, refurbish, and/or rebuild a facility as needed on the current site.

"Ultimately it is our goal that our students have an outstanding updated modern facility while keeping it at its current location downtown—a win-win scenario," DDE Chairman Nelson Spear said.

COA will name new president Friday

Kersey: State board expected to vote on selection at meeting

BY MILES LAYTON
Staff writer

Chowan County Commission President Patti Kersey announced that College of Albemarle will announce its new president Friday.

During Monday's Commission meeting, Kersey said the list of finalists was narrowed from three candidates to one possible presidential choice.

The COA Board of Trustees submitted the name of a finalist for the job to the State Board of Community Colleges and hopes the state board will approve its recommendation at its meeting scheduled for Friday.

The finalists include Jeff Jochems, president and vice chancellor at the Ozarks Valley Campus of the Ozarks Technical Community College in Nixa, Mo.; Richard Pagan, vice president for academic and student affairs at New River Community and Technical College in Beaver, W.Va.; and Jack Bagwell, vice president for academic affairs and chief academic officer at Piedmont Technical College in Greenwood, S.C.

To learn which of these candidates will be hired as the president, see the Chowan Herald's Facebook page on Friday and pay close attention to the Daily Advance's website.

In other matters, commissioners approved a \$1.542 million contract with A.R. Chesson for the renovation and repair work

See COA, A2

A mother remembered

Nancy Mordecai's broadcast career got started in Edenton

BY JULIEN MORDECAI

Editor's Note: This vignette offers a view not only of Edenton's history, but provides a story of the American dream, how it is still alive and vibrant. Anne Langhorne Wood Mordecai's obituary can be found on Page A3.

I met my mom when she was 42 in Nicaragua in November of '68. She had moved to Managua after having been introduced to my dad,

George, by her close cousin, Peggy Sears Winborne Mordecai, who was married to my uncle Frank Mordecai and had been living in Nicaragua since the early 1950's.

By this time, mom had married Dad and moved down with her three children from her first marriage, my brother Ed, sister Anne and my brother Jimbo. Mom had been previously married to Ed Carson of Greensboro, NC. She had worked as a single mother since their divorce in radio in Edenton in the 1950's with

See MOTHER, A2



(L-r) Wood, Harris and Beatrice Mordecai pose with their grandmother Anne "Nancy" Mordecai in this old family photo.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

What's Happening in Chowan County



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Gold Out planned for Aces-Currituck game. — B1

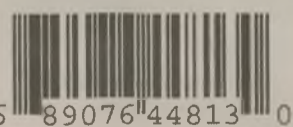
Obituaries — A3

Dorothy Saunders Layden
Richard W. Lowe

Anne Langhorne Wood Mordecai
Myrna Marlene Weiske Shafer

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**Mayberry Hospitality
Dinner Theatre**



OCT. 4, 5 & 6, 2019 • 6:30 PM • \$12 DONATION PER SEAT
MENU - Steak, Baked Potato, Green Beans, Roll, Tea, Dessert

For Tickets call Church Office at 252-221-4133

Rocky Hock Baptist Church
113 Rocky Hock Church Rd., Edenton, NC