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ACES HEAD TO 1AA EAST FINAL
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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2019

\$1

COMMUNITY

Wreaths Across America will be held Dec. 14 nationwide. Activities start at noon in Edenton's Beaver Hill Cemetery. — A5

NEWS

Sheriff Goodwin offers holiday shopping tips, advice regarding gift card scams. — B5

Letters to Santa

The deadline for Letters to Santa is Friday, Dec. 6. Letters can be dropped off at the Chowan Herald office or emailed to nlayton@ncweeklies.com.

Local, state candidates file for 2020 election

Steinburg, Goodwin seeking re-election for NC Legislature

BY MILES LAYTON
 Staff writer

Legislators and county commission candidates took time to sign the line when candidate filing opened Monday.

State Sen. Bob Steinburg, R-Chowan, and state Rep. Ed Goodwin, R-Chowan, filed for their second terms.

"It continues to be an honor and a privilege to represent northeastern North Carolina in the largest legislative district in the entire General Assembly," Steinburg said Monday after he

filed, joined by his wife Marie. "The strong relationships I have within the region and with leadership in Raleigh has meant that our voice is one that will be heard and not denied or ignored when it comes to the challenges facing a rural legislative district."

Steinburg said he remains strongly committed to serving

the region.

"I have the desire, energy, drive and commitment to continue representing this region in a manner that will ensure that the needs of northeastern NC will not be ignored," he said. "Next year the voters in Senate District 1 will



GOODWIN



STEINBURG

See ELECTION, A2

Chief King: Don't pass stopped school buses

So far this school year, 8 tickets issued within the town limits

BY MILES LAYTON
 Staff writer

When a school bus comes to a stop, nearby drivers have a choice to make — break the law, face a huge fine, receive driver's license/insurance points and possibly harm someone — or to do the right thing.

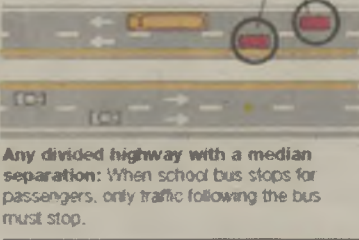
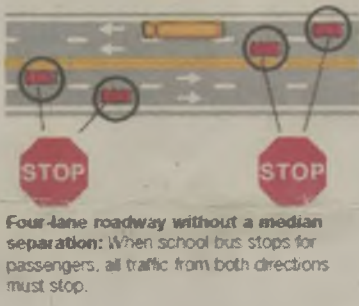
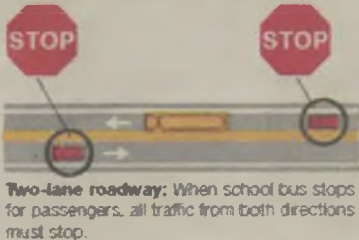
Seems like an easy choice, but some folks decide otherwise to risk everything to gain nothing. Since mid-August, eight tickets have been issued for motorists who've been charged with passing a stopped school bus with the town of Edenton — a number that is quite high for a town of about 5,000 souls, according to Police Chief Henry King Jr.

"One incident is too many," he said. "So if you simply don't want to hear from the police, then just don't pass a bus."

To see a video featuring King's interview about the penalties of passing a stopped school bus, see the Chowan Herald's Facebook page.

Any person violating this section shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor and shall pay a minimum fine of \$500, have five points assessed against a driving record and four insurance points. According to the NC

North Carolina SCHOOL BUS STOP LAW



Department of Insurance, a conviction of passing a stopped school bus will increase a motorist's insurance rates by 80 percent.

King said distracted driving

— be it talking on a cellphone or to passengers — means a motorist has to focus on something other than the road.

"Please understand that when traveling at a certain

speed like 35 mph and you take your eyes off the road to look at a passenger, you will be traveling at around 51 feet per second — it does not take much for missing a stopped school bus," he said.

During a six-month period from August 2018 to March 2019, 12 children were killed and another 47 were injured while getting on and off school buses in the U.S., according to state statistics. Bus stop-arms were extended at the time, which means that in North Carolina and the 49 others, motorists were required to come to a full stop.

"Our youth deserve the right to grow up and become adults," King said. "Nothing in your vehicle when driving is more important than the safety of our children."

Edenton-Chowan Schools Transportation Supervisor Amanda Goodwin cited state law:

When a school bus is displaying its mechanical stop signal or flashing red lights and the bus is stopped for the purpose of receiving or discharging passengers, the driver of any other vehicle that approaches the school bus from any direction on the same street, highway, or public

See BUSES, A2

County to rebuild facility

Restroom at Chowan River pier burned down in November

BY MILES LAYTON
 Staff writer

Good news on the horizon for folks who may need a pit stop when kayaking or fishing on the Chowan River between Rocky Hook and Edenton.

During Monday's meeting, Chowan County Commission approved a bid from Eure and Sons Construction of Hertford for the reconstruction of the Chowan River fishing pier's restroom.

About a year ago in November, the restroom area burned down. No foul play is suspected in the fire.

The fishing pier bid was awarded to Eure and Sons Construction (\$162,376) with the approval contingent on the insurance company's final approval.

In other business, commissioners approved tech software for about \$100 month annually for the next three years. Program that is \$2,300 to implement

See COUNTY, A2

Town to host tree lighting, flotilla Friday

'Home for the Holidays' parade set for Saturday

By NICOLE BOWMAN-LAYTON
 Editor

The Town of Edenton will kick off the holiday season this weekend with activities on Friday and Saturday, Dec. 6-7.

On Friday, Destination Downtown Edenton will host the Christmas Tree Lighting and Flotilla from 5:30-8 p.m. at the downtown

Edenton waterfront. The night's events are sponsored by Regulator Marine, Southern Bank, Capt. Mark Theiser and GR Little Agency.

An opening ceremony will be held, which include the singing of carols.

Student choirs from White Oak and D.F. Walker, as well as the Albemarle Sounds, will lead the singing.

The tree and star were bought in 2018 through

donations from the community. Mayor Roland Vaughan's wife Peggy Anne lead the effort to secure the funds for the 20-foot artificial tree and the star on top of it. In a previous interview, Roland Vaughan said the tree itself has 7,140 lights.

Destination Down Edenton Executive Director Jennifer Harriss said the Christmas Tree Lighting has become a huge event.

"Many folks have commented saying the tree

lighting is straight out of a Hallmark movie. I believe it truly encompasses our sense of community," she said.

When the Christmas Tree is lit in front of the Confederate statue, other trees will be lit around the park. The trees, coordinated by Vonna O'Neil, have been sponsored and decorated by local nonprofits, businesses and other groups. The 6- to

See FLOTILLA, A3



FILE PHOTO
 The Christmas tree in downtown Edenton will be lit Friday during a tree-lighting ceremony. The 20-foot tree and star were purchased in 2018 with the help of donations raised by Mayor Roland Vaughan and his wife Peggy Anne.

Edenton-Chowan Schools announce transfers

Michelle White to lead CMS effective Jan. 3, 2020

SUBMITTED REPORT

Edenton-Chowan Schools Superintendent Dr. Rob Jackson announced the following administrative transfers in a press release issued on Wednesday, Nov. 27.

The transfers, which will take place Jan. 3, 2020, involved the

principal positions at Chowan Middle and D. F. Walker, as well as an administrative role.

Michelle White, currently principal of D.F. Walker Elementary School, will assume the role of principal of Chowan Middle School.

White has been with the Edenton-Chowan School System for seven years. She previously served as principal of White Oak Elementary and D.F.



CAMPBELL



LINDA WHITE



MICHELLE WHITE

Walker Elementary. Under White's leadership, both ele-

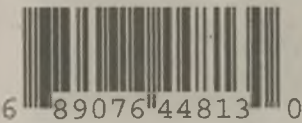
mentary schools experienced tremendous success. Most recently, D.F. Walker Elementary was selected as North Carolina's ESEA National Title I Distinguished School in the category of high progress.

D.F. Walker was one of two North Carolina schools chosen to be finalists for this prestigious award out of approximately 1,400 Title I schools across the state.

White has received several awards and recognitions including Edenton-Chowan Schools Principal of the Year, Northeast Regional Principal of the Year,

See TRANSFERS, A3

What's Happening in Chowan County



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'A Christmas Carol' is coming to Edenton — A6

OBITUARIES — A3

Annie W. Jethro
 Lina W. Hobbs
 Thomas W. Leary

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Edenton Flotilla & Tree Lighting

Downtown Edenton Waterfront
 Friday, December 6th at 5:30 pm
 Destination Downtown Edenton, Inc.

