

## 'People's theatre' now locally owned, operated

BY MILES LAYTON  
Editor

Thanks to a commitment from the Chowan County community, Taylor Theatre will get a second act.

Charlie Creighton said the ink is dry on the deal to purchase the theater building from the Montanaro Family NC Properties.

See our editorial about Taylor Theatre on page A6.

Creighton along with Samuel Dixon and Larry Sellers spearheaded recent efforts to save the theater. Within a few short weeks, the investment group raised more than \$610,000 to purchase the theater building and make repairs.

Creighton said the purchase contracts were signed last week with the sales price being \$330,000. The remainder — about \$280,000 — will be used for repairs and more. The theater closed in June after a storm damaged the building.

"On top of the purchase price, this extra money will allow the owner to restore it to its original glory," Creighton said.

A local couple — Belinda and Ryan Respass — will lease the theater as its new operators. The Respasses are former long-time employees of the theater. While contractors were busy cleaning and

See THEATRE, 3A



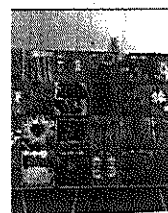
SUBMITTED PHOTO

These are some of the folks who made it happen — the rebirth of Taylor Theatre. A group of local investors stepped up to the plate to raise \$610,000 needed to buy the property and make repairs.



### comes to life

n County's very first holiday Christmas Carol" ability to inspire — B2



### ood cause

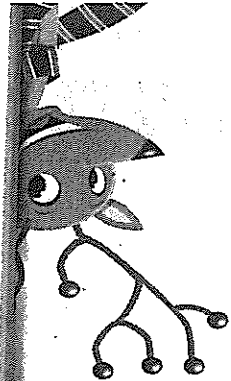
nt children's on has raised \$100 to benefit of the Chowan Council as well as local Boys and Girls. — B4



## Police Chief retires

BY MILES LAYTON AND REBECCA BUNCH  
Cooke Communications

Edenton Police Chief



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that saving the Taylor Theatre is important because having first-run movies will allow all members of our community to be able to experience the magic of movies. I would like most to see premier of a brand new blockbuster from Hollywood, showing at our small, historic theater. The Taylor Theatre is for everyone. It is the people's theater and that is why we saved it. I look forward to the smell of popcorn once more on Broad Street as individuals walk in and out of those theater doors with big smiles on their faces."

Sellers noted that now that the ball is rolling, perhaps Edenton can continue its roll toward accomplishing successful projects. "I'm thrilled that the town did come together and open it back up. I think we should also set our sights on a larger project in the near future," he said. "If you do one project, there is plenty more that can be done in town."

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**THEATRE**  
 Continued from 1A

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 TUE. DEC. 24  
 WED. DEC. 26  
 THU. DEC. 27  
 FRI. DEC. 31  
 SUN. JAN. 2  
 WED. JAN. 3

3A  
 RALD, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2017

**ina S. Crummey**

arina Spruill Crummey, 82, of 803 nton, NC, passed away on Thurs- 2017,



ay was ington, 1935, daughter of Sam- t Sam- Hufton super- North rt, she er with nty De- ial Ser-

ice Manager of Chowan Hospital. denton Baptist Church where she ight Sunday School, she was the ted to serve on the Edenton Town ber of the Business and Profession- where she had received the Wom- Award, a member of the Elizabeth The Order of The Eastern Star, and orthy Matron of the former Eden- he OES.

o her parents, she was preceded in ter, Margaret Spruill, and a sister-in- ill.

are her husband, William Allen ey, with whom on December 11th, e celebrated 65 years of marriage; s and their husbands, Angela and nd, Dianne and Louis Nixon, and yne Copeland, all of Edenton; three rt L. Spruill (Bernice) of York, VA, ruill of Chesapeake, VA, and Hen- Mary) of Roper; nine grandchildren, rick), J.C. Forehand (Kim), L.W. Nix- n (Sarah), Ashley Venters (Hunter), win (Chris), Amber Young (Mark), Maurice), and Abby Tarkington (Co- eat-grandchildren.

ervices will be held Saturday at 2:00 on Baptist Church and will be con- pastor, The Rev. David Brooks. A will follow in Beaver Hill Cemetery.