

> Sent: Tuesday, September 23, 2003 6:49 AM (3)
> To: Town Council
> Cc: vkopp@mchsi.com
> Subject: Petition to adopt Edenton/Chowan County in wake of Hurricane
> Isabel
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> Thank you for the opportunity to speak last night. I wanted to supply
> more information about my request.
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> As I said, 75 percent of homes in the area have some damage. There was
> "100-year flooding" of the Albemarle Sound and Chowan River, with many
> homes seriously damaged or destroyed. There is no power and will not
> be for about three weeks, according to projections. The water is
> coming out of taps at a trickle and is not safe to drink. Those in the
> county on wells have no water. Downtown businesses are destroyed and
> some may not reopen, so that employees will lose jobs. Farmers in the
> county lost crops. The two grocery stores in the county have not
> reopened and none of the restaurants (fast food or otherwise) had
> reopened as of yesterday, so there are three food/supply distribution
> centers at
> present: Holmes High School in Edenton, Chowan Middle School on Highway
> 32 north of town and the
> National Guard Armory at the municipal airport on the east side of town.
> In addition to residents, about 200 utility workers in the county need
> food and water.
> Our church in Chapel Hill, Chapel of the Cross, has agreed to collect
> some donations but cannot take a large volume of goods. My husband and I
> have driven several carloads of food, water, ice, gas for chainsaws, etc
> down but more will be needed. I am hoping that if the town would adopt
> Edenton, other churches/businesses/individuals would collect supplies
> and get them to Edenton/Chowan County. As I said, I do not know the
> specifics of how the town helped Speed, but even the moral support of
> making the statement would be appreciated. Additionally, perhaps other
> municipalities would follow Chapel Hill's example and adopt other towns
> in need such as Windsor/Bertie County, Gates County, Hertford/Perquimans
> County, Plymouth/Washington County, Hyde County.
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> Northeastern NC is predominantly poor and rural and to be honest, I
> think the need will be forgotten quickly as the news media move on to
> other stories. If the Council would adopt Edenton/Chowan County, I
> will help organize some relief and refer individuals/churches, etc to
> those who can tell them the best ways to help.
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> The public information officer for the county is Peter Rascoe at
> 252-482-3210; he is coordinating information on the changing needs
> there. The Edenton mayor is Roland Vaughan; town manager is Anne Marie
> Knighton and County Manager is Cliff Copeland.
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> A relief fund has been established: Edenton/Chowan Hurricane Isabel
> Relief Fund, PO Box 1030, Edenton, NC 27932. Fed Tax ID# 56-2261469.
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> The counties in the region cooperate very well with one another, and
> if the town were to "adopted" and receive more support than they
> needed I am sure the excess supplies would be shared with others in
> the region. I am returning today and will not have email there until
> the power is on but my husband (cc above) has email he can access at
> his job in Elizabeth City. We do have phone service in Edenton
> 252-482-1180. Thank you for your consideration. Katherine Kopp
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