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**AUTHOR CHAMBERLAIN OFFERS  
WRITING TIPS, GREETINGS — 1B**

50¢

## Brew-pub proposal gets public support

**BY REBECCA BUNCH**  
Staff Writer

About 30 local residents spoke at a public hearing Monday night designed to seek citizens' comments about the future of the former Northeast Commission building.

The hearing was held at a town

council work session moved to Swain Auditorium due to an expected larger than normal attendance at the session.

Most of those who spoke — many of them young people — said they favored the establishment of a microbrewery and pub at the site. That proposal was put forth by John Conger Glover of

Raleigh.

A competing proposal offered by David Alarid of Williamson County Investments that proposed establishing restaurant and retail space in the building did not draw much support.

Other ideas floated during the hearing were the establishment of a Smart Start office at that lo-

cation on the waterfront, which is adjacent to a park where children play, and making more use of recreational opportunities.

"We look forward to hearing what you have to say," Mayor Roland Vaughan told the audience as he opened the public hearing. "We take very seriously the thoughts and ideas you bring to us."

And for the next several hours, the council did just that.

Local artist Cam Waff was among the young people who voiced support for Glover's proposal. He said that for citizens his age or for those who visit sometimes there isn't much to do in the

See BREW-PUB, 4A

## HERITAGE MUSEUM AMONG IDEAS AT WALKER FORUM

**BY REGGIE PONDER**  
Editor

The idea of using at least part of the two-story former D.F. Walker School building as some kind of museum or cultural center drew broad support at a forum Monday on the building's future.

The local Racial Reconciliation Group and the D.F. Walker Alumni Association co-sponsored the forum, which was held at the Shepard-Pruden Memorial Library.

The school educated generations of black students in the Edenton community in the years before the local schools were integrated.

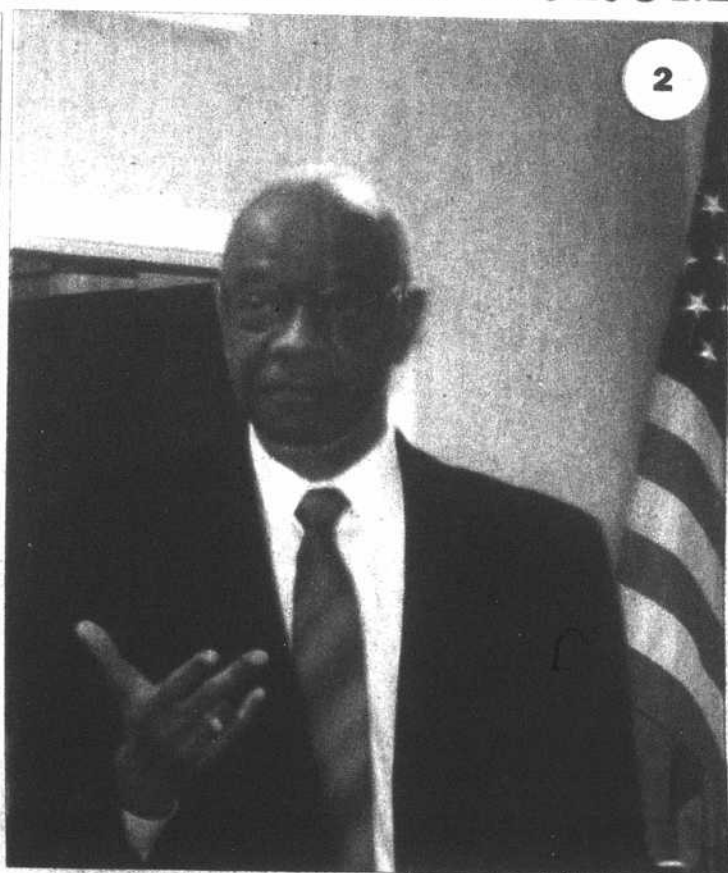
The Chowan County Board of Commissioners recently formed a task force to explore the possibility of preserving the historic Walker School building, which is located on the Edenton-Chowan Campus of College of the Albemarle.

"D.F. Walker means everything to me and to all of us," said Roger Hathaway, a graduate of the school who recently retired from NASA. "We're all in this together."

Hathaway said that as he thought about the school and the accomplishments of its graduates he had begun to wonder how it might live on as a historic, cultural center. He said he also had thought about the cost of preserving the building.

As he thought about all those things he realized that the Walker Building

See FORUM, 4A



STAFF PHOTOS  
BY REGGIE PONDER

Carolyn Anthony (photo No. 1) of the D.F. Walker Alumni Association, speaks at a forum held Monday to discuss the future of the former D.F. Walker School building.

Roger Hathaway (photo No. 2), an Edenton native who recently retired, and Ben Speller (photo No. 3) speak at Monday's forum, which was held at the Shepard-Pruden Memorial Library.

## Algae could prompt citizen monitoring Man, 63, dies in crash

**BY REGGIE PONDER**  
Editor

Citizen environmental monitoring such as that pioneered by Chowan residents in their battle against Hydrilla could help state environmental officials come to terms with the blue-green algae that plagued the area around Edenton last summer.

The Chowan Edenton Environmental Group presented a forum Saturday on water quality in the Chowan River. While a session earlier this year focused on Hydrilla, an invasive water weed, Saturday's forum dealt with algae and other water quality issues.

CEEG's Colleen Karl told the forum at First Presbyterian

See GREEN ALGAE, 2A



STAFF PHOTO BY REGGIE PONDER

Elizabeth Fensin of the N.C. Division of Environmental Quality, discusses algae in the Chowan River and Albemarle Sound during a water quality forum held Saturday.

From staff reports

A Chowan County man was killed in a single-vehicle crash on Feb. 16 when the truck he was driving ran off the road in a sharp curve on a rural road.

### FATALITY

Lloyd Littlejohn, 63, of 442 Drummond's Point Road, was pronounced dead at Vidant Chowan Hospital, according to the N.C. Highway Patrol.

Lloyd Littlejohn, 63, of 442 Drummond's Point Road, was pronounced dead at Vidant Chowan Hospital after being transported there by Chowan County EMS, according to Trooper Kevin Briggs of the N.C. Highway Patrol.

Briggs said Littlejohn was driving a 2014 Nissan Frontier pickup truck toward Naughton Road on Yeopim Road around 9:20 p.m. on Feb. 16 when he lost control of the vehicle in the curve in front of Edenton Dance Stars and ran off the road on the right. The truck traveled over a ditch and collided head-on with a tree, Briggs said.

Speed appeared to be a factor in the crash, Briggs said. The preliminary investigation indicates the truck was traveling about 75 mph, he said.

Briggs noted the Department of Transportation has marked the curve with 35 mph warning signs ahead of the curve in each direction.

At the time of the crash, the truck had just passed a slower-moving vehicle, Briggs said. The driver of the other vehicle witnessed the crash and reported it, according to Briggs.

Littlejohn apparently was not wearing a seatbelt at the time of the accident, Briggs said.

## Wellness fair to offer free vision tests for kids

From staff reports

Free vision screenings for children six months to six



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years of age will be offered at a Wellness Fair in Edenton on March 5. The screenings will take place at St. Anne's Hall, 207 N. Broad St., Edenton from 10 a.m. through 2:30 p.m. Young children will be screened in a separate room in St. Anne's Hall near the entrance.

"We encourage families to bring their children in for a

free vision screening," said Diana Ryan, a member of the wellness fair committee. "The actual screening takes less than a minute, but the benefits can last a lifetime."

More than 12 million school-age children in the United States have some form of vision problem, yet only one in three have received eye care services

before age six. Many vision problems run the risk of becoming permanent if not corrected by age seven, when the eye reaches full maturity. Vision also plays an important role in education. According to educational experts, 80 percent of learning is visual.

See WELLNESS, 4A

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**Benefit Lunch & Dinner** **11AM to 2PM & 4PM to 7PM** **6 PM til 7 PM Dinner Music by "Big Daddy" Sam Morris and Jamie Harmon**  
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