

## Town, Habitat ink neighborhood redevelopment deal

BY REBECCA BUNCH  
Staff Writer

Mayor Roland Vaughan has signed off on an agreement between the Town of Edenton and the Chowan-Perquimans Habitat for Humanity chapter to help increase opportunities for affordable housing in the community.

Vaughan met last week at town hall with Habitat president Sally Holloway, town planner Sam Barrow and Town Manager Anne-Marie Knighton to sign a memorandum of understanding making the arrangement official. The arrangement was approved by members of the town council prior to the signing ceremony.

"The memorandum memorializes the town's commitment to work with and support Habitat for Humanity's mission of creating affordable housing in our community where possible in the Oakum Street Neighborhood Redevelopment Zone and the Moseley Street Redevelopment Zone," Knighton explained.

"The town's two redevelopment plans for these



Mayor Roland Vaughan, center, prepares to sign a memorandum of understanding between the town and Chowan-Perquimans Habitat for Humanity. Looking on are local Habitat chapter president Sally Holloway and Edenton Town Planner Sam Barrow.

STAFF PHOTO BY REBECCA BUNCH

See DEAL, 3A

## Flynns petition to overturn wind project permit

BY REGGIE PONDER  
Editor

A Paradise Road resident opposed to the proposed Timbermill Wind project has filed a petition in Chowan County Superior Court asking that the conditional use permit for the project be revoked.

Patrick Flynn filed the appeal on behalf of himself and his wife, Belinda Flynn.

The Flynns own and live on property next to a tract that is part of the proposed Timbermill Wind Project.

The Chowan County Board of Commissioners last month approved a conditional use permit for the Chowan portion of the Timber-

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mill Wind Project, a 300-megawatt wind energy generation facility proposed for the Center Hill and Bear Swamp areas of Chowan and Perquimans Counties.

Perquimans officials denied the CUP request for the Perquimans portion of the project. Charlottesville, Va.-based Apex Clean Energy Inc. announced this week that it is appealing the Perquimans decision.

Also, a spokesman for Apex said

Wednesday that the company had determined it would be economically feasible to move forward with a project sited entirely in Chowan County and intends to pursue such a project.

The Flynns' appeal alleges that the project will harm the value of their property — reducing the value by as much as 22 percent.

"Timbermill's own evidence shows conclusively that the project will damage the value of adjoining and abutting property," the appeal states.

The appeal also cites a likelihood of harm to personal health, especially for Belinda Flynn, who suffers from vertigo.

Much of the appeal focuses on

environmental studies that Apex Clean Energy Inc. performed in preparation for the Timbermill project but did not submit to county officials as part of the application for the conditional use permit. The appeal cites reports that were presented to Coastal Management officials but not provided to county officials. Those reports included a bird and bat study and other studies related to wildlife and human health.

"The type of damage this project is going to have on the citizen health and safety and Chowan wildlife is unknown; but Apex submitted that information to CAMA officials," the

See WIND, 4A

## Perry, retired sheriff, dies at 92

BY REGGIE PONDER  
Editor

Retired Chowan County Sheriff Glenn H. Perry Sr. died Friday at the age of 92.

Perry was appointed to fulfill the remainder of Sheriff Troy Toppin's term after Toppin died in office. Perry had served as chief deputy under Toppin and retired as sheriff in 1986.

Perry's funeral was held Monday afternoon at Edenton Baptist Church.

Perry was Chowan County Law Enforcement Officer of the Year in 1980. He was in the first group of emergency medical technicians in Chowan County.

Retired Sheriff Fred Spruill said Perry helped him out a great deal when he first became sheriff in 1986.



PERRY

Spruill said he came from the Edenton Police Department and had to learn the processes and procedures of the Sheriff's Office.

Perry, he said, could not only tell him what needed to be done but also could explain why it was done that way.

"We had a very good and strong relationship from before I was sheriff and even stronger after I was sheriff," Spruill said. "He was a mentor to me."

Sheriff Dwayne Goodwin recalled that Perry had repaired the old clock at the 1767 Chowan County Courthouse and kept it running for years. He knew a great deal about the county's history, according to Goodwin.

Perry was the jailer at the 1788 Chowan County Jail. He and his family lived in the house located between the jail and

See PERRY, 2A

## DLO moves into county-owned building

BY REGGIE PONDER  
Editor

The N.C. Division of Motor Vehicles Driver License Office has moved to the historic Shepard Building on the grounds of the Chowan County Public Safety Center.

The Driver License Office had been operating out of a mobile unit since vacating its previous location on North Broad Street across from John A. Holmes High School earlier this year.

License examiner Katherine L. McDaniel, who is stationed at the office, said work is beginning to get out to the public that the Driver License Office is now

in the Shepard Building. The Shepard Building is a freestanding brick building located at 307 W. Freemason St. on the grounds of the county's main administrative office building.

County Manager Kevin Howard said that county had started about a year and a half ago putting funding in place so that the building could be renovated for use as an office. The Driver License Office is a good fit for the space, he said.

The county has spent about \$80,000 on extensive renovations to the building. The renovations have including wiring

See MOVE, 2A



STAFF PHOTO BY REGGIE PONDER

Driver license examiner Katherine McDaniel works in the new office at the Shepard Building on the grounds of the Chowan County Public Safety Center.

## Radke named county tax administrator

BY REGGIE PONDER  
Editor

Melissa Radke became the tax administrator for Chowan County effective Dec. 1.

Radke had spent six months training for the post under interim tax administrator Pete Rodda. She served as the delinquent tax clerk before being appointed tax administrator.

Radke replaces Hosea

Wilson, who left last spring to work in the Dare County Tax Office. Wilson had been the county's tax administrator since 2013.

The new tax administrator considers the biggest challenge of the job to be keeping up with a constantly changing set of requirements and regulations.

"Everything is continually changing with tax," Radke said. There always are new things that come up, she said.

Radke, who said she enjoys dealing with the public, said she tries to help taxpayers while also complying with all the applicable legal standards.

Dealing with unhappy

taxpayers is a big part of the job, but one she takes in stride.

"You just have to try to explain to them the best you can why we're legally bound to stick with certain things," Radke said, adding she also tries to help taxpayers out as much as she can within the law.

Radke said the staff in the county tax office does a great job.

"The staff here is great," Radke said. "They have got many years of experience in doing what they are doing."

The staff deals well with the public, she said.

Radke, who originally is

See RADKE, 2A



STAFF PHOTO BY REGGIE PONDER

Melissa Radke is Chowan County's new tax administrator. Radke had spent six months training for the post under interim tax administrator Pete Rodda. She served as the delinquent tax clerk before being appointed tax administrator.

