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Voting machines on display

Public to have opportunity to learn the options January 17

BY SEAN JACKSON
The Chowan Herald

Seeking to show Chowan residents just how proposed new voting machines would work in upcoming elections, county officials have set a public demonstration of how two proposed options operate.

The Chowan County Board of Elections will host a public meeting on January 17 at 5 p.m. at the Chowan County Agricultural Center conference room at 730 N. Granville St. in Edenton.

"The purpose of this meeting is to provide information to the public on the voting equipment that is being considered by the County," elections board director Rebecca Lowe stated in a press release.

Elections Systems and Software (ES&S) will demonstrate the optical scan system equipment and the direct record system equipment. Both systems are being considered by the county. A new state law requires all 100 North Carolina counties to purchase new voting machines by the May primary elections.

Following this demonstration, Lowe added, the Board of Elections will make a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners for its consideration.

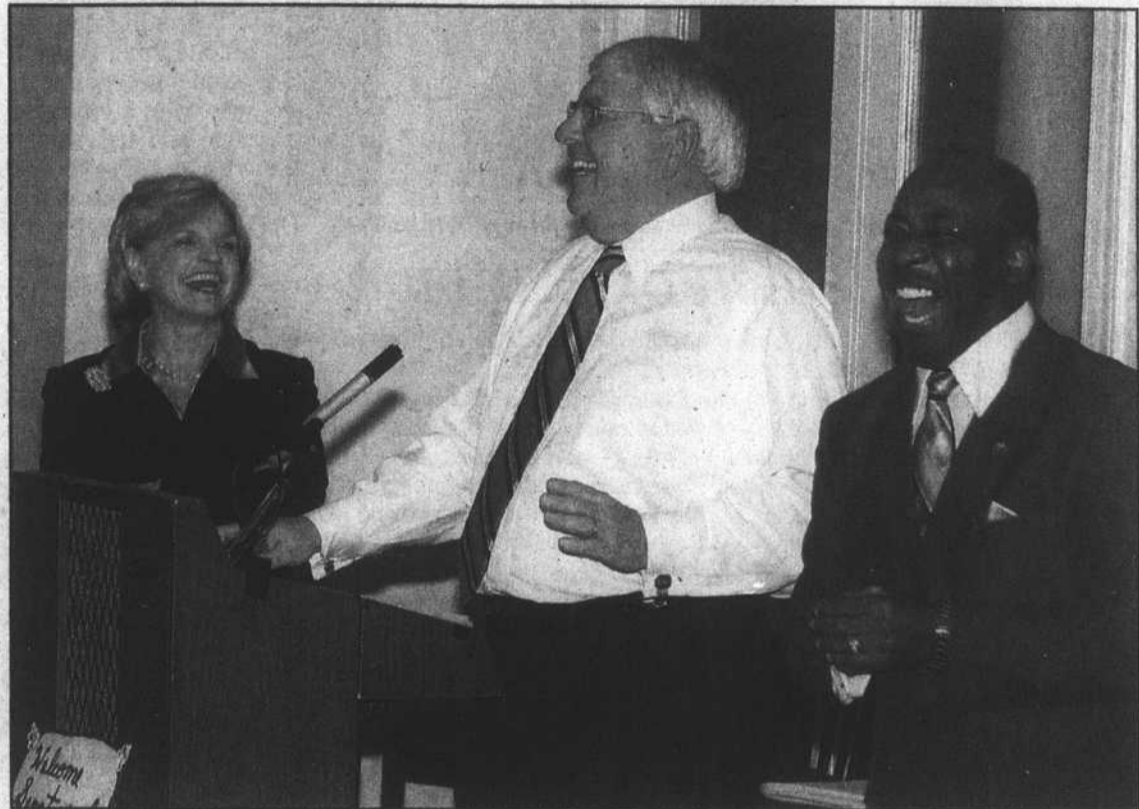
Of the two machines, one is a traditional optical scan, where voters use pens on paper ballots. The other is a high-tech direct-record machine similar to an automated teller machine, where voters use a touch-screen.

Both machines also provide paper receipts, or backups, that can be counted by hand in case of an electronic malfunction.

The county has obtained funding to help purchase the new machines through the Federal Help America Vote Act.

State Senator Robert Holloman stumps in Chowan County for this year's election while North Carolina Lt. Governor Beverly Perdue eyes possible bid for Governor in 2008

Hat in the ring



Senator Holloman (D-Hertford) enjoys a lighter moment with Lt. Governor Beverly Perdue and Senator A.B. Swindell (D-Nash) at a gathering of supporters Monday at Chowan Golf and Country Club in Edenton

Holloman says his voice 'will be heard' in Raleigh

BY SEAN JACKSON
The Chowan Herald

State Sen. Robert Holloman says he's still new in representing Chowan County, but he told a crowd of supporters Monday night that he's up to the challenge.

Holloman, who was first elected to his seat in 2002, met with more than 100 local officials Monday at Chowan Golf & Country Club for a fundraiser. The Hertford County Democrat, whose District 4 area includes Chowan as the result of a 2003 redistricting plan, said his goal is to continue to improve roads, education, and economic development in northeast North Carolina. He is seeking to win a third term in his District 4 Senate seat, beginning with a victory in the May 9 primary elections.

Holloman said he would continue to push state lawmakers to fund his district in the way that more urban, and wealthier counties, are funded.

"My voice will be heard," Holloman said. "I will knock on some doors until we get our fair share."

Public education continues to be a major issue for

lawmakers, Holloman said. "Public education is going through a lot of changes now," he added.

Holloman was praised by local leaders and Lt. Gov. Beverly Perdue for his role in securing \$1 million in state funding for upgrades to the College of The Albemarle's Chowan County Campus in Edenton.

"This man knows how to get things done," Perdue said of Holloman. "You have someone who really cares about people."

State Sen. A.B. Swindell, who joined Perdue and Holloman at a podium for a 20-minute briefing to the crowd, said Holloman hit the ground running when he joined the Senate six years ago.

"He began with a lead role," Swindell, a Nash County Democrat, said. "He's right up front about his beliefs."

The General Assembly is set

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Perdue gauges support for N.C. Governor bid

BY SEAN JACKSON
The Chowan Herald

North Carolina Lt. Gov. Beverly Perdue said Monday that she interested in entering the 2008 gubernatorial race.

The Craven County Democrat made a stop in Chowan County Monday during a fundraiser for state Sen. Robert Holloman. Before leaving the event held at the Chowan Golf & Country Club, she told *The Chowan Herald* that she won't make an official announcement until early 2007, once this year's statewide elections are over.

Perdue, herself a former

state senator, said she's been travelling recently to gauge support for a potential gubernatorial bid.

"There's a lot of excitement and interest in me being governor," she said. "Actually, I'm very, very interested in it," too.

Current Gov. Mike Easley, also a Democrat, is completing his second full term and cannot run for re-election in 2008, according to state law. Perdue's name has cropped up in news reports about potential Democratic candidates who could seek to follow Easley in the governor's mansion in Raleigh.

Among the issues Perdue may have to address if she enters that race could be her role in making a state-run lottery a reality. Perdue broke a tied state Senate vote last year that approved the lottery. Two Republicans were absent from

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Sheriff's Deputies, citizens work together to foil crimes in County

BY EARLINE WHITE
The Chowan Herald

Chowan County residents have been doing their part to 'take a bite out of crime', according to Investigator Dwayne Goodwin with the Chowan County Sheriff's Department.

An informal partnership between the Sheriff's Office and its residents, two Arrowhead Beach citizens, and another in Cannon's Ferry, enabled them to work together successfully so that three persons committing felonious crimes were caught.

An active citizens' watch proved beneficial to the Arrowhead Beach community in the December 12 arrest of two juveniles breaking and entering into the gateway corridor that once inside has a window access into the Arrowhead Beach Association Park offices.

"A resident called the Chowan County Sheriff's Office saying that two individuals were spotted prim-



ing the door (of the corridor) and going inside," Goodwin said. "The concerned resident called his neighbor who lived on the opposite side of the building and together they staked out the place until officers arrived." Officers Blake Fuller, Ricky Winebarger, Alan Stulick, and Allen Browder from the Sheriff's Office were able to

respond within minutes to the call.

Both trespassers, aged 17 and 15, were taken into custody and charged with felony breaking and entering. "One pled guilty in juvenile court; the other is scheduled to appear in court in February," Goodwin said. The names cannot be released due to age.

Just after Christmas, Cannon's Ferry resident, Mike Hollowell, found himself in an awkward situation; after a day hunting, Hollowell returns home to find a stranger, Daniel Young Shipman of Plymouth, inside his home, apparently loading goods into his own car out front, according to Goodwin.

"Hollowell approached the trespasser who then fled to his car. Hollowell shot the tires of Shipman's vehicle (an act not condoned by law enforcement), disabling it. Shipman then got into

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E.P.D. nets drug arrests over holidays

BY SEAN JACKSON
The Chowan Herald

The Edenton Police Department continued its crackdown on illegal drug activities over the holidays, with a trio of arrests just before and after the new year was ushered in.

On Jan. 1, Police Officer D.W. Knox stopped a suspicious vehicle near Chowan Court Apartments shortly before midnight, according to a press release from Chief Greg Bonner. After the driver of the vehicle admitted he had been smoking marijuana, Knox searched the vehicle and arrested Marcus Logan, 18, of Tyner, on a charge of possession of crack cocaine. He was confined at the Chowan County Detention Facility in lieu of a \$2,000 secured bond.

On New Year's Eve, Knox stopped an older model Buick driven by Brandon Elliott of Edenton for a stop sign violation. After a search of the vehicle, Knox cited Elliott, 18, of 107 Levi Creevy Road, for possession of

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