

CHOWAN HERALD

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**EDENTON-CHOWAN
SCHOOLS YEAR END
ROUND-UP**

Rebecca Bunch talks with
graduates about their future

Shots of the last school day

Local teachers honored **B1**

165 JOHN A. HOLMES HIGH GRADS RECEIVE DIPLOMAS



JUSTIN FALLS/THE DAILY ADVANCE

Graduates leave their seats in a hurry as rain begins to fall immediately following the turning of the tassels during the graduation ceremony at John A. Holmes High Friday night. Below, a member of the crowd waves to the graduates during processional as the graduation ceremony for the class of 2009 begins.

By Rebecca Bunch
The Chowan Herald

One hundred sixty-five members of the Class of 2009 received diplomas from John A. Holmes High School Friday night.

The graduation ceremony took place outdoors in the Aces Athletic Complex.

Humid weather, relieved by an occasional gust of wind, left those in the audience using their programs for fans.

In the stands, filled to capacity, family members held brightly colored bunches of blue and gold balloons, the school colors.

Little children sat on their mothers' laps, waiting to catch a glimpse of a brother or sister among the graduates.

Grandparents, too, could be seen in the crowd, some in wheelchairs on the grass below the seating area, sharing in the joy of the occasion.

Emmy Award-winning NBC News anchor Jim Vance of Washington, D.C. served as the keynote speaker. His godson, Kameron Vance Nickens, was a member of the graduating class.

Vance remarked that seeing so many people fanning themselves reminded him of Sunday church services he had attended as a youngster with family in the South where fans were a mainstay on hot summer days.

"I am happy to be here," Vance told the crowd. "I consider it a privilege, an honor, to be invited to the party on occasions like this."

He encouraged the graduates to be mindful of the company they kept, to devote themselves to work they found meaningful, and to

HATS OFF PARTY'S ON



treasure their families and the friends they would make along the way.

Most importantly, he said, they needed to remember to give back.

"Don't be selfish," he said. "You can (accomplish that) by making your life one of service."

Vance was introduced by Campbell Brown, Salutatorian of the Class of 2009.

Valedictorian Claire Baker also addressed the graduates. She expressed gratitude on behalf of the class to Principal

Bill Moore and the teachers with whom they had spent their high school years, and their parents who had encouraged and believed in them.

Baker also said those in the class would miss the good friends they had made "who understand exactly who we are."

The traditional "Pomp and Circumstance" was performed by the John A. Holmes Concert Band under the direction of David Shaw.

Recognition of Marshals was carried out by Mary Lyons, assistant principal at Holmes.

Senior Class President Victoria Asbury welcomed those attending graduation and offered a salute to seniors.

In their final performance together, the Holmes Concert Choir Senior Ensemble performed "You're Gonna Miss This".

Later in the program, the entire Holmes Concert Choir sang together on "100 Years," under the direction of Anna Kay Laughton.

In his last official public act as principal at Holmes, Bill Moore presented the senior class, praising them for their achievements and wishing them the best of luck in the future.

"Be confident you can be successful at anything you want to achieve," Moore told them.

Diplomas were awarded by Dr. Allan Smith, superintendent of schools. He was assisted by Edenton-Chowan Board of Education Chair Ricky Browder and Holmes Assistant Principal Todd Korbusieski.

James Allen, a member of the Class of 2009, presided over the turning of the tassels by the seniors. Allen, who was selected for the honor by his classmates, served as cadet commander for the Army Junior ROTC at the high school.

Sheriff's department tries to absorb cuts and keep service

By Vernon Fueston
Staff Writer

Just like every other department head in Chowan County's government, Sheriff Dwayne Goodwin absorbed his share of budget cuts for next fiscal year, June 1.

But he knows his department is unique.

After taking a \$367,000 hit between his Sheriff's Office, jail operations, the jail building's maintenance and 911 communications center over its first budget request, Goodwin knows he can't do anything that will jeopardize public safety.

With \$2.73 million left to work with between those four accounts, Goodwin said he believes he's found a balance

between saving short-term money for the county and protecting its citizens.

BARE BONES

"Are we down to bare bones? Absolutely," Goodwin said. "But as far as folks are concerned, they won't see any difference. We're going to do what we've got to do to make this thing work."

The original budget "scenario" posted during hearings held by Chowan's county commissioners would have meant job losses for officers, gaps in patrols during court sessions and midnight patrols.

That budget cut funds for part time officers used for court duty, prisoner transfers. But Goodwin said those problems were fixed during the final weeks of budget negotiations, solving a problem he said could have reduced the number of officers available for patrols.

Goodwin said there is no plan to reduce sheriff's patrols and that officers will still

patrol during court hours.

He said his department must still sacrifice in ways that may plug some leaks in the county's short-term finances, but that aren't sustainable in the long run.

SHORT TERM SAVINGS

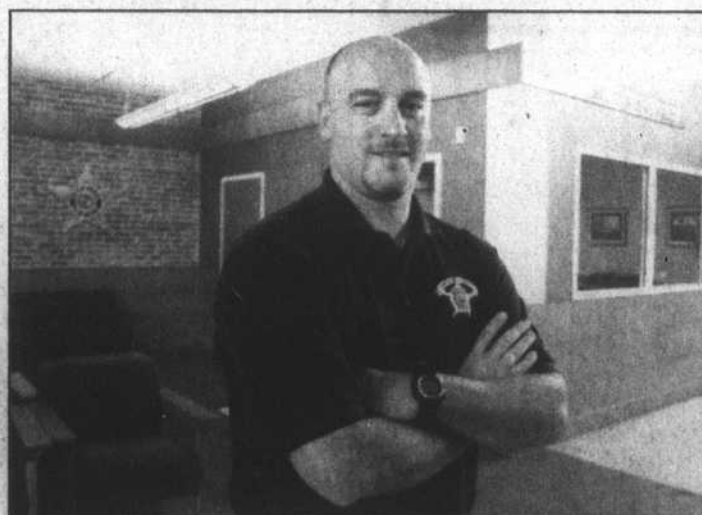
One example of such short-term savings is the deferred purchase of new police cars. Goodwin said that just like other departments, he's been asked live with old equipment while the county gets through a nasty recession and financial restructuring.

He said that strategy may work for the short term, but it won't fly forever.

Patrol cars typically have a life after about five years of 120,000 miles before being taken off primary duty and put on auxiliary status to transport prisoners.

"After a point, that's going to start costing the county more money to maintain the old cars," Goodwin said.

"I've heard people say, 'just have fewer patrol cars.' Well,



VERNON FUESTON/THE CHOWAN HERALD

"Are we down to bare bones? Absolutely," said Sheriff Goodwin. "But as far as folks are concerned, they won't see any difference."

trade-offs that Goodwin said his department will be making to help pull the county through until the economy turns around.

"Then you're running 90,000 miles on a car per year, so in two years you're going to have cars with 200,000 miles on them. They're not going to last."

But it's those kinds of

KEEPING THE EDGE

After freezing two unfilled

See SHERIFF on Page 2



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Spend a day on the bay

By Rebecca Bunch
Staff Writer

If you're looking for a fun way to celebrate Father's Day with your dad this weekend, or if you just want to kick back and relax, Edenton's waterfront is the place to be.

This Friday evening the 11th annual Edenton Music and Water Festival will get underway at 6 p.m. with some great music lasting until 8:30 p.m.

The Choral Ensemble from St. George Orthodox Church, and Anita and Glenn Andersen with their performance of some classic rock favorites, as well as original compositions, will open the festival.

There will also be a talent show from 6:30-8:30 p.m., followed by a sunset paddle from 6:45-7:45 p.m.

On Saturday, from 11 a.m. until 6 p.m. there will be music, races, demonstrations and more.

Saturday's events on the water are scheduled to include USCA Races in the morning, along with guided paddles, sunfish sailboat races, and paddling with the Periauger, just to name a few.

There will also be arts and crafts, a rock climbing wall, and food vendors on hand as well as a kids area provided courtesy of Sylvan Learning Center.

Nancy Nicholls, executive director of the Chowan County Tourism Development Authority, said that Saturday's planned on-stage talent line-up, courtesy of Radio Media Productions, is "incredible".

A wide range of musical styles, from Platters' hits of the '50s to blues and R&B by Fred Hill and the 007 Band — not to mention the cool tunes of the John A. Holmes Jazz Ensemble — will be featured.

Other favorites will include "our very own Sam Morris of Rocky Hock Grand Ole Opry fame," Nicholls said, as well as the traditional sound of the Potocasi Strings — complete with three mountain dulcimers, two guitars, two fiddles and a cello — performing for the first time in Edenton.

A favorite from Acoustic Coffee days in Edenton, the Danny Daughtridge Trio of Rocky Mount, will also be there, as will country singer/songwriter Justin Holland.

Abstract Vibe, the sweet sounds of flutist Anthony Horton, and original music by MC Peter Boehling and Paul Richmond, will round out the bill.

The event's principal sponsor is Western LP.

Others helping to present the festival are the Chowan Arts Council, the Edenton-Chowan Chamber of Commerce, Chowan County Tourism and Development Authority, Chowan County 4-H, Destination Downtown Edenton, the Eastern 4-H Center, Edenton-Chowan Recreation Dept., Edenton Coffee House and the Sunfish Sailing Club.

Go to www.edentonmusicandwaterfestival.com or call 800-775-0111 or (252) 482-3400 for more information.