

# CHOWAN HERALD

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## ANIMAL SHELTER AND ANIMAL CONTROL COPE WITH BUDGET CUTS



VERNON FUESTON/THE CHOWAN HERALD

Cutbacks for the Tri-County Animal Shelter in Tyner may result in shelter director Mary Bass seeking food and supplies from citizen donations.

By Vernon Fueston  
Staff Writer

After absorbing \$94,000 in cuts from their original \$285,000 "option E" budget scenarios, Chowan's Animal Control and Animal Shelter Departments are combining some operations and finding other ways to make due with less.

The two operations lost one animal control officer and two full time shelter workers in the cuts, leaving shelter director Mary Bass with just herself and one full-time employee to get the job done.

Bass said she and the animal control officer would combine their duties, working in both operations and spelling each other on animal control calls.

That will mean changes in the quality of life for animals at the shelter and cutbacks on what kinds of calls the department will respond to.

### DOMESTIC ANIMALS ONLY

Bass said they would only be able to respond to calls regarding domesticated animals.

She said any calls about snakes, birds and animals like opossums will have to go through the wildlife office. She said her department will no longer be able to set traps for wildlife.

That still leaves her department able to respond to calls regarding stray dogs and cats, dog bites, charging dogs and rabid domesticated animals.

State law requires animal control to respond to rabid animals, but she said the state's wildlife department will have handle calls about rabid wild animals.

### HOLDING TIMES

Bass said that cutbacks in her department's budget for food and supplies might require her to look for donations from local citizens and national organi-

zations.

She said her department may be forced to look at shortening the time it holds animals in the shelter, but said no such decision has been made.

The shelter currently holds dogs and cats with collars for five days even though state law requires only 72 hours. She said they also try to give animals without collars longer time when they appear tame.

### QUALITY OF LIFE

Bass said the cutbacks leave her unable to provide many "quality of life" services for the animals. Some of that care may have to come from volunteers or not be given at all.

She said volunteers bathe the animals right now. Bass said she does spray the animals for fleas and ticks.

Bass also said paid staff will simply

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## Revival of the Edenton Little Theatre coming

The Edenton Little Theatre is back in the spotlight, after a very long intermission.

The current vice president, Bruce King, announced this week that the group, which became inactive more than a decade ago, is in the midst of a reformation and already planning a production.

"We've been interested for some time in getting the Edenton Little Theatre up and running again," said King.

"The first thing we need to do is elect new officers. Then we need to get more people involved. Quite a few people have moved into the area in recent years, and many may have prior theater experience. The long-time members are very excited about getting those people involved, too."

King said that Edenton newcomer Carolyn Pastorek will direct the first production, planned for Oct. 9-10 and 16-17.

Pastorek moved to Edenton in March from Columbia, S.C. She brings with her quite a few years of community theater experience as an actor, director and production member.

"The members voted to do a Neil Simon play, 'Plaza Suite,' and I could not be more excited," Pastorek said.

This play is a favorite of community theaters because it has everything ... drama, seduction and comedy. Each of the three acts takes place in Room 719 of the fabulous Plaza Hotel in New York City. The visitors to Room 719 deal with some very personal stuff in a very impersonal setting."

Pastorek said actors are needed to fill four male roles and two female roles.

"The main actors, a male and female, will portray different characters, or visitors to Room 719, in each of the three acts. These characters are in their late-forties to mid-fifties.

"We also need a young female in her mid-to-late 20s. The remaining male roles

### AUDITIONS

WHEN: Thursday & Friday, July 9 and 10  
7 to 9 p.m.

WHERE: Edenton UMC

PERFORMANCE: 'Plaza Suite' by Neil Simon, Oct. 9-10 & 16-17

are hotel staff and other male guests, who should be in their 20s to 30s.

"I think one of the appealing things about 'Plaza Suite' is that the actors are performing different roles in each of the acts," she said.

"The audience gets to see the actor portray different characters, one after the other, and the actor gets to stretch a little bit in the portrayal. That's pretty exciting, and a challenge."

Auditions will be held Thursday and Friday, July 9 and 10, from 7-9 p.m., in the Edenton United Methodist Church. Enter from Luke Street entrance closest to Virginia Road.

"Acting experience is a plus, of course," said Pastorek, "but everybody starts somewhere. I hope anybody who has an interest in theater will attend the auditions. I'd like to hear them read for one of the parts."

King added that every play requires a lot of off-stage assistance too.

"The actors get the applause, but a play requires the efforts of many more people behind the scenes to be a success.

"We will need to fill positions in the production end, including set creation and manufacture, costumes, and props, to name a few, not to mention the technical requirements of lights and sound."

"But what keeps most people volunteering to do plays for community theater over and over again is that it's just plain fun," Pastorek said.

## Fabulous Fourth celebration begins at 4 p.m.

By Rebecca Bunch  
Staff Writer

The Edenton waterfront will be the place to be this July 4 as the Chowan-Edenton Optimist Club presents its 30th annual Fabulous Fourth of July Celebration.

Free and open to the public, the event will feature a little something for everyone, according to spokesman Frank White.

"We want to invite everyone to come and share a good day with family and friends as they enjoy all the activities, music and fireworks," he said.

Optimist-sponsored events — including a Penny Hunt and rides aboard the Optimist train for children — will get underway about 4 p.m.

There will also be food, fun, crafts and raffles.

Musical entertainment will

A tribute to J. Hewes at 10 a.m.

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be provided by Steve Hardy's Original Beach Party and is scheduled to include a patriotic salute to America.

A spectacular fireworks show — described as "North Carolina's largest over the water fireworks show" — will take place starting about 9:15 p.m.

Last year's show, which

drew thousands to the waterfront, cost about \$18,000, White noted.

"These shows are expensive, and we always appreciate donations to help with that expense," he said.

Anyone interested in making a donation may write a check to the Chowan-Edenton Optimist Club, 160 Cowpen Neck Road, Edenton, N.C. 27932. The donation is tax exempt.

## Dave Cabana, heart transplant patient, shows zero signs of rejection

By Rebecca Bunch  
Staff Writer

Dave Cabana is happy in his backyard hideaway.

Relaxing in a chair under a tent in his backyard, a nearby fan supplying a steady breeze, and a radio providing some great music, he is the picture of health.

But last year this time, he was pale and short of breath, and badly in need of a new heart.

In fact, just months ago, he

was so near death that doctors at Duke decided to fit him with an artificial heart just to keep him alive until a donor heart became available.

"Three weeks to the day later he got the call" that they had a heart for him, his wife, Pam said, remembering.

"We were on our way to Elizabeth City, and we had to head back, pack a suitcase, and head to Duke," Dave said.

The couple made it there within four hours, and then waited while the family who donated their loved one's heart so Dave could live said their final goodbyes.

It wasn't until about 5 a.m., Pam said, that they came to take Dave to surgery.

Dave still tears up, just thinking about that.

"I would like the family to know that I am so sorry for their loss, but so grateful that even in their sorrow they gave me a second chance at life," he said.

When asked if he was nervous going into surgery, he said he was not.

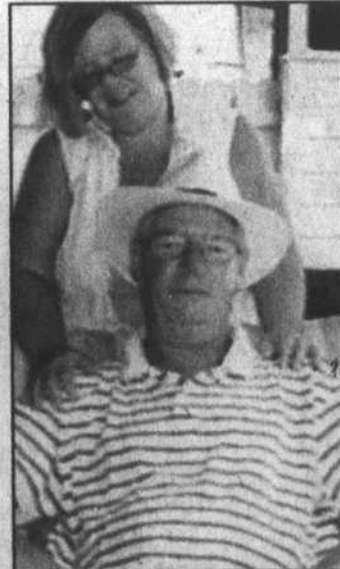
"I was giving them two thumbs-up, as they wheeled me down there," Dave said. "I was saying, let's do this, give me drugs."

### TIME TO HEAL

Since Dave's surgery, Pam said, she continues to be amazed by how fast he is healing.

"We just can't believe how well he is doing," she said.

For now, Dave must now re-



REBECCA BUNCH  
Dave Cabana relaxing a month after a heart transplant.

turn to Duke once every two weeks for testing to ensure the anti-rejection drugs are still working. That will gradually taper off to once a month.

"He's only had one time" there has been a problem so far, Pam said. "They increased his medication and since then he's shown zero signs of rejection."

To keep Dave's anti-rejection medicine continuously circulating in his body, he must take 52 pills a day at specific intervals.

But Dave isn't too worried about that. He's feeling great and looking forward to getting to do something he really loves.

"In two more weeks," he said, "I'll be able to go in my pool! I can hardly wait!"

For now, though, he just continues healing and waiting. Cut from his Adam's apple to just above his belly button for the surgery that saved his life, his staples have been removed and a series of steri-strips hold his incision together.

Pam said it was great to see him so excited about life.

"He was trying to do a little too much at first, using the weed-whacker and things like that," she said, shaking her head.

But for now, he's content in his tented backyard with the family's six-year-old Maltese cat, Smoky, to keep him company.

"It's a whole new life for me now," he said. "It's just amazing."



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Chowan Edenton Optimist Club  
30<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL  
Fabulous 4<sup>th</sup> of July

COME TO EDENTON'S WATERFRONT  
EAT DINNER AND ENJOY  
NORTH CAROLINA'S LARGEST  
"Over the water fireworks show"

STEVE HARDY'S  
ORIGINAL BEACH PARTY  
POPULAR AMONG ALL AUDIENCES  
TRIBUTE TO OUR ARMED FORCES  
PATRIOTIC SALUTE TO AMERICA

LOTS OF FOOD,  
FUN, CRAFTS,  
RAFFLES AND  
GAMES FOR  
CHILDREN!!!

Please Support Our Fabulous 4th of July  
WE NEED YOUR FINANCIAL HELP!  
Make checks payable to  
CHOWAN EDENTON OPTIMIST CLUB  
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