

## Edenton Bay Challenge

### Regatta results A2

Photos from event will be featured in next week's Chowan Herald



# CHOWAN HERALD

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## Council filings end this Friday

By press time Tuesday, Edenton Town Council incumbents Jerry L. Parks, councilman-at-large and Willis Privott, fourth ward, had filed for re-election.

Political newcomer George Grother also filed for the at-large seat.

Incumbent Phyllis Britton, third ward, had not filed for re-election.

Parks was appointed in 1991; Britton in 2005; Privott in 1980.

The filing period opened July 3 and will close Friday at noon.

Absentee voting by mail will be Oct. 2-Oct. 27. Registration deadline is Friday, Oct. 9. Early voting starts Oct. 15; ends Oct. 31.

The election will be held Tuesday, Nov. 3.

## Edenton man charged in shooting

From staff reports

One Edenton man is in serious condition and another man is in custody following a shooting late Monday.

Edenton police have charged Daniel Lee "Bootsie" Herrar, of the 200 block of East Gale St., Edenton, in the shooting of Deshane Sanderlin, 25.

According to a law enforcement press release, Herrar fired a handgun at Sanderlin multiple times at the corner of Oakum and Freemason streets about 10:30 p.m.

Sanderlin was shot in the leg, the release states. He was transported to Pitt County Memorial Hospital in Greenville where he was listed in serious condition.

Herrar is charged with assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill inflicting serious bodily injury. He is being held in the Chowan County Jail in lieu of a \$100,000 bond.

## County turns down loan to renovate Holmes

By Rebecca Bunch  
Staff Writer

The county government's new policy of fiscal restraint has led it to refuse a request that would have helped jumpstart renovations at John A. Holmes High School.

That opportunity would have come in the form of \$1.7-million in interest-free financ-

ing that would have allowed the project to move forward for the first time since 2005.

In addition, at the end of July, the school system will lose out on two new interest-free bonds that are part of federal stimulus funds intended for school construction.

But agreeing to accept the funds would mean the county would have to incur addition-

al debt.

### LINES OF COMMUNICATION

Dr. Allan Smith, superintendent of the Edenton-Chowan Schools, said he recently asked Chowan County Manager Peter Rascoe for the chance to meet with the county commissioners' finance committee to discuss the opportunity.

Smith said after getting feedback from the Local Government Commission and some of the commissioners, Rascoe told him the county could not help; the meeting never took place.

Rascoe said that for the current fiscal year the board of commissioners adopted a budget that reflected a substantial reduction in the

county's operating expenses. "After much evaluation during the budget process," he said, "one operational expense which was not able to be reduced was the county's debt obligations."

"If the board of commissioners was to decide to authorize more debt of any type, then the budgets for forthcoming years would have to be increased to accommodate the cost of paying the debt back."

Commissioner Kenny Goodwin, who chairs the finance committee, expressed sympathy for the school system's predicament.

"I wish we could build them a brand new school," he said.

Goodwin said he was not aware until Monday afternoon that Dr. Smith had asked to meet with his committee.

If he had known, he said, his inclination would have been to grant Smith's request so the committee could at least have been informed about the available funds.

"I think it's important to keep the lines of communication open," he said.

But, in the end, Goodwin added, it probably wouldn't have made a difference.

"It doesn't seem to me that this is the time for the county to incur any more debt," he said. "As much as we would like to help them out, we just can't do it right now."

## SMALL BUSINESSES ARE FOCUS OF LT. GOV. VISIT



EARLINE WHITE/THE CHOWAN HERALD

From left, local pharmacist Jim Blount, Lt. Gov. Walter Dalton, chamber director Richard Bunch and Mayor Roland Vaughan share a light-hearted moment during a talk about the national recession, unemployment, healthcare and the future of a small businesses.

### Meeting part of statewide tour to hear the needs and concerns

By Earline White  
Managing Editor

On Friday, Lt. Gov. Walter Dalton met with three small business owners from Edenton to discuss their needs and concerns in a difficult economic environment.

Dalton's first stop was Edenton Bay Trading Company, the 2009 N.C. Main Street Champions, where proprietor Malcolm King acted as host.

King led Dalton on a tour of the eclectic waterfront

shop that continues to amaze and amuse visitors drawn to such a rural setting.

"A lot of new businesses were doing fine until the credit crunch hit in September [of last year]," Dalton said to listeners King and Edenton Mayor Roland Vaughan.

"Businesses need access to capital."

Dalton recently announced the Small Business Initiative, or Small Business Assistance Fund, which would provide low-interest loans to help small businesses struggling to access capital during the economic and credit crisis.

The new revolving loan fund, which will provide loans to small businesses

with fewer than 100 employees or annual receipts of less than \$1 million, received \$3 million in funding in the budget passed by the Senate recently.

Unfortunately, the proposal has stalled in the House. The fund is modeled after the disaster loan programs the state implemented following natural disasters like hurricanes Fran and Floyd, which were administered by the Small Business and Technology Development Center (SBTDC).

In the last 10 years, small businesses have accounted for 70 percent of the country's new jobs, and 86 percent of businesses in North Caro-

lina have fewer than 100 employees.

Chamber director Richard Bunch briefed Dalton on Chowan's current economic situation — numerous boat manufacturing layoffs, staggering unemployment, and the county's fiscal crisis.

Dalton agreed that the story rang true throughout the state — manufacturing closings, statewide unemployment exceeding 11 percent, slowing housing markets.

After all, this was Dalton's tenth "listening tour" since taking office.

Steve Brown of Byrums voiced his concerns over a

See DALTON on Page 2

## Edenton Little Theater seeking performers

By Rebecca Bunch  
Staff Writer

It's hard enough to get Southerners to sound like Northerners, but in Edenton an even bigger challenge for the Edenton Little Theater has been finding enough warm bodies for its upcoming production.

But director Carolyn Pastorek is optimistic the volunteer group is equal to the task of bringing Neil Simon's "Plaza Suite," set in New York, to local audiences.

Following auditions last week the lead roles in the



REBECCA BUNCH/THE CHOWAN HERALD

Edenton Little Theater Director Carolyn Pastorek, center, explains the plot of "Plaza Suite" during auditions last Thursday evening. Reading for parts were, from left, Rena Knickerbocker, Deborah West, Antoinette "Toni" Heinz-Vega and Fraser Kelly. The group plans to present the Neil Simon classic this fall.

production are close to being cast.

But additional auditions are planned for this Friday evening at the First Presbyterian Church, starting at 7 p.m.

Particularly needed are a young man and woman, both in their twenties to early thir-

ties.

A meeting for those interested in working on the production crew, but not acting in the play, will take place from 6-7 p.m.

"If you've got time to spend with us building a set, or learning about props, we'd love for you to come join us,"

Pastorek said.

"There's a lot to do, there's a lot to learn, and we need everybody to come and help us with this."

The play is scheduled to be presented on Oct. 9-10 and again the following weekend, Oct. 16-17.

## Mentoring program must go on

By Rebecca Bunch  
Staff Writer

With their funding frozen, many Governor's One on One programs across the state are turning to volunteers to keep assisting at-risk youth.

That will continue to be the case until the state budget is passed, according to William Lassiter, Director of Communications for the N.C. Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention in Raleigh, which oversees the program.

"Under the continuing resolution that is currently

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### THE PLAN

The school system will be faced with the same dilemma when it comes to two new interest-free bonds that are part of the federal stimulus package.

Those funds are earmarked for school construction, and Chowan's allocation totals almost \$1.2 million.

"The deadline for both is July 31," Smith said, "and would require board of education and county commission commitment."

"It seems like forever," Dr. Smith said, when asked how long the effort to get renovations done at Holmes had been going on.

He said the school system began discussions with the county in 2003.

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