



## Decision 2010

# Two vie for NC House

Spear, Steinburg in race for District 2

By RITCHIE E. STARNES  
Editor

As the Nov. 2 General Election draws near, the N.C. House of Representatives, District 2 race has become one of the more compelling contests and the two candidates vying for the job could not be more different.



Spear



Steinburg

A five-year Democrat incumbent, Tim Spear touts his familiarity with the four-county district as a unique advantage. Republican political newcomer Bob Steinburg, however, believes a set of circumstances catapulted him into a rescue effort. Both are convinced they're the best man to represent the

See DISTRICT 2, 4A

## Rally on the Green



STAFF PHOTO BY BECKY BUNCH

More than 200 people gathered at Saturday's Edenton Tea Party rally on the historic 1767 Chowan Courthouse Green, where candidates touted fiscally conservative platforms. The gathering marked the town's second Tea Party rally in the last two years.

# Commissioner Candidates Q & A

From staff reports

**Editor's note:** In an effort to better inform Chowan County voters, the Chowan Herald recently posed three questions to the candidates for the Board of County Commissioners.

Those questions and the candidates' respective responses are below.



Brabble

Hollowell

Hutchins

Lawrence

Mitchener

Sams

Smith

1. Do you agree with how the current Chowan County Board of Commissioners has allocated funds in its 2010-11 budget? If so, why? If not, what differently would you recommend?

2. How could the county better bolster its economic development while also improving its unemployment rate?

3. Identify and explain what more the county could do to improve the quality of life in Chow-

an County.

**John Sams, District 3, Seat 2**  
1. (Response) Yes. I attended most of the budget deliberations by the sub finance committee this spring and agree with the meth-

odology used to arrive at the final result. However, I need to understand how it could be that there was a fund balance on June 30, 2010 of nearly \$2 million dollars

See CANDIDATES, 8B

# Halbert says Dem opponent Jones refused debate

By RITCHIE E. STARNES  
Editor

Republican Rich Halbert says his opponent, Democrat incumbent Ed Jones, (D-Halifax) has refused to debate him.

Halbert, of Edenton, said he has reached out to Jones about a possible series of debates. Halbert said he first sent Jones a certified

letter on June 1 proposing a debate, but it wasn't until the letter's imposed June 30 deadline for a response that Jones informed him that he had turned the matter over to his campaign committee.

"I took it to mean that he was waffling out of it, but didn't want to say it," Halbert said.

Jones did not return a telephone message to the

Chowan Herald.

The letter did not propose any ground rules for the debate or enlist any specific locations other than call for at least one in each of the district's seven counties.

"I wanted him to agree to a debate, sit down and



Halbert

agree where and who would do it," Halbert said. "I figured we had to agree on doing it first."

Halbert said he hoped they could present the elections' critical issues prior to the Nov. 2 election.

"Apparently, he doesn't want the voters to be able

to make an informed decision," Halbert said.

Halbert and Jones have been a part of several campaign forums with an opportunity to address various issues and field questions, most recently at Holiday Island on Tuesday night when the two spoke on the issues.

Tonight the two are slated to face off in Edenton at

7 p.m. in a Meet the Candidates forum to be held and sponsored by the American Legion Post 40.

Jones is seeking a third term in the state Senate while Halbert is a political newcomer.

District 4 represents Chowan, Bertie, Perquimans, Gates, Halifax, Hertford, and Northampton counties.

# Documentary airs lessons on manners

Film to be shown at Taylor, Thursday

By REBECCA BUNCH  
Staff Writer

Good manners never go out of style.

That's the message Nancy Rascoe, 79, of Hertford has been instilling in young children for the past 17 years through a series of summer camps.

Now, her work has been captured on film in a documentary, "Miss Nancy Minds Their Manners," which will premiere tomorrow (Thursday) afternoon at the Taylor Theater



SUBMITTED PHOTO COURTESY MARTHA DANIEL

Nancy Rascoe (standing) teaches young ladies proper table etiquette during the documentary "Miss Nancy Minds Their Manners." The film will premiere Oct. 14 (tomorrow) at the Taylor Theater in Edenton.

in Edenton.

Rascoe said she was touched that filmmakers Martha Daniel and Caro-

line Paxton felt her story was one worth telling.

While she has yet to see the completed film, Rascoe

said, "I've seen all the trailers. I was so very

excited to see the film. I

See MANNERS, 2A

# One-stop voting starts Thursday

Instant runoff voting eyed in judge's race

From staff reports

Voters who go to the polls Thursday on the first day of one-stop no-excuse voting will be asked to cast more than one vote in one of the five races to fill open seats on the N.C. Court of Appeals.

While one of the court seats is uncontested and three others feature traditional races between two candidates, the fifth seat will be decided by the first statewide use in the nation of a voting method called "instant runoff voting."

Under instant runoff voting, voters record not just their first choice for an office but their second and third choices as well. The voting method is designed to avoid traditional runoff elections, which are costly.

A voter's second and third choices for the fifth Court of Appeals seat won't matter if one candidate gets more than 50 percent of the vote. If, however, no candidate gets a majority of votes on election night, a second round of vote counting will take place. The only candidates involved, however, will be the top two vote-getters. These will be the candidates taking part in the instant runoff.

See ONE-STOP, 6A



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at Rocky Hock Community Center Featuring  
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Sponsored By Rocky Hock Lions Club & Rocky Hock Ruritan Club

Roast Pork Dinner \$15 per person  
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Saturday Oct. 16th  
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