

Goodwin defeats Gardner in runoff

Victor claims 77 counties

By RITCHIE E. STARNES
Editor

Chowan County Board of Commission Chairman Eddy Goodwin will be the Republican nominee for secretary of state in November. He defeated Kenn Gardner, former chairman of the Wake County Board of Commissioners, in last Tuesday's primary runoff. Goodwin collected 54.48 percent of the vote, compared to Gardner's 45.52 percent.

"It kind of went just like the primary," Goodwin said the day after his victory. "I still stayed on point with my message. Evidently, it resonated with the people."

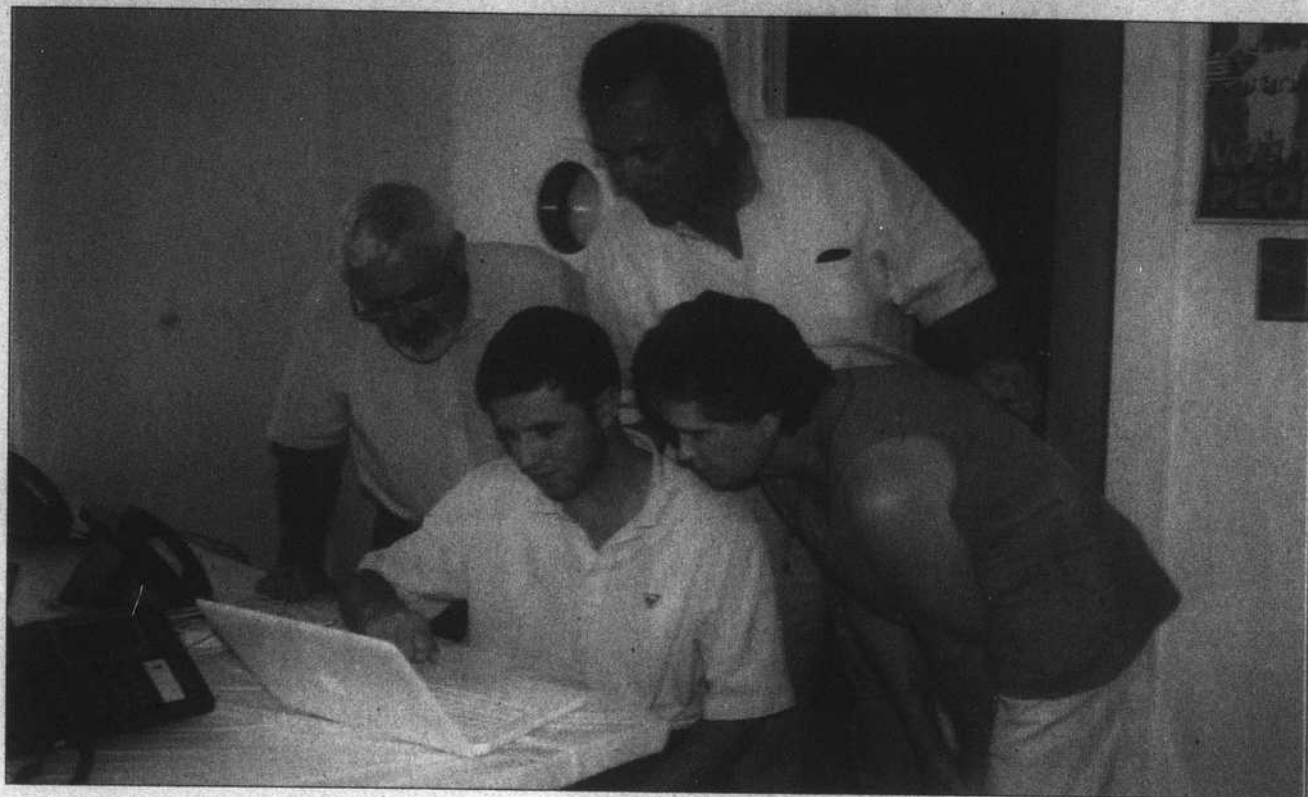
It marks the second time in less than three months that Goodwin garnered the most votes en route

to becoming the GOP's candidate for secretary of state. In the May 8 primary, Goodwin was the top vote getter of four candidates vying for the state office, eclipsing runner-up Gardner by more than 41,000 votes. Because Goodwin failed to get 40 percent plus one of the total vote, state law allowed for Gardner to call for a runoff.

In a runoff that generated only 3.58 percent voter turnout statewide, compared to 34.66 in May, Goodwin still managed to pad his lead en route to victory. He was the top vote getter in 77 counties with one tie during the runoff, whereas he claimed 76 in the first primary. Goodwin finished 9 percent ahead of Gardner last Tuesday, compared to a 6 percent advantage in May.

"I relied on old-fashioned, retail politics," Goodwin

See RUNOFF, 3A



STAFF PHOTO BY REBECCA BUNCH

Jim Robison (left, clockwise), Chowan County Republican Party chairman, GOP secretary of state nominee Ed Goodwin, wife Lori Goodwin, and Austin Bonnar, campaign manager for presidential nominee Mitt Romney in the Albemarle, study the early runoff election returns Tuesday night at the Republican Victory Center in Edenton.

Evergreen files lawsuit

Suit says Quinn, Dixon bias

By RITCHIE E. STARNES
Editor

The developer that was denied a conditional use permit to build a 50-unit multi-family dwelling on Coke Avenue has filed suit against the town of Edenton.

Raleigh-based Evergreen Construction filed the lawsuit Thursday in Superior Court amid efforts to reverse the Town Council's refusal to allow the contractor to build subsidized housing. Court documents cite Evergreen's contention that the Council rejected its amended application because councilmen Bob Quinn and Sambo Dixon had a conflict of interest.

The suit states that the councilmen should have recused themselves due to a financial conflict of interest. Both men own rental properties in Edenton and lawyers for Evergreen argue that they had a financial interest to deny the application by eliminating potential competition.

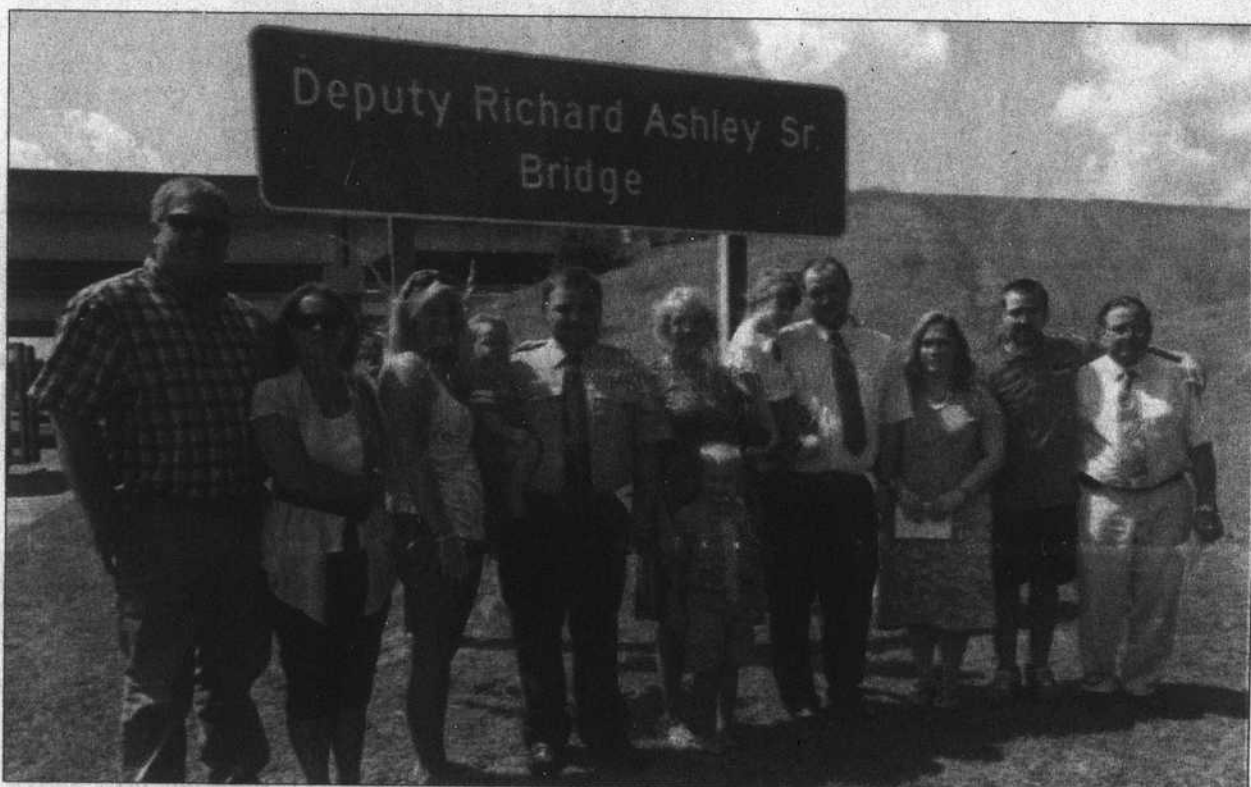
Prior to rendering a decision on the CUP, the Town Council ruled that neither Quinn nor Dixon had a conflict of interest.

"I don't think the School of Government (UNC) saw it that way either," said Hood Ellis, town attorney. As of Monday, Ellis had not yet reviewed the lawsuit.

On May 29, the Town Council held a quasi-judicial hearing and denied Evergreen a CUP that would have allowed the firm to build a multi-family development. The board found that the proposed

See LAWSUIT, 4A

HONORING ASHLEY



KIP SHAW PHOTO

The parents, siblings, children and grandchildren of the late Chowan County deputy Rick Ashley Sr. pause for a commemorative photo beneath the marker honoring Ashley after a dedication ceremony held last Tuesday afternoon.

Bridge marker honors fallen deputy

Deputy Sheriff Ashley killed in line of duty

By REBECCA BUNCH
Staff Writer

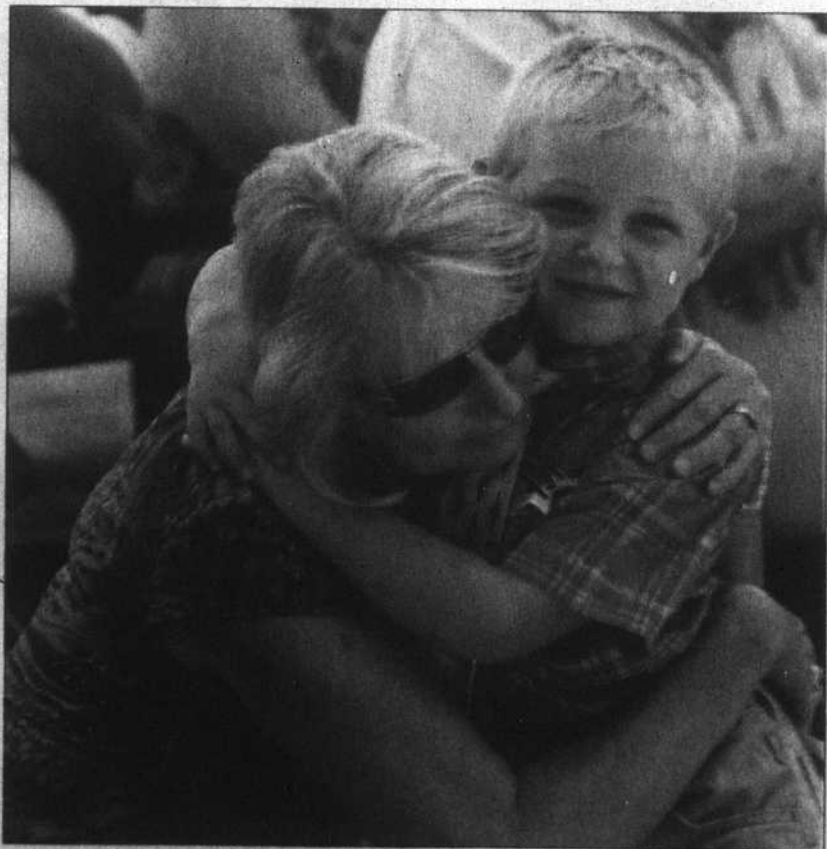
Ten years to the day that sheriff's deputy Richard "Rick" Ashley lost his life in the line of duty, a memorial marker has been erected in his memory.

The marker dedicates in Ashley's memory the bridge that spans the U.S. Highway 17 Bypass across N.C. 32 just past the former Kathie's Steakhouse in Edenton. The marker was unveiled July 17 at a ceremony attended by more than 50 family members, friends and members of the law enforcement community.

A reception followed at American Legion Post 40.

Retired Chowan County Sheriff Fred Spruill, who had been Ashley's boss, served as chairman for the ceremony.

Spruill recalled that Ashley, 36, and two other law enforcement officers — Sgt. Anthony Futrell of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department and Maj. Robert Kennedy of the Boone Police Department — were killed in an airplane crash near the intersection of Happy Home and Skinner roads



Virginia O'Connor hugs her grandson, Ricky Ashley III, during a marker dedication ceremony held July 17 honoring her late son Rick Ashley Jr. Ashley, a Chowan County deputy, lost his life in the line duty during a plane crash.

in Tyner as they participated in an aerial surveillance as part of a marijuana eradication program.

"This was the second flight of

See BRIDGE, 4A

Office pits newcomer versus veteran

Candidates differ on biz regulations

By RITCHIE E. STARNES
Editor

Fresh off his runoff victory as the Republican candidate for secretary of state, Eddy Goodwin must next set his campaign sights on 16-year incumbent Democrat Elaine Marshall.

After successfully parlaying his political stint as a one-term Chowan County Board of Commissioner where he served as a four-year chairman, Goodwin next

faces a political veteran who was the first woman to be elected to the office. Between helping rescue Chowan's county government from bankruptcy and small business roots in agriculture, Goodwin hopes to continue what many considered an improbable run for state government.

Only in recent months did Goodwin opt for a chance at higher office.

"I thought the biggest impact in statewide office could be made at secretary of state," Goodwin said Wednesday, the day after he defeated GOP rival Kenn Gardner in a primary runoff.

The secretary of state oversees many of the economic and business-related operations of the state government.

Goodwin, 59, subscribes to the theory that North



Marshall



Goodwin

See CANDIDATES, 3A



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ALS CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT - SATURDAY, AUGUST 4, 2012

Team "IN IT FOR LEON" • \$200 First Place
Location: 108 Montpelier Dr., Edenton NC
Registration 12:00 p.m.-Tournament 1:00 p.m.

Doubles Open Division - Triple Elimination \$20 a Team
Singles Open Division Triple Elimination \$10 a Person
Singles Women's Division - Triple Elimination \$10 a Team
FMI: Johnnie Hughes 312-9259 or Curtis Casper 312-5446

