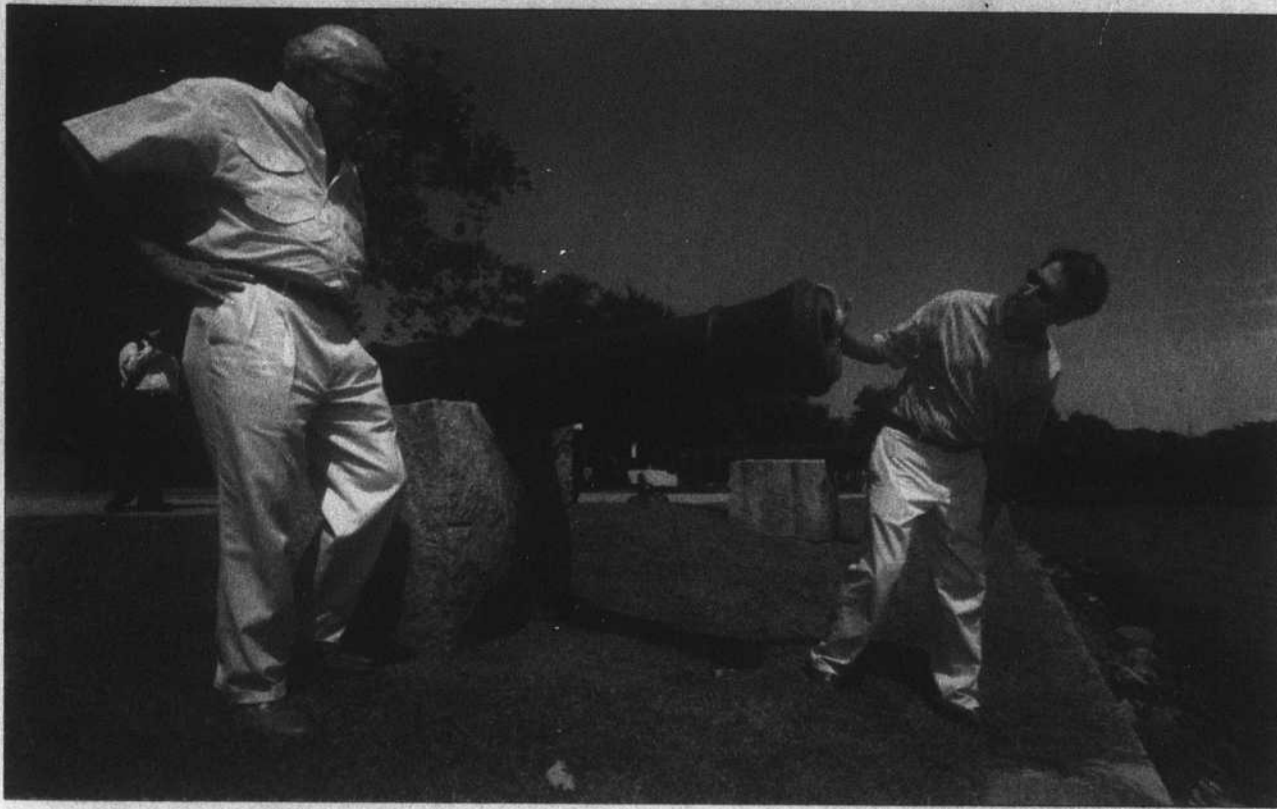




Aces hit the gridiron - 7A

GOV. HOPEFUL TOURS



Edenton Mayor Roland Vaughan (left) and GOP candidate for governor Pat McCrory stand in front of the Edenton Bay during McCrory's visit to Chowan County, Friday.

McCrory: Private sector will save NC

GOP candidate wants to rid politics from spending

By RITCHIE E. STARNES
Editor

Republican gubernatorial candidate Pat McCrory says North Carolina's government has lost hold of its core objectives and replaced them with politics.

Between campaign stumps

in Edenton on Friday, McCrory stopped by the Chowan Herald to answer questions on a wide range of issues as he vies to defeat Democrat Lt. Gov. Walter Dalton in November. What's clear is that McCrory considers North Carolina out of sync with what made it a great state, but not beyond repair provided future decisions are based on facts and not politics. He prefers that state government give the private sector the necessary infrastructure and then

step aside.

"It's the private sector that's going to get the state out of this recession," McCrory said. "What the government needs to do is complement them or get out of the way."

A former Charlotte councilman followed by a record serving seven-term mayor of Charlotte, McCrory is making his second bid at becoming governor after narrowly losing

See MCCRORY, 3A

Gunfire rattles neighbors

Police unable to find shooter

By REBECCA BUNCH
Staff Writer

Shots fired in the East Queen Street neighborhood on Thursday night have left some residents concerned for their safety.

Edenton Police Chief Jay Fortenbery said officers on patrol responded to the scene after hearing as many as six shots fired about 10 p.m. He said police recovered a shell casing for a 9 mm handgun on the street but so far had been unable to identify the shooter. No one was injured in the incident.

Terri Fox, who lives in the neighborhood, said the shots fired that were "extremely loud."

"I actually thought somebody was knocking on my door," Fox said. "It's really disconcerting that there would be gunshots fired on our peaceful street."

Fox said that she and her husband had lived in their home for about 4 1/2 years and up until about six months ago had never had

any problems.

"When we moved here we were told that this was a street where many people didn't even lock their doors," Fox said.

Fox said that in recent months, however, the climate on the street had begun to change. She said that there had been a drug bust and another incident where shots were fired.

Fortenbery confirmed those incidents and said it had caused an increase in the number of times the neighborhood was being patrolled.

"We've had some complaints about drug activity," Fortenbery, "and we've responded to that. We're doing extra patrols and asking for the public's help in alerting us about anything suspicious that they may see."

But Fox said that she would like to see the

See GUNSHOTS, 4A

New terms set for online gaming

Planning board calls for moratorium

By RITCHIE E. STARNES
Editor

The Edenton Town Council will next have to decide whether to follow the Planning Board's preferred recommendation to issue a moratorium on a text amendment allowing electronic gaming, pending a N.C. Supreme Court ruling.

At its July 9 meeting, the town's planning board made its recommendation to implement a moratorium while the Supreme Court issues a ruling about the legality of electronic gaming. If the council votes to allow the Internet sweepstakes cafes, the planning board also drafted a set of recommended conditions for the prospective establishments.

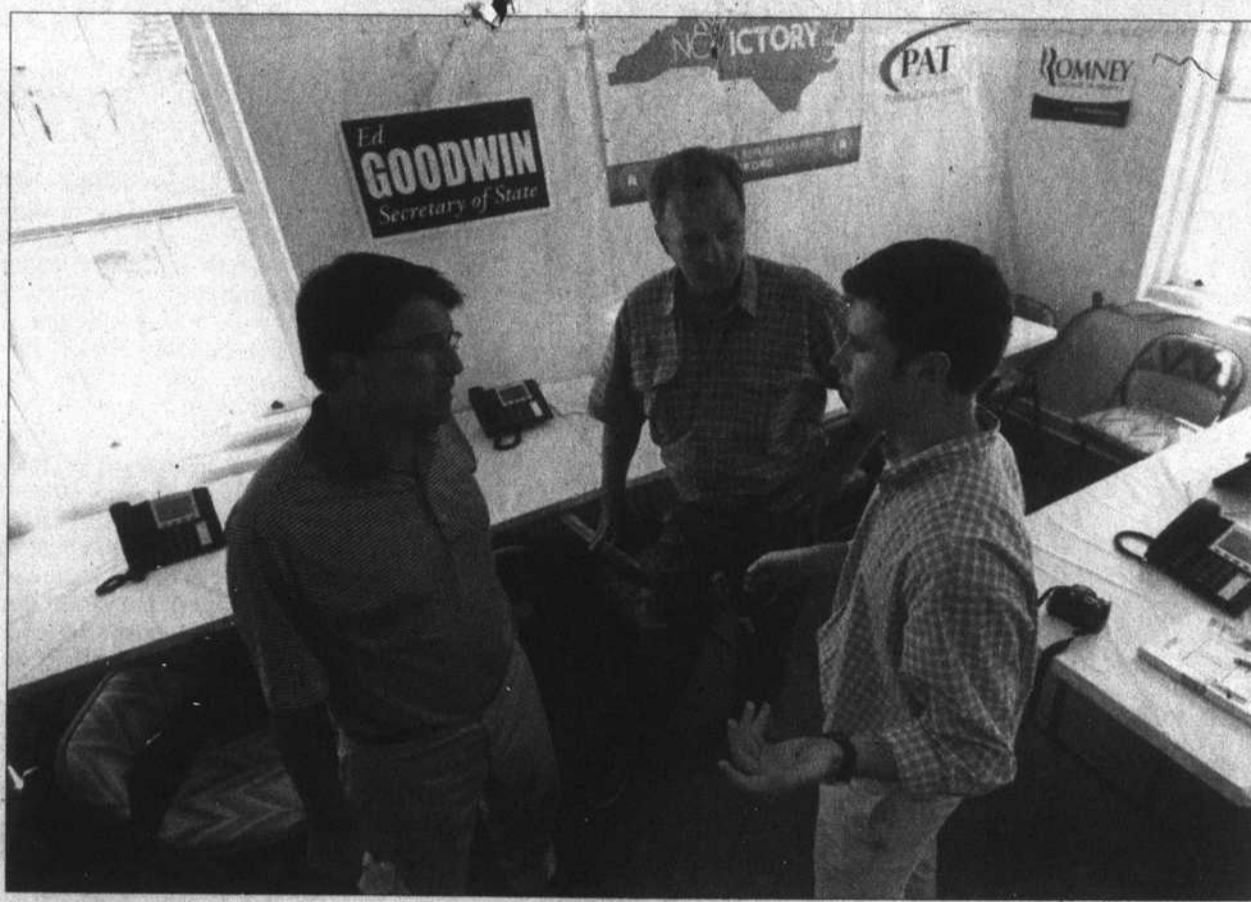
Three residents addressed the planning board in opposition to the sweepstakes cafes.

Among those against electronic gaming is Penny Norman. Norman

See GAMING, 2A



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Austin Bonnar, right, regional field director for the N.C. Republican Party, talks with GOP gubernatorial nominee Pat McCrory, left, and Chowan County Commission Chairman Eddy Goodwin, Republican nominee for secretary of state.

Romney's field rep eases into South

New Englander boasts sweet tea

By RITCHIE E. STARNES
Editor

Even his name hints that he's a product of Generation Y.

If that's not enough to make him an unusual transplant in Edenton, add that he's working on behalf of the Republican Party in northeast North Carolina where registered Democrats more than double the GOP. But, that's OK because Austin C. Bonnar is accustomed to bucking

partisan odds. It doesn't appear to be the first time, or the last, that he's been an anomaly.

"My whole family is Democrat, coming from Massachusetts," Bonnar said. "We never talk politics at the dinner table. But, we all do agree on the (Boston) Red Sox."

Bonnar is working as a regional field director for the N.C. Republican Party, assigned to a 14-county area. Although he pledges that he's working on behalf of all GOP candidates, much of Bonnar's work is aimed at getting presidential hopeful Mitt Romney

elected in what is considered a battleground state.

"We need to defeat (President) Obama in November, but we're calling the area together for the sake of all Republican candidates," Bonnar said.

At 23 years old, his youthful face pales in comparison to the sizable challenge of recruiting GOP votes in Democrat territory.

"I didn't realize the job that it would be - the political history, the Democrat stronghold," Bonnar admits. "We've got our work cut out for us."

Bonnar also realizes that in addition to Republican voters, the number of unaffiliated voters has risen dramatically, many of whom were Democrats. That's not counting conservative Democrats. Bonnar insists there are more closet Republicans around here that prefer to keep quiet to avoid persecution.

For now, Bonnar is spearheading the collection of polling data and feeding that info to party headquarters in Raleigh. He prefers not to talk about the data, fear of

See BONNAR, 3A

Hopefuls back reform

Goodwin, Causey: Coastal rates high

By CINDY BEAMON
The Daily Advance

The state's insurance system needs reform, say both candidates seeking to be the state's watchdog over the industry.

Incumbent N.C. Insurance Commissioner Wayne Goodwin, seeking a second term, and challenger Mike Causey agreed last week that higher insurance rates may result if the office doesn't make some changes. Already insurance companies are pressing for the state to raise the commission's ceiling on rates.

Goodwin, a Democrat, said the office needs to offer those companies incentives, possibly tax breaks, rather than raising the state's ceiling on rates.

Causey, a Republican, said the state is in trouble if it doesn't attract more insurance companies to help spread the risk among customers. He wants to



Causey



Goodwin

See INSURANCE, 4A

In Honor of **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