

CHOWAN HERALD



Early Station plays a variety of music styles — 4B

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Sheriff's race is on: Brabble on ballot

BY REGGIE PONDER
Editor

Former Chowan County Sheriff's Department officer Tim Brabble will be running unaffiliated for Chowan County sheriff in the November General Election against incumbent Sheriff Dwayne Goodwin.

Goodwin is a Democrat. Brabble is a registered Republican who is running unaffiliated after collecting 433 signatures of Chowan County voters to get on the ballot.

Under state law a minimum of 420 signatures was required. Brabble filed as a candidate

Monday afternoon at the Chowan County Board of Elections Office.

Goodwin filed for reelection during the filing period in February.

Brabble said he appreciated all the people who signed his petitions.

"I'm glad the people put their faith and trust in me to do this for me," Brabble said. "I'm looking forward to the challenge."

Brabble, 49, ran as a Republican in 2010. But he said he didn't want to run as a political party's candidate this time because that goes against his platform of making the

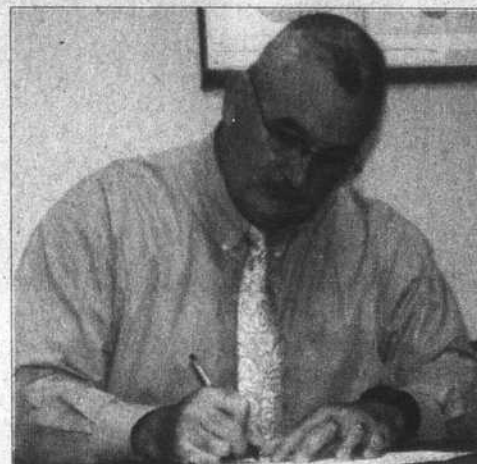
sheriff's office less political.

An officer with the Chowan County Sheriff's Department for 11 years, Brabble now works for the Vidant Police at Vidant Bertie Hospital.

Brabble said he hopes his campaign changes the way politics works not just locally but across the country.

One of the things Brabble has been talking about a lot on social media and in person since he started this latest campaign to get

See BRABBLE, 2A



STAFF PHOTO BY REGGIE PONDER

Tim Brabble files Monday afternoon as a candidate for sheriff in Chowan County.

HIP HOP HOLIDAY



STAFF PHOTO BY REBECCA BUNCH

Chloe Carpenter wows the crowd at Edenton's Fabulous Fourth of July with her impromptu mini-concert Friday afternoon at Colonial Park in Edenton. For more 4th of July photos, see page 1B.

Weather doesn't dampen spirits on Fabulous 4th

BY REBECCA BUNCH AND REGGIE PONDER
Staff Writers

Hurricane Andrew brought wind and a lot of water to the Outer Banks on the other side of Albemarle Sound but didn't stop the Chowan-Edenton Optimist Club from holding its annual Fabulous Fourth of July festivities last Friday.

The Edenton Tea Party Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution did move the Joseph Hewes observance with the reading of the Declaration of Independence to Saturday morning because of weather-related concerns. The DAR event was well attended on Saturday, however, and the Friday night crowd for fireworks was standing room only.

"It wasn't so bad," Alexis Forrester of Lively, Va., said of the wind and rain dropped on Chowan County by Hurricane Arthur. "We didn't have very much wind."

Forrester, who was at the downtown Edenton waterfront on July 4 helping her daughter and son-in-law Jill and Kirk DeVine with kids' events at the Fabulous Fourth of July celebration, said she had to call and reassure her other grandson that everybody at the DeVine home was okay.

"He told me I was crazy to come here," Forrester said with a laugh. "But Jill told me the celebration has never been rained out. So I guess that record stands."

Former Edenton Fire Chief Charles Westbrook, who was actively serving as chief when Hurricane Isabel roared through the community in 2003

See SPIRITS, 5B

Consultants suggest land use amendments for town

■ High percentage of rentals, multi-family units cause concern

BY REBECCA BUNCH
Staff Writer

A consulting firm has recommended a series of changes to Edenton's land use regulations with the intention of addressing town officials' concerns about the relatively high percentage of multi-family housing in town.

Wilmington-based Holland Consulting Planners Inc. recommended specific changes to the town's Land Use Plan and Unified Development Ordinance after conducting a housing inventory assessment within the town.

The recommended changes are

intended to reflect current findings and projected land use trends and the town's concerns about the number of multi-family housing units versus single-family homes, according to Dale Holland, principal planner for the consulting firm.

Holland made the recommendations during the council's June 23 work session.

The firm recommended that the town:

- Revise its Land Use Plan to reflect greater concern with residential density and resulting environmental impact;
- Revise its UDO to remove future multi-family housing from residential zoned districts, including R-40, R-20, R-14 and R-10;

"Pretty close to 56 percent of our housing is rental housing."

Bob Quinn

Edenton City Councilman

- Prohibit multi-family units of three or more in the town's historic district;
- Amend requirements for environmental impact statements;
- Add a multi-family zoning district within the town.

Holland noted that in 2008, with a number of planned subdivisions on the horizon, the town's population was expected to increase sub-

stantially.

But with the recession came a halt to construction of the subdivisions and in the years since, he said, Edenton and other small towns in northeastern North Carolina have experienced a population decline.

"It is not unique to Edenton," Holland said of the population decline. "We've seen a lot of that."

He said that based on current trends the chance for any substantial increase in population was "not very promising."

The assessment found that Edenton has an above average percentage — 27.5 percent — of multi-family housing compared to the state average of 20.7 percent. Holland said. He added that 18

percent of Edenton's housing inventory consists of public housing or housing receiving some sort of subsidy or program support. Findings also show that 20.9 percent of the population is at or below the poverty level, Holland said.

Holland said that 56.4 percent of the town is zoned for residential use. Normally, in eastern North Carolina communities, that range is closer to 25-35 percent, he said.

The median household income in Edenton is \$25,700, the inventory found.

Councilman Bob Quinn said that the assessment reflected

See LAND USE, 5B

Lamb cites experience in bid for district attorney seat

BY REGGIE PONDER
Editor

Nancy Lamb said last week she believes her three decades as a prosecutor has provided her unique preparation to be the lead prosecutor for the 1st District.

Lamb, who served as interim district attorney last year following the death

of District Attorney Frank Parrish, is on the ballot in November against Andrew Womble, who was appointed by Gov. Pat McCrory to serve out the remainder of Parrish's unexpired term as district attorney.

Womble is a Republican and Lamb is a Democrat.

Lamb brought her campaign on Friday to Edenton's Fabulous Fourth of July event.

During an interview at the Edenton waterfront, Lamb — with Parrish's widow, Kim Parrish, at her side — characterized her 30 years as a prosecutor working under



STAFF PHOTO BY REGGIE PONDER

Nancy Lamb talks with Louis Spry during July Fourth festivities at the Edenton waterfront.

two elected district attorneys as solid preparation for serving as district attorney herself.

The unique perspective

afforded her by having prosecuted criminal cases in all seven counties in the district has allowed her a change to see the things that work and

also the things that don't work so well, Lamb said.

Lamb especially defended the work she and Frank Parrish had done in light of the Womble campaign's message about inefficiency and a backlog of cases.

"The criminal justice system doesn't lend itself to efficiency because we're dealing with human beings," Lamb said. "Each case that comes before the criminal justice system has to be looked at individually when we're dealing with people who have committed criminal offenses."

Lamb said that doesn't

preclude a DA's office from having policies, such as the one Parrish had regarding driving while impaired cases. Parrish insisted that if there was a breathalyzer test showing the driver was legally intoxicated and other evidence of DWI, the case would have to be tried and no plea to a lesser charge would be accepted, according to Lamb.

"It's about protecting public safety," Lamb said of the policy.

Lamb also said it has been a frequent strategy of

See LAMB, 5B

