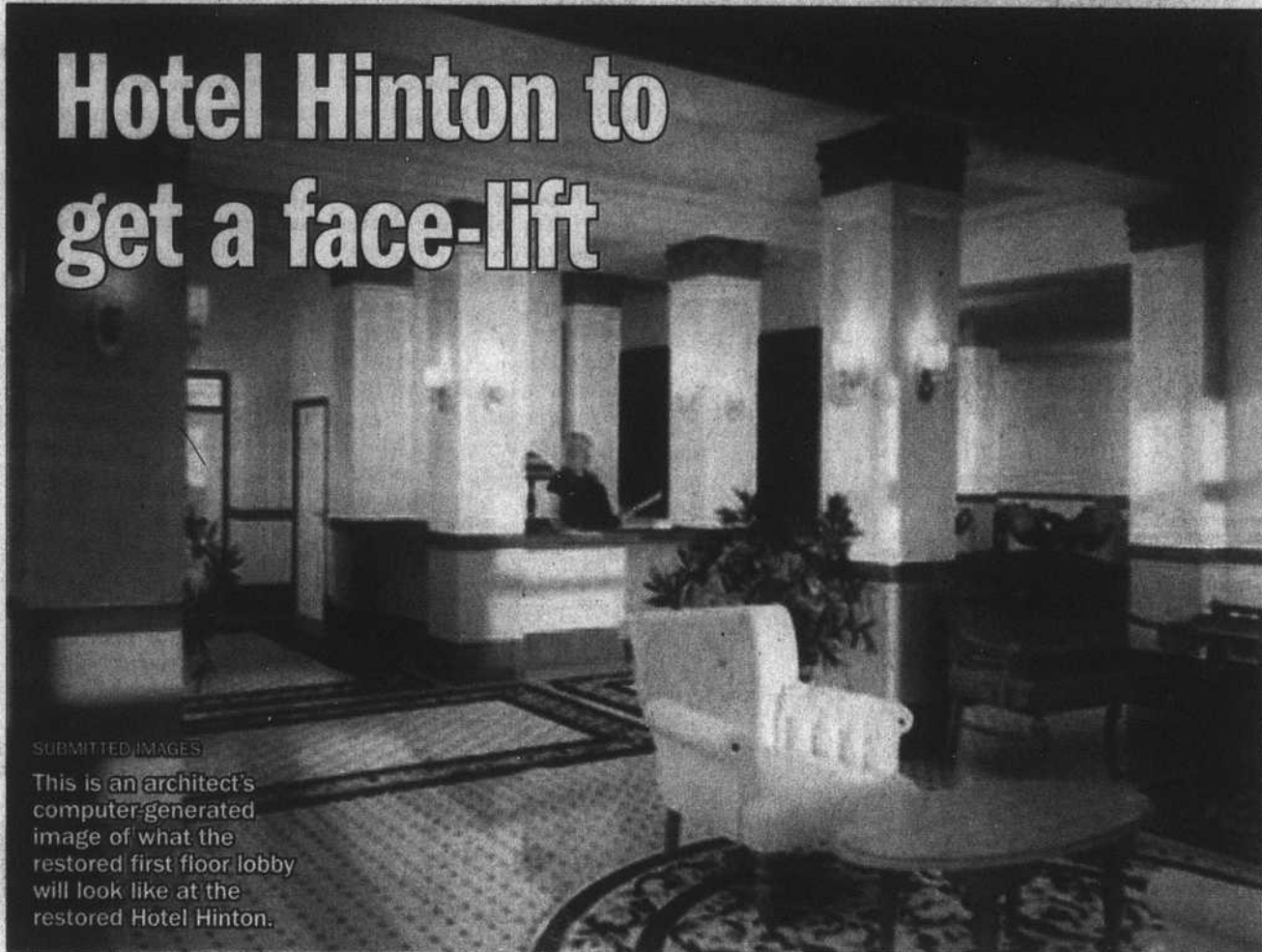


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Hotel Hinton to get a face-lift



SUBMITTED IMAGES
 This is an architect's computer-generated image of what the restored first floor lobby will look like at the restored Hotel Hinton.

Permit process begins for project

BY REGGIE PONDER
 Editor

Plans to renovate and reopen the historic Hotel Hinton are shifting into high gear. The permit process will begin soon on the historic preservation project. Sam Barrow, planning director for the Town of Edenton, said consideration of the conditional use permit for the Hotel Hinton project should be on the agenda for the August meeting of the Edenton Planning Board. SAGA Construction and Development submitted the application for the conditional use permit on Monday, which was the deadline for getting on the August planning board agenda. The recommendation from the planning board will go to the Edenton Town Council. If the council gives a green light to the project, the next step will be consideration by the town's Historic Preservation Commission. Town officials currently expect the project will be in front of the preservation panel in October or November. Construction could begin soon after approval by the Historic Preservation



This is an architect's computer-generated image of what the rooftop bar will look like at the restored Hotel Hinton.

Commission. The Chowan County Board of Commissioners voted June 7 to extend the time that SAGA Construction and Development has to complete its offer to purchase contract for the historic property on East King Street. The building was constructed as a

See PROJECT, 4A

Budget battle over program going down to wire

BY REBECCA BUNCH
 Staff Writer

Local officials and legislators are awaiting the completion of work by a conference committee in the North Carolina General Assembly to see if historic preservation tax credits will remain alive. Among them is Rep. Bob Steinburg, R-Chowan, who lives in Edenton and has seen firsthand the value of the tax credits to preservation projects in his own community. Steinburg said such tax credits are crucial to the continued success of rehabilitation of historic buildings. He said fellow N.C. House members share that belief.



STEINBURG

"I haven't had any problem arguing for it (tax credit) because I think it's absolutely necessary... Now we'll just have to wait and see how it goes."

Bob Steinburg
 NC Representative, Republican

"I know the House conferees will be fighting very hard to keep it in the budget," he said. Steinburg said that members of the N.C. Senate are against keeping any tax credits in the state's budget on philosophical grounds and that he understands their feelings on the subject. He said, however, that has not stopped him from talking with a number of them to try and get them to understand the benefits of such credits, particularly in small rural towns like Edenton. "I haven't had any problem arguing for it (tax credit) because I think it's absolutely necessary," he said. "Now we'll just have to wait and see how it goes." Claudia DeViney, regional director of the northeast office of Preservation North Carolina, is keeping her fingers crossed that the tax credits will remain a part of the new budget even though there will be changes to the current program if that happens. DeViney said the new tax credits — collectively named the Historic Rehabilitation Investment Program — would be based on a proposal favored by Gov. Pat McCrory.

See BUDGET, 4A

Native named extension director in Perquimans

BY PETER WILLIAMS
 The Perquimans Weekly

Jewel Winslow, a 20-year veteran with the N.C. Cooperative Extension Service, has been named director of Perquimans County office. The appointment was official June 2. She replaces Lewis Smith who retired as of the first of the year. Smith had been in the Hertford office since 1991 and in extension since 1980. By some standards, the six months it took to fill the Perquimans position was

fast. Three of the five counties in the Albemarle area are operating with interim directors. The Chowan office hasn't had a director in more than a year and the state has scaled back staffing for the extension service and some positions have been left unfilled. Perquimans County Commissioners stressed the importance of extension in the county when Smith announced he was stepping down. On Friday County Man-



WINSLOW

ager Frank Heath applauded Winslow's appointment. "I think it's a wise move on the part of extension," Heath said. "She's got a lot of experience in the community and has proven to be a good leader." Heath said county officials worked closely with Travis Burke, the regional head of the extension service on getting a replacement for Smith. Burke, a former extension agent in Elizabeth City, now handles a 22-county region that includes the entire northeast region. Winslow called the fact that Perquimans County only went six months without a director "a good sign." "I am so thankful that the county and citizens have been very supportive of cooperative extension," she said. "They see the value of what we've done."

"What I appreciate about this new title is you're a liaison between N.C. State University and the local government," Winslow said. Perquimans County has five people in the Hertford office including Winslow. She is working to add a sixth person, an agent to handle crop issues. Until then, those questions are handled by agents in either Gates or Pasquotank counties. Winslow grew up in Tyner in Chowan County, but has made Perquimans her home since she got married.

Until now, Winslow's specialty was in the area of family and student science. She will continue doing that as well as the administrative roles of being director. When Smith was director, he too split his time between crop science and the administrative job. The extension service is marking its 100th year in North Carolina this year. A regional event Nov. 1 at Museum of the Albemarle in Elizabeth City is being

See WINSLOW, 4A

Board adopts interim budget resolution

BY REBECCA BUNCH
 Staff Writer

The school board unanimously adopted an interim budget resolution at its July 7 meeting that will allow local public schools to continue to operate until the board can approve a final budget. Board member Kay Wright was not present. While Chowan County adopted its final budget for the coming year on June 23, the state government has yet to complete work on its budget. The federal government has until October to adopt a completed budget. The school system's budget begins July 1 and ends June 30. The interim 2014-2015

budget is based on current funding levels, according to Emma Berry, finance officer for the Edenton-Chowan Schools, who presented the request for adoption of the resolution. The budget includes the following:

- Local Current Expense Fund - \$3,421,929
- Capital Outlay — \$203,176
- Food Service Fund — \$1,260,000
- State Public School Fund — \$14,088,098
- Other (Federal Planning Allotment, Driver Training and Textbooks) — \$1,372,394

The resolution stated that the Berry and Superintendent Rob Jackson were required to maintain records concerning any expenditures relating to these funds in compliance General Statute 115C-434. There were no questions from the board prior to the adoption of the resolution.

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Filing in school board races to end

From staff reports

Filing for candidates in the Edenton-Chowan Board of Education races ends July 25 at noon. As of Tuesday, only the two incumbents had filed for the two seats that will be on the ballot in November.

Chairman John Guard has filed for Seat 1 in District 2 and board member Gil Burroughs has filed for Seat 1 in District 3. Under the law passed last year that changed the school board terms in Chowan County



See FILING, 4A

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