

Clifton files for school board District 2 seat

From staff reports

A political newcomer is seeking the District 2 seat on the Edenton-Chowan Board of Education that is currently held by John Guard, the board's chairman.

Paul Clifton filed shortly before 5 p.m. on Friday,

June 24.

The filing period for board of education seats in Chowan County closes July 29.

Clifton, 38, is making his first bid for elective office.

He serves as an ex-officio member of the Edenton-Chowan Education Founda-

tion and said having his own kids in the local schools is a big motivation to serve.

"It was something I have thought about for a while," Clifton said of his decision to run for the school board seat. "I have a direct interest in it. I'm interested in the schools and the direction

they go in."

Clifton said he has one child who has graduated from high school, another in fifth-grade and a 21-month-old "who will be there way too soon."

He said that he no major concerns about how the local schools are run

and believes they do a good job with the resources they have. But he added there's always room for improvement.

"I would love to see improvement," Clifton said. "I would continue every effort we can make to continue improving the schools."

Clifton is a senior vice president with the State Employees Credit Union. He attends Open Door Church, is a PTA member and is a former PTA treasurer.

Guard said last week that he was still making up his

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STAFF PHOTO BY REGGIE PONDER

Rep. Bob Steinburg, R-Chowan, announces funding for a monument to Dr. Hugh Williamson at the Edenton waterfront.

Funding announced for Hugh Williamson monument

BY REGGIE PONDER
Editor

Rep. Bob Steinburg announced funding for a monument to Dr. Hugh Williamson during the annual ceremony honoring Joseph Hewes Monday morning at

the Joseph Hewes Monument.

Steinburg, R-Chowan, told the crowd gathered on the Courthouse Green in front of the 1767 Chowan County Courthouse that funding for the monument had been included in the budget adopted by the General Assembly in the short

session that just attended.

Hewes and Williamson were founding fathers of the United States who lived in Edenton. Hewes was a signer of the Declaration of Independence - a fact commemorated on July 4 in a ceremony led by the Edenton Tea Party Chapter,

National Society Daughters of the American Revolution and Williamson was a signer of the U.S. Constitution.

In the surprise announcement at the ceremony, Steinburg told the

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No date set for meeting on wind permit process

BY REGGIE PONDER
Editor

Although Chowan County staff has talked about holding an informational meeting next week to explain to the public the process for considering the conditional use permit application for the Timbermill Wind Project, the date for such a meeting had not been set as of Tuesday morning.

The Chowan Board of Com-

missioners was slated to meet Tuesday night and actions at that meeting could have an effect on the timetable for conducting the informational meeting.

At the informational meeting, county staff will explain the process public comment and testimony on Apex's CUP application.

The project, proposed by Charlottesville, Va.-based Apex Clean Energy Inc., would be a utility-scale wind energy genera-

tion facility in and between Chowan and Perquimans counties.

The company also has filed a permit application with Perquimans County.

The Chowan County Planning Board has discussed holding a meeting on the CUP application July 26-27. The planning board meeting will include a presentation by Apex, comment from the public, and discussion by the board.

The planning board dis-

cussed details of that proposed meeting at its meeting on June 21. Chowan County Planning Director Elizabeth Bryant explained that the planning board would make a recommendation to the county commissioners that would constitute one piece of evidence for the county commissioners to consider on the quasi-judicial hearing on the CUP application.

County Attorney John Morrison explained to the county

commissioners at their June 20 meeting that when the quasi-judicial hearing is held, any statement by the applicant will be subject to cross-examination by opponents of the project, and the opponents can present their own witnesses and reports, which also would be subject to cross-examination.

Morrison noted the burden of proof is on Apex when the quasi-judicial hearing is held on the conditional use permit.

Historic home Pembroke Hall recently purchased

BY REBECCA BUNCH
Staff Writer

One of Edenton's most beautiful historic homes has a new owner. Vince Burgher of Virginia recently purchased the home for \$1,025,000.

The house had been owned by a group of partners who banded together to purchase the house in 2010.

Among the members of the partners group are Larry and Mary Jo Sellers of Edenton. Both said that while the property took a while to sell, they felt Burgher was the right person to be its new owner.

"I can't tell you how thrilled we are that he bought it," Larry Sellers said.

Sellers said that Burgher fell in love with Edenton the first time he saw it, and with the house as well.

"He felt it was a wonderful place to come, where the people are nice and friendly," Sellers added. "I think he'll be a real asset to the community."

"(Burgher) was wonderful to deal with," said Mary Jo Sellers. "You couldn't have asked for anybody better."

And the couple emphasized that it was the desire of Sellers, town councilman Sambo Dixon and others not to think of their purchase of the property as an investment, but as a way to preserve it.



PHOTO BY KIP SHAW

One of Edenton's loveliest homes, Pembroke Hall, was recently purchased by Vince Burgher of Virginia. Burgher, who said he discovered the house purely by accident, is president of Wymond Associates.

