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Wednesday, January 9, 2019

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Washington wins 'Coach O' duals - 1B



Billy Bass promoted to fire chief

From Submitted Reports

Edenton Town Manager Anne Marie Knighton announced Billy Bass has been promoted and named Fire Chief of the Edenton Fire Department.

Bass replaces Craig Forlines, who retired in February of 2018.

Capt. Bass is a 29-year veteran of the Edenton Fire Department. Bass serves as the Department's Training Officer and is responsible for bringing new and advanced training

techniques to the department.

Bass has worked his way up through the ranks, starting as a Fire Engineer in 1989. He was promoted to captain in December 2009.

In addition to his career with the Edenton Fire Department, Bass serves as the Fire/Rescue Coordinator for the College of the Albemarle (2005 to present) and also is a member of the North Carolina Hazardous Materials Regional Response Team based out of the Williamston Fire Department (1995 to present).

Captain Bass has earned numerous fire service certifications, including NC Certified Fire Officer 2; NC Level 2 Fire Instructor; North Carolina Fire Chief 101; NC Driver Operator Pumps and Aerials and in 2017 earned his probationary certificate for Fire Inspector.

Bass gives credit to his former chiefs — Lynn Perry, Chuck Westbrook and Craig Forlines — as well as his first shift officer, Gary Swanner, for pushing him to further his education.

In 2009, he earned his Associate's Degree in Fire Protection Technology from Coastal Carolina Community College and in 2018 earned his Bachelor's Degree in Fire & Emergency Services Administration from Fayetteville State University.

"I grew up with a childhood friend whose father was an Edenton Fireman and when I had the opportunity to join the department I jumped at it," Bass said. "The fire family has become my extended family."

Bass has been an active member of the Albemarle Firemen's Association for many years and has served as President and now serves as the Association's Treasurer since 2008.

He also served in various leadership roles with the Edenton Steamers Organization and has served as President of the Chowan Area Sports Association since 2016, and President of the Edenton Chowan Community Foundation.

In briefing the Mayor and



BILLY BASS

Council about the promo-

See BASS, 2A

Stallings to run for mayor

Councilor's campaign sets up Facebook page

BY NICOLE BOWMAN-LAYTON
Editor

Longtime town councilor Jimmy Stallings announced that he is running for mayor this year with a video and the launch of a Facebook page, Stallings for Mayor 2019, during the weekend.



STALLINGS

Stallings represents town's 1st Ward, which includes most of the neighborhoods from Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue down to Edenton Bay and some of the downtown area, west of South Broad Street. He is former mayor pro tem.

The video, shot primarily in the conference room of the Colony Tire corporate offices in Edenton, features Stallings announcing his candidacy and his hope to continue his legacy of service. He has served 19 years as a town councilor.

"My wife, Pam, and I love this town and all it represents," he said in the YouTube video announcing his candidacy. "I only ask for your help and support as continue my legacy of service. As residents of Edenton for 45 years, and raised our family, led successful careers and tried to do our part to help Edenton continue to prosper."

See STALLINGS, 2A

MORE INFO

Information about Jimmy Stallings' campaign can be found online at <https://www.facebook.com/StallingsForMayor>



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Hospital rings in 2019 with girl's birth

Hayden Lee Smithson first baby of new year

BY NICOLE BOWMAN-LAYTON
Editor

If Hayden arrived when she was supposed to, she probably would have been the last baby born at Vidant Chowan Hospital in 2018.

Instead Hayden Lee Smithson, a 6 pound, 12 ounce girl, made her arrival into the world on Jan. 2 — becoming the hospital's first baby of 2019.

Parents Megan and Collin Smithson, of Elizabeth City, were all smiles as their first child slept in her father's arms Thursday. Megan, originally from Columbia, is a patient of Dr. Peter Boehling in Edenton.

"He did great," she said. "We've had good assistance throughout the entire experience," Collin, a native of Currituck, said. "Everyone has been great."

Megan and Collin met while attending N.C. State. They both work in the agriculture industry — Collin at Nutrien Ag Solutions and Megan at Cherry Farm Seed Company. They married on Dec. 30, 2017. Their daughter was due on their one-year anniversary.

"She just had to have her own day," the couple joked.

Other family members have stopped by the hospital room to check on Hayden. She is the first granddaughter in Collin's family and the first grandchild in Megan's family.

"We've had both parents,



NICOLE BOWMAN-LAYTON/CHOWAN HERALD

Collin (left) and Megan Smithson, of Elizabeth City, hold their daughter Hayden Lee, the first baby of 2019 born Jan. 2 at Vidant Chowan Hospital.

grandparents ... everyone come over," Collin said. "They all love her."

So far, Hayden has been a pretty good sleeper, cooing and making other sounds during an interview with her parents.

The Smithsons were sur-

prised to have the first baby of 2019.

"It's crazy," Megan said. "I really thought there would already be another one."

Megan said Collin found the name Hayden and liked it.

"I started liking it too," she

said. "Lee is a family name. I had to drop the name when I got married, so I passed it on to her."

Vidant Chowan Hospital gave the family two large baskets of baby supplies.

See BIRTH, 5A

Local state lawmakers take oaths of office

Goodwin hopes to live up to expectations

BY PETER WILLIAMS
Perquimans Weekly

CAMP CALE — Ed Goodwin took the oath of office as the representative of the N.C. House's District 1 Tuesday and vowed to represent the people of northeastern North Carolina to the best of his ability.

Goodwin, R-Chowan, defeated Democratic challenger Ron Wesson in November. District 1 includes Camden, Chowan, Perquimans, Tyrrell, Bertie and Washington counties.

Goodwin said he picked Camp Cale for the ceremony because it is centrally located to residents of the district. About 125 people showed up for the event.

However Goodwin said Cale is an

See GOODWIN, 5A

Steinburg urges unity after being sworn in

BY NICOLE BOWMAN-LAYTON
Editor

State Sen. Bob Steinburg, R-Chowan, urged residents of northeastern North Carolina to unite to improve the region Friday during a speech shortly after taking the oath of office Friday.

Steinburg was sworn in as the senator for District 1 by the Honorable Justice Paul Newby in front of a standing-room only crowd at the first floor courtroom at the Historic 1767 Chowan County Courthouse. State Senate District 1 includes



PHOTO COURTESY KIP SHAW

NC Sen. Bob Steinburg (left) listens as NC Supreme Court Justice Paul Newby administers the oath of office Friday. Steinburg's wife, Marie, holds the Bible during the ceremony held at the 1767 Chowan County Courthouse.

Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Tyrrell, Hyde, Dare, Washington, Gates and Hertford counties.

See STEINBURG, 5A

Nonprofit seeks \$100K for match

Boys & Girls Club raising money for facility repairs

BY NICOLE BOWMAN-LAYTON
Editor

The Boys and Girls Club of Edenton is raising funds to match a \$100,000 grant from the 4 Others Foundation that will help the nonprofit renovate the old D.F. Walker building.

The foundation, run by the family of Edenton native Dr. John Phillips, gave the same type of grant to the Edenton Chowan Food Pantry last year.

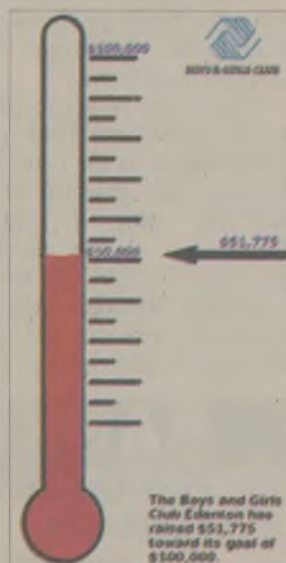
In 2016, Edenton Mayor Roland Vaughan, out of the blue, got a phone call from his childhood friend, Dr. John Phillips. During the conversation, Phillips shared with Vaughan that he wanted an opportunity to give back to Edenton, the community where they both grew up. He asked Vaughan to give the matter his consideration and call him back with some ideas about how he might accomplish that.

Vaughan called back with several suggestions, including the Edenton-Chowan Food Pantry, which received a \$100,000 matching grant in 2017. Another suggestion was the Boys and Girls Club

See NONPROFIT, 5A

DONATE

Anyone wishing to make a donation to the Boys and Girls Club can do so by mailing a check made to the Boys and Girls Club to 131 Morristown Road, Edenton, NC 27932.



FREE to the PUBLIC
Not Appropriate for Children

RESILIENCE: The Biology of Stress & The Science of Hope
at Taylor Theatre
Thursday, January 10th, 2019 at 4:00 pm.
A film about Adverse Childhood Experiences

Join CHOWAN CARES and Prevent Child Abuse. Learn about toxic stress in our community.