



**ANNUAL
PROGRESS
AND REVIEW
EDITION**
INSIDE

Proposed budget calls for half-a-cent tax increase

\$28M county budget plangives about \$6M to public safety

BY NICOLE BOWMAN-LAYTON
Editor

The Chowan County Board of Commissioners received the proposed budget — \$28,684,635 — for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 during Monday's meeting.

The proposed budget, which would go into effect July 1 if approved, calls for a half-cent tax rate increase.

The general fund accounts for

PUBLIC FORUM

A public forum on the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 will be held during the June 3 meeting of the Chowan County Board of Commissioners. The meeting will be held at 6 p.m. at the Public Safety Building.

the majority of the proposed budget — \$15,970,840. Out of that fund, public safety — sheriff's office, 911 center, etc. — accounts for \$5,928,006. Education

— school system, senior center, library, etc. — accounts for \$4,593,006 of the general fund.

The Department of Social Services has a budget of \$2,806,463; EMS, \$1,869,995; Water Department, \$1,770,642; and Solid Waste, \$1,202,098.

The county's proposed budget includes \$2,356,084 for debt service and \$1,022,863 for the school capital reserve fund.

County Manager Kevin Howard said the proposed budget includes \$151,285 for salaries, a 3% increase from FY

2018-2019.

Board chair Patti Kersey thanked Howard and the county staff from providing more information on the budget this year. "There's lots more explanation."

Howard noted that the next step in the budget process would be to hold a public hearing on the proposed budget at the board's June 3 meeting. After the hearing, the commissioners can approve the budget at their discretion.

Sheriff Dwayne Goodwin presented Herman Weiss, the new

911 director, to the commission. Weiss began his work with Chowan County in 2010, before splitting his time between Chowan and Gates County, where he served as the dispatcher supervisor. Goodwin hired him back full time earlier this year.

"He's been here for about 20 days, but he hit the ground running," Goodwin said.

Weiss has already made his mark with the community, as

See BUDGET, A2

Memories of the Lady of Water Street

Gardener, historian Frances Inglis dies at age 90

BY MILES LAYTON
Staff Writer

Friday evening, I interviewed Frances Inglis on her porch with her daughter Susan along with former county commissioner John Mitchener, who helped to arrange the meeting.

My intent was to learn more about the Lady of Water Street as well as some of the history of Edenton and Chowan County so that I could write a tribute to her life. I can still see Inglis' intent gaze as she answered my questions while the warm breeze blew from Edenton Bay onto her porch at Homestead, circa 1773.

I was shocked to hear of Inglis' passing Monday morning at her home. Candidly, I'm not sure how to write her story, so bear with me as I continue to process the news and turn it into prose.

Based on the best information available before our Tuesday press deadline, Inglis' funeral is scheduled for 11 a.m. Saturday at St. Paul's Episcopal Church.

From my own recollections of Inglis as well as Friday's interview, I can say with certainty that she was a kind soul who had a strong knowledge of local people and places. Many people held her in awe as they spoke with her because she had a formidable grasp of time and place; qualities that become more rare as people choose Oz over Kansas. Our State magazine even did a feature on her a few years back about her presence and place within the town's fabric.

Inglis was born in March 17, 1929, in Norfolk, Virginia, and though she visited family living in Edenton, she and husband Ross settled in town many decades ago and raised a family.

During our conversation, Inglis relayed how her family's heritage is connected to the Wood, Collins and



PHOTO COURTESY BAILEY YOUNG

Clockwise from left: This file photo shows Frances Inglis supporting Blair Wood, an entrepreneur from White Oak Elementary, who was selling wrapping paper to raise money for field trips and to win herself a box of prizes. Inglis sits on one of the porches of her home, Homestead, on Friday. Inglis accepts birthday greetings from fellow members of the local Racial Reconciliation Group during a dinner celebrating the fourth anniversary of the group's formation.



FILE PHOTO



MILES LAYTON/CHOWAN HERALD

Skinner families, which trace their lineage back to the days long ago when there was a British flag flying over the colonies. The Wood family owned multiple plantations, while the Collins family owned Somerset Place in Washington County. The

Skinner lived at Montpelier on the Albemarle Sound, three miles outside Edenton.

During the 11 o'clock Mass, Inglis and her daughter often sat in the front pews up toward the front of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, where her grandfather Robert Drane

served as a rector between 1876 and 1932. Her father was a priest too.

"Our parish in good shape and I'm very grateful that Malone (Gilliam) is the priest," Inglis said.

See INGLIS, A4

Council OKs permit for retail store

Citizens cite concerns about business in N. Oakum St. residential community

BY MILES LAYTON
Staff writer

Edenton Town Council's recent meeting touched on many topics ranging from a new store to future business plans.

During the May 14 meeting, council granted a conditional-use permit for a proposed retail store that is planned for 1111 N. Oakum St. Owners April and Craig Garman of Tyner seek to open a store that sells overstocked items gathered from various leading retail chains — a welcome addition for customers who dread the trek to Elizabeth City or Greenville. The property is owned by Pearl Smith of Elizabeth City, according to town documents.

Council approved changing the zoning for the property from Conditional Use

See COUNCIL, A2

Residents: Valhalla plan bad for river

Fishermen say waterway moves slowly; effluent will just sit, make water brackish

BY NICOLE BOWMAN-LAYTON
Editor

For hundreds of years, the Tynchs and Nixons have lived off the waterways surrounding Chowan County. They have

NOTE

This is part of a series on the Chowan River. The next part will appear in the May 29 edition of the Chowan Herald.

watched the area's fishing fleet grow during better times and as it shrank while regulations limited commercial fishing. They've watched the once unsafe water become

safe enough to baptize grandchildren. Stanley Tynch and his brother own the land along Harris Landing Road. The property has been in his family for

See VALHALLA, A2

STATE CHAMPIONS

SUBMITTED PHOTO

The John A. Holmes High School boys track and field team became the Class 1A state champion Saturday after competing in Greensboro. For more of the team's success, see Page B1.



Ed Goodwin will speak at ceremony

Memorial Day service to be held at 11 a.m. May 27

STAFF REPORTS

NC Representative Ed Goodwin will be the guest speaker at this year's Memorial Day Service.

American Legion Post 40 will host the service at 11 a.m. Monday, May 27, at the veterans memorial at the intersection of Court and East Queen



GOODWIN

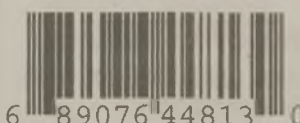
streets in Edenton.

Goodwin, R-Chowan, represents District 1. He is a veteran

of the US Air Force. He also served 21 years in the US Naval Criminal

See GOODWIN, A2

What's Happening in Chowan County



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National Honor Society holds induction ceremony — Page B3

Obituaries — A3

Melanie S. Butler
Nancy Hughes Cayton
Freida Harris Durham

Index

Calendar.....B4
Classifieds.....B7-8
Community.....A6
Obituaries.....A3
Opinion.....A5
Sports.....B1