



**CHOWAN ARTS COUNCIL HOSTS JAZZ CONCERT — A8**

## ACES GRADUATE FRIDAY

### 144 to participate in Class of 2019 commencement

**BY MILES LAYTON**  
Staff writer

Aces, grab your graduation gowns and mortar boards. And parents, make sure you've got your cameras ready for John A. Holmes' Class of 2019

commencement that starts promptly at 7 p.m. Friday at the stadium.

During the past four years, this class of seniors has achieved academic and athletic success. Worth noting, the graduation rate is at 92% which is the highest

that it has ever been, said Principal Steve Wood.

"This group of seniors were a very close knit group," he said. "They got along well, worked hard, and played hard. This group of seniors have excelled in the classroom as well as on

the fields and courts. This is that same class that I told when they were freshmen that this is a great class, and they really have proved that time and time again. I am extremely proud of every one

See GRADUATION, A7

## Aces' Hassell driven to succeed

**BY MILES LAYTON**  
Staff writer

My'Azia Hassell is a role model to the Aces' nation and Edenton community.

She served the Aces with distinction as a cheerleader, drum major, Student Government Association, Project Purple and the LEO Club.

That's certainly a good resume because Hassell is one of the most popular and well-respected girls in high school. Hassell plans to attend Howard University — one of the top schools in the nation. And she won more than \$500,000 worth of scholarships from various

See HASSELL, A7



My'Azia Hassell was Marching Aces drum major her senior year.



During Amy Turner's time as the leader of the Aces' cross-country team, she competed at the regional and state level and won many races.

## Turner known for athletics, academics

**BY MILES LAYTON**  
Staff writer

For several years, the Chowan Herald has written stories about Amy Turner's high school exploits and now that sadly is coming to an end, but ... who knows? Turner's trajectory is set on East Carolina University and a medical degree, so maybe she will be a country doctor someday, perhaps in Chowan County.

Why does Turner want to study medicine?

"From a young age, I have loved learning about science, especially biology," said Turner who was awarded an ECU Merit Scholarship. "At the same time, as a Christian, I find joy in helping and serving others. The medical field really ties these two passions together in a special way! I look forward to seeing where the

See TURNER, A3

## Electric director hired

Mike Nichols will start in July as new head of Edenton's utility department

**BY MILES LAYTON**  
Staff writer

Another West Virginian is moving to Edenton.

Mike Nichols has been hired as the Town of Edenton's electric director.

"I am pleased to inform you that as a result of the extensive recruitment conducted by the Nautical Group, the recruiting firm you hired to help us fill the long vacant position, we have found a person who we think will be a great fit for our organization," Town Manager Anne Marie Knighton said. "Mike Nichols has over thirty years of experience in the electricity business. He began his career as a lineman and prides himself on his ability to connect with the guys in the field."

Nichols takes over the job from Glen Anderson, who took a job with Fayetteville Utilities last year.

In a memo to Town Council, Knighton offered a quick overview of Nichols' career where he's managed a number of construction and maintenance crews working on transmission and distribution projects. In 1992, he joined Cleveland Public Power. He began working as a lineman and quickly moved up to take a management role — from lineman to Trouble Lineman to Line Switchman to Superintendent. His last role at Cleveland Public Power was

See ELECTRIC, A3



PHOTO COURTESY KIM ULLOM  
Aces' Anna Bass not only earned top grades, but she was one of the best kickers in the Albemarle Athletic Conference.

## Bass: Trust God, achieve your dreams

**BY MILES LAYTON**  
Staff writer

Anna Bass.

Her name will forever conjure up a scene during a football game when I first noticed blonde hair flowing underneath a football helmet No. 34 that had just kicked the extra point. I thought it was strange as Coach Paul Hoggard's legions never have long hair — not his style as he runs a

See BASS, A7

## Dagoberto Pacheco joining Marines in Aug.

**BY MILES LAYTON**  
Staff writer

*Editor's note: This article has been translated into Spanish on Page B6.*

Semper Fi. Motto of the Marine Corps, the Latin phrase means "always faithful" or "always loyal."

Like playing football for the Aces, Dagoberto Pacheco said he chose to enlist in the Marines because he wants to be a part of something special. Though Pacheco ships out for Parris Island in early August, he said he's not worried about the heat, the intense physical and mental regimen nor the drill instructors, because he's ready for

duty and prepared to serve his country.

Seems realistic since Pacheco has served on the front lines in the toughest boot camp around that is led by Aces football coaches Paul Hoggard and Wes Mattera.

"My best memory was playing football because of the great coaches and teammates," he said.

After boot camp, Marines train for their Military Occupational Specialty (MOS). Pacheco wants to pursue aircraft communications and complete an extended tour of duty for his country.

"I plan on staying in the Marines for 40 years, because

See PACHECO, A7



MILES LAYTON/CHOWAN HERALD  
Dagoberto Pacheco, a future U.S. Marine, spends his time reading a book after school in the days leading up to graduation.

## White Oak time capsule opened

Current first-graders prepare new capsule for burial

**BY MILES LAYTON**  
Staff writer

In 1999, when 10-year-old Jonathan Smith was in fifth grade, he wrote these words for the time capsule that was buried soon after White Oak Elementary opened 20 years ago.

"I want to marry Sonya Lane when I am 18 years old. Right now, Sonya Lane is my girlfriend. When I grow up, I want to be a veterinarian."

Well, Smith appears to be bonafide career-minded

marriage prospect back then. Let's hope things worked out for him and the lovely Sonya Lane.

Back then, 10-year-old Brian J. Leary was on the fast track to being rich and famous.

"As you read this, hopefully I will be at home with a billion dollars because I just retired from playing professional baseball. The team I retired from was the Atlanta Braves. But if I'm not a baseball player, then I will be a surgeon. Well, that is all. I say bye, bye."

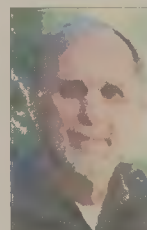
Missie S. Bunch was not only a teacher, but a young

See CAPSULE, A2



MILES LAYTON/CHOWAN HERALD

A time capsule filled with memories of White Oak Elementary from 20 years ago was unearthed recently from within the front lawn in Cubbie country.

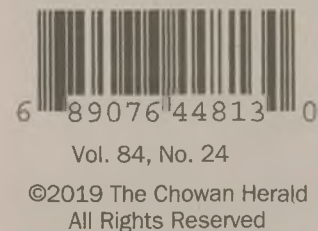


COLEMAN

Town Council and hopes that future surveys will be conducted. Joe Leotta helped to create the online survey that 103 people took the time to answer.

"I was impressed by the over-all interest shown in the survey and the thoroughness with which the community responded," Coleman said. "The average time spent on the survey by each participant was almost eight minutes. Most people expressed appreciation for the opportunity to share their views. And share they did. While the Grow Edenton Survey was anonymous I could see some trends. Initially

See SURVEY, A3



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Samuel Copeland  
Margaret T. Loyd  
Jerry Lee Smyth Jr.  
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