

"News from Next Door"

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75 cents

Hertford town manager to step down

BY PETER WILLIAMS News Editor

to take the job as planning director in Chowan County.

"I'll miss this I know, but I'm not leaving Hertford," Shoaf said last week.

Shoaf's last day as manager will be May 28.

Hertford Town Manager retired in 2011, the board Brandon Shoaf has resigned named Shoaf to the manager job. Prior to working for the town, Shoaf spent three years as a regional planner for the Albemarle Commission.

He's worked for the town Elizabeth Bryant resigned of April 9, the same night as ing," Shoaf said. "The manfor the past 11 years. For in December. She took the Shoaf announced he was ager's job, not just in Hert-

director in Edenton before partment. taking the job as county planner for Perquimans in May 2017.

Shoaf has been the subject of repeated criticism May and he said he wanted in Chowan County. from Quentin Jackson, a more time with the family. The Chowan planner po- new member of the town sition has been vacant since council. During the evening

the first four, he was the job as planning director for stepping down, Jackson ford, requires a lot of hours he was doing a great job town planner. When Town the Town of Edenton. Sam called out Shoaf for his role in the week. The offer I got as manager, but there are Manager John Christenson Barrow served as planning of managing the police de- in Chowan doesn't require things that needed to be

Shoaf said last week the main reason he's leaving is he and his wife are expecting their second child in now and will make \$61,000

"I felt I needed to spent more time outside of work-

all that outside of normal tweaked." working hours."

The move will mean a pay cut. Shoaf makes \$66,500

he's done a good job.

"I respect him and think

He said for eight years Shoaf worked with basically the same group of council members, and with two new members coming on While Jackson said he has last year, he might have had been critical of some things a hard time transitioning. Shoaf has done, he thinks Jackson and Frank Norman

See SHOAF, 6

Chamber plans special dance

BY PETER WILLIAMS News Editor

A 17-year-old at Perquimans County High School student is organizing May's first ever "Mother-Son" dance for the Perquimans County Chamber of Commerce.



Another first is Quante' Gallop. He is the chamber's first ever intern. He will graduate high school this year and plans to attend Pitt Community College to study psychology. He started working part-

time at the chamber in October and the term lasts until the close of school.

Gallop said the idea for the dance came from Louise Privott, the owner of Louise's Event Center and a member of the chamber's board of directors.

Gallop said he's excited about the

See DANCE, 6

County in the running for award

WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD



STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS Top, C.W. **Overton shows** Hunter Overton (no relation) w to operate



Early voting starts Thursday

BY PETER WILLIAMS News Editor

Early voting for the May primary election starts Thursday, but Perquimans County Democrats will have little to vote for.

Democrats can vote in the county school board race in May since it's non-partisan, but it's not really a race. There are three candidates running for three seats, so unless there are a lot of write-in ballots, the three are all assured a victory.

Running this year are incumbents Anne White and Any Spaugh and challenger Matt Peller. Peeler has served on the Perquimans County Commission before, but opted not to run again when his term expired two years ago. This is his first try running for the school board. Democrats remain the single largest political party in Perquimans with about 4,000 voters. Unaffiliated voters come in second with 3,100 and Republicans total about 2,600. There were only 31 libertarians registered as of March 7. Democrats would have had a race for the N.C. District 1 Senate race, but last week a panel determined Democrat Richard James is not a valid resident of the district and can't be a candidate for the seat.

BY PETER WILLIAMS News Editor

Perquimans County is in the running with four other locations for the Great Places in North Carolina award.

Votes can be cast on-line at https:// www.wishpond.com/lp/2301863/ People can vote once a day and the deadline is April 27 at 5 p.m.

As of Monday night, Perquimans was in first place with 101 votes.

Other communities in the running are Wendell Falls, Wrightsville Beach, Emerald Isle and North Park. North Park had 70 votes as of Monday. The others got: Emerald Isle, 53, Wrights-

See AWARD, 6

tractor Saturday at the Week of the Young Child event at the Perquimans Recreation Center. Right, Hertford **Firefighter Tyler Clark** shows Dasean **Braxton how** to use a fire hose Saturday at the Week of the Young Child event at the Perquimans Recreation Center.

Holly Hunter, Perquimans' elections director,

See VOTING, 2

Republican candidates square off for May primary Senate seat sees Steinburg, Twiddy Goodwin, Hunter seek house seat

BY JOHN HAWLEY The Daily Advance

Does North Carolina's Senate District 1 need experience or a new start?

That's the question facing Republican voters in the May 8 primary election, where three-term state Rep. Bob Steinburg, R-Chowan, is effectively running for a promotion to a Senate seat covering almost twice as many counties as he now serves. He's opposed for the seat by Clark Twiddy, a Navy veteran, Dare County businessman and political newcomer who argues he'll bring a collaborative, freemarket oriented approach to serving the public.





STEINBURG TWIDDY

In interviews Thursday and Friday, each candidate discussed his record, positions on economic and educational issues, and differences with his opponent.

Clark Twiddy

Twiddy, 41, said he's served others, both in the military and as a business leader, and is running for office to continue that service

"We have a responsibility to participate in government and derive the greatest good for the greatest number," Twiddy said.

Twiddy says economic

development is his priority if elected. He said he first would work on reducing regulations and taxes. Asked for an example of regulations that should be repealed, Twiddy couldn't cite one, although he did note his support for repeal of a ban on plastic bags on the Outer Banks.

As for taxes, Twiddy said he would "work relentlessly" to reduce taxes and stimulate economic activity. However, he said he could not promise to never support a tax increase, explaining the state might face a fiscal emergency in the future.

One economic development tool the state has used is economic incentives grants and other breaks to lure major companies to the state. Twiddy said subsidizing new companies but not existing ones can create an

See SENATE, 2

BY JOHN HAWLEY The Daily Advance

The two Republican candidates for state House District 1 have different backgrounds but a similar focus: to tackle the many pocketbook issues facing residents of rural communities.

Candice Hunter, of Perquimans County, and Eddy Goodwin, of Chowan County, are running to serve the reconfigured House District 1, which includes their counties as well as Bertie, Camden, Tyrrell and Washington counties. The seat in the 1st House District is now held by state Rep. Bob Steinburg, R-Chowan, who is running for the open state Senate seat in District 1 instead of seeking re-election.

In interviews last week,



HUNTER

they believe they have the vision and ability to improve the district, particularly its economy and educational systems. The candidates will face off in the May 8 primary elec-tion, for which early voting starts April 19. The winner will take on Democrat Ron Wesson, a Bertie County commissioner, in the November general election.

Candice Hunter

Hunter, 46, is a northeastern North Carolina native who returned to the both Hunter and Goodwin region last year. A graduate made their case for why of Currituck High School,

Hunter said she worked her way through college, serving as a television anchor in three different markets before starting her own small business, Media Hunter.

After returning home, Hunter said she became concerned about the 1st District's quality of life, and believes she has the vision to improve it.

"The most important value we have in northeastern North Carolina is preserving quality of life and allowing our children to stay here, and you do that by creating jobs," Hunter said.

Hunter said the district needs to "reinvent" itself after losing manufacturing iobs decades ago. In addition to encouraging small business growth and holding down taxes, she said it's vital to expand high-speed

See HOUSE, 6