

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



"News from Next Door"

SATURDAY, AUGUST 5, 2023

\$1.50



PAGE 3
Area restaurants to get taste of national attention



PAGE 3
Davenport, Tisdale earn scholarships



PAGE 4
Milot: Other intelligent life possible, so why wouldn't it travel?

224 7 HER_944_7 ##
*****CAR-RT LOT**R 008
PERQUIMANS COUNTY LIBRARY
514 S CHURCH ST
HERTFORD NC 27944-1225

Hotel Hinton project gets key OK for tax credit

SAGA: 'Part 2' approval will allow renovations to start

BY VERNON FUESTON
Staff Writer

EDENTON — Plans to redevelop the former Hotel Hinton have passed a second critical step toward receiving a Historic Preservation Tax Credit — a key ingredient to jump-starting costly renovations to the building many in Edenton have described as a crime haven and eyesore.

SAGA Realty and Construction, which owns the former hotel, recently

learned its application for a 20% Historic Preservation Tax Credit to help defray renovation costs had received "Part 2" approval from the National Park Service.

Sumit Gupta, CEO of SAGA Realty and Construction, said receiving the approval is significant because it allows the company to move forward with renovations of the hotel, knowing the 20% tax credit is available.

"Part 2 approval was a very important milestone for the development," he said in an email Friday. "It was a lengthy process that

took over eight months." Gupta previously said not knowing whether the Hotel Hinton project would qualify for a Historic Preservation Tax Credit was a major stumbling block to starting the costly renovations.

Gupta said the company is currently negotiating with financial institutions regarding loans for the project.

"If all goes well, we hope to have everything in place by early 2024 to move forward with producing our final construction and related documents," he said. "This phase will take a few months, and hopefully, by mid to late 2024, we can

move into the actual construction phase. Our goal is to start construction as soon as we can."

According to the National Park Service website, applicants for Historic Preservation Tax Credits, or HPTCs, have to pass three steps to determine if their renovation project is eligible for the 20% tax credit. The first step determines whether the building to be renovated is a "certified historic structure" and contributes to a historic district recognized by the Park Service. SAGA's Hotel Hinton project had already



CHOWAN HERALD

SAGA Realty and Construction, which owns the former Hotel Hinton, recently learned its application for a 20% Historic Preservation Tax Credit to help defray renovation costs had received "Part 2" approval from the National Park Service. The approval is a key development to getting the building's renovation started.

See HOTEL, A2

Big boost



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Camp Cale recently received a \$25,000 grant from Southern Bank that will go toward the cost of installing a high-ropes course at the camp in Perquimans County. The cost of the ropes course is around \$200,000.

Southern Bank donates \$25K to Camp Cale

Camp raises \$50K toward \$200K cost of building high-ropes course

BY PAUL NIELSEN
Staff Writer

HERTFORD — Camp Cale's campaign to raise funds for a new high-ropes course recently got a major boost.

Southern Bank awarded the Cale Community Foundation a \$25,000 grant toward the cost of the approximately \$200,000 cost of the project at the 86-acre summer camp that sits along the Perquimans River. The Cale Community Foundation supports activities at the camp.

The camp is named for the Cale family, who first gave land to the Chowan Baptist Association for a camp on the site six decades ago. Camp Cale's website says its mission is to "Share Christ, Develop Faith and Build Community."

Camp Cale Executive Director Matt

Thomas said that around \$50,000 has been raised for the project, with the rest of the donations coming from individuals.

"We hope to have the rest of the money raised here in the next three to four months so we can have it (the high-ropes course) up before next year's summer camp," Thomas said. "We have had a couple of individual gifts in the \$5,000 to \$10,000 range."

Southern Bank Executive Vice President-Regional Executive Jason Waughtel said the bank is committed to helping the communities it serves.

"Southern Bank is proud to provide its contribution toward the Cale Community Foundation," Waughtel said. "Our bank is firm in its commitment to the communities we serve and this contribution is part of that commitment, locally. Leadership at Southern Bank believes that community involvement is part of the overall experience our brand represents. Southern Bank is thankful for the op-

portunity to contribute to this community endeavor."

Erin Thomas, Cale Community Foundation communications coordinator, said camp outdoor activities at the camp currently include swimming and water sports like sailing, kayaking and canoeing. There is also an archery range, ax throwing, a low ropes course and rock wall among others, she said.

Thomas said around 600 campers will attend Camp Cale this summer. The summer staff numbers around 20.

There were six one-week sessions called "Kids Week" for children ages 7-12-years old this summer. The final session starts Sunday.

There was also a "Youth Week" held earlier this month for youth ages 12-15-years old. Also, a day camp is scheduled for Aug. 7-11.

Camp Cale also features a conference center and multi-purpose building on its campus and its facilities can be rented to outside groups when camp is not in session.

Edenton considers tweaks to social district proposal

Hours could be shortened on Sundays, weekdays

BY VERNON FUESTON
Staff Writer

EDENTON — Edenton Town Council last week continued its discussion of a proposed downtown "social district" that would allow customers to purchase single servings of beer or wine and carry them around parts of the downtown and waterfront areas.

The proposed district



BOND HIGH

extends from Queen Street, down Broad Street to the waterfront, from the Herringbone Restaurant to Broad Street, and down West King Street to the

See EDENTON, A6

Cunningham runs on fairness in gov't

Retired FBI employee recently appointed to Winfall seat

BY REGGIE PONDER
Staff Writer

WINFALL — Cynthia Gale White Cunningham said she's hoping to retain her seat on Winfall Town Council by running on a platform of fairness and transparency in local government.

Cunningham was recently appointed to a vacant seat on the council



CUNNINGHAM

and was sworn in about two weeks ago. Cunningham is one of three candidates seeking two seats on the Winfall Town Council in the Nov. 7 town election. Arnetta Ormond and Christopher Richardson

See CUNNINGHAM, A2

Edenton fall election candidates address gun violence

Hopefuls propose more police, more youth, rec programs

BY VERNON FUESTON
Staff Writer

EDENTON — Gun violence and other violent crime is not just a problem for large towns and big cities anymore. Increasingly, it's also a problem in smaller communities like Edenton, as police departments and elected officials struggle



BERGERON



DIXON



GILLIARD



GREEN-OVERTON



HIGH



INGLIS



SELLERS



TURNER

to respond to an uptick in violent crime, particularly shooting incidents.

A number of candidates for town office in Edenton's Nov. 7 election said responding to gun violence and other violent crime will be a key priority for them if they're elected. The Chowan Herald recently asked each candidate on the

ballot, including two who are running unopposed, for their thoughts about the gun violence problem, and what solutions they would offer to curbing it.

All eight candidates responded. They discussed a number of possible solutions, proposing everything from a citizen task force, a greater police presence on the streets and stiffer penalties for violators to more

recreational opportunities, more job training and more affordable housing opportunities.

Candidates on the Nov. 7 ballot include Hackney High, a First Ward councilor who's running unopposed for mayor, and Sam Dixon, an incumbent councilor who's running unopposed for re-election to his Second Ward seat.

Three candidates are

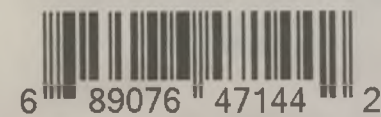
seeking the council's open First Ward seat; three others are running for at-large councilor. The three First Ward candidates are Bob Turner, Travis Gillard and Stephanie Bergeron. The three candidates for at-large councilor are Patrick Sellers, Kay Green-Overton and Susan Inglis.

CH: How would you address the problems of gun violence and other

Sellers: "Head on. Gun violence is on the rise all over the country, and in the towns that surround Edenton. But Edenton has never settled for the status quo, and we definitely should not settle on this issue."

"Edenton needs a larger police presence, more officers working at all times. This will take more money,

See CANDIDATES, A6



6 89076 47144 2

Vol. 88, No. 31
WWW.PerquimansWeekly.com
©2023 Perquimans Weekly
All Rights Reserved