Seabolt, a former State Highway Patrol trooper, in primary, and won the Libertarian primary, defeating Adam Brooks.

In May, Seabolt pulled in 6,523 votes, or 52 percent, while Graves received 49 percent, a total of 6,278 votes.

Seabolt’s victory was a reversal of the decision party leaders made in 2016. At that time, Graves was selected by the executive committee of the Randolph County Republican Party to succeed the late Sheriff Maynard Medlin, who died while in office that year.

The executive committee, made up about 70 members, includes GOP elected officials in the county, precinct chairmen and other Republican leaders. Graves received 53 votes, while Seabolt — the only other candidate nominated — garnered 15.

This time around, voters allowed Seabolt to parlay his narrow victory in May to a lopsided win in which he garnered 82.75 percent of the vote. The results will be made official Friday following the Randolph County Board of Elections’ count.

Seabolt was making his first bid for elected office. He has previously served in the Highway Patrol for 30 years.

Hicks, who ran as a Republican challenger for sheriff four years ago and lost to Graves, received 7.25 percent of the vote.

Melissa Johnson, who ran as the Democratic challenger for sheriff, received 2.65 percent of the vote.

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Above: Trinity Elementary Assistant Principal Judi Cagle was more than proud of her excited performers. From left, Alexi Alviar, Trent Wilson, Miles Anderson and Taylor Newsome were among those whose voices rang out at the concert. Below left: Proud parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles were among the crowd of supporters who were treated to last week’s choral concert. From left are, Gant Shedden, third-grade performer Taylor Newsome, Amanda Duncan and Ryder Newsome. Below right: Hopewell Elementary singer Jaylen Aquilina took to the stage cheered on by his mom, Arkeesha Aquilina, left, and grandfather, William Johnson.

Below: More than 200 singers took part in the concert at Trindale Community Church. In keeping with this year’s theme program "Be Our Guest" singers entertained the audience with "Hakuna Matata," "It's a Small World" and other Disney tunes.