



Pastor Doug Eddy honored as he departs Edenton - 6B

Future of Timbermill Wind Project in question

Chowan grants final approval for Timbermill wind permit

BY REGGIE PONDER
Editor

The Chowan County Board of Commissioners gave final, formal approval Monday night to the conditional use permit for the Timbermill Wind Project.

But officials in neighboring Perquimans County rejected the permit, placing a giant question mark over the future of the 300-megawatt wind energy gen-

eration facility proposed for the Bear Swamp and Center Hill areas of Chowan and Perquimans.

The project by Charlottesville, Va.-based Apex Clean Energy Inc. is designed to include 105 wind turbines, 48 of which would be located in Chowan County and the balance in Perquimans.

The Perquimans County Board of Commissioners voted 3-2 Monday not to approve the permit for the

project. It was not yet clear Tuesday morning what the impact of the Perquimans decision would be on the project as a whole.

Don Giecek, Apex's senior manager of project development, on Tuesday indicated the company remains committed to developing wind energy in northeastern North Carolina.

"While we are disappointed in last night's decision,

we remain as committed as ever to bringing safe, clean renewable wind energy, and the jobs and spending that go with it, to Northeast North Carolina," Giecek said in response to the Perquimans vote. "According to the county's own outside consultant, our application satisfied all of the requirements in the county ordinance, and our plan exceeded all of the

See CHOWAN, 7B

Perquimans rejects Timbermill Wind Project

BY PETER WILLIAMS
The Perquimans Weekly

The Perquimans County Commission rejected a plan for a \$300 million wind power project by a 3-2 vote Monday night.

A majority of the five members favored the project, but individually three of them had issues with at least some aspect of Apex Clean Energy's proposal.

Commissioners had to vote individually on four issues. All five commissioners agreed Apex had met the burden of proof

on two of them - that the use would not damage public health-safety and secondly that the project met the requirements of the county's ordinance. But when it came to the question of if the project would "substantially" injure adjoining property owners, both Commissioners Fondella Leigh and Wallace Nelson weren't convinced it wouldn't. The issue came down to what "substantially" means.

See PERQUIMANS, 2A

JONES RECALLS SERVICE ABOARD SUB AT VETERANS DAY CEREMONY

BY REBECCA BUNCH
Staff Writer

Bright sunny skies greeted those attending this year's Veterans Day ceremony Friday at the Chowan County Veterans Memorial.

Vietnam veteran Frank Jones was the featured speaker at the event sponsored by Edward G. Bond Post 40 of the American Legion. Jones, a U.S. Navy veteran who served as a submariner during the deadly conflict, today is the owner of the Downtown Cafe and Soda Shop in Edenton.

In his opening remarks, Jones spoke about his love for Edenton where he and his wife Barbara have made their home for the past 20 years.

"As many of you know," he said, "I am not a native of Edenton, but I like to tell people that I got here as fast as I could."

"I believe Edenton has a unique character and walking about mindful of the history and significance of the things that have taken place here is an awesome experience," Jones added.

"Walking near the Albemarle Sound, especially in the early morning, is to let your spirit soar as another new day arrives."

On a more serious note, Jones expressed his personal appreciation for their service to all the veterans present at the ceremony.

"I would like to thank all the veterans present here today for having served in some capacity in the military of the greatest nation on the face of the earth," he said. "I know you don't need the thanks, but you deserve it."

"When I see a veteran I see someone who I know is a patriot, who I know loves his or her country, and someone who made the decision to serve and sacrifice for the common good," Jones added. "I see someone who made that awesome decision at some point in their life to write a check to the United States of America for an unknown amount up to and including his or her life. There is no other commitment that compares to that."

See VETERANS, 4A



STAFF PHOTOS BY REBECCA BUNCH

Members of the John A. Holmes High School JROTC present the colors during the annual Veterans Day Ceremony held last Friday, Nov. 11 at the Chowan County Veterans Memorial in Edenton.

Winners cite business experience among reasons for victory

BY REGGIE PONDER
Editor

Experience in business and being able to connect with voters through face-to-face conversations were among the reasons winning candidates in the contested races for county commissioner in Chowan County cited for their victories in last week's General Election.

All three contested races for

seats on the Chowan Board of Commissioners featured candidates who were not incumbents.

In District 2, Commissioner Alex Kehayes had decided not to seek reelection. A fellow Republican, former Chowan Planning Board member Patti Kersey, won the seat in the Nov. 8 election, defeating Democrat Derrick Wadsworth.

Republican Ron Cummings defeated Democrat James "Jill"

White in the District 1 race. White had defeated incumbent Commissioner Emmett Winborne in the Democratic Primary.

In the race for the at-large seat on the board, Democrat Don Faircloth defeated Republican Brian Ferraraccio. The current occupant of the at-large seat, Republican Keith Nixon, did not seek reelection.

Commissioner Greg Bonner ran unopposed in District 3.

Kersey credited the connection she had been able to make with voters on a personal level with helping her win the election.

"I think it was not really any particular issue, although I did have gatherings where I would talk about things I think are important in local government," Kersey said.

One of the issues people expressed concern about was taxes, she said.

"Folks don't want to see their

taxes go up. I think that's one that gets their attention," she said.

Kersey also noted that she did a lot of door-to-door campaigning.

"I have been knocking on doors since June," Kersey said. "I knocked on hundreds of doors."

Kersey's opponent, Wadsworth, also mentioned how actively Kersey campaigned for the seat.

"She worked really hard and

See ELECTION, 2A

Dixon named to Hurricane Matthew recovery panel

From staff reports

Edenton attorney Sambo Dixon has been named to Gov. Pat McCrory's 32-member task force on rebuilding areas damaged by Hurricane Matthew.

Dixon is the Albemarle's only representative on the panel, which is chaired by Thomas Stith, McCrory's chief of staff.

"I think the priority right now is trying to get everybody in a habitable place, back into a quality living arrangement and out of shelters," Dixon said Monday when asked about what he thought the priorities should be for the task force. "I think trying to get compensation for those who've suffered

losses through small business loans and other means should also be a priority so that necessary repairs can be made."

Dixon said he also thought the committee should take a close look at flood plain issues, particularly turning its attention to areas that have flooded repeatedly.

McCrory's Hurricane Matthew Recovery Committee was scheduled to hold its

See DIXON, 7B



FILE PHOTO

Chowan County maintenance workers and Recreation Department staff work to clear debris and ruined furnishings from the Chowan Senior Center after Hurricane Matthew.



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ROCKY HOCK Opry FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2nd, 7:00PM
Sponsored by the Rocky Hock Christmas Show
Tickets \$10.00
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3rd, 7:00PM
Perquimans Co. High School Auditorium, Hertford, NC
Tickets Available at various locations or call 252-221-4875 or 252-340-3438. Email rockyhock opry@live.com