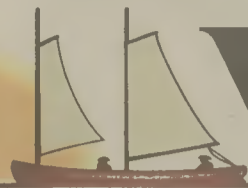


THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



Steamers reach CPL East final series, 7

"News from Next Door"

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12, 2015

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Aydlett named interim principal

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

Tim Aydlett is back for his second curtain call as an educator.

He retired from education in 2006, but returned in 2013 to fill in as interim principal at Hertford Grammar School. He remained until April 2014 to give new HGS principal Jason Griffin a chance to get settled.

When school opens later this month, Aydlett will be back — this time as interim principal at Perquimans Central School. Aydlett will be filling the slot held by Central Principal Melissa Fields who is stepping in to fill a void left when Chante Jordan announced she was resigning the job at Perquimans County High School.

"I guess I can't stay retired," Aydlett said Monday.

This time around, Aydlett doesn't expect he'll be at Central long. The school system hopes to have a permanent replacement in place in September, he said. Until then, he'll be in charge of a school that caters to kids from pre-kindergarten through second grade.

That's a bit of a switch for a man who's spent virtually all of his career with high school students.

"I guess this will round out my career," he joked. "I think they wanted somebody who was familiar to the county and parents could relate to."

Principals and Superintendent Dwayne Stallings were in a two-day retreat Monday and Tuesday, according to Teresa Beardsley.

In a letter addressed to parents, Superintendent Dwayne Stallings, welcomed Aydlett.

"Mr. Aydlett brings a wealth of knowledge and leadership experience to Perquimans Central School, having served in Perquimans County for seven years, first as an assistant principal at Perquimans County High School and then culminating his career as principal at Hertford Grammar School in 2006."

In a previous article in The Perquimans Weekly, Aydlett termed himself something of an "accidental educator."

He enrolled at Mars Hill College with the idea that he'd eventually transfer to

See AYDLETT, 2

GETTING A TOUCH UP



PHOTO BY CHUCK PAGELS

Robin Trueblood gets high up on a step ladder to apply paint to the front of Perquimans County High School in preparation for the opening of school.

Chowan Co. may consider wind rules

BY REGGIE PONDER
Chowan Herald

It will be next month at the earliest before the county commissioners hold a public hearing on a planning board proposal to make the county's wind energy ordinance more restrictive.

Last month, the Chowan County Board of Commissioners was presented a petition with more than 600 signatures requesting that the commissioners approve recommendations from the planning board that would make the county's wind ordinance significantly more restrictive.

But County Attorney Lauren Womble told the commissioners at their meeting Monday night that the recommendations submitted by the Planning Board on April 6 were not in the form of a text amendment to the ordinance. For that reason, she said, the commissioners would not be able to schedule a public hearing on those recommendations. The recommendations would have to be drafted as a text amendment before a public hearing could be scheduled, she said.

Apex Clean Energy has proposed the Timbermill Wind Energy Project along the Chowan-Perquimans county line, which is planned as a 300-megawatt wind energy generation facility. Most of the project would be in Perquimans County, which already has an ordinance that permits structures as tall as the Timbermill turbines.

Don Giecek of Apex Clean Energy told the county commissioners Monday that the Timbermill project is similar in many respects to the Iberdrola facility that recently broke ground along the Perquimans-Pasquotank line. Giecek noted that both projects are in two different counties, are similar in size and involve vast areas of forest and agricultural land.

Giecek also noted Gov. Pat McCrory's enthusiastic

See WIND RULES, 2

Perquimans FFA Alumni group hopes to form

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

A meeting is planned Monday to form an adult support group for Perquimans County High School's Future Farmer of American (FFA) program.

Participants don't have to have been a member of FFA when they were in high school in order to qualify to join the alumni program.

Angel White, the FFA teacher at the high school, said they just need a desire to support the future of agriculture education in Perquimans County. Monday's

meeting is at 7 p.m. in the media center at the high school.

The National FFA Organization is a youth organization focused on career and technical fields with a major focus on agricultural education.

White said she typically has 60 to 75 students involved in FFA each year. She's been working with the program for the past 15 years, but said there was at least a 10-year gap before she started when the program was dormant.

FFA has dozens of areas

See FFA, 4



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Perquimans County High School FFA students build a greenhouse of out water bottles as part of a project last year.

'Love PQ' community outreach effort grows

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

An effort that started three years ago with one church reaching out to the community to help has blossomed to what organizers wanted in the first place.

They say "Love PQ Week" in July incorporated

more people, more groups and more churches in order to do more good. Phil Johnson, who coordinated the effort for Bagley Swamp Wesleyan, said 69 individuals put in about 1,600 hours of labor over a five-day period.

"It's been our approach all along that this shouldn't

be a single church thing," Johnson said. "It's a Kingdom thing. The question was asked if one church can do 1,200 hours, what could 52 churches do?"

This year Love PQ got help from Elizabeth City-based River City Development and the Youth Build program.

Yards were cleaned up, overgrown landscaping was trimmed back, wheelchair ramps were built and rotten porches were replaced.

The group also tackled repainting the restroom building at Perquimans County High School's football/baseball field. Johnson looks at it this way.

"The question is what can we do as a faith-based group to instill pride? Well in Perquimans County, the school system is the biggest thing we've got. By doing this maybe students will take pride in their school and more people will show

See 'LOVE PQ', 3

County looking at health options

From Staff Reports

Perquimans County and two other local governmental units are shopping around to find cheaper health insurance.

County Manager Frank Heath said the county's annual premium jumped from \$653,000 to \$843,000 this fiscal year.

Perquimans County along with Albemarle Re-

gional Health Services and Pasquotank County are the three major members of the Northeast Albemarle Group Health, a self-insurance pool that collectively had to pay almost \$1 million due to costly claims and other factors last year.

Pasquotank had to pay almost \$400,000 of that cost, and it expects its annual premiums to cost \$1.85 million this year.

The state changed the law this year to allow up to another 10,000 people join the state health plan. With

See INSURANCE, 2

Shelter reaches out to find homes

BY REBECCA BUNCH
Chowan Herald

Twenty-two dogs and puppies have a good chance to find homes thanks to a new cooperative arrangement between the Tri-County Animal Shelter in Tyner and an SPCA near Philadelphia, Pa.

On July 23 Tri-County Shelter Director Dana Goheen and Friends of the Shelter member Mary Jo Sellers hit the road in a van to deliver them through the auspices of the ASPCA's MAP (Moving Animals Places) program that helps connect shelters with too many animals to shelters that need animals that can be adopted.

This was the first drop-off between Tri-County and the folks in Pennsylvania. The Tri-County shelter serves Perquimans, Gates and Chowan counties.

"I am elated that we have the opportunity to partner with them in this new relationship," Goheen said.

Goheen said that it is innovative arrangements such as these that are keeping a majority of dogs brought into the shelter in Tyner alive.

"Our survival rate for dogs last year was 80

See SHELTER, 3

SUBMITTED PHOTO

A puppy from the Tri-County Animal Shelter and Adoption Center in Tyner is turned over to SPCA staff in Pennsylvania.



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