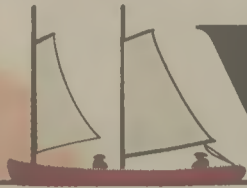


# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



"News from Next Door"

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2015

See this year's Santa Letters, 1B

50 cents

## Judge to hear wind case

BY PETER WILLIAMS  
News Editor

A judge has rejected a call to dismiss a suit that claims the state improperly allowed a 20,000-acre wind energy project in Perquimans and Pasquotank to proceed.

Judge Melissa Owens Lassiter of the Office of Administrative Hearings made the ruling Dec. 14.

That clears the way for a suit by a Perquimans County couple — Stephen Owens and Jillanne Gigi Badawi. They claim the project by Iberdrola Renewables should have gone through a new round of state review because of a change in the state law.

"I'm extremely pleased," Badawi said Dec. 16. "It's like Christmas has come early."

Lawyers for the NC Department of Environmental Quality had tried to argue that Owens and Badawi, lacked the legal standing to bring their claims. The counsel from the Attorney General's Office also argued that the couple failed to file their petition in a timely manner.

Badawi argues that they didn't file their petition within 60 days of DEQ's decision because DEQ didn't notify them of the decision.

"I should have received that notice," Badawi said. "You can't appeal something that you don't know about."

Badawi and her husband are being represented by the Center for Law and Freedom (CLF), a nonprofit public interest law firm housed within the Civitas Institute.

"DEQ never gave our clients notice of its decision because it did not consider them to be 'aggrieved,' and then tried to argue that their petition was not timely because it was filed after it gave notice to Iberdrola," CLF Lead Counsel Elliot Engstrom said. "If that argument were to hold up, administrative agencies in North Carolina would essentially be able to decide who could and could not bring suit against them based on their own determinations of who is 'aggrieved' by their decisions."

Engstrom is joined by Dr. David Schnare, General Counsel for the Energy and Environment Legal

See WIND CASE, 7B

## HOLIDAY SHOWCASE



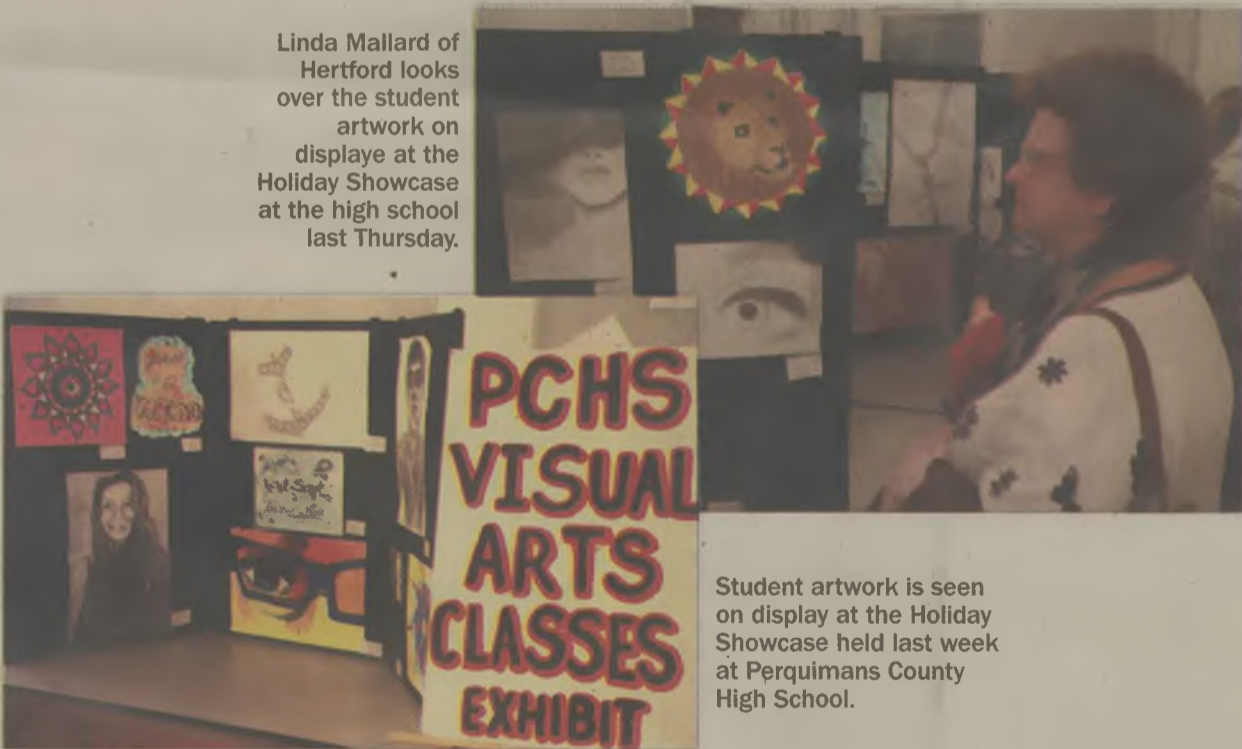
PHOTOS BY CHUCK PAGLES

Lynwood Winslow conducts the Perquimans High School Chorus at a Holiday Showcase, Thursday evening.



The Perquimans High School Symphonic Band, conducted by Ryan Minster, performs at the Holiday Showcase.

Linda Mallard of Hertford looks over the student artwork on display at the Holiday Showcase at the high school last Thursday.



Student artwork is seen on display at the Holiday Showcase held last week at Perquimans County High School.

## Election slate finalized

BY PETER WILLIAMS  
News Editor

Three candidates filed for Perquimans County offices Monday, the last day to do so.

Charles Woodard, a long-time pharmacist in Hertford; Russell Lassiter, a recently retired shipbuilder and turf farmer; Leary Winslow submitted paperwork with Perquimans Elections Director Syndi Banks before the noon deadline.



LISSITER



WINSLOW



WOODARD

Woodard is seeking a seat on the Perquimans County Commission. Lassiter and Winslow are running for school board.

The field leaves three people running for three county commission seats and four running for three school board seats. Other school board candidates are incumbent Alrene Yates and challengers Jim Davison, Winslow and Lassiter. All four names will appear on the March 15 ballot and the top three will be sworn in in July.

In the county commission race there is just one incumbent, Kyle Jones. Also in the contest are Alan Lennon, another Republican and Democrats Joseph Hoffer and Woodard. They will not appear on the March ballot, but all four will be on the November ballot.

Register of Deeds Jackie Frierson is running unopposed for her job.

Woodard, 69, ran for the county commission years before in the 1970s as a Republican and lost. He's running as a Democrat now and said he'd reached a time where he can devote more time.

"Working 8 a.m. until 7 p.m. made it tough," Woodard said about his early schedule after he bought the Church Street pharmacy in 1972.

See FINALIZED, 2

## Teachers reflect on some memorable gifts from students

From staff reports

The Perquimans Weekly asked area teachers about what memorable gifts they've received from students. The results follow.

**Abigail Ellis - Kindergarten**

"The most memorable gifts I receive are the ones you can tell a lot of thought was put into them. It may be something a child made, or even something that was bought. My favorite gift I

have ever received was a small canvas with "I thank you for your part in my journey" painted on it. Teachers work very hard to make a difference in each student that we teach so it is great to hear 'thank you' especially in this creative way!"

**Linda Morgan - 6th Grade English Language Arts**

"The most memorable gift I received was a hand-drawn picture of the New Zealand flag. This was memorable for me because New Zealand is the country I am from and this student took the time to look up the flag for my country and then

color a picture of it for me. It was an extremely special and heart felt gift."

**Angela Rose - Exceptional Children's Teacher**

"I received a picture in a frame that still sits on my desk today. The picture is of a student in a self-contained classroom, my mother, and me. My mother was volunteering in the school (in her

80s) and she was helping the student mix ingredients for Christmas cookies."

**Rebecca Miller - Pre-K**

"An Apple cut out of wood, painted red and it had my name "Mrs. Miller" on it. Its the most memorable because the student painted it

himself and had his grandfather cut it out just for me."

**Courtney Baccus - 1st Grade**

"The most memorable gifts from students are often Christmas ornaments because they are brought out yearly and memories are relived though looking at them hanging on our tree every year. I love decorating my tree every year and having memories of the students that gave me each ornament."

**Rhonda Meadows - Middle School English/Language Arts Teacher**

"Zoe Sawyer gave me a

handmade birdhouse her grandfather made from an old tree that was planted in their yard last Christmas (2014-15 school year), my first year as a middle school ELA teacher. Her granddad included the history of the tree and his authentic design signature. Of course, this was the best Christmas Ever! Zoe is such a thoughtful person because I had shared with her how much I loved birdhouses prior to Christmas in my class."

**Terrie Mallory - 5th grade**

"The most memorable gift that I have received

See MEMORABLE, 7B

