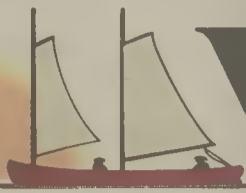


THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



Tractors tangle with power lines, 4

"News from Next Door"

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29, 2016

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Plantation wraps up third pro tournament



Tom Loughlin watches as Frank Adams III of Salisbury takes a practice swing last week. Adams, the defending champion of the Biggs Cadillac-Buick-GMC Classic, was staying at Loughlin's home.

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

Albemarle Plantation weathered a heavy rain that postponed most of play one day last week to finish the third annual Biggs Cadillac-Buick-GMC Classic on Saturday.

Anthony Maccaglia walked away with a \$16,500 event for his victory.

"I think it went very well," said Kenny Saunders, the golf pro at The Sound Links. "We had all that rain but they were able to make it up. Our biggest concern is the sponsors and our guests and residents. It didn't rain

on our parade."

But it did rain on the golf course.

Between Thursday night and Thursday morning the clouds dumped 4.5 inches on the course. The standing water in sand traps didn't just magically disappear, Saunders said. He credits Mike Horton, for making it right. Horton oversees maintenance of the course.

"Mike Horton and his crew had to pump the water out and then rake the traps and even them out," Saunders said. "It took a lot of work and those boys worked really hard."

As a show of thanks,

Saunders said Horton took his crew to Busch Gardens Monday as a treat.

"Many of them had never been," Saunders said.

Tom Loughlin was one of the area residents that hosted a golfer for the event. Frank Adams III, 37, was last year's Biggs Classic winner and Loughlin called him up to encourage him to come and defend his crown.

That was before Adams qualified for last weekend's U.S. Open. Adams wasn't the only former Biggs Classic player that made it to

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Seniors see varied future

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

Fewer Perquimans County High School grads are opting to go to a university this year, and a bigger chunk plan to go directly to work.

Out of a class of 126 students, 33 (or 26 percent) said they are going to a four-year school. That compares to 40 percent for the Class of 2015. The number intending to go directly into the job market was 23 percent, up from 13 percent last year.

The numbers can be deceiving, said Nancy Morgan, the guidance counselor at the school.

"Every year is different," she said.

Morgan said the numbers don't reflect a lack of academic achievement, she said.

"A greater number are opting for a two-year college," Morgan said. "Many are very capable of going to a four year school but they're opting to stay at home for the first two years."

The numbers bear out that 51 students (or 40 percent) of this year's class are headed to a two-year school. Morgan said it's far less expensive that way.

And the number of students looking to go directly to work is also not a reflection of the lack of academic ability, Morgan said.

This year at least three students landed welding jobs straight out of high school. They had dual enrollment classes at College of The Albemarle and took welding classes in Elizabeth City in the morning and then returned to PCHS to take

See PLANS, 4

LENDING A HELPING HAND



STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS

Gary Draper poses from his wheelchair last week with some of the volunteers who spent time fixing up his house in Hertford.

Crews provide help to homeowners

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

If somebody wanted to find Gary Draper's house in Hertford, he said giving directions was easy.

"I told them to look for the ugly white house," Draper said.

That was before River City Community Development Corp. provided a crew of volunteers who gave it a facelift last week.

"Now I can say it's the pretty yellow house," Draper said.

Group Workcamps is an interdenominational Christian volunteer home-repair organization headquartered north of Denver. The Elizabeth City-based River City CDC provides the building materials and support.

Draper's two-story home sits at the corner of Pennsylvania and Charles streets across from the

See CDC, 2



STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS

Madeline Freed stands on a ladder to paint some of the trim on Gary Draper's home in Hertford last week.

Wind bill faces questions

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

A bill that would severely limit new wind power projects in the state will not become law this year, predicts Rep. Bob Steinburg.

The N.C. Senate passed the Military Operations Protection Act on June 20 with the support of Sen. Bill Cook. It still has to be approved by the House and on June 22, it was referred to the House committee on rules, calendar and operations of the house.

Steinburg said the bill was pitched to the Senate as a pro-military measure designed to protect the viability of military bases and training in the state. However he said a map used to convince Senators to support the bill was inappropriate and the Department of Defense already has a system in place to deal with wind power projects.

"I can't support this bill, regardless of where I am on wind energy and solar energy," Steinburg said Friday. "The fact of the matter is this bill (HB 763) was presented and sold under false pretenses and those that passed it didn't have all the facts. The fact is ethically knowing what I know, I can't support a bill going over to the house that was not properly vetted."

"I do not think HB 763 will be considered in its present form. It's not going to happen. Some of HB 763 may be turned into a study where all the stakeholders have a seat at the table."

Sen. Cook maintains that more rules are needed.

"In several cases, NC coastal wind energy development has come in direct

See WIND, 4

Parade, fireworks set for Saturday

From Staff Reports

Perquimans County will celebrate Independence Day a little early with both fireworks and a parade on Saturday.

The parade will start at 5 p.m. at Perquimans County High School. It will proceed down Edenton Road Street to Dobbs Street and then

Church Street and Grubb Street before heading back down Edenton Road Street.

Vanora Brothers, the coordinator of the parade said more entries will be accepted but only through Thursday. To enter call either 333-8959 or 426-5956. Marching bands will not play a role this year, but anybody can enter a float, car, truck, boat or farm equipment. Military groups, fire and police departments have already signed up to take part.

See CELEBRATION, 4

PLAYGROUND TAKES SHAPE



STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS

Workers assemble new playground equipment recently at the Perquimans County Recreation Center. The \$350,000 project was made possible by a grant from Trillium.



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