

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

"News from Next Door"

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County approves permit for wind farm

By CATHY WILSON
Staff Writer

County commissioners have approved a conditional use permit for a 300 megawatt wind farm planned for the Desert area spanning both Perquimans and Pasquotank counties.

In a unanimous vote, commissioners approved the permit with conditions following a quasi-judicial hearing last week.

On Monday, the Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners also



SUBMITTED COMPUTER RENDERING

This visual assessment shows what the view of the proposed wind farm would look like looking north from Two Mile Desert Road just south of the intersection with Swamp Road.

in North Carolina but in the southeast portion of the United States.

Atlantic Wind LLC (AW), a subsidiary of global wind energy company Iberdrola Renewables, plans for the Desert Wind

Energy project to include up to 150 utility-scale wind turbines capable of generating enough electricity to power up to 75,000 homes. Up to 68 wind turbines are slated to be built in Perquimans County.

A host of witnesses for AW testified during the hearing that was conducted by county board Vice-Chairperson Janice Cole at the request of Chairman Ben Hobbs. Cole, a local attorney who

See WIND FARM, 8

Tilley: Beware of scams

From staff reports

Perquimans Sheriff Eric Tilley warns area residents of various scams that have impacted local residents, especially the elderly.

Tilley said elderly residents are receiving phone calls from someone claiming to be a family member asking for help and needing money. The caller uses trickery to first obtain a family member's name, such as a grandchild, and then uses that name to convince the elderly person on the other end to wire money to the scam artist.

"If you receive a call, check with your family first," Tilley urged. "If the caller says he is your grandson, hang up and call your grandson first to see if he really called you before you wire any money."

Tilley says the origin of such calls come from outside the country.

"There's just no recourse if the scam involves other countries," he added. Instead, Tilley encourages residents to simply hang the phone up if someone calls and tries to get you to send them money.

Another scam is fake lotteries or sweepstakes letters being sent to local residents through the mail, including a recent fake lottery letter from Madrid, Spain. Tilley encourages residents to look for red flags in such letters, like sentences that encourage you to keep the notification

See SCAMS, 8

Class of 2011 weathers graduation

By CATHY WILSON
Staff Writer



STAFF PHOTOS
BY CATHY WILSON

The Class of 2011 is led onto the football field at the start of graduation exercises Friday at Perquimans County High School.

With threatening skies gathering behind them, an enthusiastic crowd excitedly greets the PCHS graduates.



One word best described Friday night's commencement exercises at Perquimans County High School.

Weather: Held outside on the school's football field, threatening skies and windy weather caused 122 graduates wearing caps and gowns to literally grab their diplomas from Perquimans Board of Education Chairman Amy Spaugh and almost run for cover as an impending storm cut the outside ceremony short.

Graduates, parents and guests got to hear both class speakers as well as state Senator Ed Jones before the storm caused school officials to quickly hand out diplomas and head for cover.

Within 15 minutes of clearing the field, heavy rain, strong winds, and lightning covered the area.

School officials continued handing out diplomas to the graduates inside the gym.

State Senator Ed Jones briefly congratulated the class and their parents.

"When you look at the state's drop out rate, you are the proud and the few," he told them. "But it wouldn't have happened if it weren't for the support of your parents throughout the years. It's like a good soup. You put a little bit

See CLASS, 8

Friday is strolling time!

By CATHY WILSON
Staff Writer

Get ready to stroll again this Friday night during the second of four summertime Friday Night Strolls in downtown historic Hertford.

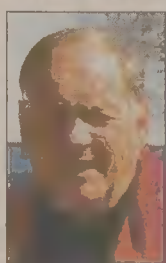
This Friday's line-up includes comedy, musical entertainment, old-fashioned games, vendors, food, and book signings.

The fun runs from 5-8 p.m. Select downtown merchants will be open late as well.

Chris and Mandy Whitehurst highlight this event with the musical entertainment. Organizers say a comedy act and games such as corn-hole, pie-eating and watermelon seed-



Long



Cherry

spitting contests will provide fun-filled activities to enjoy on the spacious courthouse lawn.

Three book signings will take place during the event.

Corbin Cherry will hold a book signing for his new book "Here By The River" on the courthouse green. A resident of Hertford, Cherry's seventh book is a book of prose written about the river waters that embrace both the towns and county.

It is his first book of prose written in a few years, he said.

See FRIDAY, 8

5 bridge options up for discussion

By CATHY WILSON
Staff Writer

The nine options offered over a year ago to replace the historic S-bridge and Causeway have now been reduced to five.

The North Carolina Department of Transportation will present those five alternatives June 21 during a public meeting at the county recreation department from 4-7 p.m.

The five options include:

Alternative A-NEW-building a new swing span at the same location as the current S-bridge is located along with a new low structure on the causeway. The new swing span bridge would open and close for boat traffic

but would not have a steel truss like the current bridge.

Alternative A-REHABILITATE-rehabilitate the existing swing span bridge and build a new low structure on the causeway. NC-DOT officials say this alternative might not be feasible because the existing truss bridge does not meet current safety requirements.

Alternative D-replace the bridge and causeway with a new 33' high fixed bridge on a new location east of the existing facility. The northern end of the new bridge would connect with the existing US 17 Business/NC 37 just south of Larry's Drive



SUBMITTED IMAGE

This map shows the route of the S-bridge alternatives now under consideration.

See BRIDGE, 8



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