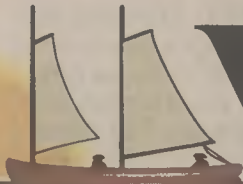


THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



FRIED, SLICED OR DICED?
WALTONS GROW 18-INCH TOMATO! P. 2

"News from Next Door"

JULY 13, 2011 - JULY 19, 2011

RECEIVED 50 cents

JUL 13 2011

Schools to use state funds to rehire 7

By CATHY WILSON
Staff Writer

The state giveth, and the state taketh away.

No one understands that better than members of the Perquimans County Board of Education.

After waiting months to find out just how much

state funds the schools will receive during the 2011-2012 school year, Superintendent Dwayne Stallings says that while the initial state allotments may appear to fund more in certain categories, they must also revert more funds back to the state this year.

Bottom line is, certain

programs/areas will receive less state funds than last year, but more funds are available for school personnel.

The result: the schools will be able to hire or re-employ seven people after implementing a reduction in force (RIF) that eliminated 19 certified/classified

positions last month.

Board of Education members voted Monday night to hire someone at the high school to help with curriculum and instruction with special emphasis on administering the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) grant. The position

may also supervise the AIG program as well as other initiatives assigned by the principal.

Also, a media coordinator will be hired at Perquimans County Middle School, and four teacher assistants who were affected by the RIF will be offered one year contracts to return this

school year only. Stallings pointed out that the division is working on securing additional grant funds in hopes of being able to hire back additional teacher assistants in the future.

One additional exceptional children's teacher

See **SCHOOLS**, 7

Churches glean spuds to help others

2,600 pounds of potatoes pulled

Local churches banded together recently to help feed the less fortunate.

Members from New Hope, Hertford, and Edenton United Methodist churches, Immanuel Baptist, and the Open Door of Perquimans recently helped glean 2,600 pounds of potatoes from a local farmer's field in northwestern Pasquotank county.

Church members gathered leftover crops from the farmer's fields after the farmer completed harvesting his crop. After gleaning, the fresh produce was distributed to families served by the Food Bank of the Albemarle.

The volunteers were organized by Walker Rayburn a volunteer gleaning coordinator from the Society of St. Andrew. The Society of St. Andrew is a Christian ministry which feeds the hungry in 21 states year-round. They coordinate thousands of volunteers to glean eight to 10 million pounds of a wide variety of produce each year in North Carolina alone.

In addition to helping the local food banks, some churches also use the fresh produce to distribute through their food pantries.

Bob Murphy, gleaning coordinator from NHUMC, said his church will distribute over 250 pounds of potatoes gleaned through that church's food pantry.

The potatoes will also be distributed by the Open Door of Perquimans, Edenton Chowan Food Pantry, and various churches located in northern Pasquotank County, he added.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Residents from New Hope, Hertford and Edenton United Methodist churches, Immanuel Baptist, and the Open Door of Perquimans gathered at a farmer's field in Pasquotank County to glean potatoes for those less fortunate.



Local church members gather potatoes to be donated, along with other fresh, nutritious food, to those in need.

Police guilty of assault

By CATHY WILSON
Staff Writer

Hertford's police chief and sergeant were found guilty of misdemeanor assault inflicting serious injury last Wednesday in Perquimans District Court in connection with an altercation over a year ago.

After nearly six hours of testimony, Chief Joe Amos and Sergeant Shawn Swindell were found guilty of assaulting Kenneth Ferebee back in May 2010. Ferebee received a cut on the head that required staples and scratches to the face when he was apparently struck in the head with a fire helmet and pushed to the ground.

Chief District Court Judge Michael Paul of the 2nd Judicial District sentenced both men to 45 days in jail, suspended that sentence, and placed the officers on unsupervised probation for 12 months. They each must pay a \$250 fine.

Attorneys for both police officers said they will appeal the district court's decision.

"While there are serious questions about what happened that night, it's clear two officers here made some serious mistakes," said Judge Paul who was brought in from out of the judicial district to try the case.

Ferebee, who was also charged in connection with the incident, was found not guilty of breaking and entering, resisting arrest, and

See **ASSAULT**, 7

Four face felony charges in probe

From staff reports

Four Perquimans County men face felony charges following an undercover drug investigation by the Hertford Police Department.

Hertford Police Chief Joe Amos said four people were arrested and one vehicle seized following the undercover drug buys that occurred June 8-16. The four men were arrested Friday and Saturday including two taken into custody while attending a Dobbs Street party.

The drug sweep began Friday night around 10

Traffic stop yields dope

Police find 18 bags of pot on New Jersey woman during U.S. 17 stop — page 2

p.m. when officers arrested Isaiah Kenneth Brunson, 900-block Chapanoke Road, on three felony warrants charging possession with intent to manufacture, sell or distribute marijuana, sale of marijuana, delivery of marijuana, and maintaining a vehicle for the sale of marijuana, police reports state. He was placed under a \$7,000 secured bond. The 18-year-old man, who

See **FOUR**, 7



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Albemarle Electric Membership Corporation opened for business at its new building located at 125 Cooperative Way in Winfall, Monday.

AEMC moves to new home

From staff reports

Albemarle Electric Membership Corporation opened for business at its new building on July 11 located at 125 Cooperative Way, Winfall, which is at the corner of Creek Drive and Highway 17, in Perquimans County. Albemarle EMC's new office replaces the old office building which was built in 1968. The new office has been built to Energy Star standards and is eligible

to become certified after a year of energy use has been documented.

"This new building will be a valuable asset to Albemarle EMC as well as the community," said Gary Ray, general manager of Albemarle EMC.

The building features two drive-through lanes so members can more easily pay their bills from the comfort of their vehicle. The building's warehouse is designed to store much of the co-op's

equipment indoors. Also, the warehouse has a bay where utility vehicles can be pressure-washed. The building and its pole yard have been designed to accommodate large amounts of line crews, equipment and materials that would be needed in the event of a natural disaster. Perquimans County will purchase the former Albemarle EMC building to house emergency management and emergency medical services.

Stroll: Beach is theme Friday

From staff reports

Grab your shades, your sun hat, and put on that Hawaiian shirt! A beach theme highlights this month's Friday Night Stroll.

Sponsored by the Perquimans Chamber of Commerce, folks will stroll in downtown Hertford Friday from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Entertainment, games, vendors, pony rides, and good food will be available.

Patsy Cline (thanks to the Perquimans Senior Citizen Center) highlights this month's stroll. Other groups performing include the Perquimans County Fellowship Praise Group, Ed Nixon and his singing group, and a musical duet.

