

# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



Lady Pirates open conference play with hard-fought victory, P. 11



"News from Next Door"

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## Indian Summer Fest: Let the fun begin

By CATHY WILSON  
Staff Writer

Craft vendors, entertainment, antique cars, boat rides, street dance, good food. It's all planned for this weekend's Indian Summer Festival (ISF) in Hertford.

Sponsored by Historic Hertford, Inc., this 30th ISF begins Friday night

(6-10 p.m.) with a free street dance and resumes all day on Saturday (9 a.m.-5 p.m.). Activities are planned on Church Street and Missing Mill Park with plenty of free parking available at the old Harris Shopping Center on Saturday.



"This year's festival reflects much of what attracted many to the town's first festival 30 years ago," said Festival Co-Chairman Joe Eastwood. "When the ISF first began in 1982, people from all over the area came to Hertford to participate in a three-day event that

featured not only entertainment and vendors selling their homemade crafts and delicious foods, but also a street dance. This year, festival goers will experience much of the same."

On Friday night, DJ Pete opens the show with tunes from 6-6:45 p.m. as food and craft vendors line Church Street. The street dance, featuring pop, rhythm and

blues/soft rock sounds of the popular band "Windfall", gets underway at 7 p.m.

A beer garden offering beer and wine will be available in an enclosed area at the corner of Church and Market streets. A three-drink limit will be imposed, organizers say.

See FESTIVAL, 6

### If you go

- What: Indian Summer Festival
- When: Starts at 6 p.m. Friday, continues through Saturday
- Where: Downtown Hertford
- Cost: Free admission, vendors selling food and crafts



STAFF PHOTO BY CATHY WILSON

John and Susan Christensen share a moment during his retirement reception last week.

## Christensen retires as town manager

By CATHY WILSON  
Staff Writer

John Christensen unwrapped the oddly shaped bulky package given to him from several Hertford town employees.

He grinned from ear to ear when he realized he had snagged one of the antique street lights that once directed traffic in town.

"And, it works, too!" he chuckled as the light turned green as if telling Christensen to go forward and begin the next chapter in his life.

The street light was a gift from the public works department to Christensen who retired as town manager last week after nearly 18 years on the job. A reception and luncheon were held in his honor. Comments were made, gifts were given, and awards bestowed.

But, Christensen's legacy to town citizens lies in the financial well-being of the town that has seen tremendous water and wastewater improvements

See RETIRES, 12

## County makes federal disaster list



STAFF PHOTO BY CATHY WILSON

County and town officials comprise the county's emergency control group. Here they discuss emergency plans when Hurricane Irene was making its way to Northeastern North Carolina.

## Residents can seek funds to cover damage

By CATHY WILSON  
Staff Writer

Perquimans and five other surrounding counties have been added to the federal disaster list that has been approved for both individual and public federal assistance.

Residents and local governments in Perquimans, Pasquotank, Chowan, Gates, and Camden counties may now seek federal assistance to help pay for damages from Hurricane Irene. Governor

### How to apply

Residents can apply online at [DisasterAssistance.gov](http://DisasterAssistance.gov) or by calling 1-800-621-FEMA (3362) or TTY at 800.462-7585.

Beverly Perdue made the announcement on Sunday. The declaration enables families and business owners to seek low-interest loans or grants to help them recover. Local

governments may also seek reimbursement for costs associated with the storm including debris removal.

Currituck County had already been approved for federal assistance as well.

Preliminary figures show that 87 homes in Perquimans County were damaged during the storm including two that were destroyed and three that suffered major damage.

Jarvis Winslow, the county's emergency management coordinator, said preliminary

estimates show the county suffered about \$107,000 in damage. That figure does not include the estimated costs of agriculture crop losses or the anticipated cost of debris removal by local government.

Winslow said the cost of debris removal in the county and towns is estimated at nearly \$100,000.

The amount of crop losses in the county was not available at press time.

See DAMAGE, 6

## Shoaf begins as new Hertford manager

By CATHY WILSON  
Staff Writer

It was baptism by fire for Hertford's new town manager.

Less than a week before his official first day on the job, Hertford Town Manager Brandon Shoaf watched and waited to see what Hurricane Irene would do to the area. He attended the county's official emergency management control group meetings, helped plan emergency response for potential destruction in the town, and then helped lead recovery efforts including debris pick-up from town streets.

Shoaf took the reins of leading the town Sept. 1 following the Aug. 31 retirement of 17-year veteran town manager John Christensen. Christensen trained Shoaf for four months prior to retiring.



STAFF PHOTO BY CATHY WILSON

Hertford Town Manager Brandon Shoaf addresses the local NCSTEP volunteers who have worked on planning and developing proposed projects for the past year. Concepts of the projects will be presented to Hertford Council members in October.

It was on-the-job-training (including budget creation) and seeing how emergencies such as hurricanes are handled that has kept Shoaf busy the past several weeks.

"I'm excited and nervous about the job, but I wish we weren't dealing with storm stuff," said Shoaf

candidly. "It's tough to disrupt our departments' every-day duties. It's been a tough two weeks for our public works crews, but I'm thankful debris pick-up is basically all we're dealing with."

See SHOAF, 12

## 9/11 anniversary: We will remember

By CATHY WILSON  
Staff Writer

From parents feeling ill suspecting the USA was at war with terrorists to four-year-olds not understanding anything other than being scared that day, local residents remember the tragic events of the upcoming 10th anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorists attacks that killed nearly 3,000 innocent people in three different locations around the nation.

In a series of four coordinated suicide attacks by al-Qaeda against the United States, terrorists hijacked and took control of four passenger jets that fateful Tuesday 10 years ago. Two of the planes in-

tentionally crashed into the twin towers of the World Trade Center in New York, a third crashed into the Pentagon in Washington, DC, and the fourth plane crashed in a field outside Shanksville, PA after passengers tried to take control of the plane to prevent it from reaching a second target in or near the nation's capital.

"I was in my house talking with my son Zachary who was home sick from school," remembered Sherree Winslow. "I just happened to answer the phone. My husband Scott was on the line and told me to turn on the television. He explained that a

See REMEMBER, 8



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**30th Anniversary Indian Summer Festival - Historic Hertford**  
 CRAFTS, FOOD, ENTERTAINMENT  
**Free Street Dance Friday Night**  
 Sept. 9th, 6 to 10 p.m.  
 Sept. 10th, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.