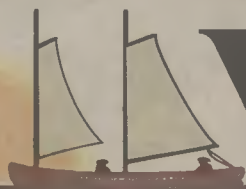


THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



Lady Pirates post 2 marathon road wins, P. 7

"News from Next Door"

OCTOBER 5, 2011 - OCTOBER 11, 2011

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No power agreement yet for planned wind farm

By CATHY WILSON
Staff Writer

With just three months left before construction needs to begin, the company proposing to build a commercial wind farm in Perquimans and Pasquo-

tank counties still has not snagged a power purchase agreement (PPA) for the sale of electricity generated by wind-blown turbines.

Craig Poff, senior business developer with Iberdrola Renewables and the

company's front-line negotiator on the Desert Wind Energy Project, said the company is still actively working to secure a PPA. Once a PPA is obtained, the proposed 300-megawatt wind project must then go before the company's

investment committee for approval before the project can be termed "a go".

In order to qualify for attractive federal tax incentives earmarked for renewable energy projects, the local wind farm must be up and running by the end

of next year.

"Yes, the clock is ticking and the deadline of December 31, 2012 is not moving," admitted Poff.

Poff indicated Atlantic Wind, LLC, a subsidiary of IR, is "tidying up the engineering and permitting"

process now.

"Just to be clear, this project has never been 'a go'. We've always indicated that once permits and a power purchase agreement are in place that the

See WIND FARM, 8

Habitat begins house on Dobbs

By CATHY WILSON
Staff Writer

April Thompson was super excited as she carried a load of building materials from the tractor-trailer to the storage area. She made her way to the back of the lot, walking by the large concrete slab that will be the foundation for her new home.

"I'm super excited," said the young Perquimans County native whose family was selected by the Chowan-Perquimans Habitat for Humanity to build their new home on Dobbs Street in Hertford. More than 40 volunteers from area churches, the CPHH organization, and athletes from Perquimans County High School, helped unload the supplies Friday morning.

The entire pre-cut four bedroom, three bath home was assembled by New Hope Construction in another state, then disassembled, loaded onto a tractor trailer and shipped to Hertford. Each piece is labeled and ready to be built by volunteers.

"This is pretty awesome," added Thompson, whose husband Bob is assistant kitchen manager and assistant chef at River House Restaurant in Edenton. They have four young



STAFF PHOTOS BY CATHY WILSON

Among the volunteers helping to unload supplies are Coach Justin Roberson (right) and his athletes from Perquimans County High School.

children between the age of nine years and eight months, and they now live in Snug Harbor.

"It is so wonderful to see all these people come together to work for a good cause," she said. "It's really nice."

This house will be built on a slab foundation rather than a crawl space hopefully making the house more energy efficient. The house will also feature a pre-finished metal room.

The lot was donated to CPHH by the town of Hertford.



Organizers stress that Habitat for Humanity homes are not a handout; they are a "hand up". The recipients get the homes at a discount-

ed price because of the volunteer labor of HFH members. However, all recipients of HFH homes must have a steady income sufficient to

make the payments, pay the taxes, and maintain the home.

The recipients must also invest at least hundreds of hours of "sweat

More than 40 volunteers turned out Friday to unload supplies and begin building the Chowan-Perquimans Habitat for Humanity house on Dobbs Street.

equity" into the construction of their home or other HFH activities. All recipients are counseled on budgeting and home maintenance as well.

Payments made by the recipients of HFH homes go back to the local chapter to support the future construction of homes for additional families in the area.

Firm picked for EMS building

By CATHY WILSON
Staff Writer

Colvot Construction will renovate the former Albemarle Electric building into the new home for the county's emergency services.

Colvot won the construction bid from county commissioners after providing the lowest of four bids to renovate the existing building and to build a new 45 x 60 storage addition.

Both projects combined are expected to cost just under \$200,000 with the project expected to be completed in about 180 days.

Commissioners also agreed to borrow up to \$1.4 million from East Carolina Bank to pay for the purchase of the building, its renovation and equipment for the new home for county agencies. The loan is expected to close by Oct. 5.

The actual purchase price is \$840,000 for the large office building, additional storage buildings, and four acres of land.

Commissioners plan to renovate the building to house the county's emergency services and emergency management agencies, and 911 communications center.

County Manager Bobby Darden said some renovations would be needed to transform the large garage area into a bay for EMS ambulances.

Darden pointed out that

See BUILDING, 8

H.I. waste plant hearing Dec. 15

By CATHY WILSON
Staff Writer

The North Carolina Utilities Commission will hold a public hearing in December regarding an application to close the wastewater treatment plant at Holiday Island.

Gail L. Mount, deputy clerk for the commission, signed the paperwork Monday scheduling the public hearing Dec. 15 in the Perquimans County Courtroom at 9 a.m.

The Holiday Island Property Owners Association, Inc. (HIPOA) asked permission from the commission back in August to discontinue providing water and wastewater utility service to the camping sections of Holiday Island.

HIPOA's application to the commission states there is no reasonable probability the property owners association will raise enough money from utility customers to make needed repairs and improvements required by the state.

Last month, HIPOA also agreed to negotiate with Holiday Island utility customers regarding the possible transfer of the plant to a new entity to be created by the customers in order to keep the wastewater and water available to the camping areas. HIPOA has agreed to withdraw its application to close the plant if that transfer occurs prior to action by the NCUC.

Barbara Bostwick, HIPOA first vice president who actually signed the application to close the plant, wrote in an email that HIPOA has nothing in writing regarding any possible transfer of the plant

HERTFORD FIRE ON FIRE AT CONVENTION



PHOTOS COURTESY ED LEICESTER

The Hertford Fire Department won four of six events and earned the "Best Department" award during the Albemarle Fireman's Association's Annual Firefighter's Day held Saturday in Plymouth. Team members include: (l-r, kneeling) Rob Hollmier, Eli Lahr, Jonathan Nixon and Brian Chappell; (l-r, standing) Billy Layden, Jared Stanton, Jonathan Stevenson, Matt Woodell, Parker Newbern and Greg Benton.



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See HEARING, 8