

# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



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"News from Next Door"

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## Darden leaving Perquimans; going to New Bern

Manager wooed by solid waste authority

By CATHY WILSON  
Staff Writer

County Manager Bobby Darden will leave his post next month to manage a regional solid waste authority near New Bern.

Darden's official last day with Perquimans County will be Nov. 11. He begins

his new post as executive director of the Coastal Environmental Partnership (CEP) for solid waste in Cove City Nov. 14.

Darden has helped manage Perquimans since 2002. "During the last nine years, I have enjoyed working with the commissioners, employees, and residents of Perquimans County, and will truly miss my association here," Darden wrote in his resignation letter

to commissioners. "My resignation is in no way dissatisfaction in working for the commissioners and people of Perquimans County, but merely a better opportunity for myself and family. I wish everyone involved with Perquimans County continued success."

Ben Hobbs, chairman of



Darden

the commissioners, said while the county is not in mourning, it is a sad day for Perquimans.

"We're disappointed to see him go, but we wish him well," said Hobbs. "We're just glad he

was with us for nine years. It was a blessing to have him work for us...I call him every morning and ask if

he has changed his mind yet."

Darden, who served as assistant manager for two years before taking the reins of county manager in 2004, said accepting the post with a solid waste authority will give him the opportunity to focus his efforts on one area.

"County management is a very broad scope of interests," Darden said. "This will give me the chance to

focus on just one area... a chance to specialize in something. You know it would have to be a very good situation to cause me to leave Perquimans County."

He and his family plan to move to the New Bern area.

Darden has the reputation of being a fair, hard-working manager. Hobbs

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## A JOLLY GOOD TIME



STAFF PHOTOS BY CATHY WILSON

Area residents (above) enjoyed a jolly good time during the Jollification at Newbold-White House Sunday. Steve Casper (far right) called square dancing moves after first weaving through the crowd to gather willing participants.

Casper (top photo) and Ann Jones dance through the lines during square dancing at the Jollification sponsored by the Perquimans County Restoration Association.

Lamb Basnight (left photo), one of several costumed interpreters, strolled among the Jollification visitors, welcoming them to the Newbold-White House. Musical entertainment, cooked pulled pork barbecue with all the trimmings, and tours of the historic site were enjoyed during the fall celebration.

## Municipal election campaigns under way

By CATHY WILSON  
Staff Writer

With early voting beginning Thursday, political campaigning is under way for the upcoming Nov. 8 elections in the county's two towns, Hertford and Winfall.

With voters deciding the mayors and two council seats in both Hertford and Winfall, candidates are posting signs along roadways, hitting the pavements, and knocking on doors.

Learn more about the candidates

See candidate profiles, Page 8

In Hertford, Mayor Sid Eley is facing opposition for the first time in 12 years. Former councilman Horace Reid and newcomer Lloyd Hodges are challenging Eley for the mayor's slot.

Five people are seeking two council seats up for grabs in Hertford. Incumbents Anne White and Carlton Davenport are trying to keep their council seats while challengers Billy Layden, Quentin Jackson, and Frank Jaklic seek to unseat the two veterans.

Elections in Winfall are uncontested.

Long-time Mayor Fred Yates is seeking his 10th term in office.

Both council candidates Steav Congdon and Frankie Ethridge are trying for seats now held by Eddie Fields and Cynthia Stallings, neither of whom filed to seek re-election.

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## Friday Night Stroll: Get dressed up

Friday's Stroll to include costume contests for all

By CATHY WILSON  
Staff Writer

Come dressed in your favorite costume Friday evening when you attend the Friday Night Stroll.

Sponsored by the Perquimans Chamber of Commerce, this month's stroll on historic county courthouse lawn from 5-8 p.m. will feature a costume contest for folks in five age groups: pre-school, K-2, 3-5, 6-12, and adults. The most original and best costume awards will be presented in each category.

The contest begins at 6:15 p.m. Chamber President Susan Cox says the strolls this past summer have been well received by the public; so much so that the Chamber plans to continue the event held on the third Friday night of each month until the end of the year, weather permitting.

"The stroll has been well received," said Cox. "It has given

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## Dispose of unused medications safely

Medicine drop lets residents do so free

By CATHY WILSON  
Staff Writer

The Perquimans County Sheriff's Department will provide area residents with a safe way to dispose of old or un-

### Where to take unused medications

According to Sheriff Eric Tilley, residents can bring their unused medications to the Sheriff's Department on Oct. 28 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Officers will collect and destroy the medications for free.

needed prescription or over-the-counter medications.

Sheriff Eric Tilley said residents may bring their old medications to the Sheriff's Department on Oct. 28 from 2-4 p.m.

Law enforcement officers will collect the medications and destroy them free of charge.

A similar event will be held the same day at Albemarle Plantation from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

"Unused medications should not be flushed down the toilet," Tilley pointed out. "It may eventually get into a water system and impact the environment. We also don't want unused medications to get into the wrong hands."

Operation Medicine Drop is a statewide initiative to not only get unused medications into

the hands of law enforcement officers for proper disposal, but to educate the public that proper disposal of such drugs can prevent poisonings and drug abuse as well as protect the waterways.

"We'll have a drop box in the department to collect the medications that will be carried to the incinerator to be destroyed," he added. "The program is run through the Drug Enforcement Administration."

The initiative is a DEA partnership with Safe Kids North

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