

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



Christmas in Perquimans Home Tour this weekend, Page 10

RECEIVED
DEC 14 2011

"News from Next Door"

DECEMBER 14, 2011 - DECEMBER 20, 2011

50 cents

Meeting held over future of wind farm

By REGGIE PONDER
The Daily Advance

Representatives of the company developing a utility-scale wind farm in the Desert area of Perquimans and Pasquotank counties were in Elizabeth City Tuesday to meet with

landowners amid concerns about the future of the project. Paul Copleman, a spokesman for Iberdrola Renewables, said the meeting was only for landowners directly affected by the planned Desert Wind Energy Project.

Copleman said he could not talk about the information that would be presented at the meeting until after it was over. Although company officials did not disclose the exact purpose of the meeting, there has been a growing concern among

local people that the project might be scaled back — perhaps dramatically — from the original plan. The project as originally conceived calls for a total land area of up to 20,000 acres in the two counties and up to 150 turbines for a maximum energy genera-

tion capacity of 300 megawatts. Area officials have estimated that construction of the facilities could create about 300 temporary jobs. In addition, nearly \$1 million is projected to be paid to local landowners annually in land leases for the

project. In addition to the 15-20 permanent jobs at the wind farm itself, local officials estimate the project will create another 80 permanent jobs in the community in support of the

See WIND FARM, 2

Mayor pro-tem vote challenged

By CATHY WILSON
Staff Writer

Ann White was elected Mayor pro-tem of Hertford Council Monday night, but the vote giving her the position has been challenged by a councilman who says his actual vote was not heard.

As a result, new Mayor Horace Reid says he will seek clarification on the matter, and revisit it at the town's next meeting of the full council. Until then, White's election stands, he said.

As his first official action after being sworn in as the town's first African-American mayor, Reid suggested council consider White for the position of Mayor pro-tem, a position Councilman Carlton Davenport held this past year. When no one nominated White for the position, she nominated herself.

Reid called for the vote. White voted for herself (the only yes vote), and Davenport voted no. Saying he heard no other votes,



STAFF PHOTO BY CATHY WILSON

Horace Reid (left) is sworn in as mayor of Hertford by Perquimans Superior Court Clerk Todd Tilley Monday night. Reid made history by being the first African-American to serve as mayor of the town. Others sworn in include council members Anne White and Carlton Davenport (not pictured).

Reid announced White won the position since he heard no vote from Councilman Ed Lane. Not voting equals a yes vote, Reid said. Councilwoman

Lillian Holman was not present at the meeting. After the meeting, however, Lane told the mayor he voted no, and said no in a low voice during

the election process which would have made it a tie-vote. Tuesday morning, Lane told The Perquimans Weekly council needs to revote.

"I made sure the clerk heard and recorded my vote correctly. The mayor might not have understood what I

See PRO-TEM, 2

Arrest made after dog is shot, killed

From staff reports

Terry Jackson, 61, of Swamp Road was charged with felony cruelty to animals Monday after authorities say he shot a neighbor's 18 month-old Labrador retriever with a close-range shotgun blast to the head over the weekend.

Perquimans County Sheriff Eric Tilley said Jackson turned himself in Monday and was released under \$2,500 unsecured bond.

Tilley said a witness at the scene said the dog was on Jackson's property Saturday morning but was not a threat, added Tilley.

"Jackson said the dog was barking with its hair bristling. The witness said he (witness) petted the dog and the dog followed them. Jackson told the witness he was going to kill the dog, went inside the house, got a gun, and then shot the dog," Tilley said. "When Jackson went inside the house, the threat was gone. He should have called animal control, but he took matters into his own hands."

The dog's owner was Jarvis Miller, a neighbor with whom Jackson has a history, Tilley said. Miller reportedly let the dog outside Saturday morning and the dog

"When Jackson went inside the house, the threat was gone. He should have called animal control, but he took matters into his own hands."

Eric Tilley
Perquimans sheriff

returned shortly afterwards bleeding. The dog was taken to a veterinarian where the the dog later died. X-rays determined the dog had been shot with shotgun pellets in the muzzle, face and head. The blood trail led to Jackson's home next door.

Tilley said the county does not have a leash law but pointed out it is the owner's responsibility to keep dogs in their own yards. Tilley said he was told Jackson would throw food scraps in the yard closest to Miller's home.

Eley looks back on service to Hertford

By CATHY WILSON
Staff Writer

The note has yellowed a bit from being tucked away in paperwork for 12 years, but it still displays a neatly typed list of goals Sid Eley created when he first became mayor of Hertford in 2000.

From one to 24, most of the items on the list have the handwritten word DONE scribbled in the margins beside the goal. After 12 years as mayor, Eley has seen all but six

of his original goals completed. While not all of his goals were completed, Eley's content with the accomplishments. Four of the six goals not completed during his years in public office are anticipated in the near future, or have similar projects already in place.

"I have enjoyed being mayor, and would have liked to continue, but the people told me they wanted a change," said Eley

See SID ELEY, 2



STAFF PHOTO BY CATHY WILSON

Sid Eley, Monday night, completed 20 years of service on the Hertford Town Council, including 12 years as mayor.

Rape trial ends with plea deal

By CATHY WILSON AND BILL WEST
Staff writers

A 29-year-old Perquimans County man was sentenced to 35 years in prison last week by Judge Richard Dough-ton after reaching a plea agreement with prosecutors in which he admitted he raped a woman and burglarized

her New Hope home in the summer of 2010.

In Perquimans Superior Court last week, Herbert Anthony Wil-



Wilson

See WILSON, 4

Daniels hoping for heart transplant

By CATHY WILSON
Staff Writer

Brenda Daniels has always been a tough woman, a hard worker, someone who never gave up without a fight.

After a lifetime of coping with a variety of heart problems, undergoing two open heart surgeries, family obstacles, and even a tragic automobile crash involving a bus load of school children, Daniels now faces her toughest battle yet. At the age of 61, the Perqui-



STAFF PHOTO BY CATHY WILSON

Brenda Daniels discusses her efforts to be placed on a heart transplant list at Duke University Hospital.

mans County resident faces an uphill battle of raising enough funds to be placed on a heart transplant list at

Duke University Hospital in Durham. Her fighting spirit shows as she talks about her heart

problems, her will to live after being told her heart wouldn't last another six months, and her hope to raise the funds needed to pay for organ anti-rejection drugs for the rest of her life following the transplant. It's almost overwhelming to the former pizza chef who has not been able to work since 1991.

"I have never begged anyone for anything in my life," said Daniels, her eyes tearing as she sat in her small bedroom located in her old two-story farm house on Bear Swamp Road. "I have always been able to get up and do it myself. I was the oldest of five children. I

See DANIELS, 2

Man faces sex charges

From staff reports

A 23-year-old man was indicted by a county grand jury last week on two felony sex offenses involving a young boy.

According to Perquimans County Sheriff Eric Tilley, Erza Patterson of the 100-block Red Maple Avenue in Snug Harbor was indicted by a Perquimans County Grand Jury for taking indecent liberties and first degree sexual of-

fense that allegedly occurred back in October in the Riverview area of the Bethel community. Police say the alleged victim is under the age of 15.

The incident was reported to the sheriff's department by the victim's family, Tilley added.

Patterson was arrested Dec. 7 without incident. He is currently being held in Albemarle District Jail under \$250,000 secured bond.



6 89076 47144 2