

# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



Tough loss for PCMS Tigers, 10

"News from Next Door"

OCTOBER 31, 2012 - NOVEMBER 6, 2012

OCT 31 2012 50 cents

## Hurricane Sandy easy on county

By CATHY WILSON  
Staff Writer

Hurricane Sandy sent wind and rain to the area over the weekend, but no damage was reported in the county other than a few minor power outages.

"We dodged a bullet this time," said Hertford Manager Brandon Shoaf Monday afternoon.

Members of the Perquimans County Control Group met twice over the weekend to receive updates from the National Weather Service and to receive input

from the state emergency management office.

"The county control group did meet in the Emergency Operations Center on Saturday and Sunday to monitor the storm's progress, but no official action was needed in declaring a state

of emergency or mobilizing assets," said County Manager Frank Heath. "To my knowledge, the county experienced very minimal effects from the storm and because of the wind direction blowing water out into the sound, flooding has not been an

issue." While county and town officials had prepared for the possibility of bad weather, they were relieved when no damage reports were received.

See SANDY, 11

### CHAMBER HOSTS BUSINESS EXPO



STAFF PHOTOS BY CATHY WILSON

Lureen Williams (right) of The Silver Fox of Hertford discusses gift selections with customers during Saturday's Expo sponsored by the Perquimans Chamber of Commerce.



Winners in the Chefs and Sweets Challenges held during the Old Fashioned Business Expo Friday (l-r) Nancye Ferguson of Twisted Turtle, Jessica Dillon of Sweet Surrenders and Grill, Ashley and David Smith, both of Captain Bob's.



Promoting Perquimans County during the weekend Expo were (l-r) Bob Peele, Perquimans Marine Industrial Park, and Dave Goss, county economic development consultant. Over 30 vendors participated in the two-day event held at the Perquimans County Recreation Center.

## County hopefuls talk local issues

From staff reports

Four candidates are seeking three seats on the Perquimans County Board of Commissioners in the Nov. 6 general election.

Democrat Janice Cole, the only incumbent commissioner seeking reelection, faces challenges by Democrat Julie Stamper Phelps and Republicans Kyle Jones and Matthew Peeler.

While county voters may only vote for one person, the top three vote-getters will be elected to serve on the board of commissioners.

Two county commissioners, Sue Weimar and Mack Nixon, are not seeking reelection this year.

The Perquimans Weekly asked commissioner candidates three questions regarding local issues. Their responses are printed below in alphabetical order:

1) What additional steps do you feel the county should do to increase economic development in Perquimans County?

**Janice Cole:** Before we speak of additional steps, I think it is worth pointing

out what steps are ongoing. The Perquimans Industrial Marine Park has great potential and the county has a part-time paid independent contractor who aggressively explores potential businesses for the park and throughout the county. He reports to the economic development committee, which is comprised of county commissioners and officials of our two municipalities.

In order to be attractive and inviting to businesses, we need to continue to keep our tax rate low, be willing to negotiate incentives, and maintain an educated workforce that can be trained for the skills sought by any potential businesses.

**Kyle Jones:** It's no secret that we'd love for there to be more job opportunities in Perquimans County. But, it would be remiss of me to not state



Cole



Jones

## Red Cross needs blood donors now

Drive is Thursday

By CATHY WILSON  
Staff Writer

Thursday's blood drive at the Perquimans County Recreation Center is just in time.

With much of the East Coast still reeling from the impact of Hurricane Sandy, American Red Cross officials are urging people to give blood in communities

not impacted by the storm since numerous blood drives have been cancelled because of the weather.

"The storm has already caused the cancellation of Red Cross blood drives in the region, and more cancellations are expected," said Autum Mihm, director of communications for the Eastern NC Region of the American Red Cross. "This has resulted in the loss of several hundred units of blood and platelets so far. The Red Cross has shipped blood products to hospitals in the affected area in advance of the storm as patients will still need blood and platelets despite the weather. If anyone is eligible, especially in places not affected by

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See BLOOD, 11

## Last week for early voting

By CATHY WILSON  
Staff Writer

Early voting continues to be brisk during the final week leading up to the Nov. 6 general election.

According to the Perquimans County Board of Elections, 2,191 voters have already cast their ballots.

Early voting continues at the county board of elections office this week on weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and ends on Saturday from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m.

Director Eula Mae Forbes encourages county residents who still need address changes and to register to vote to do so now.

"Now is the time to do it," she said. "Don't wait until election day." Polls will open around

MORE ON THIS STORY  
See sample ballot — 4

the county on election day from 6:30 a.m. until 7:30 p.m.

Polling places include: East Hertford-Perquimans County Courthouse; West Hertford-Hertford Grammar School; Bethel-Bethel Ruritan Club building; New Hope-Durants Neck Ruritan Club building; Nicamor-Up River Friends Meeting; Parkville-Winfall Ruritan Club building; Belvidere-Belvidere Ruritan Club building.

Local elections include four candidates running for three seats on the county board of commissioners, county registrar of deeds, and one candidate for the Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisor.

Democrat Janice Cole, the only incumbent commissioner seeking reelection, faces challenges by Democrat Julie Stamper Phelps and Republicans Kyle Jones and Matthew Peeler.

While county voters may only vote for one person, the top three vote-getters will be elected to serve on the board of commissioners.

Two county commissioners, Sue Weimar and Mack Nixon, are not seeking reelection this year.

The incumbent county register of deeds, Democrat Deborah Reed, is seeking reelection with no opposition.

Wayne Hurdle is also on the ballot running unopposed for a Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisor.

See VOTING, 11

See CANDIDATES, 4

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