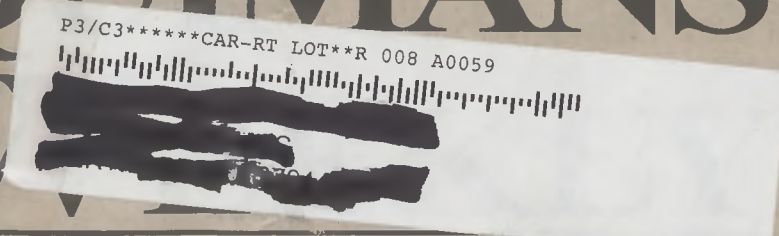


THE PERQUIMANS



Pirates Roundup: Lady Pirates lose to Camden; Baseball, softball teams hope to continue success

"News from Next Door"

FEBRUARY 27, 2013 - MARCH 5, 2013

50 cents

Seniors to have more room in new center

By **PETER WILLIAMS**
News Editor

Delphine Barr will soon have something she's not had in the nearly 20 years she's worked at the Perquimans County Senior Center — room to move.

The county is finishing up work on a new senior center on Harvey Point Road that will replace the building at 300 Grubb St.

The extra space will mean

a designated exercise room — complete with showers — something the current building does not have. There will be an arts and crafts room, a dining area, kitchen and a games room.

Barr, the manager of the center, admits she's happy and sad at the same time. In July she'll mark her 20th year with the senior center.

"I'm thrilled for the seniors," she said last week. "The parking will be so much

better too. We have problems with parking, especially parking for the handicapped. But I will miss this building. After all I've been here for almost 20 years."

You name it, and the senior center probably offers it. But the staff of the center on Grubb Street is constantly setting up tables for one activity only to tear them down hours later so the same room can ac-

See **SENIORS**, 2



STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS

A pickup truck is parked next to a new awning built at the main entrance of the new Perquimans County Senior Center on Harvey Point Road.

WALK HONORS KING, BLACK HISTORY MONTH



STAFF PHOTOS BY PETER WILLIAMS

With a Hertford Fire Department truck providing an escort, Hertford Mayor Horace Reid (top) leads a march Saturday across the S-Bridge in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. and Black History Month. Both the Perquimans County Sheriff's Office and the Hertford Police Department provided escorts from the start of the caravan from Perquimans County Middle School to Perquimans County High School.



Schools seeking further savings

By **PETER WILLIAMS**
News Editor

All the low hanging fruit has been picked. Now the Perquimans County Schools is looking for other ways it can shrink its energy footprint and save more energy and money.

Jonathan Nixon, the director of maintenance for the school system, briefed the Perquimans County Board of Commissioners on the energy plan earlier this month. On Monday night Nixon and the school system were honored by N.C. State University for their efforts at a school board meeting.

In the past three years, the school system has invested \$211,945 in energy savings projects and managed to avoid about \$1.1 million in energy expenses.

The next steps involve using the money saved by what has been done so far and pay for other energy efficiency projects that may be more costly and have a longer payback period.

In a sense the county commission was asked to continue funding the school's energy budget at the levels it has done so in the past with a marginal increase every year to reflect inflation and let the schools take any unused money to pay for energy.

See **SAVINGS**, 2

Students to get taste of hunger

By **PETER WILLIAMS**
News Editor

A half a dozen local students will get a taste of what hunger feels like next month in the hopes that one elsewhere in the world won't have to this year.

Youth at Hertford United Methodist Church will be participating in a 30-hour "famine" on March 15-16. They'll eat lunch at school on that Friday just as they normally would,

but they won't eat again until 6 p.m. the next day.

Stephanie Fuller did a similar program in 2003 and the church did another one about five years ago. The purpose is two-fold. One is educate children about what hunger feels like. The second is raise money for World Vision, a group they helps feed the world's hungry.

The number of students signed up is small, just six vs. the 25 that participated when Fuller did the program a decade ago. But she thinks the lesson it teaches is a large.

"I personally think a lot of teenagers want to help but we just don't give

them the opportunities," Fuller said on Monday.

The students, who are in middle and high school students, will be able to drink water and fruit juice during the "famine" but they won't eat. They'll be divided up into "tribes" to represent areas of the world that are in need of food and watch DVDs about the problem. Before that they're being asked to find sponsors in hopes of raising \$350 they set as a team goal.

Fuller admits the goal isn't large, but she wanted something that was attainable.

See **STUDENTS**, 2

BLOOD DONORS NEEDED



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Donors turned out last month during a Red Cross Blood Drive at Perquimans Central School. Even more donors are needed this Thursday for a public blood drive at the Perquimans County Recreation Center, 310 Granby St. The event will be from 2 p.m. until 7 p.m.



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