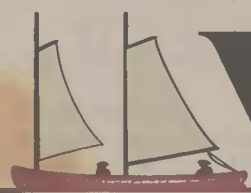


# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



Perquim-WINS! 18-game losing skid over — 9

"News from Next Door"

SEPTEMBER 11, 2013 - SEPTEMBER 17, 2013

50 cents

## WEATHER HELPS LURE HUGE FEST CROWD



PHOTO COURTESY PAM HADDEN

Lindsey Harrell (left) performs with Brian Bleakley of The Original Rhondels Friday, opening night of the Indian Summer Festival. Harrell won a contest sponsored by Historic Hertford Inc. to sing with the group. See more Festival photos pages 7-8.

## ESTIMATES: AS MANY AS 5,000 ATTENDED

BY PETER WILLIAMS  
News Editor

The name on the banner said "Indian Summer", but the weather last weekend for Hertford's big annual festival felt more like fall. Cooler weather and the popular singing group The Original Rhondels drew out a larger than normal crowd Friday night. Susan Cox, who organized the entertainment, estimated at least 3,000 people attended, and Sheriff Eric Tilley believes it could have been closer to 5,000. Tilley said not all of the people were there at once, but filtered in and out as the night went on.

"I'm extremely pleased," said Lynne Raymond, the chairman of the festival and president of Historic Hertford Inc., which put on the event.

Turnout for Saturday was also strong.

"I think Friday night's crowd generated more people to come downtown on Saturday," Cox said. "Of course the weather was great. Any festival all turns on the weather.

The Rhondels are really popular. I know we were packed Friday night. We had as many as we can handle. It



STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS

Libby Frey and Pete Evans dance while the crowd gathers to enjoy a performance by The Original Rhondels, Friday evening.

helped that the weather was about 10 degrees cooler than it normally is."

New to the schedule this year was a guest singer. Lindsey Harrell won a drawing held by the festival's chief sponsor — Historic Hertford Inc. — and with it the rights to get on stage and sing with the band.

"It was fun," she said. "I got to meet the guys and I love Hertford."

Harrell, 31, graduated high school in Hertford and has lived in Edenton for the past eight years.

She found out about the contest from her sister. She had to do a search on Google to get an

idea of what the Rhondels sing.

"When I did I said 'I know that song, they sing it?'"

Singing in public wasn't anything new for her. She sings at weddings and performed the national anthem at a Edenton Steamers baseball game.

See FESTIVAL, 11

## S-Bridge hearing is Tuesday

BY PETER WILLIAMS  
News Editor

The public will get a final chance to review and comment on plans to replace the S-Bridge in downtown Hertford at a hearing Tuesday at the Perquimans County Recreation Center.

A pre-hearing open house will run from 4:30 until 6:30 p.m. with the formal presentation at 7 p.m.

Three options remain on the table, according to Teresa Gresham, a consultant working with the N.C. Department of Transportation.

"Right now the DOT does not have a preferred alternative," she said.

The input provided by the Tuesday hearing will be factored in with the data already available to make the decision on which option is best for all concerned.

Two of the options carry traffic through downtown on Church Street. The third uses Edenton Road Street. All three options ultimately end on the Winfall side of the river but not at the same location.

DOT's plans are to complete the final designs next year and start right of way acquisition in 2016. Actual construction isn't schedule to start until about 2018. Both the right of way purchases and construction are based on the draft

See S-BRIDGE, 11

## State: Grant funding to be delivered

BY PETER WILLIAMS  
News Editor

Hertford officials were assured last week that the state will release the remaining funds from a \$100,000 STEP grant however the money needs to be spent by the end of the year.

Hertford got caught up in a dispute between the state and the N.C. Rural Center — the agency that approved the STEP money for Hertford. About \$25,000 has been spent to date, but Hertford was banking on getting the remaining \$75,000 in time to complete the projects by the end of this year.

Until Friday Hertford had heard only that an extension through Dec. 31 was approved, but had no word on the money.

Friday Town Manager Brandon Shoaf got assurances from Gov. Pat McCrory's office that the funds would be released.

"We have funds until Dec. 31, 2013," Shoaf said. He added that he was told there probably won't be any extensions after that.

The money will help fund the construction of a nine-slip marina behind the Hertford Police Department, pay

See STATE GRANT, 11

## Tourism board to support funding for Belvidere event

BY PETER WILLIAMS  
News Editor

The board that oversees the spending of tourism tax money agreed last week to give a Belvidere group \$500 to promote a

two-day event in October.

It's the first time the Tourism Development Authority has granted such a quest, but chairman Ed Muzzulin said it probably won't be the last. The TDA wants to support groups in townships around Perquimans County that want to create opportunities to draw more tourism.

Doug Layden, the owner of

See FUNDING, 2

## Frierson sworn in new register of deeds

BY PETER WILLIAMS  
News Editor

Even before there was a Perquimans County, people were taking the time to record important details about it. Over the decades records of births, deaths, marriages and property transfers were kept and cataloged for the ages.

Now that's up to Jacqueline Frierson.

See FRIERSON, 11



SUBMITTED PHOTO  
Jacqueline Frierson (right) was sworn in Sept. 3 as Perquimans County Register of Deeds. She's pictured with her husband Bradford (left), son Brian and Judge J. Carlton Cole.



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