


OCT 02 REC'D

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



BREAST CANCER AWARENESS



See our Breast Cancer Awareness special inside, today.

"News from Next Door"

OCTOBER 2, 2013 - OCTOBER 8, 2013

OCT 02 REC'D

50 cents

Plans for marina, housing are revived

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

A developer is reviving plans that could bring a 116-unit housing complex and a marina with 100 boat slips and a fuel dock to property on South Church Street in

Hertford.

Greenville-based Bill Bowen first proposed the project several years ago. It was shelved in part because of the weakened economy and in part because of the regulations that were in place at the time.

Bowen isn't planning to build the project, but he wants to complete the permitting so he can offer the plan to developers who are ready to build. Town Manager Brandon Shoaf said the town has yet to approve a site plan for the project. The

property is across the street from the Albemarle Commission.

"The fact is it remains a nice, wonderful piece of property," Bowen said. "If you want to go to Wal-Mart, it's 10 minutes away and if you want to go downtown,

it's just down the street."

Bowen's company, Tugboat Properties LLC, owns 17 acres and about 11 or 12 acres are high enough to build on. The property adjoins South Church Street as well as natural cove where boats would be protected in

bad weather.

The group has applied for a permit through the Coastal Area Management Act and a public comment period runs through Oct. 15. By state rules, CAMA has

See REVIVED PLANS, 4

GROUPS JOIN FIGHT AGAINST ALS

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

More than 200 people made the two-mile walk and at least that many went to the softball field over the weekend to honor Perquimans County native Jimmy "Catfish" Hunter and raise money to fight the disease that helped bring him down.

Some donations are trickling in, but the 14th annual walk started by Hunter's wife Helen was on track to bring in \$23,000 this year. The 15th annual softball tournament added \$21,000 to the more than \$300,000 raised since that event started. The walk has raised in excess of \$420,000.

It wasn't just a typical weekend for members of the team that won the softball tournament. Bob Stallings, the coach of the winning Belvidere-based "Scott's Store" team said virtually all of them knew Hunter as children. Stallings and two other members all graduated together from Perquimans County High School in 1998. Justin Roberson, one of the members, now coaches baseball at PCHS and lives across the road from Helen Hunter. Paul Hunter, Jimmy's son, was also on the roster.

It's the fourth time "Scott's" has won the tournament and this marks the third in a row for the team.

See ALS WALK, 4



A sea of walkers goes down Grubb Street Saturday en route to the S-Bridge in Hertford, as part of the annual Jim "Catfish" Hunter ALS Walk. Paul Hunter, son of the baseball great, is pictured on the far right.

STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS



STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS

Bob Stallings watches the ball soar after a hit Saturday during the annual ALS Softball Tournament in Winfall. His team from Perquimans County won the event.

Schools pushing for more computers

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

Kids want them, parents want them and educators want them.

And last week members of the Perquimans School Board grappled with how to put a tablet computer in the hands of every child in the school system.

The school system hopes to kick start a one-to-one program through a \$1.5 million grant provided by Golden LEAF. The county commission, not the school board will have to apply for the grant and compete with 21 counties for the \$10 million that is available.

In the end the school board decided Friday to seek funding to implement the program in grades three through 12. Perquimans Central, which serves pre-kindergarten through second grade would for now use the Kindles and other portable computers in use at the other three schools. It's also possible that Perquimans Central could get new technology as well. The board also looked at a plan that would implement one-to-one only in the middle and high schools.

Victor Eure, the director of technology for the school system, stressed this week that the grant application process is in a very early stage. The county will have to make a proposal this month, but it may be February before Golden LEAF starts looking for specific plans.

Eure said the real goal is to have a one-to-one computer to student ratio in all grades. Eure said that may be possible once the numbers come in.

"Just because we're saying grades three to 12

See COMPUTERS, 2

Local board considers Elizabeth City STEM school

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

Perquimans County school officials seemed receptive to the idea of a regional STEM school in Elizabeth City, but board members had more questions than answers on Friday.

The Perquimans County School board was wrapping up a three-day retreat with sessions at the Albemarle Electric Membership Corp. building outside of Hertford.

Superintendent Dwayne Stallings briefed the board on the plans for the new Elizabeth City-based school

as well as another STEM school at the Vernon James Research Facility in Plymouth. STEM stands for science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

On Tuesday Elizabeth City Mayor Joe Peel and the chairman of the Pasquotank Board of Commissioners asked officials in Cam-

den and Currituck counties to join in creating a place middle and high school students could learn the skills they need to start careers in the aerospace industry. Under the plan, it would also include Perquimans and Chowan counties.

One of the concerns from Perquimans is that

the pot of money Peel is looking to tap is the same pot of money that Perquimans would need to implement a one-to-one computer program. Peel is asking the five counties to each request \$200,000 from Golden LEAF to fund the

See STEM, 2

Assistant DA to make theater debut

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

Kyle Jones never saw himself as an actor. He also didn't realize he wanted to be a lawyer until his senior year in college.

But later this month Jones will be on the stage before a sold-out audience acting the part of a teenager who has his mind set on being a lawyer early on his life and his eyes on a pretty young woman.

"I'm not the theater



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See DEBUT, 8

FATAL ACCIDENT ON HARVEY POINT ROAD

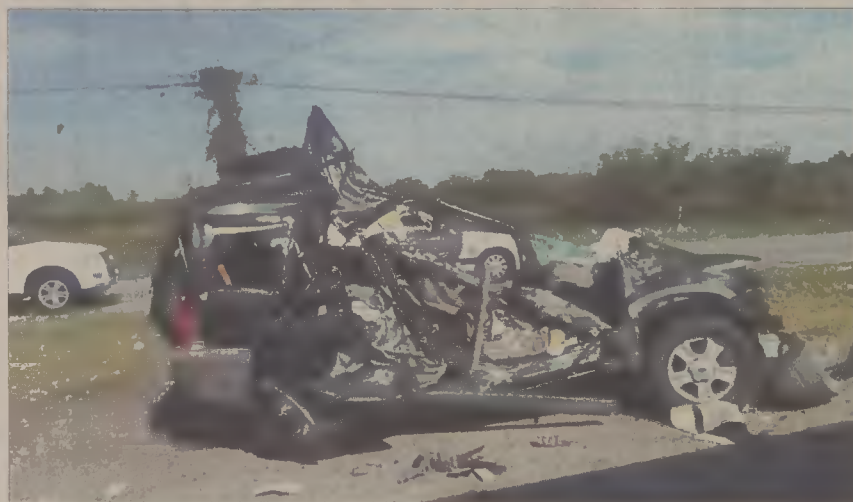


PHOTO COURTESY PAM HADDEN

A 66-year-old woman was killed Wednesday afternoon when she apparently blacked out and hit a utility pole going 55-miles per hour in Hertford. Barbara Ann Weeks of Chesapeake, Va., had been staying at a home on Harvey Point Road and was headed north on Harvey Point Road toward U.S. Highway 17, according to Hertford Police Chief Douglas Freeman. The 2001 Ford Escape veered off the road and struck a utility pole near the Park and Shop convenience store shortly before 4 p.m. and ended up pointed south. The Hertford Police Department received assistance from N.C. Highway Patrol Trooper T.F. Langley Jr. Weeks was pronounced dead at Albemarle Hospital.

PERQUIMANS COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BUSINESS EXPO

SNEAK PEEK (Tickets \$10), THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2013 5:00 P.M.—8:00P.M.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2013 10:00 A.M.—3:00 P.M.

Perquimans County Recreation Center
310 Granby St., Hertford

For More information www.visitperquimans.com OR CALL 252-426-5657