

# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



Bark For Life event, page 8

"News from Next Door"

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## Grant request moves forward

BY PETER WILLIAMS  
News Editor

Perquimans County has advanced to the second round of a \$10 million grant program funded by Golden LEAF.

In all 21 counties applied for up to \$1.5 million each,

Just 12 counties were asked to move to the next round. Aside from Perquimans the others were Camden, Nash, Pitt, Wilson, Martin, Warren, Northampton, Halifax, Edgecombe, Hyde and Tyrrell.

Dan Gerlach, the president of the Rocky Mountain-based group, said Friday the applications for the next round are due Dec. 2. Each county was eligible to submit up to three projects, but the cap for each county was \$1.5 million.

County Manager Frank Heath was encouraged by the news.

"It not a guarantee of funding, but the fact we made it through the first round is a promising sign."

He said he'd submit a second application to Golden LEAF, but said many of the questions it asked were covered in the initial submission.

"We submitted a pretty complete application," he said.

The biggest chunk — more than \$800,000 — of the Perquimans application covered tablet computers for every child in grades three to 12.

Gerlach said he's been impressed with how the school has handled grants in the past and how the school system has made strides to improve technology.

The Perquimans application also included a commercial-size boat ramp on county-owned

See REQUEST, 4

## LOCAL VETERANS HONORED



STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS

A crowd salutes the flag during a Veterans Day ceremony in Hertford, Monday. The event was put on by American Legion Posts 126 and 362. See more photos from Veteran's Day on page 7.

## 250 attend service, say thank you

BY PETER WILLIAMS  
News Editor

An U.S. Air Force chaplain urged about 250 guests Monday to honor veterans, old and young and to appreciate the sacrifices they've made.

Lt. Col. Carol Yeager spent 10 years in the active duty and is in the Air Force Reserves now.

"As the daughter of a World War II Army veteran, married to a Marine veteran and also serving in the Air Force, Veterans Day has always been special to me," Yeager said.

Yeager spoke of service, sacrifice and struggles. She also talked about her father — Ed Szekeley. He fought in the Battle of the Bulge and helped liberate a Nazi concentration camp and then went on with his life as a civilian.

"He didn't talk about what he did," Yeager said. "It was simply his duty. When when he passed, he still carried in his wallet his draft card and his discharge. For 50 years he carried these papers around with him. It was who he was."



Yeager said her father did open up some when she was commissioned as an officer in the Air Force.

"This was a special bond between father and daughter, but also between fellow servants of this nation and I will be eternally grateful for the gift of my father's service."

Not everybody takes up the cause of defending the

United States, she said. Over the country's history, military service has mostly been a voluntary decision. As a chaplain, she said she's asked other members from all branches the question what called them to service.

"Over and over again, I hear the same reason: I want my loved ones to have the same freedom I

Lt. Col. Carol Yeager speaks Monday during a Veterans Day service on the courthouse green in Hertford. She's a member of the U.S. Air Force Reserves and copastor of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Elizabeth City.

had growing up and I want other people in the world to have the liberty and opportunities we enjoy in the United States.

"Yes, it may mean missing important events in the lives of children or friends or family members, but they serve their nation for the people they miss. This is the backbone of why they serve. It is why I continue to serve today."

The event was being presented by American Legion Posts 126 and 362. It included participation by Boy Scout Troop 150 and Cub Scout Pack 150. Archie Aples, Post 362 Adjutant presented the annual program to honor prisoners of war and those missing in action. Carroll Bundy, Bill Manke, William Turner and William Modlin also provided portions of the program.

## Brian Center director arrested

From staff reports

The newly hired director of the Brian Center was arrested Saturday and charged with assaulting his wife, infant child and an unborn child.

Jamian Morgan, 36, was jailed on the charge by the Perquimans County Sheriff's Department.

Sheriff Eric Tilley said deputies got the call about 5 p.m. from Morgan's wife at their home in the 100 block of Landen Drive.

"She said she was being assaulted and backed into a closet," Tilley said.

The woman stayed on the line with a 911 dispatcher throughout the incident while she was being beaten.

"The 911 operator could hear when our officers arrived and breached the home identifying themselves," Tilley said. The sheriff said when Morgan

See ARRESTED, 4

## Area voters decide

BY PETER WILLIAMS  
News Editor

A newcomer finished just shy of winning a seat on the Hertford Town Board Tuesday while across the river a political veteran found himself drafted to return to office in Winfall.

Ken Rominger's name wasn't even on the ballot in Winfall, but voters gave him 26 write-in votes. That was more than enough to qualify him for one of two four-year seats on the board.

Debbie Jean Whedbee, whose name was on the ballot won the other one with

See VOTERS, 4

## Husband-wife med team find a match with Hertford

STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS

Dr. Matt and his wife Beth Woleslagle pose in an examining room at Coastal Carolina Family Practice in Hertford. Beth is a physician's assistant and both started work at the practice last week.



BY PETER WILLIAMS  
News Editor

It was one of those matches made in medical heaven.

Hertford's Coastal Carolina Family Practice was looking for a doctor and a physician's assistant.

Matt and Beth Woleslagle were in

Pennsylvania looking for jobs in a rural area of North Carolina.

The hitch was they wanted to work together. Beth, 29, just graduated with a degree as a physician's assistant. Matt, 31, recently graduated as a doctor specializing in family medicine.

Turns out working

together wasn't a problem at all for Dr. Robert Lane, the doctor who runs the Hertford practice. Lane and his wife Chris work together.

"It was almost like something that was too good to be true," Beth Woleslagle said last week.

Their friends and

family members weren't so sure when the couple announced they were moving south. Beth said her family all lives in the Pittsburgh area and she and Matt had spent their lives there with the exception of college.

See MEDICAL TEAM, 4

## Liquor-by-the-drink vote benefits may take awhile

BY PETER WILLIAMS  
The Perquimans Weekly

HERTFORD — In the wake of voters' overwhelm-



ing approval of a liquor-by-the-drink referendum last week, town officials moved to calm expectations, saying it could be awhile before Hertford sees any benefits from the measure.

Prior to Tuesday's referendum, which passed with 69 percent of the vote, supporters of liquor by the drink

described it as an economic development tool. They said it would help Hertford attract new businesses as well as add a new revenue stream for restaurants already in operation.

But before a restaurant opens the first liquor bottle, town officials say there is some work to do.

One issue that will have to be determined early is the ratio of food to alcohol sales a restaurant must have to sell mixed drinks. State law only requires a ratio of 30 percent food sales.

Dan Westra, of the Citizens for Economic Progress, the group that pushed for the referendum's pas-

sage, said he wants to see Hertford set the food sales ratio at 50 percent.

"The whole intent was to tie it to food," Westra said, referring to mixed drink sales.

Another issue that will have to be decided is zoning. Town officials will have to set a minimum distance

between businesses that sell mixed drinks and churches and residential areas.

Hertford is about 2.7 square miles and is home to more than a dozen churches and two schools. The town currently requires setbacks for businesses selling beer

See LBD BENEFITS, 4

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