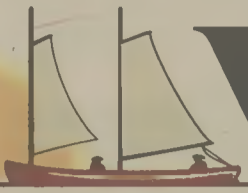


THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



"News from Next Door"

MARCH 11, 2015 - MARCH 17, 2015

50 cents



Seniors honored on Senior Night, 8

Winter weather takes its toll on roads

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

The ice and cold weather may be gone, but the potholes they created may be sticking around for a while. Roads damaged by the freeze-thaw cycle of winter will be addressed, but for now the N.C. Department of Transportation won't have a

schedule until after winter is over.

Most permanent pothole repair is done with hot asphalt, but the plants that produce it don't operate in the winter. In the mean while, DOT uses a cold-mix mixture designed to work until a permanent fix can be made.

"There isn't a schedule in

place for what areas we will start patching and when for northeastern N.C.," said Jennifer Heiss, a DOT spokeswoman in Raleigh. "Once the winter weather ends for the season, we will begin addressing potholes with cold patch."

For some potholes, cold patch is enough to fix the problem, but it's not a one-

size-fits-all cure.

Gretchen Byrum, a DOT engineer in the Edenton office, said even the cold patch won't work if the pothole is wet.

"There is no point of putting in a wet hole, if you do, it will pop right back out."

For now, DOT is advising motorists to report any potholes they see. If they see

a pothole on a state-maintained road, people should report it to NCDOT at 1-877-368-4968, or online at www.ncdot.gov/contact. Motorists should click on "County Contacts" on the left of the screen and then choose the county. The email form will be sent to the local NCDOT office.

To help our crews locate

the pothole, DOT asks drivers to be sure to provide as much information as possible about the location, including the city or county, road name, nearest intersection, which lane the pothole is in, and the size and depth of the pothole. If a pothole is in a work zone, the

See ROADS, 2

No change for COA board

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

The Board of Trustees of College of The Albemarle has rejected a call to reduce the size of the board at the expense of counties like Perquimans.

The trustee board recently voted unanimously to keep the board at 19 members, including one member from Perquimans.

Outgoing Pasquotank Commissioner Gary White called for reducing the size of the COA board in November. He claimed some counties aren't paying enough to support the college and the board is too large to provide effective oversight.

The trustees discussed the issue last month.

"The board basically determined that having 19 members is appropriate," said Charles Lacefield, Perquimans County's member on the board.

Lacefield has served on the board since December, and replaced the late Charles Ward, a former Perquimans County Commissioner.

For his part, Lacefield

See COA, 2

SINGING, DANCING ON THE STAGE



Perquimans County Middle School students dance to the song 'Have You Seen Her' by the Chi-Lites Friday night on stage at Perquimans County High School. Pictured are Mashanti White, Eyanna Johnson, Makayla Williams, Alyssa Gutierrez and Atavia Mallory.



Nayanna Parker and Atavia Mallory use umbrellas during a performance of "Singing In The Rain" Friday night. Perquimans County Middle School finished in second place in the William Peace University N.C. Show Choir regional competition.

Edenton plant to expand, add 78 jobs

BU REGGIE PONDER
Chowan Herald

Gov. Pat McCrory announced Monday morning at the Jimbo's Jumbos peanut processing facility that the company is creating 78 new jobs in Edenton.

McCrory said the expansion is driven by worldwide demand for

Virginia-type peanuts, which he said he prefers to call "North

Carolina peanuts" since many are grown here in northeastern North Carolina.

The governor also celebrated the role of the One North Carolina Fund in helping ensure the expansion took place in Edenton.

The One North Carolina Fund is providing a performance-based grant of up to \$156,000, according to state officials.

In addition, the Town of Edenton has received a Community Development Block Grant loan of more than \$560,000 to upgrade infrastructure in support of the expansion.

"Good, old-fashioned jobs with a stable company are the pathway to growth,"

See EXPANSION, 2

Local wildlife officer Stoop honored by association

SUBMITTED PHOTO
N.C. Wildlife Commission Sgt. Brad Stoop poses with his award and son Carter last month in Raleigh.



BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

Sgt. Brad Stoop has been named the top law enforcement officer in the state by N.C. Bowhunter's Association.

Stoop, a Perquimans County resident, has worked for the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission for 15 years. His district includes Chowan, Perquimans, Pasquotank and Gates counties.

The awards ceremony was held Feb. 28 in Raleigh. Stoop estimates about 100 to 125 people attended.

The association was founded in 1975 and started honoring law enforcement officers in 1992. Stoop was selected by the wildlife commission to represent District 1, a 13-county area that makes up the northeast part of the state as far west as Martin County and as far south as Hyde. Each of the state's nine wildlife districts submit an officer for the award.

Stoop admits he's a bit surprised a bowhunting group would select him. The season for hunting deer with a bow is far shorter in the eastern part of the state, about three

or four weeks. In the western part of the state the season lasts 12 weeks.

The group selected Stoop in part for his outreach efforts involving kids and women.

Stoop works with the hunter education classes as well as with a grown known as BOW — Becoming an Outdoors Woman. It's open to any woman interested in learning more.

BOW is a non-profit, educational program offering hands-on workshops to adult women. We encourage a supportive environment conducive to learning, making

friends, and having fun. No experience is necessary and BOW is for women of all ages and fitness levels.

Angel White, an agriculture teacher at Perquimans County High School, said she has enjoyed working with Stoop. She was interested enough that she earned her certification as a hunter education instructor.

"He's great to work with, all the instructors are," she said. "They're not trying to make you feel inferior because you're a woman, although

See STOOP, 2

Layden, Hobbs to serve on boards

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

Two Perquimans County women are serving on boards that regulate either massage therapy or chiropractic services.

Dianne Layden serves on the N.C. Board of Massage and Bodywork Therapy and was also recently named to Federation of State Massage

Therapy Boards.

Gov. Pat McCrory recently reappointed Jacqueline Hobbs to a full three-year term on the N.C. Board of Chiropractic Examiners. Hobbs had served on the board for the past year, filling out the unexpired term of another member.

Both say they enjoy playing a part in the system. Layden said being named to a national growth is specifically rewarding.

"Last fall I attended the FSMTB annual meeting in Tucson and had a chance to meet people from all over the U.S.," Layden said. "I

really appreciate the federation's activity in supporting the massage therapy boards and the transitional idea that massage therapy can be considered a health care related profession.

"This appointment is very significant since I am a public member of the NC Board of Massage and Bodywork Therapy. The FSMTB is not mandated to appoint a public member to any of their committees. I was chosen based on my work with the N.C. board. I am so honored to have been chosen and

See BOARDS, 2

BALD EAGLE SIGHTED



SUBMITTED PHOTO

George Rountree, a resident of the Saunders Grove community, captured this photograph of a bald eagle atop a tree in the 300 block of Chinquapin Road recently. Rountree, 79, said it's only the third bald eagle he's seen in his life.

