

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



Harrell wins another archery title, 8

"News from Next Door"

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County to upgrade 911 system

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

Perquimans County has secured a grant that will allow the county to update the county's 911 system.

Emergency Management Director Jonathan Nixon requested and received \$309,592 through a state program that helps 911 systems. The county is also drawing down \$139,537 from the \$166,000 it had set aside in a state account that is collects a monthly fee from phone customers to support 911 systems.

"That's been one of the goals, the updating of the CAD (Computer Aided Dispatch) equipment," Nixon said. "I've been extremely pleased by the support we've received from the 911 board," Nixon said.

The money will pay for a new computer server for the CAD system and workstations. It will also allow the replacement of a phone system that uses the Windows XP operating system. XP was a very popular software product that was

See SYSTEM, 8



STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS

Anthony Johnson, a telecommunicator at the Perquimans 911 Center in Winfall sits at his terminal waiting for a call. Telecommunicators and EMTs undergo much the same training.

Business Expo attracts buyers, sellers

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

The fourth annual Business Expo drew 40 businesses and more than 500 people to the Perquimans Recreation Center last week.

The event is held by the Perquimans County Chamber of Commerce. It included an evening attraction that brought in restaurants and caterers from the area that provided food to sample. The Chefs and Food Challenges raised \$195.35 a penny at a time for the Jim "Catfish" Hunter ALS Foundation.

Along with some more traditional vendors, the expo drew two companies with plans to build wind turbine projects, as well as the contractor one of them has hired to build the facility.

The issue has made headlines because a couple is trying to block construction of one of the projects. Also the same week as the Expo, the Perquimans County Commissioner approved a 120-day moratorium on approving any new major wind projects until the planning board can review the current regulations.

Apex Clean Energy was at the 2014 Expo, but Thursday's event also included Iberdrola Renewables—the developer of the Amazon Wind Farm U.S. East project in northeast Perquimans and northwest Pasquotank counties. Phillips & Jordan, a Tennessee-based contractor hired by Iberdrola, was also on hand to answer questions about job opportunities. They also handed out bags of free produce.

Providing the carrots, greens and apples was Bobby Brothers, a grower in Elizabeth City. He grows 15 acres of specialty produce himself and has suppliers who can provide him the

See EXPO, 2



STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS

Kevin Chandler, a spokesman for Apex Clean Energy, talks to a visitor to the Perquimans County Business Expo about the Timbermill wind energy project.

Moratorium pressed in Chowan

BY REGGIE PONDER
Chowan Herald

EDENTON — Citizens asked the Chowan County Board of Commissioners last week to follow the Perquimans commissioners in imposing a moratorium on the development of large-scale wind energy facilities.

Patti Kersey, a former member of the Chowan Planning Board and an author of the planning board report from April of this year that recommended a one-mile setback and other stringent standards be incorporated into the county's wind energy ordinance, told the commissioners at their Oct. 7 meeting that given the board's recent decision not to approve the stronger

standards for wind energy generation facilities, she would suggest a different approach.

The board should adopt a moratorium on utility-scale wind energy development as the Perquimans commissioners did, Kersey said.

Perquimans officials decided they wanted to ensure their wind energy ordinance was based on the most recent independent science, and imposed a 120-day moratorium in order to provide adequate time for a review of the ordinance, she said.

"What a refreshing contrast," Kersey said of Perquimans' 120-day review period — noting the Chowan commissioners allowed the planning board only 30 days for its review.

There is recent independent data that needs to be taken into consideration, she said.

"Respectfully, y'all need to go back to school on this topic," Kersey said.

Kersey's comments came during the public comment period at the meeting, which had been rescheduled from its original Oct. 5 slot due to weather-related concerns.

Apex Clean Energy Inc., a company based in Charlottesville, Va., has proposed the Timbermill Wind Energy Project in the Bear Swamp area of Chowan and Perquimans counties.

The project would be the first utility-scale wind energy generation project in Chowan County. The Amazon Wind Project already is being developed by a dif-

ferent wind energy company, Iberdrola, in the Desert section of Perquimans and Pasquotank counties.

Also during the public comment period, Perquimans resident Alan Lennon said protecting citizens' health, safety and welfare is the top responsibility of county officials, and additional protections for citizens are needed regarding wind energy development.

The Timbermill Wind Project would forever alter the landscape of Chowan and Perquimans counties and the only ones to benefit would be a few large landowners, Lennon said.

It really isn't a technical issue but a "heart issue," and the commissioners' heart needs to be for the

See MORATORIUM, 2

Police chief recovering

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

Hertford Police Chief Douglas Freeman is recovering from injuries he received in July while helping another officer with the arrest of a 35-year-old man.

Town

Manager Brandon Shoaf said Freeman has been treated as is recovering well, "but will not be patrolling at this time. He is still performing his administrative duties."



FREEMAN

Freeman responded to a call on July 14 to the 400-block of Meads Circle in

See FREEMAN, 2

Storm provides a test

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

Perquimans County got to experience a "trial run" while preparing for Hurricane Joaquin — the Category 4 storm that never came.

All 100 counties in North Carolina remained in a state of emergency until Gov. Pat McCrory rescinded the declaration on Monday.

"In the end, this storm was a great "trial run" for EOC operations," said Jonathan Nixon,

See STORM, 2

New Carolina Moon play is a sell-out

From Staff Reports

The Carolina Moon Theater Group will be performing its latest sell-out performance this weekend with the play "Bull In A China Shop."

The play is about a group of older ladies who discover that a handsome bachelor lives across the street. The bachelor is homicide detec-

tive Dennis O'Finn and to get his attention they plan a "genteel homicide with a cup of tea." It runs Friday through Sunday.

The event will include some newcomers to the stage as well as some veterans.

E. Paul Hotz, who plays Detective O'Finn, hails from New Jersey and will be in his first Carolina Moon production. However the former cardiac catheterization registered nurse also performed in three television soap operas over a 20-year

See PLAY, 8

MOTOWN MUSIC



PHOTO BY CHUCK PAGELS

The Rotary Club of Hertford held its 11th annual concert Saturday at the Perquimans High School Auditorium. The concerts raise money for Perquimans High School students. Music was presented by The Difference, a Motown tribute band.



PHOTO BY CHUCK PAGELS

Sandy German of Winfall gets selected by one of the singers in The Difference to dance Saturday night at the annual Rotary Club concert.

