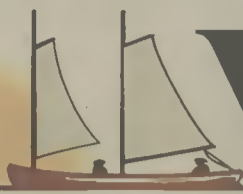


THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



SCHOOLS CELEBRATE WALK TO SCHOOL DAY, 10

"News from Next Door"

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015

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Hertford boat ramp project delayed

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

It will likely be July before construction starts on an industrial-sized boat ramp at the Perquimans Marine Industrial Park.

When the county was first awarded a \$308,000 grant from Golden LEAF in June 2014, officials had hoped the property would be finished by early 2015.

However the project has drawn more intense state review because the cost is expected to exceed \$500,000. The State Construction Office gets involved when that threshold is reached. The N.C. Wildlife Commission, a state agency, is providing the remaining funds and the county is providing a match in the form of 4.6 acres of land.

An official with the State Construction Office

said a design contract was approved Oct. 5 with Criser, Troutman and Tanner Consulting. The official, who declined to give his name, said the Wilmington-based firm expects to complete the design and schematic portions of the design by Dec. 11. That leaves the construction and final design phases, which are expected to be complete by March 15. The total cost of the design contract was

\$66,650. He said typically that would represent 10 percent of the total project, which would make that \$666,500.

Another issue is the state prohibits marine construction during the period from Feb. 15 through June 30.

Mark Hamlett, the engineering sections chief for the Wildlife Commission, said it's normal for the commission to partner with a local govern-

ment willing to provide the land for a ramp, but he said as far as he knows this will be the first one that has an economic development element involved.

County officials hope the construction of the ramp will encourage a small marine industry to locate on adjacent property. That could be the first step towards

See BOAT RAMP, 8

INTERESTED?

■ A youtube video of the marine park project featuring Hertford Town Manager Brandon Shoaf is on-line at

■ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1x7tLV CVtA&feature=share>

■ The marine industrial park will be the topic of a talk today at 8:30 a.m. Dave Goss, the county's economic developer, will at a monthly "Conversations Over Coffee" event sponsored by Perquimans County Chamber of Commerce. The meeting this month will be held at Brew-2-Rescue Café on Church Street.

Solar project moving forward

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

Construction has started on what may be the last solar power project in Perquimans County for a while.

Solncpower10 is developing a 45-acre site on the northeast corner of Snug Harbor Road and U.S. 17.

It is the same company that developed similar sized projects — one on Belvidere Road and the other on Two Mile Desert Road.

But Heath McLaughlin, a spokesman for Solncpower10, said a change by the General Assembly to eliminate tax credits for solar will put a damper on new solar construction.

"When those tax credits go away, it's going to be very quiet. You're going to hear that eerie whistling in the wind kind of thing when it comes to new solar," he said.

McLaughlin expects it will take about three months to complete the Snug Harbor Road project.

Solncpower10 develops solar projects and once complete, sells them. FLS Energy bought the two solar projects Solncpower developed in 2014 in Perquimans.

Solncpower10 had about

See MOVING, 8

Carolina Moon



PHOTO BY CHUCK PAGELS

Nelia Lane, Wanda Wilson, Ann Taylor, Laura Rowell, Linda Gregory, Connie Hull and Paul Hotz (above) perform in the Carolina Moon Theater performance of "Bull in a China Shop" Friday.

Paul Hotz, Ann Taylor and Connie Hull perform a scene from the play "Bull in a China Shop" Friday at the Carolina Moon Theater. The theater will host the musical group "Molasses Creek" on Jan. 16 and the play "Anybody Out There" on May 6-8.



See HOSTING, 8

Belvidere hosting event Saturday

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

Belvidere will again take the spotlight for the day with events and special events by the area's merchants.

"Belvidere Day" is set for Saturday from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. The event centers on Layden's Supermarket, 1478 Belvidere Road, but spreads out to encompass other locations.

It was the brainchild of Doug Layden, the owner of the supermarket. He got the idea after Belvidere played host to a wagon train a few years ago. The horses and wagons went on to Hertford.

"That triggered us into believing we could hold an event here," Layden said. "We're looking for a big crowd."

The Perquimans Tourism Development Authority is providing \$800 towards the effort this year.

Also participating will be Scott's Store, which will be offering deals on hunting supplies, lumber and hardware; The Nicholson House & Gift Shop, will have a pumpkin patch, complimentary cider and a sale on merchandise; the Belvidere Ruritans will offer booths for vendors; Donna's Desserts,

Endowed scholarship created in honor of Jeanne White

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

The family the late Jeanne Chappell White has created a \$10,000 endowment that will provide scholarships in her name.

White died in June at age 86, but she spent her life in service to others. That included being the first woman elected to Perquimans County office. She won an

election to be Register of Deeds in 1976 and served until she retired in 1993.

The Perquimans County Schools Foundation will administer the scholarship. The foundation was estimated in 2002 and provides 18 scholarships a year but only the White and the Walter and Marjorie Rayburn scholar-



WHITE

ships are endowed with funds to make them perpetual.

Only the interest on the investments are used for scholarships. At first, it's expected the White endowment will produce enough for one \$500 scholarship each year.

"This (endowment) will be forever," said Bob Clink-

scales, the president of the foundation.

Dianne White Stallings, White's daughter, said her mother made her wishes known last spring when she was diagnosed with cancer.

While the initial investment is \$10,000, the endowment can be increased by donations from family and friends of White.

The Belvidere native was a 1947 graduate of Perqui-

mans County High School. She started working the Perquimans County Sheriff's office, then moved to the Clerk of Court's office and then eventually was elected to the Register of Deeds.

She also served on a number of boards including the Perquimans County Restoration Association, the Museum of the Albemarle and the Winfall planning board. She also served as clerk

to the Perquimans County Commission.

She also served as a member of the New and Bold Decorators, which was a group of friends who offered their decorating talents throughout the region with proceeds benefiting The Newbold-White House, the Perquimans County Beautification Committee

See SCHOLARSHIP, 8

Teacher turnover stays high

From Staff Reports

The number of teachers leaving the Perquimans County last year grew a lower rate than most, but the county still ranks among the highest in the state in turns of turnover.

Perquimans had the state's 15th-highest turnover rate, which is the same ranking as in 2013-14. The turnover rate increased slightly, from 20.49 to 20.66 percent last year.

Of the district's 121 teachers, 25

left.

Edenton-Chowan Schools, the Elizabeth City-Pasquotank Public Schools and Currituck County Schools each saw a nearly 2-percent jump in turnover rates from the year prior, according to the N.C. Department of Public Instruction's annual report on teachers leaving the profession.

The number one reason teachers left Perquimans last year was to take non-teaching positions in other school districts or agencies, according to Mary Kay Peele, administrative assistant to the Perquimans superintendent.

AN ELECTRIC DISCUSSION



STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS

Nick Condon (right) discusses how electricity is generated, while Justin Searls looks on during a program at Perquimans Central School last week.



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See TURNOVER, 8