

Ruritans seeking to help kids

From Staff Reports

The Parksville Ruritan Club has placed Santa Trees at both Woodard's Pharmacy and Family Care Pharmacy. The trees contain cards with a child's name, gender and what they need for Christmas. These families have been screened through the Perquimans County Department of Social Services.

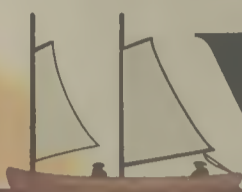
Residents are asked to pick out a card and pick up items for a child and then return the wrapped gift items and the card to the store where they got it. The Ruritans will take it from there and distribute the gifts.



All I Want For Christmas...

See ad inside to learn how to get your child's letter to Santa published!

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



"News from Next Door"

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2015

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50 cents.



PCHS dress in pink for Breast Cancer Awareness Month, 4

Yates, Frierson file for '16

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

One Perquimans County school board member and county's Register of Deeds filed last week for re-election.

Arlene Yates, vice chairman of the board of education, is seeking her third term of office.

Jackie Frierson has held the register of deed's position since she was appointed to it in 2013. She filled the unexpired term of Debbie Reed who retired.

They will join Kyle Jones on the March ballot. Jones is a first-term county commissioner who filed for reelection on the first day. Jones was named the vice chairman of the county board Monday night. Janice Cole was renamed the chairman.

See FILING, 2

Jobless rate climbs

From Staff Reports

Unemployment in Perquimans County inched up to 6.9 percent in October, according to state data released on Monday.

In all the jobless figures increased in 83 of the state's counties that month, decreased in six and remained the same in 11.

The Perquimans rate in October was three tenths of a percentage point higher than the September rate and one tenth of a point higher than October 2014. It was also 1.4 percentage points higher than the state as a whole.

The numbers are

See UNEMPLOYMENT, X

Christmas Parades



A 55-foot-long replica of the World War II battleship USS Alabama rides down Church Street Saturday in the annual Perquimans County Christmas Parade. The original was built at the Norfolk Navy Yard.



PHOTO BY CHUCK PAGELS

The Perquimans County High School band marches Saturday during the annual Christmas Parade in Winfall.



STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS

A spectator applauds the Elizabeth City State University band Saturday during the Perquimans County Christmas Parade in Hertford.



PHOTO BY CHUCK PAGELS

Winfall Mayor Fred Yates wears a Santa hat Saturday for the annual Christmas Parade in Winfall.

School chief bid farewell

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

After 30 years in education, 22 in Perquimans County, speakers painted a picture of Superintendent Dwayne Stallings Monday night as a man of strong faith who sought to welcome faith-based organizations into the process of educating children.



STALLINGS

Stallings will be retiring at the end of the month and a ceremony was held for him Monday in the high school gym.

One by one speakers talked about how Stallings has sought to bring people together. The group of 100-plus people was made up of friends, neighbors, family, church leaders and staff.

See STALLINGS, 2

Second wind suit filed

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

Lawyers a couple trying to stop the construction of a \$400 million wind power project in Perquimans and Pasquotank counties have filed a civil suit in Wake County in addition to a suit against the state agency that approved the project.

Stephen Owens and his wife Jillanne Badawi are the Perquimans residents named in both suits. They own a house on Swamp Road next to the wind power site. The overall site is about 22,000 acres.

One suit is against the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, the name of the state agency that initially made the decision to allow the project to proceed. It's now called the Department of

See LAWSUIT, X

Bell ringers work to pay back Salvation Army

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

The cold weather didn't bother John White.

For two hours last Thursday he stood on the sidewalk in front of Woodard's Pharmacy, ringing a bell for the Salvation Army.

The 63-year-old retired

phone company lineman said he felt it was the least he could do to help a non-profit that helped him.

"I was down in Florida in 1998 after a hurricane and these folks (Salvation Army) fed us for 15 days," White said. "I've been out after tornadoes and they (Salvation Army) got there about the time we did, and they were always offering coffee or hot soup."

Another time he was working in Florida near Fort Walton Beach after a storm, when a Salvation

Army truck pulled up and the guy asked him if he wanted lunch.

"I looked at him and looked at him and finally said 'you look just like a guy I know from Elizabeth City.'"

The man confirmed he was, then told White "you look just like one of the guys who married one of the Williams girls."

White is married to Ann Carol White. Her maiden name is Williams.

Last Thursday was

White's first stint as a bell ringer, and he was enjoying it.

"I've had several people come by, drop in some money and tell me that the Salvation Army helped them in the past," White said.

"I'm the person who always tries to help someone out. Standing out here, I think about all the men who stood out here before who aren't here anymore. This is important."

Skip Matthews, who

See BELL RINGERS, 2



STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS

John White (right) watches Andrew Davis put some money in the Salvation Army kettle last week in Hertford.

