

School staff attend culinary institute

From Staff Reports

Child nutrition managers Geri Layden and Robin Williams and Child Nutrition Administrative Assistant Kim Cullipher recently participated in a K-12 Culinary Institute regional workshop with nutrition managers from across the state at First Flight High School in Dare County.

The N.C. K-12 Culinary Institute is designed to enhance nutrition offerings and is funded by a U.S. Department of Agriculture HYPERLINK "http://www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/professional-standards" professional standards training grant received by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction School Nutrition Section.

The K-12 Culinary Institute is a unique opportunity for our school nutrition professionals to enhance culinary skills and glean tools and information critical to their important roles in providing quality, nutritious school meals," Cullipher said. "I am excited to incorporate a fresh new look into our child nutrition program throughout our school district."

The face to face and virtual institute was developed by the NCDPI, School Nutrition Section, and Chef Cyndie Story's K-12 Culinary Team, in order to meet five core objectives:

- Provide continuing education opportunities for school nutrition personnel.
- The menus and recipes developed for the K-12 Culinary Institute include:
 - Scratch, convenience, and modified scratch products and techniques,
 - Instructions written for production amounts consistent with pack or pan sizes commonly available in school kitchens, and
 - Nutritional analysis files for easy import into software programs and adjustments for standardization in Local Education Agencies.

- Improve student health, well-being and academic success through nutritious, appealing meals at school,
- Increase participation in high quality, enticing school nutrition programs,
- Expand capacity of local school nutrition programs to purchase, prepare and serve fresh, locally grown produce,
- Increase consumption of fruits, vegetables and whole grain-rich foods, and



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Susan Thompson of the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction Safe and Healthy Schools Support Division School Nutrition Services Section poses with Geri Layden, Andy Montero, Kim Cullipher, Robin Williams and Chef Cyndie Story at the North Carolina K-12 Culinary Institute at First Flight High School.

CHOWAN

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Most planners in the state use an expert for reviewing permit applications for wind energy projects, she said.

One of the issues that the county attorney's discussion with the board addressed was whether the county had cast the net wide enough in looking for a firm to assist with the CUP review.

Arizaga-Womble told the board that county staff had done a lot of legwork in trying to find an expert to assist in the review of the CUP application. She said that Elizabeth Bryant, the county's planning director, had contacted five companies in the search.

Wind energy is a very specialized area and the search has focused on finding a

firm with expertise in that area, she said.

County Manager Kevin Howard pointed out that the county was not required to advertise this contract since it is a service.

Howard also acknowledged the challenge of finding a neutral consultant given that most firms involved in wind energy are either building wind projects or opposing them. The county has received proposals from a firm that historically has built windmills and another firm that historically has provided expert testimony against wind energy, Howard said.

Responding to a question about whether a solicitation for proposals had been posted on the county website, Arizaga-Womble said that on a project such as this firms aren't looking at the county website. In this kind of case

it's necessary for county staff to reach out to firms, she said.

She told the board that Bryant had consulted with the Southeast Wind Coalition and other resources in seeking firms to reach out to.

Kehayes said not only is it difficult to find a firm that's truly neutral, but it's even hard to find a genuinely objective recommendation of firms to look at.

For instance, Kehayes said, the chairman of the board for the Southeast Wind Coalition is the lead counsel for Apex.

Kehayes said he believes it is important to have independent experts on different aspects of the permit to provide guidance in evaluating the application.

Noting that the section of the application dealing with sound is very technical, Ke-

hayes said he would love to have an acoustical expert look at that section and give independent information on it.

Arizaga-Womble said there is a limit to what the expert review of the application can get into.

In terms of sound, for instance, if an expert were retained by the county to review the application that expert could determine whether the sound study included in the application actually says what it purports to say.

She emphasized that the burden of proof in a CUP process is on the applicant. It is not the county's role to prove or disprove anything regarding any item in the ordinance, she said.

The county doesn't go out and get its own evidence, she said.

"The burden of convincing the board that these re-

quirements in the ordinance have been met is on the applicant," she said.

The question before the board will be whether the application meets the requirements of the ordinance, she said.

Winborne asked if sound and shadow flicker — two of the issues that arise in regard to wind energy projects — wouldn't be looked at by various state or federal agencies.

But Howard said he was not sure sound, flicker or property values would be included in the environmental agencies' review.

Mitchener said one question he and many others have concerns the effect the project would have on property values.

Howard said he was not ready to recommend a firm because both the companies the staff has received pro-

posals from have a history on one side of the issue or the other.

Arizaga-Womble said that based on her latest conversation with Bryant it was her understanding that HDR was Bryant's recommendation.

"We have looked at this extensively," Howard said, adding staff has tried to stay in the middle of the road.

Howard told the board it could interview the firms if it wished to.

He reiterated that neither firm should assess "right or wrong" when looking at the application, because that's not part of the staff review.

Staff review is focused on the completeness of the application, Howard said.

Winborne questioned the usefulness of interviewing the firms.

"I can't see what interviewing them would do," Winborne said.

WIND

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Both the county and opponents for the project have hired outside legal help.

Opponents have engaged the services of Chad Essick, an attorney with the law firm of Poyner & Spruill. The firm has offices in Charlotte, Raleigh, Rocky Mount, and Southern Pines. Essick earned his law degree from Campbell University.

Essick declined to com-

ment for this story. However according to the law firm's website, Essick primarily represents landowners and developers before local governing boards on matters related to zoning, permitting, variances, annexations, special use permits, site plans, subdivisions and road closings.

In the past, residents have expressed concerns about the potential health impacts of wind turbines, the aesthetics and their fear of the impact they'll have on property

values.

The county has retained the services of Douglas Hanna of the firm Graebe Hanna & Sullivan in Raleigh. Hanna referred all questions to Perquimans County Manager Frank Heath.

According to his company's website, Hanna has experience in areas of insurance, shareholder disputes, business contracts, employment and personal injury. He graduated from Wake Forest University's School of Law in 1991.

When the issue comes to the county commission level, it will be in the form of a quasi-judicial proceeding. That means it will be handled more like a court case in which evidence is presented.

Supporters of the wind project point to the economic benefits. It would generate revenue to property owners leasing land for the project. It would also generate tax revenue to the county. Apex officials have estimated Timbermill would produce about \$250,000 a year in taxes to

Perquimans County and a like amount to Chowan County.

In a letter to the editor in today's issue of The Perquimans Weekly, Tommy Stokeley argues money shouldn't be the issue.

"If this continues, the promise of money for the county will now supersede any will of the people who live in the affected communities," he wrote. "Democracy is being trampled under the feet of 'procedure', and the freedom that was in our

voice is muffled by the 'progress' crammed down our throats."

Leary Winslow, another resident, expressed a similar concern in another letter to the editor.

"There is no amount of tax revenue from this project that should be placed ahead of our health, safety, welfare and property values," Winslow wrote. "These are 599-foot wind turbines in our back yard. Do we really want these changing the landscape of Perquimans County?"

TRIAL

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suicide attempts.

In her defense for the varied stories, the sister said "it's hard to keep up when you're dealing with six at one time." In her opening comments, Karpowicz spoke of the special bond between older brothers and their younger sisters. She said the Jackson brothers abused that trust and instead of protecting their sister, she actually needed protection from the brothers.

The District Attorney's office asked Tillett to clear the courtroom of everybody

except the jury when the victim spoke. After consideration, Tillett said the two members of the news media that were present could stay. Also allowed to remain were Benjamin Jackson, one of the alleged abusers who is scheduled to testify later. Donahue's wife, who was taking notes for him, was also allowed to remain.

The alleged victim testified she didn't speak out about the abuse outside of telling her parents because of fear. The family was deeply religious, she said.

"I was told I would go to hell, and I really don't want to go to hell," she testified.

After a time, she admitted

to not putting up much of a fight when her brothers came for her.

"My parents didn't care and there was no point in fighting it anymore," she testified.

At one point Donahue pointed out that one of the places where abuse was alleged to have happened was a dry-docked boat on the property. It required climbing a ladder to get to and Donahue asked the victim if she was forced up the ladder.

She said she wasn't.

"If I refused to do it, it would be worse, 'so, yes' I walked up the ladder," she said as she choked back tears.

She said brother Eric had her go up to the attic where he abused her. Afterwards "he said what he had done to me was wrong, and he would explain it to me when I got older," she said.

She said abuse stopped after she was baptized.

"I believe they considered

"My parents didn't care and there was no point in fighting it anymore."

Victim in Aaron Jackson's sexual abuse trial, testifying about the years of sexual abuse she endured at the hands of her six brothers.

me as 'God's kid' she said.

But the hull in abuse didn't last for long.

When challenged about why she couldn't say who abused her on which certain date, she said between crying "after a while you learn whose hands are on you," she said, considering she said she had six brothers abusing her.

The victim talked about growing up in a family where the children were home

schooled.

"My Dad did everything he could find," she said about his employment.

Her mother was a "so called 'stay-at-home home school Mom,'" she said/

"We really didn't do school," she said. She said her mother only taught her words up to the ones with four letters. The victim said her little brother didn't learn to read until he was 12-years-old.

They did go to church "all over the place" meaning several locations.

Some of the questions Karpowicz asked were about the age difference between Aaron Jackson and the victim.

State law makes a distinction if the guilty party is older than the victim. In the case this week Aaron Jackson turned 16 in May of 2011 and the victim didn't turn 14 until August.

The alleged victim also said some of her brothers liked to

do sex acts in certain places. Benjamin liked it out in the sheds on the property. Nathaniel preferred old cars on the 5-acre lot. Matthew, she said, liked the "Chicken Library."

The structure was built as a chicken coop, but she said it was determined far too nice for that, so her mother started keeping books in it.

Aaron, the brother on trial didn't have a special place, she said.

In his opening remarks Donahue claims the alleged victim in 2013 first started saying the sex acts only involved "touching." Later she talked of other things including intercourse.

Daniel Jackson, a half-brother of the victim, also testified. He lives in Colorado and he and his wife have watched over the girl for several years.

The alleged victim graduated high school in May, the first she said to do so from her family.

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Notice of Public Hearing

The Town of Hertford Planning and Zoning Board of Adjustments will hold a public hearing on July 18, 2016, 7:00 PM. The meeting will be held in the Municipal Building located at 114 W. Grubb Street. The following items are on the agenda:

- Consideration of an application for a Conditional Use Permit to operate a Sand Mining Operation by River Farms, LLC near the corner of Ocean Hwy. S. and Harvey Point Rd.

Any information regarding this may be obtained from Town Manager Brandon Shoaf, at the Municipal Building, or by calling 426-1969 x. 9. You may also submit comments regarding this by mail no later than 5:00 PM Friday, July 15th.

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THEFT

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Investigations was requested to assist in the investigation," Freeman said.

The Hertford Police Department is offering a reward to anyone who provides information leading to the arrest and conviction of the suspect(s).

Information can be passed on by contacting the Hertford Police Department at (252) 426-5587.

Also last weekend windows were broken out of Crossroads, a fuel company on U.S. 17, according to Sheriff Eric Tilley.

He said no entry to the business was obtained and nothing was taken.

After forty wonderful years, Dr. Kenneth P. Manning, Sr. and staff will close their Edenton office effective July 31, 2016.

Dr. Kenneth P. Manning, Sr., PA
Orthodontist
(not retiring, just consolidating)

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