

RAMP

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next to the Albemarle Commission.

The library in Hertford is the smallest one in the Pettigrew Regional Library system and is housed in what used to be a school cafeteria.

The new library is expected to cost about \$3 million and the county has agreed to use \$500,000 in reserves and borrow the rest.

BB&T has agreed to handle the financing of the project, but the state requires LGC approval before local governments go into debt.

Perquimans County Manager Frank Heath said he expects to BB&T will hold the closing on the loan on Wednesday. The interest rate on the \$2.5 million loan will be 1.88 percent. Once the loan is finalized the county



STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS

Where the road ends on North Granby Street ends is the site of a proposed new industrial-sized boat ramp. County and state officials had hoped for construction to start July 1, but the project has been delayed.

can meet with the contractor and get ready for construction. Heath hopes that can happen in August.

The county spent years trying to determine if they needed a new library. Once the decision was made, com-

missioners agreed to put it on the 10-year capital improvement plan in 2014. That's about the same year

the county got a \$1.2 million grant from Golden LEAF. The bulk of the money was earmarked toward providing each student in grades three to 12 with a tablet computer. The computer grant totaled \$860,000 and will require county funds in the future to keep the computers up to date.

There was also \$360,000 earmarked for an industrial-sized boat ramp near the Perquimans Marine Industrial Park.

The ramp will be 41-foot wide and 176 feet long. About 100 feet of that will be under water.

The county wanted to start construction on the boat ramp on July 1. That didn't happen and local and state officials can't say just when the work will start.

The engineer for the Wildlife Commission said pretty much the same thing. "We're still working

through the process," said Sara Sherman, an engineer with the N.C. Wildlife Commission. "We obviously didn't make the target that we hoped for."

The ramp, which could be used by recreational boats, serves the dual purpose of being able to handle medium-sized commercial boats as well. Supporters see the boat ramp as a way to jump start the overall \$20 million boat basin that would be the centerpiece of the Marine Industrial Park.

The hang-up on the board ramp project appears to be related to bonding and construction documents.

Chris Mears, a spokesman for the NC Department of Administration said the State Construction Office has approved the project and the contractor is preparing construction documents.

"Progress is being made," Mears said.

SCHOOLS

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learning and/or behavior problems, children with physical disabilities or sensory impairments, and children who are intellectually gifted or have a special talent.

Tillett got started as a teacher's assistant working with EC students. She has a daughter, now age 40, who has a learning disability.

"God gave me her for a reason," Tillett said of her daughter.

For Tillett the first 25 years was spent as an EC

teacher's assistant at Perquimans County Middle School. After getting certified, she taught at Hertford Grammar School where she remained until she retired.

She said the home experience helped her be a better teacher at school. Teaching EC students has its challenges and rewards, she said.

"You've got to have patience and love," Tillett said.

"There are days you go home and think about a child that didn't quite get what you wanted. Then there are days when you've reached that one child you've been

working with. The one thing that's helped is I've tried to put myself around positive people."

The fact that she's retired hasn't totally sunk in yet, she admits.

"It's like I'm on summer break. Of course it will hit me in a couple of weeks when I realized I don't have to get my classroom set up for next year. I am going to miss it I'm sure."

Teresa Beardsley, the coordinator of community relations for the school system, said each of the retirees has played a key role in education.

"It is so important to re-

member that every single employee has an essential role within our school system that makes a difference in the lives of our students. From our bus drivers that greet each student every single day to our child nutrition staff that feed them, our custodians that develop amazing relationships, our teachers and assistants that work with every student every day, and our district personnel that make difficult decisions regarding the education of our students. Every single role has a large impact on the success of our students."

The following is the full

list of retirees this year, their role and the years of service.

- Jessica Adams — 30 years — Child Nutrition Assistant
- Claudia Bunch — 11 years — School Nurse
- Betty Byrum — 19 years — Distance Learning Facilitator
- Victor Eure — 27 years — District Director of Technology
- Donna Harris — 28 years — District Child Nutrition Director
- Betty Hartley — 24 years — District Director of Testing and Accountability
- Brenda Hurdle — 26 years — Teacher Assistant

- Belinda Long — 25 years — Child Nutrition Assistant
- Nancy Maitland — 28 years — Child Nutrition Manager
- Celeste Maus — 31 years — Earth and Environmental Science Teacher
- Eassie Revell — 10 years — Custodian
- Yvonne Stallings — 22 years — District Purchasing Clerk
- Catherine Tillett — 32 years — Exceptional Children's Teacher
- Lynwood Winslow — 30 years — Choral Music and Theatre Arts Teacher
- Sandy Winslow — 29 years — Teacher Assistant

WIND PROJECT

Continued from 1

county has received Essick's letter and lawyers for the county are reviewing it.

An outside consultant, Clarion Associates, reviewed the Apex application for a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) and determined the document contained all the required elements. It went on to say the firms cited by Apex had the "relevant expertise and competencies and sufficiently offered information as required."

The study cited in the

Apex application used a sound modeling study prepared by Mark Bastasch of CH2M.

One complaint is Apex did not do background studies of existing sound levels in the area. That would provide a baseline to compare the noise level now compared to what the noise level could be if the turbines were built.

"To our knowledge, this is the only sound or noise memo or report Timbernill has submitted to date," Essick said in his letter to the county.

Essick went on to say that the Apex application failed

to include all the information required to satisfy the Perquimans rules regarding ice drop/ice throw and blade drop/blade throw.

Apex officials had no immediate comment on Essick's letter.

In his letter to the county, Essick said his clients include, but are not limited to Leary and Allison Winslow, Paul and Kristi Copeland, Clyde Elliott and Tommy and Sherry Harrell. All of them own and live on property that adjoin and abuts the proposed project.

According to the Clarion report, the amendments to the zoning ordinance in

February require the noise report to calculate the projected maximum levels of infrasonic sound, ultrasonic sound, impulsive noise, and prominent discrete tones.

Infrasound is similar to ocean waves.

Ultrasonic frequencies are readily absorbed by the atmosphere and do not travel well.

Impulsive noise sources are things like gunshots, blasting, and hammer mills.

Prominent discrete tone examples include noise from sources such as mechanical systems for ventilation, and machinery with rotating parts such as mo-

tors and fans

In its report to the county dated July 9, Clarion concluded that the turbines under consideration by Apex are not expected to exceed the stated thresholds for maximum sound generation levels.

Leary Winslow, a turf farmer who is one of the residents opposed to the Apex project, said the county isn't doing enough to protect residents.

"As I stated before, the Clarion report did not do any technical studies but simply repeated the Apex application," Winslow said in an e-mail response.

"These deficiencies are exactly what Clarion was hired to find. I suppose that \$5,900 was a complete waste as we had to find the deficiencies ourselves."

"It appears that the county and Clarion are satisfied with taking Apex' word for everything and not doing any independent studies," Winslow said. "I am disappointed that the county has \$50,000 in an escrow account for this exact thing yet our attorney and experts had to point it out. The application is incomplete and has not met the requirements of the county's wind ordinance."

GRAFFITI

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so they can "catch," "train" and "battle" the creatures.

Hertford Police Chief Douglas Freeman said at least two cases of vandalism have occurred in

Hertford as a result of the game.

Freeman said the spray painted graffiti was related to one group of Pokemon players saying they were the best.

"It's like a gang thing," Freeman said.

The vandalism has been

repaired and signs and video cameras are now in place at both locations in the event the Pokemon groups try and attempt more vandalism.

"Hopefully by getting it out there were can head it off," Freeman said. "While we are glad that people

are taking the opportunity to increase their physical fitness by getting outside while playing this game, please be mindful to neither trespass nor give anyone a reason to think you're doing something other than playing a game," Freeman said since July

14, the department has received several calls throughout the town pertaining to trespassing or suspicious activity. A majority of those were attributed to the Pokemon Go game.

Perquimans County Sheriff's Deputies tend to

patrol more rural areas and Pokemon isn't as much an issue.

But one sheriff's deputy said a group searching for Pokemon in the area of Bethel Fishing Center instead found a man walking around wielding a machete. They called that in to 911.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Public notice is hereby given that the Town of Hertford will hold a public meeting at 8:30 am on Wednesday, August 3, 2016 at the Hertford Town Hall to receive comments pertaining to the proposed purchase of a ladder truck for the Hertford Volunteer Fire Department. Funding for the proposed project will be provided by USDA Rural Development. Immediately after the Public Meeting, the Town Council will discuss the proposed project.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Perquimans County Planning Board will hold a special meeting on Tuesday, August 2, 2016 at 6:00 PM to continue its review of Conditional Use Permit No. CUP-16-01, by Timbernill Wind, LLC, c/o Apex Clean Energy Holdings, LLC, for a Large Wind Energy Facility in the Bear Swamp and Centerhill Communities (to include Tax Parcel Nos. 3-0039-0011B; 3-0047-0001, -0002, -0014 and -0028; 3-0048-0001 and -0003; 3-0049-0009, -0024A, -0025, -0026, -0038 and -0039; 3-0058-0004, -0007 and -0013; and 3-0059-0002, -0008, -0009, -0012 and -0012A), and extending west into Chowan County. The meeting will take place on the 2nd floor of the Perquimans County Courthouse Annex Building located at 110 North Church Street, Hertford, NC, next door to the Historic County Courthouse.

Property owners, residents and other interested parties may review this item during normal business hours before the public meeting at the Perquimans County Planning & Zoning Office, 104 Dobbs St, Hertford, NC, or email dgodfrey@perquimanscountync.gov or call 252-426-2027 for more information. You may make comments at the meeting and/or provide written comments. If you are unable to attend the meeting but wish to make comments for the Board's consideration, please do so in writing by 4:00 PM the day before the meeting.

VACANCY

PERQUIMANS COUNTY COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Seeking to fill one position for the Perquimans County Community Advisory Committee from 8- 24 hours per quarter - Major Responsibility: To uphold the intent of the NC Resident Bill of Rights. Applicant must reside in Perquimans County and cannot live in, work at, or have a financial interest in the long-term care facilities that he/she will serve. You may also not have an immediate family member in the facilities that you serve. To serve, you must be 18, live in the county and be willing to give your time. The estimate of time spent performing required duties includes attendance at meetings, conducting both official and friendly visits to the facilities, and other activities to benefit long term care residents. This is a volunteer position. If interested, please contact the County Manager's Office at (252) 426-8484 to obtain an application.

ARREST

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said at the time Askew was also a teacher's assistant at the school.

"She was basically using the debit card for some on-line gifts and not paying them back," Tilley said Tuesday. Some of the on-line gifts were legitimate.

The sheriff's office started the investigation in late 2015. Tilley said someone approached Candy Tilley, the finance officer for the school system with questions about some of the

purchases. The sheriff said Tilley turned over the information to the sheriff's office.

The purchases were made during the 2015-16 school year, Tilley said.

Teresa Beardsley, the school system's spokesman, said Askew no longer works for the school system.

"Her employment was up in June," Beardsley said. "We are allowing the judicial system to take its course."

Tilley said a court date for Askew has yet to be set.

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