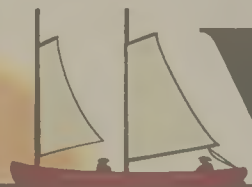


THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



Seniors honored, 8 & 9

"News from Next Door"

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2016

NOV 16 REC'D

50 cents

Perquimans board rejects wind project

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

The Perquimans County Commission rejected a plan for a \$300 million wind power project by a 3-2 vote Monday night.

A majority of the five members favored the project, but individually three of them had issues with at least some aspect of Apex Clean Energy's proposal.

Commissioners had to vote individually on four issues. All five commissioners agreed Apex had met the burden of proof on two of them — that the use would not damage public health-safety and secondly that the project met the require-

ments of the county's ordinance. But when it came to the question of if the project would "substantially" injure adjoining property owners, both Commissioners Fondella Leigh and Wallace Nelson weren't convinced it wouldn't. The issue came down to what "substantially" means.

When it came to the fourth condition — that the project would be in "harmony" with the surrounding property, Commissioner Kyle Jones voted he wasn't convinced it was. The other four commissioners disagreed.

After the vote on the four issues, the board had to take a final vote on the project as whole and give it a thumbs

up or down.

"They boxed themselves into a corner," said Leary Winslow, one of the opponents of the Timbermill Wind project. He was referring to how could a commissioner vote "yes" on the overall project if they had voted "no" on one aspect of it.

A sixth commissioner, Matt Peeler, was recused from voting because a majority of the board said he had shown he'd already made up his mind before the hearings started. Peeler has been an opponent of wind power. He was there Monday night, but sitting in

See PERQUIMANS, 5

Fate of Timbermill uncertain

BY REGGIE PONDER
Chowan Herald

The Chowan County Board of Commissioners gave final, formal approval Monday night to the conditional use permit for the Timbermill Wind Project.

But officials in neighboring Perquimans County rejected the permit, placing a giant question mark over the future of the 300-megawatt wind energy generation facility proposed for the Bear Swamp and Center Hill

areas of Chowan and Perquimans.

The project by Charlottesville, Va.-based Apex Clean Energy Inc. is designed to include 105 wind turbines, 48 of which would be located in Chowan County and the balance in Perquimans.

The Perquimans County Board of Commissioners voted 3-2 Monday not to approve the permit for the project.

It was not yet clear Tuesday morning what the impact of the Per-

quimans decision would be on the project as a whole.

Don Giecek, Apex's senior manager of project development, indicated Tuesday the company remains committed to developing wind energy in northeastern North Carolina.

"While we are disappointed in last night's decision, we remain as committed as ever to bringing safe, clean renewable wind energy, and the jobs

See CHOWAN, 5

STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS

Rufus Rouse, a World War II Navy veteran, holds his hat over his heart during a Veteran's Day service Friday at the Perquimans County Courthouse.



STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS

Brittany Jacobs holds her son Christian Friday during a Veteran's Day service at the Perquimans County Courthouse. Christian's father Sgt. Christopher Jacobs died in 2011 during a training accident after three tours in Iraq and two in Afghanistan. Christian is dressed in the same type of uniform his father wore.

Young and old veterans honored

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

While veterans of World War II have been tagged with the term "The Greatest Generation," the men and women who have served since and still serve in the military today deserve respect as well, a speaker told a Veteran's Day crowd in Perquimans County Friday.

"As a veteran of 34 years of service, I am always amazed at the dedication and commitment of each generation of the men and women to military service," Capt. Glenn McCranie, (Ret.) said. "In Tom Brokaw's book 'The Greatest Generation' he stated that veterans of World War II lamented on the absence of personal responsibility in today's generation. These words do not apply and will not apply to those serving proudly today. America's Greatest Generation of the 1940s can and would be proud to salute those in uniform today and their acceptance of a greater responsibility."

McCranie did tip his hat to the World War II veterans who are dying. By one estimate there are about 620,000 U.S. World War vets living out of an original number of 16 million.

"A friend and church member died this week. He was a Marine in the Battle of Okinawa. He was proud of his faded yet still visible tattoo of the Marines Corps emblem."

One of those in the crowd Friday was another World War II veteran. Rufus Rouse served in the U.S. Navy during World War II.

See VETERANS, 2

Jones, Woodard, Hoffler win in county election

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

Perquimans County voters gave the lone incumbent a big sign of support last week and elected two new members to fill the other two seats.

With three seats open Kyle Jones, a Republican seeking his second four-year term, garnered 2,527 votes, or 38 percent based on unofficial totals.

Charles Woodard, a Democrat, finished in second place with 2,239 votes followed by Joseph Hoffler, another Democrat with 1,073 votes. Finishing fourth was Alan Lennon, a Republican with 652 votes.

Voter turnout was 65.5 percent. That's down slightly from the 67.2 percent figure in 2012.

With Janice Cole, a Democrat and Matt Peeler, a Republican deciding not to run, the victory by Woodard and Hoffler gives Democrats a four-to-two edge on the county board.

Ed Muzzulin, Fondella Leigh are Democrats while Wallace Nelson is a Republican.

In thanking voters, it was Cole that drew special praise from Jones election night.

See ELECTION, 5

Gunshot victim dies

From Staff Reports

Hertford police are looking for suspect in a shooting that killed a man Monday night.

At about 11 p.m. Hertford officers were dispatched to the area of 102 Wynne Fork Court where they found Laquell Fletcher. He was inside the apartment and had been shot several times.

Fletcher, 29, was transported to Chowan Vidant Hospital where he died.

The North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation was contacted to assist in the investigation, according to Police Chief Douglas Freeman. The SBI arrived on the scene about 1:15 a.m. Tuesday and a suspect has been identified.

"The investigation is ongoing. Anyone that may have any information pertaining to the case is encouraged to contact the Hertford Police Department at 426-5587," Freeman said.

Church holding 'Turkey Drop'

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

Turkey season — the frozen kind, not the kind you shoot — runs this Friday and Saturday at Hertford United Methodist Church.

The church will once again be hosting a "Turkey Drop" to benefit families served by Open Door Food Pantry in Winfall.

Turkeys and canned food for Thanksgiving can be dropped off each day at

the church on Dobbs Street from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. The goal is 200 turkeys.

This marks the third year of the program. Don Hurst, a member of the church and treasurer of the food pantry, said the need for food is real for many in Perquimans County.

"Sure there are people who take advantage, but the people the Food Pantry serves — 99.9 percent of them — really need the help."

The pantry serves people year-round, but the need is greater around holidays like Thanksgiving, Hurst said. The Pantry expects to need

See TURKEY, 2

Grant opens the eyes of students

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

The world opened a little wider for Perquimans County High School students last month.

Through a grant from the Northern Albemarle Community Foundation to the Perquimans Schools Foundation, 30 of them were able to view a world of fine dining and take in a high quality theater production.

For all of the high school students, it was a chance to get the experience of The Hurrah Players perform "School of Rock" in the high school auditorium. That is something some of them might not have been able to afford if they went to Virginia for a performance.

See GRANT, 2



STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS

Members of "The Hurrah Players" perform "School of Rock" last month at Perquimans County High School. It was available as part of a grant from the Northern Albemarle Community Foundation through the Perquimans Schools Foundation.



6 89076 47144 2