# PERQUIVIANS DEKLAY



Toy drive to benefit hundreds, 8

"News from Next Door"

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2016

### Cole honored as board makes changes

**BY PETER WILLIAMS** News Editor

Perquimans County Commissioners said farewell to two members Monday night, and elected a new chair and vice chair.

Stepping down were Cole how-Chair Janice Cole and Com- ever missioner Matt Peeler. Neither sought re-election. Re-Hoffler and Charles Woodard. Woodard did not attend Monday's meeting, but High School student. Hoffler and Commissioner Kyle Jones were sworn in.

ed to the position of chair. his "mentor"

Serving as vice chair for the next year will be Fondella Leigh.

Thenight belonged to

and the surprise of the night was Janice was playing chess.' the announcement that an placing them will be Joseph annual scholarship has been created in Cole's name for a held the position as chair female Perquimans County

Jones created the scholarship with input from Cole's Jones, who served as vice husband, Judge J.C. Cole to Foundation and will be chair under Cole, was elect- honor a woman he called

WOODARD

Jones called Cole "the wisest person know" and "while everybody else was playing

checkers, Cole who has been a commissioner for six years and

for the past four. The scholarship will be administered through the Perquimans County Schools

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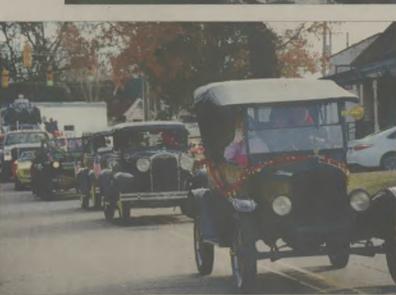
Perquimans County Commissioner Kyle Jones (left) shakes the hand of Todd Tilley, Clerk of Superior Court Monday night after being sworn in. Holding the Bible for Jones during the ceremony was Janice Cole, the outgoing chair of the board.

### HOLDAY EVENTS HELD IN CO



Santa waves to the crowd from the top of the new Hertford Fire Department ladder truck Saturday during the annual Perquimans County Christmas Parade in Hertford.





STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS

A parade of classic cars head down Edenton Road Street on Saturday.



PHOTO BY JULIE PHELPS

A Christmas tree on the lawn in front of the Perquimans County Courthouse is illuminated Friday night during an event sponsored by Historic Hertford, Inc.



STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS

Members of the Perquimans County High School band perform during the annual Christmas parade in Winfall Saturday.



PHOTO BY JULIE PHELPS

Dance students perform Friday night during **Grand Illumination in Hertford.** 

## **Boat** ramp funded

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the first part of a two-part series.

> BY PETER WILLIAMS News Editor

After months of delays, the federal government has released funds needed to build an extra large new

boat ramp in Hertford. Construction should start this month and should be complete by spring, perhaps as early as April 8.

"I'm very happy that we are finally able to move forward," said Perquimans County Manager Frank

The project has been in the works for more than five years. It started with plans to build a regular boat ramp next to the Perquimans County Recreation Center. That proved to be too shallow said Perquimans County Economic Development Director Dave Goss. So

See RAMP. 2

#### **Future** unclear for wind project

BY PETER WILLIAMS AND REGGIE PONDER Staff Writers

The company developing the proposed Timbermill Wind Project has not yet decided how to proceed in the wake of Perguimans County officials' denial of the conditional use permit for the portion of the project slated for Perquimans.

Chowan County officials approved the conditional use permit for the part of the project proposed to be built in Chowan. The project as proposed was a 300-megawatt

See WIND, 2

#### Help sought for needy kids

BY PETER WILLIAMS **News Editor** 

needy children get something at Christmas is winding down.

Parksville Ruritan Club has



erected "Santa Trees" in clothes, like underwear, Hertford. On the branches jackets or socks," Hurdle there are notes listing a An effort to make sure child's name, age, and a suggestion of things they need

or want for Christmas. Michael Hurdle, a mem-Since the mid 1990s, the ber of the Ruritan Club, said 109 children were represented this year, down from about 125 last year. As of a dozen unfilled requests Woodard's Pharmacy and

> Family Care Pharmacy. "Some of them list

said. "The child is also able

to list a toy." Some of the toy wishes include Barbies, race cars, Legos, Batman, dinosaurs, footballs, basket balls, chocolate pins, "Frozen" toys, Hatchimals and bicycles.

The families have been earlier this week, only about screened through the Perquimans County Departremained on the trees at ment of Social Services and cards have been created for

See SANTA TREES, 2

### Jobless rate inches higher

BY PETER WILLIAMS News Editor

While the national unemployment rate fell to the October, the Perquimans County number inched

higher. According to the N.C. Department of Commerce, the local rate rose from 5.8 percent in September to 6.0 percent in October. Statewide the rate rose from 4.8

percent to 4.9 percent. Nationally the Bureau of look for is trends over a

Labor Statistics reported longer period," Rhodes the U.S. rate in October was 4.6 percent, down from 4.9

percent the month before. David Rhodes, a spokeslowest level since 2007 in man for the N.C. Depart- a percentage point lower ment of Commerce, the agency that released the state figures, cautioned about reading too much individual month. Perquisuggested looking at Per-small numbers can reflect ber figure as a snapshot. jobless rate was based on "What you really need to

said.

In that case Perquimans County 2016 rate in October was seven tenths of than the year before.

There are other reasons not to look too closely at an month-to-month mans is a relatively small fluctuations. Instead he county and even some quimans County's Octo- in a big way. The October

See JOBLESS RATE, 2