

# Greenwood named to Dare County post

From Staff Reports



GREENWOOD

Joy Greenwood succeeds Debo Cox who retired earlier this year.

Since 2014 Greenwood has

been the superintendent at Merchants Millpond State Park. A native of Vernon, NJ, she earned a bachelor's degree in biology from East Carolina University in 1993. After working as a seasonal employee with the N.C. Department of Agriculture, she joined the state parks

system in 1998 as a ranger at Goose Creek State Park and later served as a ranger at Pettigrew and Dismal Swamp state parks.

In 2007, she was named superintendent at Dismal Swamp State Park.

A superintendent is the chief of operations and administration at a state

park or state recreation area with responsibilities for staffing, training, law enforcement, visitor services, natural resource protection and environmental education.

Greenwood is a certified environmental educator and has advanced training in law enforce-

ment and prescribed burning.

She is a physical fitness and CPR instructor for the parks system.

Jockey's Ridge State Park was established in 1975 and now encompasses 426 acres. It reported visitation of 1.2 million in 2015.



## HOUSE FIRE

PHOTO BY EDWARD LEICESTER

The Durants Neck Fire Department and units from Inter-County, Winfall and Hertford responded to a trailer fire on Hoskins Lane Saturday about 6:30 p.m. The blaze was brought under control, but not before causing substantial damage. Perquimans County Sheriff Eric Tilley said it appears the fire started in a room with a wood heater. No injuries were reported.

## Colony Tire erecting new office building

From staff reports

EDENTON — Colony Tire's growth has led it to build a new facility to house its office staff.

The company is adding a 7,000-square-foot office building next to the current headquarters on North Broad Street.

President Scott Creighton and Vice President Andrew Bergeron said this week that the company needs more space to accommodate a growing staff in the main of-

ice. In addition, the existing office building needs roof repairs and other work.

Employees currently are doubled up or tripled up in some offices, they said.

The Edenton-based tire and service provider, tire wholesaler and auto parts wholesaler has enjoyed steady growth over the years and now has some 32 locations.

In addition to the new office building the company also plans to add warehouse space next year.

## RAMP

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planners looked at using a site next door at the 72-acre Perquimans Marine Industrial Park. That also posed problems.

Finally officials settled on a site next to the industrial park at the foot of North Granby Street. Instead of a regular boat ramp, county officials pitched the idea of building a wider, deeper version to accommodate commercial use as well as recreational

boaters.

In August 2013 the county submitted a grant application along with 21 other counties seeking a share of \$10 million that Golden LEAF was offering.

In June 2014, Golden LEAF approved \$360,000 for the project and Heath said he hoped to have the project complete by 2015.

That didn't happen. The state determined the total project would exceed \$500,000 so added state oversight was required.

That was completed and this spring the county put

the project out for bid. Waff Contracting of Edenton came in as the low bidder at \$842,802. The next lowest bid was \$344,000 lower than the next lowest bid and \$949,000 lower than the highest bid. Since then changes were made to the project to reduce the cost to \$822,000.

The N.C. Wildlife Commission remained committed to the plan and agreed to use North Carolina's share of federal boat ramp funds for the Perquimans project. The target date for the start of construction

was July 1.

The hitch was before the federal money could be released, a group of federal agencies had to sign off. Typically that takes about 30 days. In this case, it took more six months.

Heath has been patient throughout the process.

"Sometimes life throws you curve balls and you just have to be patient."

Sara Sherman, the engineer for the Wildlife Commission that has worked on the ramp project from the start, called the approval process "nightmarish" but

## WIND

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wind energy generation facility in the Bear Swamp and Center Hill areas of Chowan and Perquimans Counties.

Asked if they planned to appeal the decision by the Perquimans County Board of Commissioners not to approve the CUP and if they were considering developing the project using only the Chowan portion of the

proposed site, officials with Charlottesville, Va.-based Apex Clean Energy Inc. said they had not made those decisions.

"We are still evaluating options," Apex spokesman Kevin Chandler said last week.

Chandler added "we can't say for certain when a decision will be made."

Jim Robison, a Chowan resident who has been an active opponent of the project, recently expressed appreciation for the 3-2 "no" vote by the Perquimans board.

"We were very pleased with Perquimans," Robison said. "And I thought our (Chowan) commissioners failed in their duty to the county by passing it."

Robison also said he thought wind and solar energy projects would not have much of a future under the administration of President-elect Donald Trump.

But some in the wind industry are confident that federal policy will remain friendly toward wind energy.

Chandler noted Apex doesn't comment on indus-

try policy.

"We generally avoid speaking on behalf of the industry," Chandler said.

But Chandler cited comments by Tom Kiernan, chief executive officer of the American Wind Energy Association, who said he believes the fundamentals of wind energy in America, remain strong and that with unity and hard work the industry can overcome any challenges ahead.

One of the most often referenced subsidies is the federal Producer Tax Credit, which gives wind energy

is happy that it's moving forward.

"I'm frustrated," Sherman said in November. "I'm as frustrated as anyone."

A pre-construction meeting with Waff Contracting was held at the site last Friday and Sherman said she expects the "notice to proceed" order will be issued by this Friday.

That doesn't mean there still can't be some delays because of weather, but if the cofferdam can be in place before Feb. 15 things should be fine, Sherman said. That's the date when

an annual statewide moratorium on marine construction goes into effect. The ban is designed to protect anadromous fish – the variety like smelt and shad that spend most of their life in the sea but return to fresh water to reproduce.

The moratorium runs until the end of June, but once the cofferdam is in place and the area is de-watered, fish won't be impacted and removing the cofferdam and allowing the water back in during the moratorium should not harm mating fish, Sherman said.

developers a credit for each kilowatt of electricity they produce. The credit is good for 10 days.

According to Kiernan, the PTC isn't likely to go anywhere.

"The PTC is firmly in place and has bipartisan support," he said in an e-mail message. "We have champions returning on both sides of the aisle. While Congress can change any law, we believe if the industry fights to retain the five-year deal, we will win."

Sen. Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa, influential member of

the Senate Finance Committee who was just reelected with 60 percent of the vote, said of Trump and the PTC on Aug. 30: "If he wants to do away with it, he'll have to get a bill through Congress, and he'll do it over my dead body."

Kiernan also pointed out 86 percent of all wind farms are in Republican-held congressional districts.

"We envision that Republican leadership in Congress and the White House will want to keep those 88,000 jobs growing," Kiernan said.

when it comes to unemployment. The lowest rate was Buncombe County ranking No. 1 with a rate of 3.6 percent. Ranking number 100 was Robeson County with a rate of 10.3 percent.

The Statewide jobless rates increased in 44 counties in October, decreased in 22 and remained unchanged in 34 percent.

Among the 15 Metropolitan Statistical Areas in the state, the top six were Jacksonville (5.2 percent), New Bern (5.3 percent), Greenville (5.6 percent), Fayetteville (6.2 percent), Goldsboro (6.5 percent) and Rocky Mount (7.2 percent). The rate in Raleigh was 4.1 percent. Charlotte was 4.5 percent.

## JOBLESS RATE

Continued from 1

a workforce of 5,151 and 309 people unemployed. If 20 jobless people got a job, the unemployment rate would be 5.6 percent, not 6 percent.

Dave Goss, Perquimans County's economic development director, said one thing the numbers don't show is a huge chunk of Perquimans workers don't actually work in Perquimans County.

"A while lot of employment in this county are people who are working outside the county," Goss said. That's something the county

is trying to change by attracting new businesses to locate in Perquimans or helping existing businesses to expand.

But beyond that, northeastern North Carolina has been hit harder. When the 100 counties are ranked in the October last, Pasquotank ranks 71st, Perquimans 72nd and Chowan 73rd

## SANTA TREES

Continued from 1

each child that has a genuine need. These cards list

the gender, age, wishes and particular needs of each child.

Hurdle said one thing that keeps him coming back to support the pro-

grams is the idea of what happens in January when kids return to school after the Christmas break.

"Some kids come back to school with new clothes, and computer games and videos and some come back with nothing from Santa."

People who take a name off a tree are asked to return the note along with the

gifts to the location where they got the name. Hurdle said he or a member of the Ruritan Club will in turn collect the items from the pharmacies and make sure they get to the family.

Hurdle said according to Action for Children in North Carolina, more than 30 percent of the children in Perquimans County live in poverty.

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**HERTFORD**  
**PUBLIC HEARING**  
 The Hertford Town Council will hold 3 public hearings on December 12, 2016, 7:30 PM. The meeting will be held in the Municipal Building located at 114 W. Grubb Street. The following items for hearings are on the agenda:

- Ordinance Amendment to Section 6-11 of the Town's General Ordinances addressing Capacity Fee Charges.
- Ordinance Amendment to Schedule 35-Electric Rate- Small General Service addressing demand metering charges.
- Ordinance Amendment to Chapter 9 of the Town's General Ordinance addressing Business Registrations.

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, December 9th.

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