

## ENGINE

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and trying to explain something to a student and thinking "if I had a piece of equipment, I could show you."

Now he does.  
"Now we're not going to have to worry about driving it back and forth," Cartwright said.

Cartwright credits Superintendent Matthew Cheeseman for making the purchase possible.

"We had an issue with insurance that came along that we weren't aware of," Cartwright said. If the truck were driven from the fire department to the school, the school's insurance wouldn't cover it for the trip.

Cartwright said he went into the meeting with Cheeseman simply to talk about the insurance issue came out with much more.

"He jumped right on it, and basically said he'd do whatever we he needed to make the program a success. My hats off to Mr. Cheeseman."

The fire program was created for several reasons. One was to provide a way for a high school student to graduate with the skills to make a living wage as a paid firefighter. Another one was to provide a pipeline to train future generations of firefighters for area volunteer agencies.

Since many fire agencies tend to be staffed by white males, the Fire Academy was a way to attract more female and minority participants. In the case of the latter, about half of the 16 students in the program this semester are

Cartwright remembers teaching a class



Perquimans County High School Fire Academy Instructor Michael Cartwright (left) shakes hands with Hertford Town Manager Brandon Shoaf, while Superintendent Matthew Cheeseman looks on. The school system is buying the truck for use in the fire safety classes.

either female or a minority.

The truck will be kept in an existing fenced in area at the high school. Cartwright said in the event of very, very cold weather, he said Inter-County Fire Department has agreed to let the schools store the engine there.

The truck is a 1994 Freightliner chassis with an E-One body.

Cartwright said the school system would continue to have the engine pump tested each year. That certifies that the pump can produce the flow it should. Engine 31 is now rated at 1,500 gallons per minute.

"We're not required to do it, but having it pump tested may pinpoint maintenance issues that you weren't aware of and you can fix those before you get into something expensive."

There are still some bits and pieces of equipment Cartwright needs to make full use of Engine 31

And in the event of some truly cataclysmic event, Cartwright said with Cheeseman's permission he thinks Engine 31 could be called back for duty.

"If something truly major happened, by all means I absolutely think we could do that," Cartwright said.

## FRIERSON SWORN IN



Janice McKenzie Cole (right) administered the oath of office to Perquimans County Register of Deeds Jacqueline S. Frierson on Monday.

## PARKER

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cried."

Rinehart played a part in regional selection process as a facilitator but didn't have vote in it. The actual announcement came from Bobbie Cavnar, this year's North Carolina Teacher of the Year.

"They did it right," Parker said last week. "I had no clue. It was totally amazing. I feel really honored and blessed."

Parker, who grew up in Washington County, has taught in Perquimans County for 28 years of her 29-year career. Her whole career has been in fourth and fifth grade.

Parker said she always wanted to be a teacher. Even though she earned a master's degree within years of her start in teaching decades ago, Parker still calls herself "just a classroom teacher."

"I'm just a classroom teacher and that's what I want to be. I don't say that to put myself down. But it's what I wanted to do. I still feel like I'm honing my craft. Surely I've not reached my pinnacle of understanding at this point."

Hertford Grammar School Principal Jason Griffin called Parker a "dynamic teacher." "She's able to reach students at multiple learning levels and she's been doing it for 28 years," Griffin said.

He said Parker has been driven to help all her students.

"Even now, after this (award) she's one of the last people to leave school every single day. She's putting this all in for her kids."

Parker said she's not alone.

"One of the things that

keeps me on my toes is I have peers that work so very hard," Parker said.

Griffin said it wasn't just educators who played a role in the decision. The judges called in parents, teachers and school officials to talk them before making their decision.

Rinehart said Parker was an "energetic, passionate and visionary educator."

"It's amazing to watch in her classroom how she purposely uses technology with her students. With fifth grade, that's not an easy task. She's a seasoned teacher and a life-long learner. She hasn't remained stagnant and that shows with her use of technology."

A two-member team made the actual decision on who got regional teacher of the year.

She's still just trying to "light a fire" of learning with her students.

Parker admits that technology has changed since she started.

"We've gone from a chalk board to a smart board to personalized computer with I-Pads."

She also remembers when there was only one computer in a school, not for students, and it had a blue screen. Now every child in grades 3-12 in Perquimans Schools have a far more powerful computer of their own thanks to a grant from Golden LEAF and continued funding from the Perquimans County Schools. Parker's co-workers say she continues to use the technology as another tool to reach students.

"If they can succeed at something, you can build on what they are doing. I believe success breeds success," Parker said.

## LIGHTS

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spectators, Neeley said.

As a sales consultant, Neeley said she's traveled 308,000 miles in her Subaru looking at lighting projects. The day before she met

with the school board in Hertford she was in Asheville.

During her travels she said she's seen some nightmares. In one location she was visiting someone was showing her how they turned on the lights and warned her "just don't touch

the fence" before throwing the switch. Neeley said that clearly showed a serious electrical problem that wasn't being addressed.

In pitching the Musco products, Neeley said with some products now there doesn't need to be some big power switch on the field that needs to be switched on. It can all be done remotely with smart phone or a computer. Lights can be programmed to when they turn on and when they turn off, and the system detects when a light burns out and the customer gets a regular report to let them know. Some of the lighting at the Perquimans County Recreation Center is designed like

that.

In the case of Plymouth High School, the school system had to do something, Neeley said.

The North Carolina High School Athletic Association has standards on how much light there is on a field. For football games, the standard is 50 foot-candles. The Plymouth field measured 16 foot-candles. That meant under the new standards, Plymouth would not be eligible to host post-season games.

Plymouth has been to the state title game four times in four years and won it in 2007 and 2012. The Vikings played in the 1-A state final last Saturday.

**The Offices of Town of Hertford will be closed**

Thursday, December 22, 2016 at 12:00PM  
Friday, December 23, 2016  
Monday, December 26, 2016  
Tuesday, December 27, 2016  
and  
Monday, January 2, 2017

In case of an emergency, please call (252) 426-5751.  
Happy Holidays

**Town of Winfall Offices are Closed:**

Friday, December 23, 2016  
Monday, December 26, 2016  
Tuesday, December 27, 2016  
and  
Monday, January 2, 2017

In case of an Emergency call 426-5751

**BANKRUPTCY**

STOP Foreclosure  
STOP Lawsuits  
STOP Car Repossession  
STOP Tax Levies and Garnishments  
Call Allen C. Brown Attorney  
#252-752-0753  
A Debt Relief Agency helping people eliminate debt through bankruptcy

**PERQUIMANS COUNTY PUBLIC NOTICE**

Except for the Sheriff's Department, Dispatch Office and Emergency Medical Services, all County Offices in the Perquimans County Courthouse, Courthouse Annex, Social Services, Agricultural Extension Service, and the Perquimans County Recreation Department will be closed on Friday through Tuesday, December 23, 26, & 27, 2016, for Christmas and Monday, January 2, 2017, for New Year's Day. The Perquimans County Library will close at 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 22, 2016, and remain closed Monday thru Tuesday, December 23 - 27, 2016. The Library will close at regular hours on Saturday, December 31, 2016, and be closed on Monday, January 2, 2017, for New Year's Day. The Water Department will be closed but emergencies may be reported to the Dispatch Office by calling 426-5751.

**Frank Heath**  
Frank Heath, County Manager

**Recycle.**

**TIER**  
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the General Assembly to do just that. The system was designed 20 years ago.

Last year the General Assembly's Program Evaluation Division issued a report recommending that lawmakers:

1. Eliminate the use of the economic development tiers system for all non-economic development programs by July 1, 2017.
2. Terminate use of the tiers system for all economic development programs by July 1, 2018.
3. Establish a commission to reexamine the North Carolina's strategy for identifying and assisting chronically distressed communities.

Rep. Bob Steinburg (R-Chowan) said he wasn't aware of the status of that report, but said the General Assembly is meeting for the long session next year.

Perquimans was one of five counties that saw themselves move to a "less distressed" category. Lenoir, Nash and Rutherford County also moved from Tier 1 to Tier 2. Haywood County moved from Tier 2 to Tier 3.

Moving in the other direction Cherokee, Mitchell, Person and Yadkin County went from Tier 2 to Tier 1 while Guilford County went from Tier 3 to Tier 2.

**Habitat for Humanity ReStore**  
Open Tues., Thurs., Sat. 9:00 am to 1:00 pm  
We pick-up large donations!  
1370 N. Broad St., Edenton  
482-2686

**NOTICE**

**Perquimans County Tax Department**

All unpaid 2016 County and Municipal Property Taxes will become delinquent after January 6, 2017. Enforced collections will begin after that date. The Perquimans County Tax Department will be complying with the N.C. General Statutes for the collection of all delinquent taxes. The following procedures will be implemented to collect the delinquent taxes:

1. Garnishment of wages
2. Attachment of bank accounts
3. Levy on personal property
4. File foreclosures on real property
5. Attachment of Income tax refunds

Bill Jennings  
Perquimans County Tax Administrator

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