

Cancer screening to be offered

The Vidant Wellness van will be in the Roses parking lot in Edenton March 8 from 2-5 p.m. to offer colorectal cancer screening.

Any community member age 50 or over who has not had a colonoscopy or screening within the last

three years is welcome. Participants will pick up their screening kit from the designated location and get instructions on how to use the kit in the comfort of their home. They will also receive information on when and where to bring

the kit for testing. Testing results will be given on the return date and participants will have the opportunity to speak with a nurse about any questions they have, along with education on any next steps.

Vidant will also be offer-

ing free wellness screenings (cholesterol, blood sugar, and blood pressure).

For any questions, contact Liza Layton, Vidant Chowan Community Health Improvement coordinator at 482-6242 or by email at liza.white@vidanthealth.com

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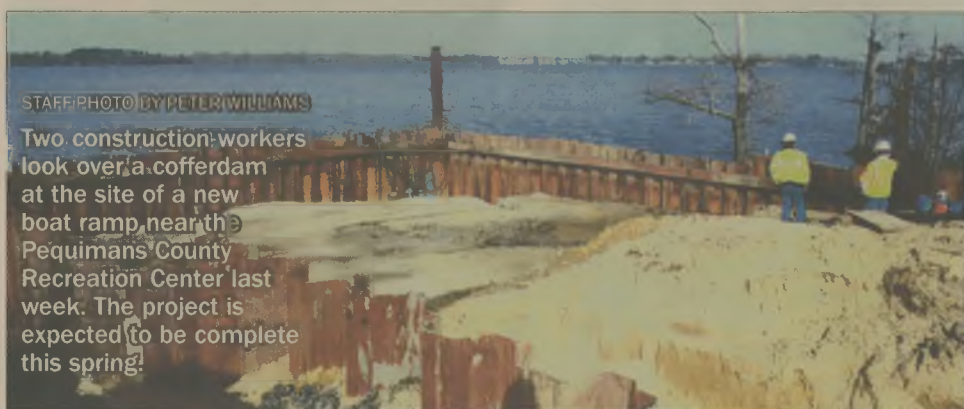
Seniors honored, 6

"News from Next Door"

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1, 2017

50 cents

EXTENSION GRANTED FOR BOAT RAMP



STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS
Two construction workers look over a cofferdam at the site of a new boat ramp near the Perquimans County Recreation Center last week. The project is expected to be complete this spring.

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

Construction on a new boat ramp near the Perquimans County Recreation is proceeding, but the N.C. Wildlife Commission is giving the contractor until mid-May to complete the \$820,000 project.

Sara Sherman, an engineer for the NCWC, said an unexpected large submerged tree stump was encountered in the area of the river where the ramp will be. Stump removal wasn't included in the original contract, but the stump had to go for the project to

proceed.

Sherman said Waff Contracting, the company hired for the job, requested a five-week delay.

"It didn't take that long (to remove the stump) but they asked for the change order because they had scheduling issues with some other projects. Since we held their bid for so long, we decided to grant it (the five week extension.)"

The project was originally supposed to start July 1, 2016, but the Wildlife

See BOAT RAMP, 2

County to look at master plan

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

Does Perquimans County need a splash pad? What about more recreational programs for adults? Would you be willing to pay higher taxes in order to get it?

Those are some of the questions in a survey being conducted by the county so it can develop a new recreational master plan.

"It has been several years since we have updated our plans for the future of the department," said Parks and Recreation Department Director Howard Williams. He said without a plan it would

See PARKS, 2

Golf tourney date set

From Staff Reports

For the fourth straight year Albemarle Plantation will host a tournament for up and coming golf professionals.

The Biggs Cadillac Buick GMC Classic is set for June 26 through July 1. Other major sponsors include Swimme and Sons along with Albemarle Bank and Trust.

See GOLF, 4



STAFF PHOTOS BY PETER WILLIAMS

BLACK BASEBALL PROGRAM

Amir Northern and Harlee Hunter recreate a moment in 1965 when the then 19-year-old Jim 'Catfish' Hunter sat on the lap of 59-year-old Satchell Paige for a photograph. A few days later Paige pitched in his final Major League game for the A's. Harlee Hunter is Hunter's granddaughter. Holding the microphone is Derrick Jones, who brought his traveling tribute of Negro League baseball to Hertford Grammar School. The Perquimans Schools Foundation paid for the program.



Derrick Jones puts his arms around the shoulder of Coley Drew who was playing the role of a Negro League baseball player Friday during a presentation on the black baseball league at Hertford Grammar School.

County questions solar policy

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

Perquimans County officials say they want more time to review their rules regarding solar power projects and may impose a temporary moratorium.

The county commission directed staff and the planning board members to study the issue last week. Two commissioners, Ed Muzzulin and Joseph Hoffler were absent from the Feb. 19 workshop meeting.

Perquimans has three solar projects in operation and one that has been approved and not yet built. The first two fall into the 5-megawatt category. The last one built is about 20 megawatts and sits along U.S. 17 near Snug Harbor Road.

"Our board recognizes that, like a lot of things, public policy with respect to

See SOLAR, 4

Inter-County's Privott to lead nation's Ruritans

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

Danny Privott, the Ruritan Club's 2017 National President, plans to spend the next year promoting ALS awareness.

Privott, a charter member of the Inter-County Ruritan Club in Woodville, was elevated to the head of the national organization in January in Tennessee in

front of a crowd of 850 people. Nationally the club has about 30,000 members in more than 20 states.

The last time someone from the Albemarle area served as National President was in 1946 when Swindell Lowery held the post. Lowery lived in Pasquotank County.



PRIVOTT

Privott, 74, spent his career working at Newport News Shipbuilding and retired in 2010 as a senior project engineer. Privott joined the Ruritans in 1991 and was one of the founding members of the Inter-County club.

The goal of each of the nation's 11,000 Ruritan Clubs is to improve the

community in which they live. Privott said for the most part it's up to each individual club to decide the best way to do it.

"One thing I like about the Ruritan Club organization is there is no quote 'national project' but each year each national president and their spouse normally do identify some project that year to promote," Privott said.

Last year's president pro-

moted Alzheimer's awareness.

In Privott's case, his wife Linda wanted to promote ALS awareness. She went to school with both Jimmy "Catfish" Hunter and his wife Helen. Helen was a year younger than Linda and Jimmy was a year older. Hunter, a Major League baseball star and Hertford

See PRIVOTT, 2

Deadline looms for disaster help

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

Perquimans County residents have a week to apply for help with disaster mitigation.

Next Wednesday at 5 p.m. is the deadline to apply for help. It's also the date for a public meeting on North Carolina's plan to review the state's efforts on hazard mitigation. That meeting is

set for 4 p.m. at the county's Emergency Services Building, 159 Creek Drive in Winfall. Two more meetings are planned.

Funds are available for property owners interested in a hazard mitigation grant, but they must apply by March 8 at 5 p.m.

Mitigation can include elevating a home, home buy-outs where the property is demolished and the land left vacant as well as reconstruction of damaged homes.

Jonathan Nixon, Perquimans County's Emergency Management Director, said

three county residents have already expressed an interest in the hazard mitigation program. All of those three seem interested in elevating a home or an outright buy-out.

Nixon said Perquimans was largely spared by the major flooding areas like Lumberton and Greenville did.

"We were blessed compared to other areas," Nixon said.

But Nixon admits there may have been flooding the county doesn't know about,

See DEADLINE, 2

BRIDGE REPAIRS



STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS

Repair work is proceeding on Hertford's S-Bridge. Now that I-beams have been replaced, wood is being bolted on top of the steel. Once complete, wood beams will be placed across them to act as the wearing surface. The repairs will reduce the weight on the gears and buy more time for the S-Bridge until a replacement can be built.

