



ERQUIMANS



Students learn through shadowing 3

"News from Next Door"

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School system warns of possible job cuts

BY PETER WILLIAMS **News Editor**

The Perquimans County Schools bers of the Genersystem is putting 28 teacher assis- al Assembly have tants on notice that they may not have a job next year.

Monday night Superintendent assistants. TA's Matthew Cheeseman asked the are used primarschool board for the authority to ily at Perquimans start "Reduction In Force" policy because of uncertainty over next ers but some work at Hertford time to plan."

year's state fund-

Some memquestioned the need for teacher

Central School to augment teach-

Grammar School. Over the years system has not replaced them because of funding.

"Right now we're projecting a 14 decrease in funding," said Matthew Cheeseman, the school superintendent. "We project a shortfall and as sad as I am, we have to deal with it and give them (teacher assistants) appropriate

to find the funding to avoid lay-

Assembly doesn't pass a waiver taken up the bill. on class sizes. The current rule calls for one teacher for every 21

The school system did use the students. The new rule would be as some TA's have left, the school RIF process in 2011 when funding one teacher for every 18 kinderwas cut and some staff lost their garten students, one teacher for jobs. Cheeseman said the schools every 16 first grade students, and did it again in 2013, but managed one teacher for every 17 students for grades two and three. Schools can be a granted a waiver of three The school system faces a big-extra students under HB 13 passed ger funding shortfall if the General in the house. The Senate has not

See SCHOOLS, 2

Layden to lead local GOP

BY PETER WILLIAMS **News Editor**

One of the three members of the Perquimans County Board of Elections has stepped down. Dianne Layden served on the elections board for two years and was chairman when she resigned earlier this month.



LAYDEN

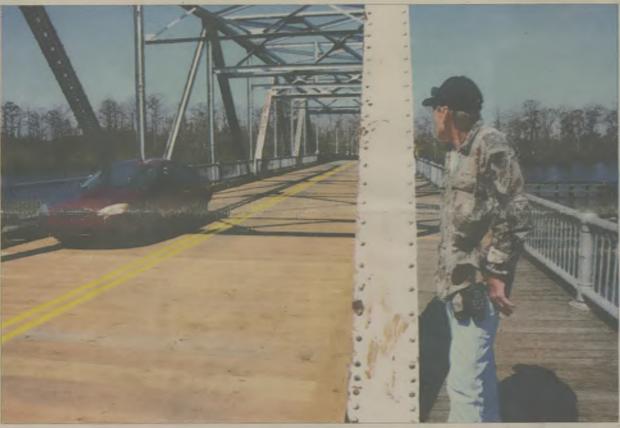
makeup of the loelection board was going to change before Layden

h e

stepped down. North Carolina law says the political party of the Governor gets to have two representatives on each three-member board. Gov. Roy Cooper is a Democrat, which means under that law

See LAYDEN, 2

BRIDGE REOPENS



Bill Cartwright, one of the bridge tenders on Hertford's S-Bridge, watches a car drive across the bridge Friday afternoon. The bridge underwent three months worth of repairs to make it lighter in the hopes of extending the life of the span by a few years.

County line may move

BY PETER WILLIAMS News Editor

The county line between Perquimans and Chowan may not be where you think

The issue came up when someone went to vote in Chowan County and was told they actually lived in Perquimans County.

The variance between where both counties think the line belongs and where the state recognizes the border is not large according to Perquimans County Manager Frank Heath.

"Basically it's like 100 yards," Heath said.

The actual county line may shift slightly to the west, meaning Perquimans County would become a little larger and Chowan would be a little smaller.

"We just want to make

See LINE, 2

Volunteers reach out to teach growing food techniques

BY PETER WILLIAMS

News Editor

A group of volunteers trained in gardening are reaching out to the clients of local food pantries to show them how to grow their own fresh produce.

The Chowan-Gates-Perquimans Master Gardener's program initiated the "Grow to Eat" program last year under Betty Onu-

Onufrak likened the effort to the Chinese proverb — "You give a poor man a fish and you feed him for a day. You teach him to fish and you feed him for a lifetime.'

Master Gardeners aren't just handing out seeds. They're backing it up with written information on how to care for the plants and a phone line where they can call if they have questions.

See FOOD, 5



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Extension Master Gardener Jean Batson is distributing vegetable seeds and gardening information to interested Chowan Food Pantry clients as part of the Extension Master Gardeners' Grow to Eat Program.

Program offers gardening tips

BY PETER WILLIAMS **News Editor**

It may be too soon to start working in the garden, but Katy Shook said that doesn't stop people from thinking about it.

Shook, the area horticulture agent and director of the N.C. State Cooperative Extension Service office in Chowan County, said she's often getting questions from people about what to plant and when. Shook coordinates the Master Gardener program for Perquimans,



STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS

It may be too early to start a wildflower garden, but it's not too early to start planning for it, extension officials say.

Chowan and Gates coun- of wildflowers may sound

Turning a huge plot of grass into a massive display

attractive, but Shook said

See GARDENING, 5

COA names new president

BY REGGIE PONDER The Daily Advance

A veteran community college teacher and administrator who helped lead

Western Nevada College

through a severe financial start April 17. crunch has been named the 10th president at College of about getting to northeast-The Albemarle.

Paul O'Neal, chairman of COA's Board of Trustees, announced last week that Ronald Wynegar, vice president of student and academpresident of COA.

Wynegar, 52, is slated to

"He is every excited ern North Carolina and getting to work," O'Neal said, describing Wynegar as "very well qualified.

"We had four outstanding candidates and he was the ic affairs at Western Nevada one that the board unani-College, had been named mously picked as our next

See PRESIDENT, 2

ALADDIN PERFORMANCE



STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS

Hertford Grammar School students were treated to a performance of Aladdin by the Hurrah Players last week. The event was held at the **Perquimans County High School** auditorium. Sponsors for the event were the Albemarle Community Trust grant through Albemarle **Electric Membership Corp., Arene** Contracting, the Albemarle Plantation Women's Club and the Perquimans County Schools Foundation.