

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



Perfect attendance, 7

"News from Next Door"

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County extends solar projects moratorium

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

Perquimans County has extended a moratorium on considering any new solar power projects for another 90 days. The existing moratorium was set to expire on July 18. The county adopted the original 120-day measure in March. At the time the majority of the six-member board said they wanted more time to look at the rules governing industry-

scale solar projects. Last week Charles Woodard made the motion to extend the ban, and Wallace Nelson seconded the motion. It passed unanimously with Kyle Jones absent. The next scheduled commission meeting is set for July 3 at 7 p.m. When the original moratorium was adopted, at least one commissioner — Nelson — asked if it could be longer than 120 days.

County Attorney Hackney High said it could, but noted the courts might frown on extending a moratorium for too long. Over the past three months commissioners have addressed issues like making sure the developer had money set aside in the form of a cash bond for paying for removing the solar panels if they were no longer operational. They also

See SOLAR, 2



STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS
Plants partially buffer a solar power project on Belvidere Road. The Perquimans County Commission has enacted a second moratorium so the rules can be amended to make sure developers in the future provide buffering.

Golf tourney starting today

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

Golf pros from North Carolina are helping round out the field for the fourth annual Biggs Cadillac Buick GMC Classic golf tournament at the Albemarle Plantation this week. The tournament officially starts today, but warm up events started on Monday. "The shoot out (Monday night) was great, and we should have a full field," said Tom Loughlin, a Plantation resident who is heading up the tournament this year. "So far everything is great." As of Tuesday morning, 37 golfers had signed up to play. Spectators are invited to come view the event for free. The first round is scheduled to start at 7:30 a.m. today. A long drive contest is scheduled for 4 p.m. sponsored by First National Bank. Action continues Thursday with round two. On Friday, there will be several invitation only parties sponsored by Biggs, Swinme and Son, and Albemarle Bank. The final day of the ceremony is Saturday. An awards ceremony is scheduled for 3 p.m. In addition to the returning the entry fees as prizes, the Plantation will be putting in another \$5,000 for first place, \$3,000 for sec-

See GOLF, 2

PARADE COMING SATURDAY



STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS

Jennifer Byrum decorates the window at Woodard's Drug Store last week in preparation for the Fourth of July. A parade is planned for Saturday starting at Perquimans County High School at 5 p.m. For more information call 426-5956 or 333-8959. Fireworks will follow once it turns dark over the Perquimans River between Hertford and Winfall.

County dedicates new boat ramp

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

State and local officials held a ribbon cutting Friday for an industrial-sized boat ramp next to the Perquimans Marine Industrial Park. The more than \$800,000 project was made possible by land donation Perquimans County, a \$304,000 grant from Golden LEAF and funding from the NC Wildlife Resource Commission and a federal grant set aside for sport fish restoration. Dan Gerlach, the president of Golden LEAF, said it was a bit un-

See RAMP, 2



STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS

Dan Gerlach, (center), the president of Golden LEAF and county and town officials, cut the ribbon on a new boat ramp in Hertford on Friday.

Schools make final pitch for SRO

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

Perquimans County Schools Superintendent Matthew Cheeseman made a final plea to county commissioners to fund a fourth School Resource Officer (SRO) last week. Cheeseman was originally scheduled to appear in person to address the board. Instead he sent a two-page letter. In it he thanked the board for considering his budget request, but again asked for a fourth SRO. In Perquimans County, SROs are sworn law enforcement officers and members of the Perquimans County Sheriff's office. The office has had two SROs for at least the past 10 years, according to Sheriff Shelby White. One floats between Perquimans County High School and Hertford Grammar School. The other floats between Perquimans County Middle School and Perquimans Central School. Commissioners had already agreed to hire a third SRO, but not a fourth one. Cheeseman appealed one last time in his letter for the additional position. He pointed out last October a fight broke out at the high school while the SRO was at the grammar school dealing with an issue. The event made "national news" Cheeseman said in his letter, and left 13 teachers injured before the deputy was able

See SRO, 2

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Students and coaches attending the National Hunter Safety competition will include (front row) Dylan Bass, Kaitlyn Ward and Jenna Ward and (back row) Matthew Meads, Nathan Williams, Coach Talmadge Meads, Coach Ashley Williams and Coach Wayne Bass.



PCMS students headed to New Mexico

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

Five Perquimans County Middle School students are scheduled to go to New Mexico next month to compete in the national hunter safety competition. Rosa Forbes, a coach for the team, said it's the first time a Perquimans Middle School team has made it to nationals in the 16 years she's been associated with the program. The high school had participants attend about four years ago. Participating will be Nathan Williams, Matthew Meads, Dylan Bass, Jenna Ward and her twin sister Kaitlyn Ward. Bass is a sixth grader. The other four are eighth graders. In order to qualify, the five competed in a regional and state competition. In April, the five along with Tanner Thach, Logan Brown, Jett Winslow, Willow Stokely, Trent Byrum, Mason

See STUDENTS, 2

A's pay tribute to Catfish Hunter

From Staff Reports

OAKLAND, Calif. — Family members of the late Jim "Catfish" Hunter were on hand for a ceremony honoring him on June 17 in California. The Oakland A's renamed

the C Gate at the Oakland Coliseum in Hunter's honor. Hunter, a Hall of Fame pitcher, was 53 when he died in 1999 after being diagnosed with ALS one year prior. The ceremony was held before the A's played the visiting New York Yankees. Hunter spent his last four seasons in major league career with the Yankees. The Hertford native played for 15 seasons in the major leagues.

Hunter's widow, Helen, their three children and their families were in attendance along with Hunter's former teammates Vida Blue, Bert Campaneris, Darold Knowles, John "Blue Moon" Odom, Joe Rudi, and Gene Tenace. Monte Moore, a former A's broadcaster, was also present for the dedication ceremony. The World Series trophies from 1972, 1973, and 1974

See HUNTER, 2



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Helen Hunter (center) and members of the family pose with three World Series trophies won by the Oakland A's when her late husband Jim "Catfish" Hunter played for the team.

