

THE PERQUIMANS JOLLY

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"News from Next

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2017

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STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS

Volunteers help load large boxes of donations headed to Florida on Saturday at Wal-Mart in Elizabeth City.

Hurricane relief on the way

BY PETER WILLIAMS
 News Editor

A truck carrying 20 tons of hurricane supplies left Perquimans County Monday and headed south.

The goods were sent to a place in Florida most people may never have heard of — Alva — for people they probably never met.

James Spaugh, pastor of

Bagley Swamp Wesleyan Church, said he was sure the community could collect items after watching Hurricane Irma hit Florida's gulf coast. Getting them there was the hitch.

"Everybody wants to give something," Spaugh said. "The problem is getting diapers you can get them for \$20 a pack, but it would cost you half that to ship

it. When Michael sent me a text that he was willing to donate a truck that made it possible."

Michael is Michael Stallings, a member of the church, and owner of Stallings Farm Trucking in Winfall.

While he was willing to pay the cost of sending a tractor-trailer and driver to Florida, Stallings wasn't

sure just how many supplies they'd get.

"I really didn't think we'd fill the truck," Stallings said. But that changed.

"By Friday (Sept. 22) we saw an outpouring," Stallings said. "We had donations come to the shop all day Friday, one right after another."

See HURRICANE, 2

Mayday program coming Saturday

BY PETER WILLIAMS
 News Editor

The second annual Mayday — a day-long regional event to highlight addiction awareness and prevention — will be held Saturday at the Perquimans County Recreation Center.

"The event is growing, that's for sure," said Connie Riddick, the organizer of Mayday. "We have

more speakers, more exhibits and more music. I guess we learned a lot from last year and this year we're trying to perfect everything."

The one thing the event didn't have a lot of last year was members of the public attending. Riddick said she understands. There remains a stigma about addiction and some people are leery to go public with it.

"I get all of that, but our big mission is to help people. We have people dying every day, and lives being ruined. Children don't have parents to raise them in an environment that teaches them the core values."

The event starts with a 5-K "Run for Hope" run sponsored by an anti-substance abuse group at John A., Holmes High School. It starts at 8 a.m. with pre-registration at 7:30 a.m. The cost is \$30.

The actual Mayday program runs from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m.

Speakers are scheduled to talk from 10 a.m. until noon when a breakout session will be held. Education-

See MAYDAY, 4

TOAST THE PERQUIMANS



PHOTOS BY PAULA FITZPATRICK

Top, people mingle near the Hertford Town Docks during "Toast The Perquimans." Nearly 400 tickets were sold for the event sponsored by Historic Hertford, Inc. Right, Participants attending Toast The Perquimans pose at the event last Saturday.



Hertford polling place moving

BY PETER WILLIAMS
 News Editor

Hertford voters who are used to casting a ballot at Hertford Grammar School will be in for a change starting in November.

Instead they will be voting at Louise's Event Center, 1132 Don Juan Road.

The change is designed to eliminate conflicts, including parking at the school, said Sydni Banks, the director of the local board of elections. The switch had to be approved by the N.C. State Board of Elections.

"We've had complaints," she said.

Parking is limited at HGS even on good

See POLLING, 4

Candidate jailed for failure to appear

BY PETER WILLIAMS
 News Editor

A candidate for the Hertford Town Council was arrested last week and jailed for failing to appear in court on Sept. 18. He spent three nights in Albemarle District Jail because his bond was \$3,000.

Frank Norman, 60, admits failing to appear in court was his fault. He

thought the court date was Sept. 19.

"I got my days mixed up when I entered it (the court date) into my phone," he said Monday.

The situation started when Norman was arrested in the fall of 2016 by the N.C. Highway Patrol for resist-obstruct-delay outside his home in Wynne

See NORMAN, 4

New solar farm rules proposed

BY PETER WILLIAMS
 News Editor

The Perquimans County Commission will hold a public hearing Monday night to get input on changes to the county's solar farm rules.

The county imposed a moratorium on accepting any new solar projects this spring so it would have time to review the rules. The original 120-day moratorium was extended this summer for another 120 days and is set to expire on Oct. 31.

Monday's public hearing is set for 7 p.m.

Individually commissioners had expressed concern the county might get a massive solar project, like one near Moyock that covers 2,000 acres. There were also concerns that rules about buffering solar farms from the view of neighbors or people passing by. There were also worries that an abandoned solar project might be an eyesore.

The revised solar rules take care of those concerns, said Perquimans County Commission Chairman Kyle Jones.

"We are grateful for the Planning Board's time and effort in getting this going, especially Chairman Antoine Moore, and members Brenda Lassiter and Paul Kahl, who came and worked through the draft with us at a meeting,

"The board of commissioners has been particularly effective at finding common ground on this matter, and moving forward from there. I think the final product is a fair and reasonable compromise, balancing a respect for private property rights with the desire to both maintain farmland and ensure any future solar energy projects are aesthetically-pleasing and minimally invasive."

The new rules set a 100-foot setback from the project line, a 150 setback from wetlands, and a half-mile setback from the property line of another solar energy project.

It also sets limits the size of any one solar project to 100 acres. Un-

See SOLAR, 4

Historic tour coming Saturday

BY PETER WILLIAMS
 News Editor

If you want to talk to Julie Phelps about her home, be prepared to listen for a while.

"I can go on for a couple of days about the house," she said.

The home she and husband Mark own is part of

the "Jollification" event being held by the Perquimans County Restoration Association on Sept. 30. It's the second annual event and designed to raise money for the association and awareness. There will be home tours, a dinner and music at the Newbold-White House.

Julie Phelps calls the last 22 years a "journey."

The home is at 118 Halsey Bay Road, about six miles down Harvey Point Road from US 17.

The Edmund Blount Skinner House was built around 1845 and is part of a family

of homes with similar features which include Lands End, Cove Grove, Somerset in Washington County and Athol in Edenton.

"Edmund Skinner died shortly after the house was finished, and since his son already owned a farm further down Harvey Point, the house passed to his wife and four daughters, one of whom married Judge Eure and the house and farm was mostly known as the "Eure Farm," she said.

After the Civil War, the

See JOLLY, 2

ALS WALK SATURDAY



FILE PHOTO

More than 200 walkers start off walking from Perquimans County High School at a past ALS Walk in Hertford. The event will be held again on Saturday starting at 9 a.m.



Jollification! Celebrating Bethel Historic Homes and Sites

Saturday, September 30, 2017 • \$20 per person • Call Newbold-White House For tickets 426-7567

1:30-5:00pm - Tour of Bethel Historic Sites & Homes • 5:30 - 8 pm - Dinner & Music