

BUDGET

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districts as well," Bunch said. The third position is for a full-time groundskeeper/custodian. During football season, the person would be responsible for taking care of the new football field as well as other duties. The position is funded at \$24,723.

A joint meeting between the county commission and the school board has already been held.

"It was a listening session and there were some questions that were asked by both the board of education and the county commission," Bunch said.

A second joint meeting is set for May 13 at 8 p.m. on the commissioner's meeting room.

County manager Frank Heath is scheduled to present his budget recommendations to the county board on June 3 at 7 p.m. and there is a budget public hearing set for June 17 at 7 p.m. at which time the county board will be asked to vote.

School system expenses, including debt service for paying off loans for school improvements, make up the largest single slice of county budget pie at about 27 percent. Social Services falls in second at 15 percent followed by EMS at 10 percent.

When it comes to the school capital budget request, the biggest item on there was on there last year. The schools are asking for \$210,000 to upgrade the outdated Direct Digital Control (DDC) system the schools use. The software allows the maintenance department to remotely monitor and troubleshoot the heating and air systems. The \$210,000 will

pay for the first phase. The next biggest item — \$110,000 — is for removal of asbestos tiling at Hertford Grammar School. The money represents the first of two phases, that will remove the tiles from the last two areas of the school.

There is \$50,000 to start the renovation of the auditorium at the high school. Some local elected leaders balked when the item was on the capital list last year, saying money should instead be found to replace the old auditorium with a new one. No funding was provided, and Bunch said the work still needs to be done.

"At the end of the day, the \$50,000 to renovate the auditorium is the minimum amount we need," Bunch said. "There are some leakage problems. The auditorium represents the largest and most utilized buildings we have. It's a historic building so we need to maintain it."

The budget also includes \$35,000 for lease payments to replace both a 1997 mini activity bus with 120,000 miles and a 2000 activity bus with over 126,000 miles. Another \$8,500 is set aside to paint a 2004 activity bus. The school system just spent a large amount of money to repair the engine, and wants to keep the bus, but it does need repainting.

While the yellow school buses are provided by the state, activity buses are the responsibility of the local school district. Jeffrey Miller, the school system's director of transportation, said the district is moving toward the state standard which calls for replacing buses after 20 years or 250,000 miles, whichever comes first.

LIBRARY

Continued from 1

at Monday's county meeting, Lynne Raymond, the executive director of HHI, was there. Before the meeting she said HHI/Carolina Moon were "very grateful to the town."

Having the old library for Carolina Moon would mean that it could have all of its operations under one roof.

The 11-page lease basically says that HHI/Carolina Moon can't make major alterations to the building without prior county approval. The groups assume the building as "as-is" and must return it to the county in the same condition, minus normal wear and tear. HHI/Carolina Moon is responsible

for utility bills and their own insurance and have to have a \$2 million liability insurance policy.

Either party can end the lease with 60 days notice.

At one point, the same library building was considered as a location for a Boys and Girls Club. It has basketball and tennis courts on the same block, and is across the street is Missing Mill Park. The concept never came to fruition.

The building originally served as the cafeteria for Hertford Grammar School, which was next door on Academy Street. The school burned, but the cafeteria survived to become the first long-term home for a library in Perquimans.

The public hearing on the lease is set for June 3.

COMEDY

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hour — and decide it's high time to reclaim their enthusiasm for life they've lost through the years.

The cast includes Sherry Beauchamp as Randa; Donna Adams as Jinx; Paula Saje as Marlafaye, and Mary Sue Rieger as Dot. Tom Loughlin returns as the director of this performance.

Tickets are \$18 and are

available from the Carolina Trophy Shop on Church Street from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. through Friday of this week or on line at <https://squareup.com/store/carolina-moon-theater>. You can also buy tickets at the door. To get tickets on hold at the door to ensure your seating call Lynne Raymond at 426-5102 and leave a message as to the number and your name.

The Carolina Moon Theater is located at 300 W. Grubb Street in Hertford.

PARADE

Continued from 1

left on Church Street, a left on Grubb Street and a left on Edenton Road Street before returning to Hertford Grammar School. The fireworks will be held that night.

The parade starts at 6 p.m. and there will be activities and food trucks at 7 p.m. at Missing Mill Park. For more informa-

tion or for parade forms, call Vanora Brothers at 426-5956 or Sharon Smith at 426-5657.


DONATIONS NEEDED
Donations are needed to pay for fireworks this year.

The show will be at 9 p.m. from Missing Mill Park in Hertford.

Checks can be mailed to PQ Fireworks, 104 Carolina St., Hertford, NC, 27944.

The rain date for both events is July 7.

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PETS OF THE WEEK

SUBMITTED PHOTOS



Left, nine Lab mix pups are ready for adoption at the Tri-County Animal Shelter. There are five males and four females. For more information, call 221-8514. Right, Cali is a colorful young cat at the Tri-County Animal Shelter. She is very friendly and enjoys being with people.



Perquimans teams enter state playoffs

From Staff Reports
Perquimans County High School's baseball and softball teams host-

ed games in the opening round of the North Carolina High School Athletic Association playoffs on Tuesday.

Perquimans (13-8) earned the No. 15 seed in the region and hosted No. 18 seed Tarboro (13-9) in baseball.

In softball, Perquimans (19-5) is the No. 9 seed in the 1A East Regional and hosted No. 24 seed Cape Hatteras (7-7).

ELECTION

Continued from 1

state legislator, finished first in Tuesday's crowded GOP primary in the 3rd District, taking 22.5 percent of the vote. Perry, a former member of the University of North Carolina Board of Governors, finished second with 15.4 percent of the vote, according to unofficial results from the State Board of Elections.

Because Murphy didn't get at least 30 percent of the vote, Perry is eligible to call for the runoff election. Perry announced last week she plans to call for the runoff.

In Perquimans County, Perry picked up 132 votes, or 19.7 percent. Murphy had 129 votes, or 19.25. Jeff Moore finished in third with 14.49 percent.

Perry won the precincts in New Hope, Nicano and East Hertford. Murphy won in Bethel, Parksville and Belvidere.

While the total number of registered Republicans in Perquimans trails that of Democrats and unaffiliated voters, Republicans represented twice the number of votes last week (670 vs. 324 for Democrats). Unaffiliated voters could cast ballots in either race.

Thomas won all seven precincts in Perquimans with 52.4 percent of the vote. Richard Bew came the closest with 24.0 percent.

The winner of the Murphy-Perry primary will face Thomas, a former Greenville mayor and Global Transpark executive director, Libertarian Tim Harris and the Constitution Party's Greg Holt, in the general election on Sept. 10. The winner will finish the term of U.S. Rep. Walter Jones, R-N.C., who passed away in February.

Though Murphy finished first in Tuesday's GOP pri-

mary, and has raised more money than Perry and other candidates, his victory on July 9 is far from assured. He finished first in only four of the 17 counties in the 3rd Congressional District, and garnered the most votes largely thanks to his home county and its relatively large population. He received 4,228 votes in Pitt County, to Perry's 660, representing 44.5 percent of all votes cast for him, 9,507.

Perry's strongest showing was also in her home county, Lenoir, where she won about 53 percent of the vote. Perry also won five other, smaller counties, including Pasquotank and Perquimans.

The numbers suggest both candidates will need to broaden their support if they hope to win the next primary. One way to do that would be by securing key rivals' endorsements.

State Rep. Phil Shepard finished third on Tuesday, with almost 5,100 votes, or 12 percent of total votes cast. He also won his home county of Onslow by a 35-point margin, 51 percent to fellow Onslow native Phil Law's 16 percent, or 4,051 votes to 1,281.

Shepard didn't endorse either Murphy or Perry in a short interview on Wednesday, commenting that his endorsement will be a matter for discussion. Commenting on his own campaign, Shepard said he was thankful to have finished third, and said he got a later start to the race than other candidates. He also thanked his supporters.

Coming in fourth last week was state Rep. Michael Speciale, R-Craven, with 4,010 votes, or 9.5 percent of the total. He won his home county, with 1,764 votes to Murphy's 1,028, plus Pamlico. He was not immediately available for comment.

Law came in fifth, with

8.7 percent of the vote, or 3,683 total. Notably, this is Law's third run for the 3rd District seat. He ran and lost in the GOP primaries to Jones in 2016 and 2018.

In a phone call Wednesday, Law said the race's outcome was unfortunate, but he wasn't disappointed. He called running for Congress a "rich life experience" and said he was "blessed" to get what support he did.

Asked if he plans to endorse Murphy or Perry, Law said he's "doing some research" on both, and has made no decision.

Coming in sixth was Lenoir County Commissioner Eric Rouse, who garnered 3,251 total votes. The seventh and lower finishers each drew fewer than 2,300 votes, some far less.

Murphy and Perry have both stressed their conservative credentials on numerous issues, though Perry has put particular emphasis on a social issues, particularly her opposition to abortion. In published reports, she's commented she decided to run in response to legislation in New York that critics claim will allow more late-term abortions.

Murphy and Perry have also drawn distinctions with Republican President Donald Trump in some areas. Murphy has opposed tariffs the president has implemented, while Perry has, according to a News & Observer report, expressed "reluctance" about using an emergency declaration to fund wall construction on the southern border without congressional ap-

proval.

Last week's election also included three Currituck residents, including Currituck Commissioners Mike Payment and Paul Beaumont and a physician, Dr. Kevin Baiko.

Beaumont finished ahead of Payment districtwide, in 13th place with 1.8 percent of the vote. Payment came in 14th place with 1.3 percent. Beaumont won Camden County and came in second in Pasquotank, but lost Currituck to Payment.

Payment won Currituck 26.4 percent to Beaumont's 20.7 percent.


Neither Payment nor Beaumont could be reached for comment, but Baiko said he's thankful for what support he received. He finished in second-to-last place with only 0.4 percent of the vote. Baiko, a strong proponent of medical marijuana, said his practice required him to see patients in Hawaii, where medical marijuana is legal, and so he missed most of the campaign period.

However, Baiko said the campaign connected him to influential people in the district, and they encouraged him to stay involved in politics. He may run for office again, though maybe not at the federal level, he said.

Baiko said he is endorsing Perry over Murphy, praising her for having a "quick mind" and a "caring heart." He also said she was the only candidate to request information on legalizing medical marijuana, his key issue.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Perquimans County is considering the leasing of the Old Library Building located at 110 W. Academy Street to Historic Hertford, Inc. (Carolina Moon Theater Group) for \$1.00 annually at their June 3, 2019 Board of Commissioners' meeting at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will be held in the Commissioners' Room of the Perquimans County Annex Building located at 110 North Church Street, Hertford, NC.



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INVITATION ATTENTION PARENTS OF PRIVATE/HOME SCHOOL STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES IN PERQUIMANS COUNTY

A meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 21, 2019 at 4:00 pm at the Perquimans County Schools Central Office, located at 411 Edenton Road Street, Hertford, NC 27944 for private/home school representatives and parents of private/home school students with disabilities. The purpose of this meeting is to allow these parties an opportunity to consult with representatives from Perquimans County Schools about the proportionate share of federal funds that are available for special education services for the 2019-2020 school year. Please contact Mrs. Kanika Griffin at 252-426-5741 if additional information is needed.