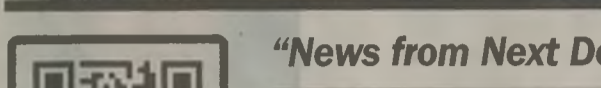


THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



"News from Next Door"

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2022

\$1.50



SCAN ME



PAGE A2
EC teen charged in Aug. fatal shooting in Snug Harbor



PAGE A8
lan's remnants cross region, damage cotton crop



PAGE B1
Roper's Chandler wins Chowan fair pageant

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PERQUIMANS COUNTY LIBRARY
514 S CHURCH ST
HERTFORD NC 27944-1225

Perquimans gets \$37M grant for new intermediate school

School would replace Hertford Grammar, Perquimans Middle

From staff reports

The Perquimans County Schools has received a state needs-based school facilities grant of nearly \$37 million for a new school to serve grades 3-8.

The new school would replace Hertford Grammar School and Perquimans Middle School.

The grant of \$36.9 million was announced last month by the N.C. Department of Public Instruction.

Nine school districts have been awarded facilities grants totaling \$300 million for 2022-23. The projects were selected from 164 grant applications that came from 72 school districts across the state.

State Superintendent of Public Instruction Catherine Truitt, who visited the Perquimans County

Schools on Wednesday, said the grants will help build school facilities that create the best possible learning environments for children.

"Many students in North Carolina attend schools built decades ago," Truitt said in a statement released by her office. "These grants are paying for schools designed and built for the 21st century. Today's students, regardless of where they live and attend school, de-

serve nothing less."

In addition to the grant for Perquimans, elsewhere in the region:

- Gates County Schools received \$9.8 million for additions and renovations to Gates County High School.

- Hyde County Schools received \$8.3 million for additions and renovations to the Mattamuskeet School.

- Tyrrell County Schools received \$350,000 for a new career and technical education center

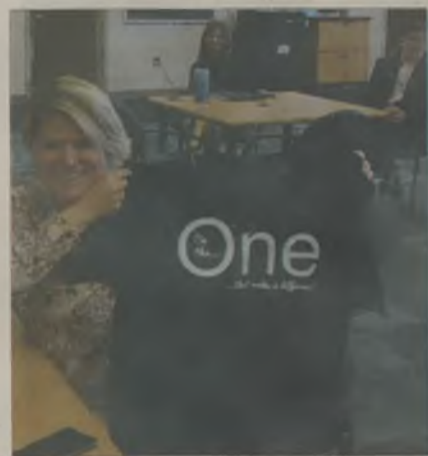
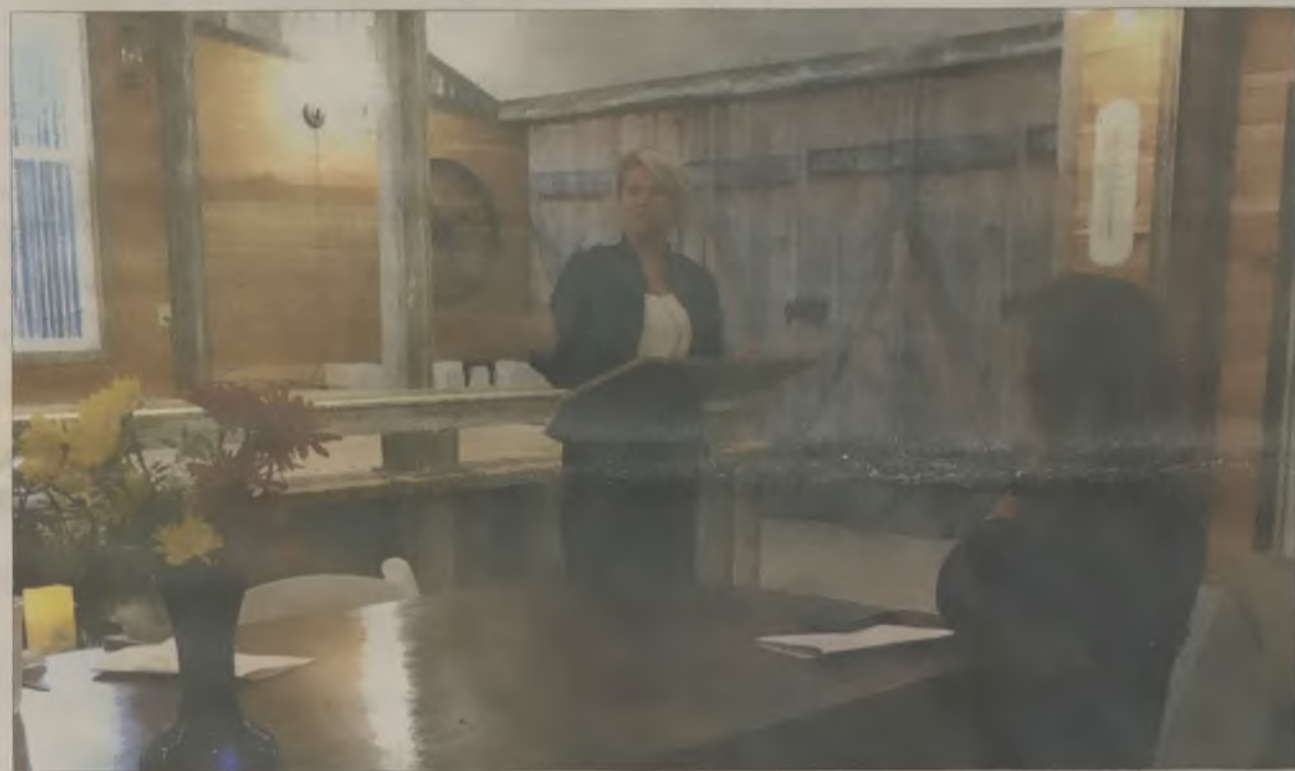


PHOTO COURTESY CORRIE BYRD/NC DPI

State Superintendent of Public Instruction Catherine Truitt holds a "Be the One" T-shirt she received during a visit to the Perquimans County Schools on Wednesday, Sept. 28.

Top school official visits



JOHN FOLEY/THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

North Carolina Superintendent of Public Instruction Catherine Truitt addresses the Perquimans County Republican Party, guests and county school officials during an event at the Crawfish Shack, Tuesday, Sept. 27. Perquimans County Schools Superintendent Tanya Turner (right) was among the local school officials in attendance.

Truitt: NC needs phonics-based reading

Truitt spoke to county GOP, toured county schools

BY JOHN FOLEY
Staff Writer

More than 50 Perquimans County Republicans, their guests and county school officials gathered under twinkling lights and flowered chandeliers at Winfall's Crawfish Shack last week to welcome North Carolina Superintendent of Public Instruction Catherine Truitt.

Truitt, a registered Republican, was scheduled to tour Perquimans County

INSIDE

Truitt eyes alternate ways to evaluate schools, districts. Page B2.

Schools on Wednesday, Sept. 28, and was invited to address the group the night before by Perquimans GOP Chairman Tim Brinn.

"People ask me all of the time what is the most enjoyable part of my job," Truitt said. "It is seeing the schools. Particularly the kindergarten classes."

Truitt wasted little time pointing out what she sees

as the biggest obstacle to students' ability to make academic progress in North Carolina classrooms. She said learning to read is key to students getting a solid education.

Truitt said "one of the reasons" she ran for state school superintendent was to help ensure all students have options after graduating from high school.

"We have too many kids in our state who cross that stage and shake your hand and say, 'I don't know' when asked, 'what are you going to do now?'" she said.

Truitt noted that only 31%

of high school seniors in North Carolina obtain any kind of workforce credentials by the time they are 25.

"We need to make sure that we are preparing students to be successful after high school," she said. "The purpose of fourth-grade is not to get ready for fifth-grade. The purpose of fourth-grade is to potentially prepare a child to graduate from high school and be able to be successful in whatever they chose."

Truitt also expressed concern that state testing

See TRUITT, A3

Cole pitches justice complex to county board

Facility could make annex at courthouse available to biz

BY REGGIE PONDER
Staff Writer

Hertford interim Town Manager Janice Cole asked Perquimans commissioners Monday to revisit building a new justice-government complex away from downtown Hertford.

Cole, who served on the Perquimans Board of Commissioners from 2010-16, said one of her many hats as interim town manager is Main Street Program manager, and she made the case for the justice center mainly on the basis of downtown business needs.

Currently, downtown Hertford is essentially one block, she told the commissioners at their regular meeting Monday.

"There is very little room for expansion for down-

INSIDE

Judicial, county complex would free up space downtown. Page B4.



COLE

double the space available for shops downtown, she said.

Cole noted that she advocated for the new justice center when she was a county commissioner. A former District Court judge, she mentioned that she also advocated for a new complex even before she was a county

See COLE, A2

Candidates weigh in on commission's plan for monument

Current board kept statue where it is, to put up signage

BY REGGIE PONDER
Staff Writer

This week, candidates for county commissioner in Perquimans County comment on how current commissioners have handled the controversial issue of the Confederate monument on the lawn of the Perquimans County Courthouse.

In the past year commissioners received a recommendation from a study group established by the board, which called for keeping the Confederate monument in place on the Perquimans Courthouse grounds, adding contextual signs near the monument, and approaching the owner of the Union Soldiers Monument on King Street about possibly relocating that monument to the Courthouse lawn.

The commissioners approved the sign plan and asked about the Union Soldiers Monument. Owners of the monument indicated they were not interested in relocating the monument.

Republican incumbent Wallace Nelson, Democratic incumbent Fondella Leigh, Republican James Ward, Democrat Keith Nowell and unaffiliated voter Tim Corprew responded to The Perquimans Weekly's request for a response to the question. The newspaper did not receive a response from candidate Quentin Jackson.

TPW: What do you think of the county's handling of issues related to the Confederate monument?

Ward: "My thoughts on the Confederate monument are that I believe it should stay standing, as well as the Colored Union Soldiers Monument, and

See MONUMENT, A3

New Chamber chief Cangemi has full plate

Community calendar, annual dinner among her projects

BY JOHN FOLEY
Staff Writer

New Perquimans County Chamber of Commerce Director Diane Cangemi hit the ground running when she was handed keys to the Chamber's Market Street office last month.

She kind of had to. With



CANGEMI

Chamber was in the midst of planning for a number of upcoming events.

"We are having an open house for National Chamber of Commerce Day October 19th. And along with that, we are hosting the Trunk or Treat event October 28th from 4:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. on Church

Street in downtown Hertford," said Cangemi. "We are also helping with the Small Business Saturday Event November 26th in downtown Hertford."

While Cangemi has never been a Chamber director before, she believes the role is similar to other management jobs she's held.

"This job is like any management job I've had over the past 35 years," she said. "It requires the fundamental understanding of business practices, accounting knowledge, marketing and understanding the needs of customers — in our case our members."

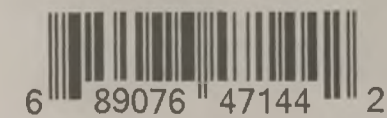
The Perquimans County Chamber currently has 325 members.

"We are a small community, with small businesses," Cangemi said. "The saying, 'it takes a village,' I think it takes a village of businesses working together to grow our local economy and I am here to help (do that) as the director of the Chamber of Commerce."

Cangemi is still relatively new to Hertford. Born and raised in Northern Virginia, she lived in Winchester Va. before moving to Hertford last December.

"We always loved the Outer Banks and have been visiting friends and relatives in the Outer Banks area our whole lives," she said. "We knew we wanted to be close

See DIRECTOR, A8



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