

THE PERQUIMAN WEEKLY

Help us put a little *Merry* under their christmas tree!

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75th Anniversary

PERQUIMANS COUNTY
335 S. HER 908
514 S. CHURCH ST.
HERTFORD NC 27944

"News from Next Door"

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2022



SCAN ME



PAGE A2
22H/T24
Foundation recently presented T-shirts to OCS students



PAGE B1
Serve and advance: Lady Pirates sweep Northside-Pinetown



PAGE B3
First-ever Niche Ag Conference to highlight niche farming

Commission hopefuls excited about early voting turnout

Over 1,600 have already voted early in Tuesday's election

BY REGGIE PONDER
Staff Writer

The six candidates for county commissioner in Perquimans County expressed appreciation this week for the relatively strong turnout during one-stop voting and expressed cautious optimism as they turned their eyes toward Tuesday's turnout on Election Day.

As of 10 a.m. Tuesday, 1,676 voters had cast ballots at one-stop voting an 50 absentee ballots had



CORPREW JACKSON LEIGH NELSON NOWELL WARD

been received by mail. One-stop voting continues today and Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and again on Saturday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Board of Elections Office at 601 S. Edenton Road St., Hertford.

Polls open statewide for Tuesday's General Election at 6:30 p.m.

and close at 7:30 p.m.

The six candidates are vying for three seats on the board. They include incumbent Republican Wallace Nelson and incumbent Democrat Fondella Leigh, Democrats James Nowell and Quentin Jackson, Republican James Ward,

and un-affiliated candidate Tim Corpew. Under the county's "single shot" electoral system, voters cast their ballot for only one candidate in the race even though three commissioners are being elected.

"I'm optimistic about the election," said Nelson, who currently chairs the Perquimans County Board of Commissioners. "Cam-

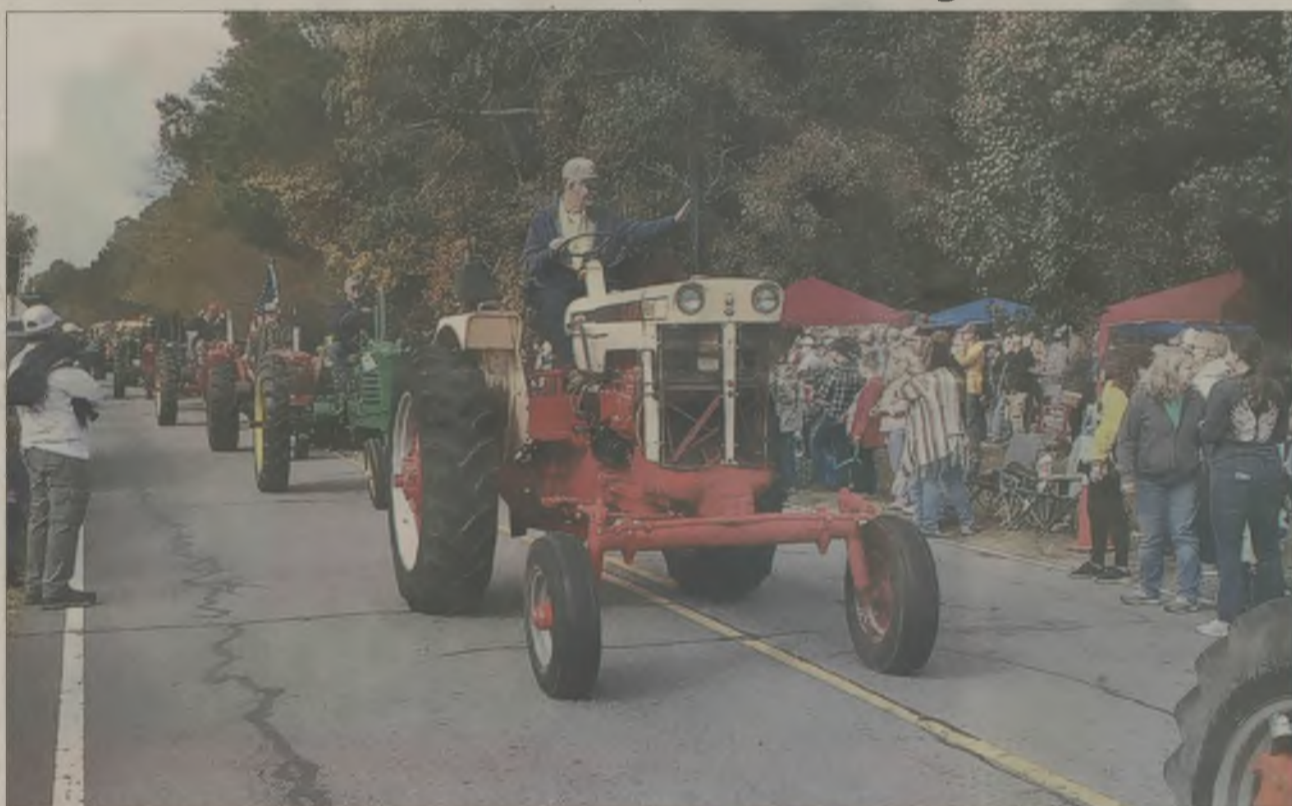
ELECTION NIGHT

Because of The Perquimans Weekly's early deadline Tuesday night, we will not have results from Tuesday's election in next week's edition. Look for the results online Tuesday night at perquimansweekly.com and for full coverage in our Nov. 17 edition.

aigning is another opportunity to connect with those we serve, to sharpen our focus on their concerns, and hear ideas for our future.

See COMMISSION, A6

Belvidere Day



PHOTOS BY JOHN FOLEY/THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

A tractor tools through Belvidere during the parade at Belvidere Day Saturday. More than 1,000 people are estimated to have attended the 10th Belvidere Day event.

1,000-plus turn out for parade, food, fun

Parade featured tractors, antique cars, fire trucks

BY JOHN FOLEY
Staff Writer

BELVIDERE — More than 1,000 residents, visitors, and those who have attended the every year it's been held converged on the Belvidere community Saturday for the 10th Belvidere Day celebration.

"I can't imagine that it wasn't over 1,000 people," said Libby Wilburn, treasurer of the Belvidere Ruritan Club, which sponsored the event. "We had 87 vendors in 100 spaces. I believe everyone did real well this year."

It didn't matter where your taste buds wandered: there was food, fun and entertainment in a variety of

See BELVIDERE, A3



Steve Palermo hugs the two bags of kettle corn he purchased at Belvidere Day in Belvidere on Saturday.

Delays are over: S-Bridge opened to vehicle traffic

New half-mile bridge opens 2 months after ribbon-cutting

From staff reports

HERTFORD — Nearly two months after holding a ribbon-cutting ceremony for Hertford's new S-Bridge, the N.C. Department of Transportation officially opened the new span to vehicle traffic on Tuesday, Oct. 25.

The first vehicles — fire trucks from Hertford and Winfall — met at the middle of bridge about 4 p.m.,

DOT said in a press release.

According to DOT, the new swing-span bridge carries U.S. Highway 17 Business over the Perquimans River between Hertford and Winfall. It replaces the deteriorating former Hertford S-Bridge, which accommodated vehicles and maritime traffic for 93 years before it was dismantled and removed last year.

Construction began on the new bridge's

See BRIDGE, A3



JOHN FOLEY/THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

A Perquimans County Schools bus crosses the newly reopened S-Bridge over the Perquimans River, Wednesday, Oct. 26. The N.C. Department of Transportation officially opened the bridge to vehicle traffic on Oct. 25, nearly two months after holding a ribbon cutting to celebrate the bridge's near completion.

Marine vet, county native, to speak at Veterans Day event

Post 126 to host observance Nov. 11 on courthouse lawn

From staff reports

A retired Marine Corps veteran who served in both Iraq and Somalia will be the keynote speaker for this year's Perquimans County Veterans Day observance hosted by Hertford American Legion Post 126.

John L Benton, a Perquimans County native, will speak at the observance at the Veterans Memorial on the Perquimans County Courthouse lawn Friday, Nov. 11, at 11 a.m.

Post 126 Commander Rick Caporale said the



BENTON

observance will also include the American Legion's traditional POW/MIA Remembrance Service.

"A POW/MIA empty chair is placed at all official meetings or observances as a physical symbol of the thousands of American prisoners of war and those missing in action still unaccounted for from all wars and conflicts involving this country," Caporale said. "Let us remember and

See BENTON, A6

Sailing couple on 'Dream Inspiration Tour'

Coverts docked 78-foot Huron Jewel at AP last week

BY JOHN FOLEY
The Perquimans Weekly

When Julie and Hugh Covert docked their 78-foot, hand-built schooner Huron Jewel at Albemarle Plantation last week, their "Dream Inspiration Tour" had been underway for three months but the seed for it was planted years ago.

The Coverts, who live on

Drummonds Island, Michigan, had just spent their first New Year's Eve together as a married couple, watching the ball drop in Times Square to usher in a new year when Julie looked at Hugh and asked, "What do you want to do with your life?"

"I want to build schooner," he replied.

That conversation would eventually lead Hugh, a self-taught naval architect and boat builder, to build the Huron Jewel and the Coverts to undertake a 7,500-nautical mile journey from Drummond Island in August.

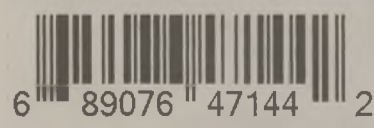
After leaving home, the Coverts crossed

See JEWEL, A3



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The schooner Huron Jewel is shown on the Albemarle Sound while visiting Albemarle Plantation last week. Owners Hugh and Julie Covert are sailing the 78-foot schooner Hugh built from their home in Drummond Island, Michigan, to the Caribbean.



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