

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



SCAN ME

"News from Next Door"

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First electric chargers in county close to operational

AEMC hopes to have slow, fast chargers ready in spring

BY TYLER NEWMAN
Staff Writer

The first electric vehicle chargers in Perquimans County will soon be operational at Albemarle Electric Membership Corporation, courtesy of funding from North Carolina's share of the national Volkswagen Settlement Program.

The electric membership

cooperative, headquartered in Winfall, is currently installing two ChargePoint pedestals in its north parking lot at 125 Cooperative Way, just off U.S. Highway 17. One will feature a fast charging port, the other a slow charging port.

The difference between the two chargers is that slow charging stations take several hours to charge an electric vehicle battery to maximum capacity while fast charging stations can boost a battery to about 80

percent in approximately 30 minutes.

"The slow charger will have two charging ports, and the fast charger will have one charging port," AEMC spokesman Chris Powell said. "The ChargePoint chargers can charge several different models of electric vehicles, including Teslas."

Powell said that Albemarle EMC has been working on the electric charging project since August 2022. Both chargers are being

partially paid for through grants awarded by the N.C. Department of Environmental Quality.

"For the slow charger, we received an \$8,000 grant, and the total cost for charger and installation will be an estimated \$16,000," Powell explained. "For the fast charger, we received a \$48,000 grant, and the total cost for the charger and installation is estimated to be \$93,000."

See AEMC, A2



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Albemarle Electric Membership Corporation plans to install two new electric vehicle chargers this spring in the north parking lot of AEMC's headquarters in Winfall.

Revitalization jumpstart



PHOTOS BY TYLER NEWMAN/THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

Ellis Everett (left) and James Williams work to complete the roof over an addition to a dilapidated house on South Edenton Road Street in Hertford. Everett recently purchased the house and two others nearby. He plans to fix up the houses and rent them to families and those struggling to make ends meet.

Everett turning eyesores into housing



Shown are two of the three dilapidated homes Ellis Everett purchased on the west side of Hertford. Everett plans to fix up the houses and rent them to families and those struggling to make ends meet.

Native: Restoring housing for others lets him give back

BY TYLER NEWMAN
Staff Writer

Perquimans native Ellis Everett is on a mission to restore dilapidated homes in his hometown, one nail at a time.

An alumnus of both Perquimans County High and Elizabeth City State University, Everett moved to

New York after he finished school.

Now he's returned home to give back to the community he says raised him by fixing up dilapidated homes and renting them to families and those struggling to make ends meet.

"I'm retiring in a year or two, so I wanted to come down and give people something decent to live in," Everett said. "I've got some

See EVERETT, A3

Without town cops, sheriff's office now patrolling Winfall

White, Heath: No move by Winfall to formalize services

BY REGGIE PONDER
Staff Writer

WINFALL — The Perquimans County Sheriff's Office is currently responding to law enforcement emergencies in Winfall because the town doesn't have any law enforcement officers.

"We are responding to calls the same as we do anywhere in the county," said Perquimans County Sheriff Shelby White.

But unlike town officials in neighboring Hertford, Winfall town officials thus far have not entered into a formal contract with the Perquimans County Sher-



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iff's Office to provide law enforcement services in the town. Hertford officials entered into a contract with the sheriff's office for law enforcement services nearly two years ago, in July 2021.

According to its contract with the county last year, Hertford gave the sheriff's office five additional sworn officers — four road deputies and an investigator — plus an administrative employee. Those six employees provide service

See WINFALL, A3



PHOTO COURTESY INTER-COUNTY VFD

Inter-County Volunteer Fire Chief Michael Cartwright (left) and Assistant Fire Chief A.J. Moore (right) pose with J.R. Beard after he was named the department's Firefighter of the Year for 2022 at the department's annual banquet in January.

Beard Inter-County's Firefighter of Year

Overton, Howard, Rountree also honored at annual banquet

From staff reports

A captain with the Inter-County Volunteer Fire Department was recently named the department's Firefighter of the Year for 2022.

J.R. Beard received the honor during the department's annual banquet in late January.

The banquet was held to honor current and former Inter-County members for their service and accomplishments over the past year. The event was attended by Inter-Coun-

ty members and retirees, their guests, and county commissioners and county managers from both Perquimans and Pasquotank counties.

Other honorees at the Jan. 21 event included Brandon Overton, who was named Rookie of the Year; Hunter Howard, who was named Junior Firefighter of the Year; and Eugene Rountree Jr., who was recognized for his more than four decades of fire service following his recent retirement.

According to a press release from Inter-County VFD, the Firefighter of the

See VFD, A3

Author Dunn weaves history into novels

Dunn discussed genealogy, writing with Friends of Library

BY REGGIE PONDER
Staff Writer

Author Deborah Dunn says finally living out her long dream of writing novels has been a joyful experience.

Dunn, who's first book was titled "The Coffins," said local historian Phil Mc-

Mullan's nonfiction work, "Beechland and The Lost Colony," helped inspire and inform the book.

McMullan's book mentions coffins that were discovered in the Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge in the 1950s. The coffins were made from canoes and were thought to have contained the remains of colonists connected to the Lost Colony, she said.

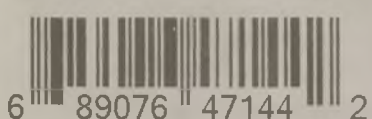
Addressing the Perquimans Friends of the Library group Feb. 23, Dunn explained that she came up with a fictional story about those coffins, and chose to make



REGGIE PONDER/THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

Deborah Dunn, author of "The Coffins" and "The Vessel," addresses the Friends of the Perquimans County Library about her research and writing of historical novels, Feb. 23.

See DUNN, A3



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