

# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



Pets of the Week, 11

"News from Next Door"

WEDNESDAY, MAY 2, 2018

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SUBMITTED PHOTO

Bert Webb, a Hertford police officer, was sworn in last week as the town's new interim police chief.

## New interim chief named

BY PETER WILLIAMS  
News Editor

Hertford has a new interim police chief.

Sgt. Bill Mitchell resigned Wednesday, according to Town Manager Brandon Shoaf. Mitchell had been interim chief since November when former chief Douglas Freeman retired suddenly for medical reasons.

The new interim chief is Lt. Bert Webb. He was

sworn in the same day as Mitchell stepped down, Shoaf said. Shoaf said Mitchell didn't say what he'd do next. Mitchell could not be reached for comment.

Webb has been with the department since September 2014 and rose through the ranks. He also serves as the training coordinator for the department and is a certified law enforcement instructor. He has a degree in Law Enforcement Technol-

ogy and holds an Advanced Law Enforcement Certification.

"With his education and experience, I think Bert is very capable of carrying the department through this transition," Shoaf said. "He has the connections in and around the law enforcement community to garner assistance if needed."

Applications for the Chief of Police are being accepted until May 23. The pay range

listed on the town web site is \$42,516 depending on the candidate \$62,923.

The police department has come under fire often from newly elected Town Councilman Quentin Jackson. Jackson claims they don't follow proper procedures and they are poorly trained.

Jackson has had several brushes with the law includ-

See CHIEF, 2

## Early voting winds down

BY PETER WILLIAMS  
News Editor

As the deadline looms on the primary election, some voters haven't waited.

As of Monday at the close of business, the Perquimans County Elections Office said 180 voters had cast an early ballot.

Turnout is not expected to be high because Democrats pretty much don't have decisions to make until November.

Early voting is still available until Saturday. The hours are 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. today and 8 a.m. until 7 p.m. Thursday and Friday. The elections office on Edenton Road Street will also be accepting voters Saturday from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m.

The only local race that will be decided in May is for Perquimans County School Board. But in that case, there are three people running for three seats, so unless there are a large number of write-in ballots, they stand a good chance of winning.

Running this year are incumbents Anne White and Amy Spough and challenger Matt Peeler. Peeler has served on the Perquimans County Commission before, but opted not to run again when his term expired two years ago. This is

See VOTING, 2

## Board to review equestrian plan

From Staff Reports

The Perquimans County Planning Board will review a proposal next week to rezone property at Albemarle Plantation to allow an equestrian facility.

The meeting will take place Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the commissioner's meeting room of the courthouse annex, 110 N. Church St.

The Albemarle Plantation Property Owners Association is requesting the change.

The 31 acre site is presently zoned RA-25. That allows both residential and agricultural activities. The request is to rezone it RA, which is a rural agricultural classification.

Rhonda Money, Perquimans County Planner, said both zoning categories allow people to keep horses. The RA zoning would allow somebody to operate a horse-related business on the site.



STAFF PHOTOS BY PETER WILLIAMS

Kalie White shades in a picture of a goose at a Perquimans Arts League event on Church Street in Hertford Saturday. Below, a boy shoots a foam-tipped arrow in a game archery.

## Riverbash called a success

BY PETER WILLIAMS  
News Editor

Organizers say the first ever Riverbash festival was a success and hope to do it again next year.

Sharon Smith, Perquimans County's tourism director, called it "awesome."

"I'm thrilled," she said. "I just love that everyone came together and did their part to make the whole shebang a fantastic event for our whole county."

The weather — always an unknown factor with outdoor events — cooperated with warm temperatures and clear skies Friday and Saturday.

Smith said she was unsure just how many people attended, but estimated it at more than 1,000. Only one of the events, the Drink, Dine and Dance Saturday was a ticketed activity and it sold out.

Smith called it a template of how the community can run a festival.

"We have so many community organizations that can put a bunch of energy on their own events. I thought how about sharing that energy in a

See RIVERBASH, 2



Tony Maine of Belvidere Alpaca Farm LLC holds two of the animals Saturday at Riverbash in Hertford.

## Board reviews hiring process

BY PETER WILLIAMS  
News Editor

The Town of Hertford doesn't need an outside consultant to find a new town manager, but council members were warned the process won't be fast and it probably won't be cheap.

Consultant Hartwell Wright walked the council through ways the process. Given his experience they should fully expect it could be six months before a replacement is found.

"It's not going to be a 30-day process," Wright said.

The going salary for a town manager the size of Hertford is between \$85,000 and \$95,000.

Time is an issue since Town Manager Brandon Shoaf announced he would resign effective May 28 to take a job in Chowan County.

The full five-member board was only in the meeting for 30 minutes when Councilman Quentin Jackson walked out and didn't come back.

"You have a good day Mr. Mayor, but we're not following procedures," Jackson said and then walked out.

It apparently was because Mayor Horace Reid gavelled Jackson to stop talking when he went in a lengthy discussion about the roles of the council, the manager and town employees. The meeting went on for another hour after Jackson left.

After Jackson left, Wright continued his presentation.

Wright covers the state working with the North Carolina League of Mu-

See BOARD, 2

## Carolina Moon play this weekend

From Staff Reports

What if your grandma was running an underground market for hand-made naughty undergarments?

That's what Bridget, played by Hannah Cole, finds out when she moves in with her "Nana," played by Paula Saje, in Carolina Moon Theater's spring production "Nana's Naughty Knickers." "It's one of the funniest shows we've ever put on," said Producer,



COLE



NICHOLAS



SAJE

Lynne Raymond. "Everyone is so good in their roles. The audience is going to love it."

Dana Nicholas is making his directorial debut with this play. He joined Carolina Moon in the fall of 2016 when he acted in "Anyone Out There."

"Technically this play is quite a challenge and without Steve Burket and the whole crew of Caro-

lina Moon, including several backstage 'hands', we could not pull this off successfully," Nicholas said. "I am

looking forward to a fun time for all."

Tickets are still available for all three nights, Friday and Saturday at 7 p.m. and Sunday at 4 p.m.

Tickets may be purchased at Carolina Trophy at 109 N. Church St, Hertford, or online at [www.CarolinaMoonTheater.org](http://www.CarolinaMoonTheater.org) and available at the door until sold out.

Sales are by cash and check only.

## SCHOOLS TO PERFORM WIZARD OF OZ



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Perquimans County students will be performing The Wizard of Oz this Thursday and Friday at 7 p.m. in the high school auditorium. Students from each school were brought to the high school in the past few days to see the full performance. Some of the funding came from the Albemarle Plantation Women's Club and Doug Markham.



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