



Pets of the Week, 9

"News from Next Door"

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75 cents

Grand jury indicts Jackson for perjury

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

A Hertford town councilman has been charged with perjury after he allegedly denied in court that he was on probation when in fact he was.

Councilman Quentin Jackson was indicted by a Perquimans County grand jury on the perjury charge on April 30. According to



JACKSON

a \$2,000 secured bond. Jackson was charged with perjury because of

statements he allegedly made during a trial in February that ended with his conviction on a charge of misdemeanor resisting, delaying and obstructing a police officer.

A Hertford police officer had pulled over Jackson's SUV on Feb. 1 after observing that instead of a license plate, Jackson's vehicle bore a makeshift tag made of a popcorn box with letters

and numbers written on it.

Besides charging Jackson with displaying a fictitious license tag, the officer also charged him with resisting a police officer. The officer did so after the councilman refused an order to get back in his vehicle.

When the matter was heard at trial, District Court Judge Edgar Barnes ruled there wasn't enough evidence to convict Jackson

of displaying a fictitious tag. However, he did find sufficient evidence that the councilman had resisted the officer's directive.

After finding Jackson guilty, Barnes sentenced him to 10 days in jail. The sentence is still on hold, however, because Jackson appealed Barnes' ruling to Superior Court and the matter hasn't been resolved.

Jackson, who represent-

ed himself during the District Court trial, was asked by prosecutors at one point if he was currently serving probation for his conviction in an unrelated case in Dare County. Jackson testified that he was not on probation.

According to court records, however, Jackson was on probation at the

See JACKSON, 2

Town finds cheaper coverage

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

Switching health insurance carriers will save the Town of Hertford \$4,500 a month next fiscal year.



SHOAF

Each year we shop around to find the best deal," Shoaf told the Hertford Town Council last month. "We've gone from Blue Cross to Cigna and now Aetna."

The insurance discussion was part of the same meeting Tuesday in which the town board learned what is involved in selecting a new town manager. Shoaf's last day is May 28. Shoaf said he wanted to get the insurance issue resolved in plenty of time before start of the new fiscal year July 1.

The town has traditionally picked up the cost of health coverage for the town's 25 employees

This year's bid from the

See COVERAGE, 2



PHOTO BY PAM HADDEN

Speakers gather at the National Day of Prayer sponsored by the Holiday Island Property Owners Association.

Local groups unite in prayer

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

Speakers at two different events prayed for nation and aspects of American during events marking the National Day of Prayer Thursday.

Seven speakers called for unity and prayed for the nation, families, schools, the youth, federal, state and local leaders and the military last week on the courthouse lawn.

Later the same day, the Holiday Island Property Owners Association held its National Day of Prayer event. It marked the 13th year for the event there.

At the noon courthouse event, the Hertford Fire Department handled the presentation of colors and the Perquimans County High School band provided music.

Pastor James Spaugh of Bagley Swamp Wesleyan Church offered the welcoming address.

"Let us set aside our dif-

See PRAYER, 2



STAFF PHOTOS BY PETER WILLIAMS

Middle, Pastor James Spaugh speaks at a National Day of Prayer event outside the Perquimans courthouse last week. Right, the Hertford Fire Department provided the color guard for a National Day of Prayer event in Hertford last week.



Jury finds Norman guilty

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

A Hertford town councilman has been found guilty a second time of failing to obey a state trooper's orders at the scene of an arrest in 2016.

A Perquimans County Superior Court jury found Frank Norman guilty on April 30 of misdemeanor



NORMAN

resisting, obstructing and delaying a law enforcement officer. A District Court judge found Norman guilty of the same charge in 2017 but the councilman appealed the verdict to Superior Court.

Following the jury's verdict, Superior Court Judge Wayland J. Sermons Jr. sentenced Norman to 10 days in jail, but suspended the sentence. He instead sentenced the councilman to serve six months of supervised probation and ordered him to perform 24 hours of community service.

Sermons also sentenced Norman to serve three days in jail for his conviction on a charge of failure to appear in court on Sept. 18, 2017.

See NORMAN, 2



STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS

North Carolina's First Lady Kristin Cooper admires a child's sweater at the Perquimans Arts League last week. One of her hobbies is knitting.

North Carolina's First Lady pays a visit

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

North Carolina's First Lady Kristin Cooper paid a visit to Perquimans County last week as part of her quest to spend some quality time in all 100 of the state's counties.

Cooper, the wife of Gov. Roy Cooper and an attorney by training, spent a good deal of Tuesday afternoon at the Perquimans Arts League (PAL).

She said she's enjoying the visits. Before visiting

Hertford, she was in Bertie County and after Hertford, she went to Elizabeth City.

"I learn something at every place I go. I see so many wonderful things going on across the state."

Cooper said many rural areas "feel neglected" and big cities tend to make the most headlines.

During the Hertford stop she visited the current PAL shop in the Hall of Fame Building, then went down Church Street to the future PAL home in a former grocery store built in 1910. PAL

acquired the 5,500 square foot building recently and is in the process of raising funds to transform it into a permanent home for the arts and related activities.

Cooper seemed to be in awe at the large open space the new building has and the pressed metal ceiling.

The Hertford stop makes 41 counties Cooper has visited. She wants to get all 100 before the end of 2020.

In Elizabeth City, Cooper visited Sheep Harney Elementary School. Issues dealing with children rank

high on Cooper's list of concerns.

Cooper saw how Sheep-Harney translates the arts emphasis of the A-plus school model into academic success for students.

Cooper said she was impressed by the way teachers at Sheep-Harney incorporate lessons from all subject areas into fun songs and other activities that the children enjoy.

"It's something that's hard to explain until you see it in

See COOPER, 2

Hundreds cast early ballots

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

By now, the 2018 primary election should be in the history books.

Voters went to the polls on Tuesday and cast ballots in one local race for the

Perquimans County school board and as many as three other races. Results will be published in the May 16 issue of The Perquimans Weekly.

There were 416 Perquimans residents who didn't wait, and cast a ballot in early voting.

When it comes to ballots, there wasn't a lot on this one.

Democrats were limited to just voting for the non-partisan school board race

that featured three people running for three seats.

Democrats would have had a race for the N.C. District 1 Senate race, but a panel determined Democrat Richard James is not a valid resident of the ballot. His name still appeared on the ballot. Washington County Commissioner Cole Phelps, will be the presumed winner of the Democratic primary for the 11-county Sen-

See ELECTION, 2

WIZARD OF OZ



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Perquimans County High School drama department put on The Wizard of Oz last week in the high school auditorium.



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