

# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

"News from Next Door"

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2021

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Work begins on art council space



**PAGE B1**  
Connor wins 100-meter freestyle



**PAGE B4**  
This week in North Carolina history

## SBI Investigating Town of Hertford

BY MILES LAYTON  
Editor

North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation Public Information Director Angie Grube said the SBI received a request from the District Attorney on Friday, Jan. 29 to investigate the potential misuse of Town of Hertford equipment.

Neither the SBI nor District Attorney R. Andrew Womble offered comment about the investigation.

Town Manager Pam Hurdle nor Mayor Earnell Brown offered comment about the in-

vestigation.

Meanwhile, Town Council's Monday meetings were canceled due to a lack of a quorum.

Construction on the dais, a raised platform at the front of a room or hall, usually for one or more speakers or honored guests, has not been completed at the Community Center.

The computer isn't there, so council was unable to stream and save the meeting on the town computer. Also the heating unit is not working properly.

Councilman Frank Norman

objected to the meeting's cancellation.

"The meeting was not canceled," he wrote in an email to Hurdle. "You can not just decide to not come to a meeting. There are laws for that. Now council members and the mayor can not show up and the meeting not happen because lack of a quorum but Madame Manager the meeting was not canceled and I will be there on time as usual."

Though there was no official meeting, councilmen Quentin Jackson and Norman held an informal meeting anyway on Facebook Live.

### Councilman Faces Trespassing, Breaking & Entering Charges

BY MILES LAYTON  
Editor

Hertford Town Councilman Jerry Mimplitsch has been charged with second-degree trespassing and breaking and entering, both misdemeanors, according to an arrest warrant.

Issued Thursday Jan. 28, the warrant states Mimplitsch, 40, of Church Street, and local civic



MIMPLITSCH

activist Tim Brinn, 67, of Front Street, allegedly broke into a property at 321 Market Street owned by local businessman Tony Riddick on Oct.

See CHARGES, A3

### State Calls for In-person School for Grades K-12

FROM STAFF AND SUBMITTED REPORTS

RALEIGH - Top state education leaders joined Governor Roy Cooper on Tuesday to call on K-12 school districts across the state to allow in-person instruction for all students.

The governor joined North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS) Secretary Mandy Cohen, State Superintendent of Public Instruction Catherine Truitt and State Board of Education Chair Eric Davis to thank educators for their extraordinary work during an unprecedented time, to highlight ongoing research that shows that with proper mitigation measures, in-person learning is safe, and to emphasize the critical importance of ensuring all students have an opportunity to learn in a classroom.

"Protecting the health and safety of the people of this state, especially our children and our teachers, has been our goal," Cooper said. "We know school is important for reasons beyond academic instruction. School is where students learn social skills, get reliable meals, and find their voices. Research done right here in

See SCHOOL, A3

### Winter Weather Wonderland

BY FROM STAFF REPORTS

Though no snowpocalypse nor snowmageddon, Old Man Winter brought his shock and awe to Northeastern North Carolina last week.

Thursday, maybe an inch or so of snow fell here, there and everywhere so much so that kids cheered when Perquimans schools were canceled - SNOW DAY!

More than 1,300 power outages occurred in the New Hope Road area of Perquimans County. See related story page A2.

Kudos to Hertford Police Chief Dennis Brown who braved the cold and elements Thursday morning to assist a stranded motorist.

Friday, it was rainy and sleety

See WINTER, A3



Tim and Kim Brinn's grandson, 13-month-old Perry Lex, wants to go out to play in the snow. Look at the smile on his face.

PHOTO BY KIM BRINN



Brenda Hollowell-White strikes a pose as she holds her little dog Pearl E. White before they walk around and take in Thursday's winter wonderland scenery.

PHOTO BY GLENN WHITE

### ROUND-UP Judge Cole and APWC Scholarship

BY MILES LAYTON  
Editor

A round-up of all things Perquimans County...

Tuesday morning, the nation's foremost weather expert, a groundhog named Punxsutawney Phil, saw his shadow after scurrying out of a burrow at Gobbler's Knob. As the legend goes, that means the country can expect below-average temperatures for the next six weeks.

In other news, this is the last week that longtime Superior Court Judge J.C. Cole will hold court in Pasquotank County. Slated to retire March 31, folks have been begun paying tribute to the man who has served more than two decades on the bench.

A Hertford resident, Cole won election to District Court judge in 1994. He was appointed to the Superior Court in 2009 by then-Gov. Beverly Perdue. He was re-elected in 2010 to an eight-year term and then re-elected again in 2018.

In other matters, Albemarle Plantation Women's Club will award \$1,000 scholarships to young women in Perquimans County based on character, scholastic ability, leadership and need.

The scholarships are open to all female students graduating

See ROUND-UP, A3

### Go Treasure Shopping at Church St. Antiques

BY MILES LAYTON  
Editor

If you ever get in the mood to buy something unique, not a gift that is a carbon copy of anything else, maybe step into this vintage store, Church St. Antiques & Other Cool Stuff.

Located at 135 North Church St. downtown in the heart of Hertford, the business is owned by Steve & Beverly Brickhouse.

"We chose Hertford because

we fell in love with the waterfront, the downtown and our building which was built in 1916 and is one of the great treasures of Perquimans County," Beverly Brickhouse said.

Open 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, customers can shop for top notch furniture, home décor and whole assortment of collectibles including, Pepsi advertising - remember, Pepsi is the taste of the Carolinas.

"We get most of our merchandise from auctions, estate sales, and from buying directly from individuals," Beverly Brickhouse said.

A new business, the vintage

See ANTIQUES, A3

### Group Distributes 150 Boxes of Food

BY MILES LAYTON  
Editor

Saturday's Community Food Distribution at Missing Mill Park provided 150 boxes to Perquimans County and 100 boxes to Hertford County.

Local civic activist Connie Brothers explained more about the event, "to which the glory goes to God."

Brothers said she was in contact with a nonprofit organization who sent her 250 prepackaged boxes filled with onions, potatoes, bags of oranges, cheese, packs of hotdogs, milk, yogurt and fully cooked rotisserie chicken.

People came from all over to pick up a food box.

"My greatest inspiration to minister to those who are going

See FOOD, A3



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Through Connie Brothers' efforts, 250 food boxes were distributed to families across northeastern North Carolina on Saturday at Missing Mill Park.

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