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What's in your wallet?, 7

"News from Next Door"

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2017

50 cents

Rescue squad marks 50 years

BY PETER WILLIAMS
 News Editor

In the 1960s if you had a medical emergency in Perquimans County, the volunteers who arrived were driving a hearse borrowed from a local funeral home may have had no medical training at all.

It was clearly the 1960s and that was then and this is now. But the rescue squad filled a gap. On Sunday Perquimans County Rescue Squad marked their 50th anniversary with an

event in Winfall.

Today a call to 911 will prompt the arrival of an ambulance with a trained paramedic and advanced life support equipment. Volunteer Rescue Squad members play a back-up roll.

Jonathan Nixon, the head of Perquimans County Emergency Management, said in Perquimans County and everywhere else there has been a gradual shift from volunteers to paid staff.

"It used to be we had few

paid EMS personnel and mostly volunteers but the pendulum has been swinging in the other direction," Nixon said.

Nixon estimates he has about 50 paid full and part-time EMS personnel. That doesn't count the telecommunicators who staff the 911 system.

Mark Symons, the head of the Rescue Squad estimates the volunteer rescue squad has about 15 or 20 people now. At its height, the figure was more

See SQUAD, 2



FAMILY GATHER AROUND A FLAGPOLE AT THE PERQUIMANS COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT BUILDING IN WINFALL SUNDAY. THE POLE WAS DEDICATED TO DELTON "BAKE" STALLINGS AND LLOYD "PUNCH" STALLINGS. THE GIFT WAS POSSIBLE BY A DONATION BY LARRY AND BARBARA STALLINGS.

ALS WALK



THE MORE THAN 200 PEOPLE PARTICIPATING IN THE JIM "CATFISH" HUNTER ALS WALK GET AN ESCORT FROM THE PERQUIMANS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE SATURDAY IN HERTFORD. THE EVENT RAISES MORE THAN \$24,000 TO HELP AREA PEOPLE WHO SUFFER FROM THE DISEASE.

STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS

Large fire drill planned

From Staff Reports

Portions of downtown Hertford will be closed to traffic the evening of Oct. 19 during a large-scale fire drill.

Hertford Fire Chief Drew Woodward said about a dozen fire vehicles from Perquimans, Chowan and Pasquotank counties and roughly 100 members will be participating. Woodward said it's been perhaps 15 years since a drill this large has been held in Hertford. The drill starts at 6 p.m. and runs until 10 p.m.

The drill will simulate how to respond to a large fire in the Hall of Fame Building on Market Street.

Portions of Church Street from Grubb Street to Market Street will be closed as well as Market Street from Church Street to Covent Garden and Grubb Street and Covent Garden along with Punch Alley.

The street closures will be required so crews can lay five-inch fire hoses from the simulation area to the driver. Cars won't be allowed on the streets in that area for the four-hour drill.

Coach's parents witness Las Vegas shooting

BY REGGIE PONDER
 The Daily Advance

The deadly shooting rampage at a country music concert in Las Vegas on Sunday night hit close to home for the head football coach at Perquimans County High School.

Ian Rapanick's parents were among the 22,000 people attending the outdoor concert attacked by a lone sniper firing from a room on the 32nd floor of the Mandalay Bay casino hotel. Police say 59 people have now died and another 500 were injured in what's being called the worst mass shooting in modern American history.

Rapanick said Monday that his parents, Chris and Larisa Rapanick, who live in Chesapeake, Va., had gone to Las Vegas for their wedding anniversary.

"They're big country music fans and they wanted to see everybody so they went to the festival," Rapanick said.

The country music festival featured top country music acts such as Luke Bryan and Jason Aldean.

At 10:08 p.m. Sunday, police say a lone gunman, Stephen Craig Paddock, 64, opened fire on the crowd from his room in the Mandalay Bay hotel. He would continue to fire what police believe was automatic gunfire for more than 10 minutes before they were able to locate him at the Mandalay Bay. Police said Paddock killed himself before officers stormed the room where he had been staying.

Rapanick said his mother called him around 1 a.m. Eastern time Monday

See SHOOTING, 2



PERQUIMANS COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL COACH IAN RAPANICK POSES WITH HIS PARENTS, FATHER CHRIS (LEFT) AND MOTHER LARISA.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Baggett rides out hurricane

BY PETER WILLIAMS
 News Editor

Riding out Hurricane Isabel at the Hertford Café in 2003 did not prepare 31-year-old James Baggett for Irma.

The Elizabeth City State University graduate was raised in Perquimans County but has lived in the Caribbean since 2013. He wrote of surviving Irma and spoke briefly to The Perquimans Weekly Tuesday afternoon over a G-mail voice program from his home in Sint Maarten.



BAGGETT

His mother, Merle Bengé and her husband Byron still live in Bear Swamp community. He remembers during Isabel he was held up in Hertford Café on Church Street where he was a dishwasher.

"This was nothing like that," he said.

Sint Maarten is part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, is a coun-

See BAGGETT, 4

Carolina Moon to present play on Oct. 13-15

From Staff Reports

Carolina Moon Theater will offer a taste of murder-mystery dinner theater on Oct. 13-15 at the theater on Grubb Street in Hertford with "Death of a Hot Sauce Salesman."

The dinner theater play revolves around Prescott Knight,

the owner of the Hot Knights Genuine Pepper sauce empire. He discovers on the night of the annual family barbecue that somebody is trying to kill him. A family meeting is arranged and Knight announces he's changing his will so the recipe for the sauce will pass on to the right hands. Hours later, he is found,

dead and his recipe stolen. Knight's family, his lawyer, the housekeeper, and the gardener are all suspects.

"With the help of audience members, who have been given clue packets, Judge Titus A. Drumm slowly unravels this spicy comedy filled with zany characters, outrageous lines, and

plenty of hot sauce," said Julie Phelps, who works with Carolina Moon.

Tickets are \$25 and available at Carolina Trophy on Church Street. For information call 377-7780. The play will be performed at 6:30 p.m. on Oct. 13-14 and 4

See PLAY, 4

PAL holding arts/crafts show

From Staff Reports

The Perquimans Arts League (PAL) will host its seventh annual Arts and Crafts Show at the Perquimans County Recreation Center on Saturday from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m.

The show will feature

more than 40 artists and craftspeople with an array of products. In addition, there will be breakfast and lunch items, a bake sale, 50/50 raffle and door prizes awarded throughout the day. An added attraction for fiber artists will be the yarn truck from Knitting Addiction LLC from the Outer Banks.

Admission to the show is \$3.

Since early spring, PAL Arts & Crafts Show commit-

tee members have been visiting art shows and fairs to evaluate a variety of artists' works and inviting the best to participate in this show.

Fine artists who work in acrylic, oil, and watercolor

Photographers will present works featuring creative lighting and eclectic subjects with products ranging from large wall hangings to photo note cards.

There will be a large vari-

See SHOW, 2

MAYDAY



STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS

A GIRL PUTS UP A SIGN FOR TRIBUTES TO SURVIVORS OF ADDICTION ON A PIECE OF CHAIN LINK FENCE SATURDAY AT A MAYDAY EVENT AT THE PERQUIMANS COUNTY RECREATION DEPARTMENT. TO THE RIGHT ARE JARS PLACED IN HONOR OF THOSE WHO DIED FROM ADDICTIONS. TO THE LEFT ARE MEMORIES OF SURVIVORS.

