



STAFF PHOTOS BY PETER WILLIAMS

Tony Cook (left), Cassidy Loeffler, James Rennie, Emily Paolone and Steve Wall practice a scene for the play 'The Importance of Being Earnest' at Perquimans County High School.

PLAY

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about themselves.

The cast is made up of Jack Worthing played by James Rennie; Algernon Moncrieff played by Tony Cook; Rev. Canon Chasuble, played by Steven Wall; Ms. Merriman played by Essence Hunter; Ms. Lane played by Tina Courtright; Lady Bracknell, played by Brandelyn Harrell; Gwendolen Fairfax played by Charley Hines; Cecily Cardew played by Cassidy Loeffler; Miss Prism played by Emily Paolone and the Silly maids played by Emma Swinney as Emmeline; Sarah Jordan as Amelia and Sarabi Riddick as Luella.



Cassidy Loeffler and Charley Hines practice for the upcoming play.

Students on stage crew include the cast, plus stage managers: Tabatha Forbes, Emma Swinney, and Julia Howard and crew members Anna Baker, Lindsei Chappell, Miranda Clubb, Kyara Mercer, Tanaesha Mercer, Mario Guerrero, Ania Rountree and Abigail Thompson.

Funds sought for cheerleading

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

The Perquimans County High School cheerleading team needs support to step up to the next level with a bigger squad.

Gabby Lassiter, the coach of the team, said a lot of it has to do with safety.

"We do some fairly advanced stunting that requires using cheer mats or grass outside to be safe."

Now that it's getting too cold outside to practice more mats are needed. She hopes to raise \$1,300.

"Ideally we'd secure one, maybe two bigger sponsors that could cover this expense and highlight them on a shirt, and volunteer at their businesses," Lassiter said.

The team is now preparing for the NC High School Athletic Association competition in Raleigh on Dec. 2. There is also a conference competition in February. There are other events planned.

Lassiter cheered in high school and also N.C. State University.

This is her third year



SUBMITTED PHOTO

As the Perquimans County High School cheerleading squad gets bigger, the group is reaching out for community support.

coaching the Perquimans team, and she thinks it's been at least four years since Perquimans competed at the conference level.

The team members have held fundraisers to help other parts of the program, and helped speed up the process of getting new uniforms, but Lassiter said they could use other help with getting mats.

"We did get new mats last year to accommodate our team of six," Lassiter said. "Now we have 12 members and we need more. While

the school wants to support us in this area they're not able to do so.

"We've fundraised and invested in professional choreography and professional, copyrighted music that is required to compete.

"The wonderful thing about these mats is they will be used for years and allow the program to not be limited by something as basic as mats."

For more information about helping, call 336-675-8001 or e-mail gnllassiter@gmail.com.

VETERANS

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Ken Rominger, a past commander of Post 126 and retired Air Force Chief Master Sergeant was the master of ceremonies. Also participating were Post 126 Chaplain Benjamin Roberts; Post 126 Commander Richard Caporale; Jarvis Abbot, regional director of Veterans Affairs; Lora Aples, a Senior Master Sergeant from Post 362 who gave the tribute to prisoners of war and those missing in action; Bill Manke who offered the salute to the services; John Spear who introduced Olesen; Dale Wright who gave the closing remarks and William



STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS

Director Malik Barrows talks to members of the Perquimans County High School band before Saturday's Veteran's Day ceremony in Hertford.

Modlin, past commander of the Perquimans County High School band directed by Malik Barrows.

Music was provided by

From Staff Reports

A Perquimans County farmer is the third \$200,000 winner in the N.C. Education Lottery's Red Hot Slots scratch-off game.

Paris Whidbee of Hertford purchased his winning \$5 ticket at the Speedway on South Church Street last week.

Whidbee told lottery officials he thought he had a winner when he received

the ticket.

"When the ticket came out, I decided that I was going to win the \$200,000 prize," Whidbee said. "I did. It feels good to do what I said I was going to do."

Whidbee turned in his winning ticket and claimed his prize at lottery headquarters in Raleigh on Thursday. After required state and federal tax withholdings, he took home \$139,003.

Whidbee, a wheat farmer for 24 years, told lottery officials he plans to save his winnings for retirement.

"It will be nice to have some more money to put away," he said.

According to lottery officials, Whidbee's winning ticket is one of four in the Red Hot Slots scratch-off game that launched in August. Only one \$200,000 prize-winning ticket remains.

CHIEF

Continued from 1

interview process that not only included Shoaf and Interim Police Chief Mike Carver but a panel of other law enforcement professionals and town managers as well.

"We interviewed four good candidates," Shoaf said in 2012. "Freeman has lots of community policing experience and has run the whole gamut of police work during his career. We look forward to having him come on board."

Freeman served 11 years, including five years as deputy chief, with the North Topsail department. He began his law enforcement career

in Kinston and worked for the Jackson Police Department as well as the Onslow County Sheriff's Office.

Freeman holds a bachelor's of science degree in criminal justice as well as advanced law enforcement certifications from both the North Carolina Criminal Justice Training and Standards Commission and the North Carolina Sheriff's Training and Standards Commission.

While serving with the Jacksonville Police Department, Freeman was honored with the Life Saving Medal and received a Purple Heart for being injured in the line of duty.

Freeman said he received the Life Saving Medal when he and another man performed two-man CPR on a

man injured in a motorcycle crash. The crash victim survived but suffered a brain injury.

In 1992, Freeman responded in the early morning hours to reports of a large fight. He found a lone police officer surrounded by a large crowd of unruly people. Freeman drove his police cruiser through the crowd to get to the police officer. Reports of a person being shot in a nearby club then drew both officers inside the club where Freeman was hit over the head with a steel chair, breaking two vertebrae and causing a head injury. Freeman later faced surgery during which a steel plate was placed in his head.

He received the Purple Heart afterwards.

ELECTION

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In Elizabeth City race at the city council level comes up monthly.

Jackson said there are racial issues in Hertford, but said he wouldn't make race an issue.

In addition to Reid, the other remaining members of the board are Sid Eley, who is white, and Archie Aples, who is black.

Jackson just promised to try and be effective.

"The main thing is to be effective, and bridge the gap

between the communities. There is a racial division and it's at an all-time high."

He promised to work on changing that.

"As a member of the board, race won't matter," he said. "I just want to do what's in the best interest of Hertford."

At 32-years-old, Jackson may be the youngest person ever elected to the Hertford board. He thinks that's important to have younger people.

"I think we need to go even younger (than 32)," Jackson said.

Jackson said he was up-

set at the voter turnout — 24 percent.

"I was more disappointed in that. More citizens should have gotten involved."

Jackson credits his Mom, Marion Leary, for the victory. After several election defeats, Jackson wasn't going to run again, but she encouraged him to do it.

"My Mom went the extra mile. I couldn't have asked for anything more."

Norman said now that the election is over, it's time to move the community forward.

"The election went the way it went," he said.

Norman campaigned that leaders were ignoring some of the problems holding the town back, including false racial stereotypes.

"I am running for office so my children and yours when asked to introduce themselves, will be able to stand up and say with pride. My name is... and I am from Hertford."

Holman said she enjoyed her eight years on the board, and felt she made a difference. But as for the election "the people that I needed to show up just didn't show up."

"I really wanted four more years, but it wasn't meant to be," Holman said.

Lane had no comment on the election.

In an uncontested race in Winfall, Debbie Jean Whedbee and Ken Rominger won re-election to their seats.

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**Vidant Chowan Hospital
Community Benefit Grants Program
Request for Letters of Intent**

Vidant Chowan Hospital is accepting Letters of Intent for grants to support projects in the program's health-related focus areas:

- Chronic Disease Prevention and Management
- Physical Activity and Nutrition
- Access to Care

The grants will be awarded as part of the 2018-2019 Community Benefit Grants Program. The grant cycle period is July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019.

Grant funding will be restricted to **Chowan, Perquimans, Tyrrell and Washington Counties** and will not be awarded for medical research. Only government entities or non-profit organizations with 501(c)(3) status are eligible for funding.

We are now accepting Letters of Intent through an electronic process. Visit www.vidanthealth.com/communitybenefit to access this process. There will be a description of the grants program and a link to the Letter of Intent process. Please ensure that you select the Vidant Chowan Hospital's Community Benefit Grants Program.

Letters of Intent must be **submitted online by, December 1, 2017.**

Funding for the Community Benefit Grants Program is provided by Vidant Health. The program is administered through the Vidant Health Foundation in partnership with a committee of local community members.

For additional questions, please contact **Ginny Waff** at ginny.waff@vidanthealth.com or at **252-482-6440.**

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