

"News from Next Door"

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2018

75 cents

Judge finds Jackson guilty of resisting

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

A judge found Hertford Town Councilman Quentin Jackson guilty of resisting a public officer on Wednesday. He was ordered to spend 10 days in jail but the sentence was put on hold because Jackson is appealing the case.

Jackson was pulled over on Feb. 1 by a Hertford Police Detective A.J. Awad for

having a fictitious tag on his SUV. During the process, Jackson got out of his vehicle and walked towards the Awad and was yelling at him, Awad said. When Jackson wouldn't get back in his car after being



JACKSON

told to at least five times, Awad charged the first-term councilman with resisting a public officer, Awad testified.

District Court Judge Edgar Barnes found there was probable cause to pull the vehicle with a cardboard popcorn box as a license tag. However Barnes said the particular law cited by police did not match the fictitious tag charge the DA used.

Jackson, dressed in a tan suit, defended himself. For his part, he argued the stories the two officers did not match up. He also argued that Det. Awad did not follow proper procedure.

Assistant District Attorneys Zach Beasley and Jeffrey Moreland represented the prosecution.

Jackson maintained that the testimony of Awad and Sgt. Kenneth Lynch who came to assist, didn't

match. Jackson said the arrest was part of a plan to derail his political career. Jackson has said he may run for N.C. House.

But Barnes found there was evidence to support the one charge.

"You've got a lot of issues," Judge Barnes said before entering the guilty verdict.

At that point Assistant District Attorney Zach Be-

sley was totaling up the number of points Jackson has against him in the court system.

Jackson present his case that some of those charges on his record from Dare County may not be valid and should not be included in sentencing.

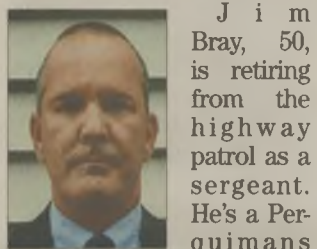
That Feb. 1 traffic stop wasn't the first time Jackson has been arrested. Accord-

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Trooper to seek sheriff's position

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

A veteran N.C. Highway Patrolman planned to file Tuesday for the race for Perquimans County Sheriff.



BRAY

Jim Bray, 50, is retiring from the highway patrol as a sergeant. He's a Perquimans County resident,

but was born in Chowan County. Bray is a Republican.

The filing period runs through Feb. 28 at noon.

With Bray's introduction in the race, Sheriff Shelby White will face a challenger. White was appointed to the post in 2017 and is running for the first time. White is a Democrat.

Bray said political parties shouldn't matter in the sheriff's race, but said if he won, he'd be Perquimans County's first Republican sheriff.

"I know I have an uphill battle," he said.

Bray served four years in the Marine Corps before becoming a trooper 26 years ago. About four years ago he was promoted to sergeant and transferred to the Dare County beat which also includes Currituck County.

Bray's official retirement date is May 1, but he's accumulated enough leave time he's only working one day a week until then.

"I'm running because I want to make Perquimans a better place to live for citizens," Bray said Monday. "I feel like the county needs stronger leadership, especially in addressing things like drugs. Drugs are the underlying cause of almost everything. I think people are tired of the good old boy system."

See TROOPER, 2



DAILY ADVANCE PHOTO

Top, the Lady Pirates celebrate after winning the AAC tournament final at Perquimans High School on Friday.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Right, he Perquimans County High School girl's basketball team jokes around while Coach Aaron Burke holds up the conference trophy Friday night.



Girls win conference title

BY CRAIG MOYER
The Daily Advance

The Perquimans girl's basketball team pulled away in the second half on their way to a 58-45 win in the Albemarle Athletic Conference championship game Friday night in Hertford.

The conference tournament title was a first for the Lady Pirates since 2002.

Perquimans head coach Aaron Burke said the tournament championship is a boost for the current team and future players at the school.

"It's very big, big for the girls, it's big for the program," Burke said. Perquimans (13-11) jumped out

"It's very big, big for the girls, it's big for the program."

Aaron Burke
Perquimans head coach

to a 6-0 lead less than two minutes into the game on a pair of three pointers from McCrae Knapp and McKayle Knapp.

Gates fought back to take a 13-12 lead at the end of the first quarter, but the Lady Red Barons were unable to hold the lead for long.

Perquimans came out strong in the second quarter, taking a 28-

22 lead with just under two and a half minutes left to play in the first half.

A Gates 6-0 run in the final minute cut into the deficit, as the Lady Pirates led 31-28 at the half.

Burke said he continuously stresses the importance of coming out strong in the second half of games.

"I preach to my girls all the time that the third quarter is the most important quarter," Burke said.

The team clearly heeded their coach's lesson Friday, as they quickly shut down any momentum the Lady Red Barons had gained before the half.

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Human remains identified

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

Human remains found along the shore in New Hope in January belonged to a 57-year-old Wayne County man who went missing in July 2016.

Perquimans County Sheriff Shelby White confirmed the medical examiner in Greenville made the identification last week.

John Poandl was last seen alive when he and another man went swimming from their pontoon boat but were unable to return to it after it drifted away. The other man was rescued by the N.C. Wildlife Service.

The skull was found near Webb Street in New Hope, about 13 miles from where Poandl was last seen.

N.C. Wildlife Service Master Officer John Beardsley said he notified the family of the victim on Thursday.

"They were very thankful for all the work that was done to find him," Beardsley said.

The intensive search for Poandl involved helicopter crews from Coast Guard Base Elizabeth City and vessels from the U.S. Coast Guard, N.C. Marine Fisheries, Harvey Point Defense Testing Activity, Gates County Emergency Management, Hertford County Emergency Management and Perquimans County Water Rescue. Private boaters also helped out.

Perquimans County Emergency Management set up a base of operations on Holiday Island.

Beardsley said it's not unusual that a body is found miles from where it was last seen.

"Tides and the wind play a big deal and it was real windy that day."

He said there were two women on pontoon boat at the time. When they saw it was drifting away from the men, one of them started the motor but a rope wrapped around the prop and caused the engine to die.

While the medical examiner was able to wrap up the investigation on Poandl, Beardsley is still trying to find out what happened to another boater who was lost in November 2014.

Some duck hunters found a canoe upside down just outside Big Flatty Creek in Pasquotank County. It apparently belonged to Dick Conant, a New York resident.

State program to offer \$12 million

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

Perquimans County officials are hopeful they can tap a new \$12 million state program designed to get industrial sites in rural coun-

ties ready to attract new jobs.

Gov. Roy Cooper announced the Rural Ready Sites program this month.

Perquimans County Manager Frank Heath said the county would be applying for a share of the funds. He the money could be used to help build the first phase of the Perquimans Marine Industrial Park. If that didn't qualify, he said he would seek funds for

site work at the 100-acre industrial park across Harvey Point Road.

"We'll have something to submit, regardless," Heath said.

The criteria for the Rural Ready program seem to fit Perquimans perfectly.

In order to qualify for the program, applicants must have a well-developed strategy to market the site to

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Joyner named as new engineer

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

The new district engineer for the two-county Soil and Water Conservation District didn't grow up on a farm.

Caitlin Joyner admits her family also didn't have a farming background, but in Bedford County, Va., she grew up with farms all around her and in high school she was a member of Future Farmers of America.

"That sparked my interest." When it came time for college, she went to Virginia Tech University.



JOYNER

In her second year, she was a state officer for FFA from Virginia and got more interested in crop and soil science. She earned a degree in that and graduated from Tech last spring and moved to Edenton in September.

Joyner replaces Scott Alons who served as district engineer for the area for 28 years. His retirement was

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