

## APLES

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Muriel Harmon, a resident and often vocal critic of Jackson, said Aples' resignation should be a wake-up call for Hertford residents.

"The resignation of Archie Aples is a very sad day for Hertford," Harmon said.

Harmon claims Aples has been receiving threats — something Aples did not confirm Tuesday night. Harmon also said Aples' efforts to find common ground didn't win him any friends.

"To some white folk he was too black, and to some blackfolk he was too white," Harmon said.

The Hertford Town Council can pick someone to complete Aples' unexpired term, but Harmon wonders if they'll be able to find anyone who wants the job.

"Who in the hell would want to serve?" she asked out loud.

A number of residents got up at Tuesday's council

meeting and lauded Aples and criticized Jackson.

Susan Beckwith, a property owner and businesswoman, said Hertford has the potential to thrive, but not with the leadership it currently has. She suggested she might run for council herself next year when the terms of Reid, Aples and Eley are all up.

"I am not going anywhere and I don't care who threatens me," Beckwith said.

Jackson tried to respond to those critical of him, but Reid gavelled him out of order.

Later when he was given a chance to speak, Jackson appeared chagrined.

"You can say whatever you want about me, but I am a product of Hertford," he said. "Your vision may be different than mine, but the people wanted change."

Jackson and Councilman Norman upset two incumbent board members in the 2017 town election. Their victories changed Hertford's town board from one with three white members and

two blacks to one with four black members and one white, Eley.

Jackson said he has tried to talk to many of the people who were critical of him Tuesday, but they don't want to meet with him.

"I have reached out to you," he said. "Give me a solution. Give me a solution. It can work if you talk to me. I'm human. You guys just don't want to trust the process."

Norman asked the audience to give the new council a year to produce results. He said he doesn't agree with everything Jackson does, but they are trying to make Hertford better. Both attended a meeting of a national group of municipalities in Los Angeles and both said they brought back important information and contacts.

Norman said he grew up in Detroit where the sports team wasn't the best.

"But that's the team we had. This is the team you got," he said.



STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS

Firefighters carry one of the "victims" of a collision with a train away from the scene Saturday in Winfall.

## HAZMAT

Continued from 1

Hospital said the "victims" were actually transported to Edenton and nurses met the ambulances outside to see the patients. She said the drill was limited because the emergency room actually was busy at that time.

Spruill said the nurses went out to meet the ambulances because "you don't know what you are dealing with at that point."

Nixon said as part of the exercise, state officials estimated where the plume of plaque could have been carried by the wind and law enforcement staged a simulated effort to notify the residents in that area.

Su Son, the general manager of the railroad watched the scene unfold.

"It's good to see them doing this," he said.

If the event were real, an emergency shelter would have been set up at Perquimans County High School.

The drill continued on Monday when staff from Albemarle Regional Health Services worked through



STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS

A remote control rover was sent to the site of Saturday's HAZMAT drill.

how they might get the powerful antibiotics in the hands of people who will need them to fight off the plague. That meeting was planned for Edenton.

In the drill, a bus fitted out to be an ambulance was actually brought over from Currituck County and tractor-trailers with emergency

equipment from Williamston arrived at the scene. If the event were real, some of that may have taken a lot longer than the four hours the drill lasted Saturday.

The drill included a decontamination area where HAZMAT crews who were near the leaking tank could decontaminate.

## CAMERAS

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have had no problems there.

"But I will put them (cameras) there if I need to," White said.

After the cameras went up at King/Stokes, White said the crowds of people who used to hang out on the street "are gone." She said the vast majority weren't housing authority residents, but were people from outside the area.

"You don't know the number of phone calls we've got from people who are thanking us, because now they can get a good night's sleep," White said.

Councilman Frank Nor-

man questioned just what the cameras are covering. He lives at the Wynne Fork project. White said they are aimed just at the properties the housing authority owns.

"I'm only interested in our property," White said.

Councilman Quentin Jackson also had issues.

"I have a major issue with one of the cameras on King Street," he said. "And the reason they stopped hanging out there is because it got cold."

Jackson was also worried about who could view the video the cameras capture. White said right now it would require help from Nixon's Solutions, but eventually they would not be viewing the images, only her. The police would be

welcome to view the video as well if they had a need to.

Norman too had concerns about who was viewing the data.

Jackson also said a town bucket truck with someone from Nixon Solutions was used to install at least some of the cameras. That would have meant the town could have been sued if something bad happened. White said she had to knowledge of that happening, but she did ask then interim Town Manager Pamela Hurdle if they could use the truck, and was told yes.

White said the housing authority in Edenton has already installed cameras and the one in Elizabeth City is seeking bids for them there.

## BRIDGE

Continued from 1

construction until a team could arrive from Greensboro to remove it.

Under the original contract, the company had until Nov. 30 to complete the bridge.

"We then allow them 90 days to get the vegetation established along the slopes. After that time if the vegetation is fine, the contractor is officially done with the job."

Construction started July 9 on the \$1.9 million project. DOT may be able to recover

\$500 in liquidated damages for each day the project is late.

Closing the bridge has been a pain for residents and emergency officials as well. The Perquimans County EMS office is located just a few hundred yards from the bridge. Closing the bridge, means ambulances needing to get to U.S. 17 must either loop back over the S-Bridge and go through Hertford down Church Street, or take a right and go down Winfall Boulevard to Wiggins Road and then U.S. 17. Buses from Perquimans Central School also have had to make detours.

County Manager Frank

Heath said he hopes the December date is correct.

"From an emergency services standpoint, it is critical we get it back open."

The old bridge was built in 1940 and is supported by timber piles. The new one has concrete supports.

Only two companies bid on the project. Loving's bid of \$1,900,505 was significantly lower than the \$2,367,000 bid of Mclean Contracting. DOT engineers estimated the project would cost about \$1.5 million.

Loving has offices in Goldsboro and Raleigh and has been in business for nearly 100 years.

## JACKSON

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the defendant in the other.

A magistrate was originally slated to hear the case in small claims court today. Now it is scheduled for Nov. 28.

Jackson is asking for a total of \$20,000 to cover

his financial loss.

In the complaint against Bateman, Jackson wrote she used "her authority as a notary to sign over my company vehicle to a private citizen costing me and my business to suffer. Have not been able to get property back yet."

In the complaint against the town he wrote "em-

ployee while working with the town, illegally signed over my personal property in access of over 25,000. Since I could not have my property I (lost) major income. I filed a police report that was improperly done."

Jackson would not comment about the police report as well.

## Body of Edenton man recovered

From Staff Reports

The body of an Edenton man was recovered Sunday after he disappeared while fishing in Edenton Bay on Saturday.

Chowan Emergency Management Coordinator Cord Palmer identified the man as John North "Jack" Held of Surfside Drive. Held's body was recovered at the mouth of the bay around sunset on Sunday.

According to the U.S. Coast Guard, Held's wife Robin Lee notified the agency Saturday that her 83-year-old husband had gone fishing on a 21-foot pontoon

boat but failed to return by 6:30 p.m.

Coast Guard boat crews searched for the man throughout Saturday night, finding his boat and fishing gear shortly after beginning their search. Coast Guard helicopter crews resumed their search for the man Sunday morning. Coast Guard first responders searched approximately 325 square miles by surface and by air.

"Our hearts go out to the families and friends affected by this tragedy," said Capt. Bion Stewart, commander of Coast Guard Sector North Carolina. "We would also like to thank our part-

ner agencies for assisting us throughout this search."

Assisting in the search were officers with the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission, the Chowan Sheriff's Office and emergency management agencies in Chowan and Hertford counties.

Held was the retired owner of Bellevue Hardware in Richmond, VA. He had served in the United States Air Force, and was an Episcopalian by faith.

Miller Funeral Home & Crematory, 735 Virginia Road, Edenton, is assisting the family and online condolences may be made by visiting [www.millerfhc.com](http://www.millerfhc.com).

## MURPHY

Continued from 1

Murphy found out about the Albemarle Commission post through the N.C. Association of County Commissioners. It keeps a job listing service of agencies that need help and people, like Murphy, who can fill in on an interim basis.

Murphy said he knows a little about the region.

"I grew up in Portsmouth and back then people took Sunday rides. I remember going to Elizabeth City, but

I had never been to Hertford before," he said. "It's a beautiful area."

Applications for the Albemarle Commission job

will be accepted through Dec. 3. The commission board hopes to have a new executive director in place by January or February.



STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS

Firefighters and EMS workers applaud at the end of Saturday's HAZMAT drill in Winfall.

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**THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY**  
(USPS428-080)  
Vol. 86 No. 47  
Published each Wednesday.  
A publication of Adams Publishing Group  
Established 1934  
111 W. Market St., Hertford, NC 27944  
Mike Goodman..... Publisher  
Peter Williams..... News Editor  
Bev Alexander..... Advertising Representative  
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