

Pets of the week, 7

"News from Next Door"

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2019



STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS

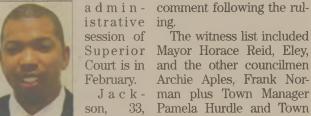
An overflow crowd fills the main room and the hall at a Hertford Town Council meeting this month.

## Jackson found guilty of assault

BY PETER WILLIAMS News Editor

District Court Judge Eula Reid found Hertford Town Councilman Quentin Jackson guilty of assaulting Councilman Sid Eley and sentenced him to 120 days in jail last week.

Jackson is appealing the ruling to Superior Court, so Eley, 71, in the head with a he won't have to serve the closed fist after the two got jail sentence until that case into a heated discussion afbeen scheduled. The next Jackson nor Eley would workshop meeting.



**JACKSON** 

istrative ing. session of February.

Archie Aples, Frank Norman plus Town Manager Attorney John Leidy. Aples has since resigned his board

hitting

ness called in his defense. The assault took place on Metzger represented the is heard there. No date has ter a town meeting. Neither Oct. 1 after a town council

Both Jackson and Eley said the discussion started The witness list included when Jackson asked Eley if Superior Mayor Horace Reid, Eley, it was true that Eley wasn't Court is in and the other councilmen going to support the Democratic Party because it had supported both Jackson Pamela Hurdle and Town and Norman. Eley said it was true.

Jackson was defended by Wade Tyndall, a court-Jackson was the only wit- appointed attorney. Assistant District Attorney Holly

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### MLK speaker calls for action

BY PETER WILLIAMS News Editor

Sen. Erica Smith-Ingram (D-Northampton) people at a Martin Luther King Jr. celebration to speak up when they see injustice and not wait.

The Democrat from Northampton County was the speaker at the annual Perquimans County NAACP event. This year it was held at Melton Grove Missionary Baptist Church in Winfall. Smith-Ingram said that the Perquimans event was her sixth MLK celebration in just the past few days.

"Melton Grove, I feel like I'm coming back home," she

said. Smith-Ingram's address revolved around a Biblical passage in Luke. It was the Sabbath and Jesus was speaking at one of the synagogues when he came across a woman who had been crippled for the past 18 years and he healed her. The leaders of the synagogue criticized Jesus, saying there are six days to work and just one day for the Sabbath.

Jesus attacked the critics saying they had watched the woman suffer for 18 years and not done anything.

"Jesus said, 'I can't wait another day," Smith-Ingram

She then compared examples of a 9/11 passenger who when the plane was hijacked instead stormed the cockpit. The plane crashed into a field, but the White House was spared.

In current times, she mentioned people who are going without paychecks because of the government

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STAFF PHOTOS BY-PETER WILLIAMS

Top, Sen. Erica Smith-Ingram claps her hands at a Martin Luther King Jr. service Monday at Melton Grove Missionary Baptist Church. Left, the Perquimans NAACP's annual Martin Luther King Jr. service was held at Melton Grove Missionary **Baptist this** year.

# Shutdown impact looming

BY PETER WILLIAMS News Editor

The partial shutdown of the federal government has had some impacts on Perquimans County, but it could be worse if it draws on much longer, officials say.

The Farm Service Agency located inside the same building with the Albemarle Commission, is no longer staffed as the first day of the shutdown, said Bob Murphy, the interim director of the commission. Some farmers use the FSA to learned about what to plant this spring.

The FSA provides services to farm operations including loans, commodity price supports, conservation payments, and disaster assistance. The FSA operates separately from the commission, and Murphy said everybody in his agency is working.

There has been no impact on us as of now, but if it continues the nutrition and workforce development programs would be impacted," Murphy said.

Services for the elderly, like meals and medical transportation, will not be impacted the shutdown at least through the end of March, said Laura Alvarico, the director of the Area Agency on Aging.

In a 10-county region, about 350 seniors get meals delivered to their home through the nutrition. About 650 to 700 participate in congregate meal programs at places like senior centers.

She said federal funds pay for about 35 to 40 percent of the cost of the meals for seniors. The rest is paid by local county contributions and the state.

James Bunch, the interim superintendent of Perquimans County Schools, said child nutrition funding should continue well into the month of March. Bunch said some of the funding may arrive slower than it has arrived

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# Third generation to run Layden's

BY PETER WILLIAMS News Editor

around, a new Layden will be in charge of the country store in Belvidere that carries the family name

Charlie Layden will take over Layden's Supermarket from his Dad, Doug Layden. Doug took over the family business from

Parts of the building date When February rolls back to 1860. Quaker builder Josiah Nicholson also built most of the old homes in Belvidere. At one point the building served as a general store, post office and blacksmith shop.

Doug has no plans to totally retire, but he will turn 65 years old in February and his father, Charles, in 1986. figures it's time to pass the Layden's in June 2009.

Charles started the business torch. He said it was always

over the reins. "He (Doug) is still going to be working here, so I might take over on paper, but he will still be the boss, Charlie joked.

Charlie, 38, grew up in the business but moved to Char-Club and Harris Teeter for 10 years. He came back to

"I always knew I would his plan to eventually hand come back home. I don't regret being in Charlotte, but you know in corporations you are just a number in the system."

Charlie isn't worried about running the store. He was raised on it.

"Between my grandfather lotte and worked for Sam's and Doug, they paved the road pretty well for me. All I

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STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS

Doug Layden stands with his son Charlie next to some of the country hams in the store. Charlie will be taking over the business in February.

#### County manager defends 911 fee charged to towns

BY PETER WILLIAMS **News Editor** 

Perquimans Manager Frank Heath is defending the fee charged to



fair.

Heath said he would reach explain the situation. Their bill is expected to be about \$74,000 this year.

"I want to establish a dialog with the town," he said last week. "But it's pretty simple. The town provides couldn't afford it on the dents they don't get.

Hertford and Winfall for 911 services county residents \$74,000 the town pays the lice department that county out to Hertford officials to they have a public works department we dispatch."

dispatch services, saying it's do not get. They have a po-county now. For that reason, he calls the current residents don't have and agreement "a wholesale bargain."

If the county system and Winfall would mean wasn't there to dispatch residents in the county Hertford calls, the town would have to shoulder the would have to spend mon- burden of dispatch services ey to do it, and Hertford for benefits the county resi-

into an agreement with the county in 1993 when the To not charge Hertford the deal, the towns agreed taxation" of town residents.

> The cost of dispatch for EMS for medical issues is

The two towns entered borne all county taxpayers.

Town officials, led by Councilman Quentin Jackcountywide 911-dispatch son, argue the fee is wrong system was established. In and represents "double to pay a percentage share Hertford residents pay the of the cost of operating the same county tax rate as peodispatch system for services ple who live in unincorponot related to medical calls. rated areas like New Hope

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