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THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



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"News from Next Door"

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13, 2019

75 cents

Governor seeks \$14.8 million for park

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

Gov. Roy Cooper's proposed state budget would allocate \$14.8 million to the Perquimans County Marine Industrial Park.

If the proposal makes its way through the N.C. House and Senate and becomes part of the final budget, it will be the single largest appropriation for the project.

It would provide a serious jumpstart to a plan that has been in the works for 10 years.

"It further shows how serious this endeavor is and that our elected officials are realizing the promise of the park," said Perquimans County Manager Frank Heath. "We will be working with our legislators to ensure that this carries forward into the final budget."

Heath said he knew the funding was being discussed, but it wasn't official until Cooper released his budget last week.

To date Perquimans has received a \$2.8 million grant from the N.C. Department of Commerce plus more recently \$750,000 from Golden LEAF.

While significant, the dollars fell short of the estimated \$7 million cost of the first

phase of the project. The original estimate for the entire project was \$20 million, but Heath said he wouldn't know for sure until the winning bidder is named.

The project involves building a 350-foot wide, 2,500-long boat basin from the Perquimans River inside a 72-acre piece of land the county owns near the Perquimans Recreation Center. Once fully developed, some

estimates say up to 500 people could be working in the park.

Because of limited funding, the county was looking to dig only the first 900 feet of the basin. Heath said if the \$14.8 million is approved, the county will be able to do a lot more and get the project started this year.

When complete, marine related industrials will be

able to build facilities adjacent to the basin so they would have easy access to get boats in and out of the water.

Heath was in Raleigh last week meeting with the two people who represent Perquimans County in the General Assembly, Sen. Bob Steinburg and Rep. Ed

See PARK, 2

Jackson to face charge March 25

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

Hertford Town Councilman Quentin Jackson is scheduled to appear in Superior Court on March 25 to face a felony charge of perjury.



JACKSON

Jackson was freed on \$14,000 cash bond on Monday after spending 11 nights in Albemarle District Jail for failure to appear in a Perquimans Superior Court case.

Jackson was indicted by a Perquimans County grand jury in late April 2018 for lying in court. The grand jury found when he was asked in court if he was on parole when he was stopped by a Hertford police officer on Feb. 1, 2018 he told the court he wasn't on parole. Court records show he was.

He had been convicted in Dare County in 2016 for accessing a computer without proper authority and was still on probation for that conviction at the time of the traffic stop on Feb. 1.

A Hertford police officer had pulled over Jackson's SUV on Feb. 1 after observing that instead of a license plate, Jackson's vehicle bore a makeshift tag made of a popcorn box with letters and numbers written on it.

Besides charging Jackson with displaying a fictitious license tag, the officer also charged him with resisting a police officer. The officer did so after the councilman refused an order to get back in his vehicle. Jackson also had a pistol in the car, which was a violation of his probation terms.

When the traffic stop matter was heard at trial, District Court Judge Edgar Barnes ruled there wasn't enough evidence to convict

See JACKSON, 2

HERTFORD HOUSE



STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS

Site development is well under way for the Hertford House assisted living facility on Church Street. The 100-bed project is expected to be complete by early 2020.

Hunter charged with cyberstalking

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

A former candidate for the N.C. House who was charged with cyberstalking last year, has been charged with the same crime by her landlord.

Candace Hunter, 46, rents property in the 100 block of North Church Street where she has an apartment and her office.

She has had an ongoing dispute with her landlord, Vincent Burgher, over the conditions of the property. That played out in claims and counter claims in small claims court.

In the new filing, Burgher claims Hunter communicated with him electronically for the purpose of annoying, harassing and embarrassing him. He said the texts and e-mails



HUNTER

Hunter ran in the Republican primary in State House District 1 and lost in the May 8, 2018 primary. She was charged with cyberstalking Garry Meiggs, a member of the Camden Board of Commissioners a few days after the election, court records show. In late 2018, the District Attorney's office voluntarily dismissed the charge.

Hunter is a marketing company owner and a former television an-

chor. She lost her bid for the GOP nomination in the 1st House District to Ed Goodwin, a former state ferry director and Chowan County Commissioner by a margin of 55 percent to 45 percent.

In an interview with The Daily Advance last year, District Attorney Andrew Womble said the charge in the dispute between Hunter and Meiggs was "mainly political" and that his office asked to have it dismissed after consulting with Meiggs.

"Commissioner Meiggs — to his credit — realized that a better outcome for the community was to leave these matters in the political realm and not inside the walls of the courtroom," Womble said. "We reached what I believe is the right result for the community — leaving political things political."

Man, 44, killed by deputy in Cofield

From Staff, AP Reports

COFIELD — A North Carolina sheriff says his chief deputy shot and killed a Perquimans County man after he and other law enforcement officers responded to a report of a person with a handgun.

Hertford County Sheriff Dexter Hayes said Monday that deputies and other agencies responded Sunday to a call at a location on N.C. Highway 45 South involving "a man combative and irate."

Sheriff Hayes says Chief Deputy William Liverman killed 44-year-old Philip Wayne Outland. Liverman is now on administrative leave with pay.

Just the day before, the N.C. Highway Patrol had arrested Outland for diving under the influence. He posted bond at 6:09 p.m.

Hayes said both the chief deputy and the suspect are white. Liverman is a 20-year veteran of the sheriff's office. Outland's address was listed as in the 100 block of Cove Road.

The Hertford sheriff's office says the State Bureau of Investigation has been

See DEPUTY, 2

Water line to be upgraded

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

Perquimans County Commissioners have agreed that while DOT is doing work on Woodville Road the county will pay part of the cost of upgrading the water line there and add four new fire hydrants.

The total estimated cost is \$116,530. The money will come from water department revenues, not tax dollars.

County Water Department Supervisor Nick Lokies

See WATER, 2

Twenty-six candidates file for Congressional seat

BY GINGER LIVINGSTON
The Daily Reflector

GREENVILLE — The final number is 26.

In Friday's furious final filing frenzy, seven more people declared their candidacy for the special election

to fill the empty 3rd Congressional District seat, bringing the total number of candidates to six Democrats, 17 Republicans, two Libertarians and one member of the Constitution Party.

"We asked a bunch of people at the state board today, who have been here a long time if they remember 26 candidates in a congressional election and they said no," said Patrick Gannon, public information

officer with the state elections board. He was speaking during a Facebook Live broadcast of a drawing and coin flip that was held to determine the order of candidates on the ballots for the primary, likely second primary and general election.

Gannon said the state board had not done a lot of research, that no one had looked "decades long ago," but there hasn't been such a large field in recent history.

Four candidates are from the Greenville area. They include Republicans Greg Murphy, a state representative and surgeon, and Gary Ceres, a librarian technician at East Carolina University.

The Democrats are Allen Thomas, Greenville's former mayor, and Ernest Reeves, a retired U.S. Army captain who ran against Thomas in 2017 and the late Walter Jones, who held the 3rd District seat, in 2016.

Three of the candidates are from Currituck County. Two are Republican members of the Currituck Board of Commissioners: Paul Beaumont of Shawboro and Michael Payment of Grandy. The third is Dr. Kevin Patrick Baiko, a physician specializing in cannabinoid medicine who lives in Moyock.

Three candidates also live in Kinston. They are Republicans Michele Nix, Joan Perry and Eric Rouse. Three

others live in Jacksonville. They are Republicans Philip Sheppard and Phil Law and Democrat Ike Johnson. Sheppard is a state lawmaker.

Four candidates are from New Bern. They are Republican Michael Speciale, Democrat Dana E. Outlaw, Libertarian Tim Harris, and Constitution Party member Greg Holt. Speciale is a state

See SEAT, 2

