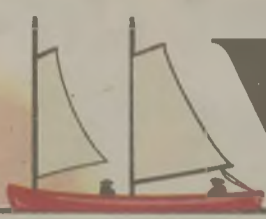


# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



P9/C9\*\*\*\*\*CAR-RT LOT\*\*R 008 A0004  
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Ruritan Club Celebrates Anniversary, 3

"News from Next Door"

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2019

\$1.00



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Larry Amaker was sworn in to the NC Marine Industrial Park Authority by Retired Judge Janice McKenzie Cole at the Hertford Court Annex Courtroom last week. The Bible is being held by Carol Amaker.

## Amaker joins marine board

BY PETER WILLIAMS  
 News Editor

Gov. Roy Cooper has appointed Larry Amaker to serve on the North Carolina Marine Industrial Park Authority. The authority is under the N.C. Department of Commerce and oversees marine parks in Wanchese and Engelhard as well as the proposed 72-acre one in

Hertford. Janice Cole, the former chair of the authority, is stepping down. Amaker will serve as a Perquimans member along with Wallace Nelson, the chairman of the Perquimans County Commission. Amaker, 66, is retired from a 38-year career in law enforcement. He is the president of Amaker & Associates Investigations, LLC. Be-

fore founding his practice, he had a 36-year career in law enforcement including time with the NYC Dept. of Corrections, White Plains, NY Police Department, New York City Police Department and the United States Secret Service. He grew up in Harlem. "Back in those days, it wasn't gentrified," he said. He moved to Shores of Lands End about 12 years

ago. "We were living in Maryland, just outside of Washington D.C. and really just stumbled on it (Perquimans County). We fell in love with it immediately. Once we had a house here, I knew I didn't want to work in D.C. anymore and retired." He loves the quiet life he has in Perquimans.

See **AMAKER, A2**

## Schools placed on lockdown

From Staff Reports

Two Perquimans County schools were placed on lockdown Thursday following a report that an Elizabeth City man wanted on murder and other charges was in the vicinity.



The Perquimans County Sheriff's Office said it received a tip that Caprie Anthony Paige, who is wanted in both Elizabeth City and Atlanta, was at a location outside the Winfall town limits.

As a precautionary measure, both Perquimans Central School and Perquimans Middle School were placed on a modified lockdown until the tip about Paige's whereabouts was investigated, the Perquimans Sheriff's Office said.

After an investigation determined the tip lacked merit, the lockdowns were lifted and normal school operations resumed, the sheriff's office said.

Elizabeth City police

See **LOCKDOWN, A2**



DAILY ADVANCE PHOTO

Perquimans players run out onto the field for Friday's game. See the game story on Page A8.

## New stadium opens

BY PETER WILLIAMS  
 News Editor

The results of nearly a decade of thought and work became a reality Friday night when Perquimans County High School held their first football game on the Charles H. Ward Field at the Nixon Athletic Complex. The football team responded with a 40-0 win over Columbia.

The project started when Dr. William Nixon, a Perquimans native, made the offer of 32 acres of farmland across the street from the high school in 2010. Work was to start within five years, but when that didn't happen, Nixon extended the offer another five years. It wasn't until former Perquimans County Commissioner Charles Ward died and left \$600,000 for the county for a football

field or a library did the athletic project get traction. School officials had hoped to play on the field in 2018, but that was not to be. It didn't seem to matter to fans that packed the stands. "Tonight we stand on a field built from dreams and a vision ... dreams and a vision which began nearly a de-

See **STADIUM, A2**

## County supports Murphy

BY PETER WILLIAMS  
 News Editor

Perquimans County was among the counties that did more than their share to give Republican state lawmaker Greg Murphy a big win in his race for North Carolina's 3rd Congressional District last week.

Across the district, Murphy, a Greenville doctor, got 61 percent of the vote over Democrat Allen Thomas, who had 37 percent. Two third-party candidates — Libertarian Tim Harris and Greg Holt of the N.C. Constitution Party — were far behind, combining for less than 1 percent of the vote.

The special election was called to fill the vacancy left by the death of Walter B. Jones Jr., who died on Feb. 10.

In Perquimans County, Murphy got 70.49 percent of the vote. The only county

See **MURPHY, A2**



SUBMITTED PHOTO

A sign hangs in front of the new home for Historic Hertford Inc. and Carolina Moon Theater.

## HHI, theater working on new location

BY PETER WILLIAMS  
 News Editor

Come spring, Carolina Moon Theater will be performing a play in their third location in the past seven years.

The theater and Historic Hertford Inc. have moved next door to 110 W. Academy St. to a space that last served as the Perquimans County Library. Before be-

coming a library, the building housed the cafeteria for Hertford Grammar School. HHI and Carolina Moon are leasing the new space from Perquimans County for \$1 a year. Before the move, they were in the next door in a building owned by the Town of Hertford on the corner of West Academy and Grubb Streets. That building once housed the Perquimans Se-

nior Center before it moved to a building on Harvey Point Road. Lynne Raymond, the leader with Carolina Moon and chair of Historic Hertford, said the move was made to give HHI and the theater more space and get everything under one roof. The theater group had been storing props and costumes in a metal building the town owns near Missing Mill

Park, but it had a roof leak. The new building has just under 6,000 square feet. The old senior center measures about 3,600. "We'll be able to seat about 90 people and the stage itself is much bigger, like 30 percent bigger," Raymond said. "That allows us to do a lot of different performances that we couldn't

See **THEATER, A2**

## Tilley named to advisory committee

From Staff Reports

Perquimans County Clerk of Superior Court Todd Tilley has been appointed to serve on the eCourts Advisory Committee for the North Carolina Judicial Branch.

The eCourts Advisory Committee comprises

representation of judicial officials and court staff from throughout the state's court system. This group is charged with evaluating and recommending standard case/business processes to enable courts to move from a largely paper-based environment to a digital one. Tilley was selected to serve as a voice for clerks of superior court. He was selected by nomination by leadership of the statewide Conference of Clerks of Superior Court.

"We look forward to

Clerk Tilley's collaboration to further our successes as transformative change continues in the Judicial Branch," said McKinley Wooten, interim director of the North Carolina Administrative Office of the Courts (NCAOC). "Our work together will deliver technology systems, tools, and processes that provide greater access to justice and enable efficient, fair, and equitable outcomes in our unified court system."

"It is an honor to serve on this committee," Tilley

said. "I am proud to be the voice for the residents of Perquimans County and to represent my fellow clerks across the state as we work to modernize our courts and provide greater access to justice for all North Carolinians."

As the NCAOC progresses in its eCourts initiatives, it will be critical that expeditious decisions are made concerning requested modifications or additions to current business

See **TILLEY, A2**

## CANDIDATE FORUM



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Hertford candidates Earnell Brown, Jerry Mimplitsch, Orlean Jones and Ashley Hodges attended a candidate's forum Saturday at the historic Perquimans County Courthouse. Two other candidates, Quentin Jackson and Gracie Felton were invited but did not attend. Brown and Jackson are running for mayor and the other four are running for a town council seat.



**Jollification!** Saturday, September 28th  
 Hertford Historic Home Tour  
 Call 252-426-7567 for tickets