

PROTESTS

Continued from A1

Elizabeth City Police Department, said in a news release Tuesday that Monday's protest was peaceful, and resulted with no injuries, arrests or reports of damages to personal property.

Spain, who on Facebook goes by the username Angela Maria, began posting notices of the protest last weekend. In her updates at her Facebook page she made it clear that Monday night's protest was not a venue to express violence.

"We are NOT RIOTING!!!!," she posted. "We want to avoid any chaos!! We are peace. We are love. We are light. We are UNITED!"

Spain noted how businesses along Ehringhaus Street and at other locations, including Wal-Mart and other stores at the Tanglewood shopping plaza, closed early and took precautions against looters.

"They're worried that this is going to turn into a war," Spain said. "I want to prove to them that we can do this."

Residents — many of whom were wearing masks to guard against the spread of coronavirus — gathered in the former football field off Corsair Circle from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Monday. The group included residents of all ages, races and sexual orientation, who showed up to express their frustration and concerns over the death of Floyd, 46.

"I'm here because I think in order to create change we need to unite," said Shannon Hayden, of Elizabeth City. "I think what happened in Minneapolis is just evil."

Hayden was referring to the death of Floyd, who was arrested Monday, May 25, on suspicion of passing a counterfeit bill, according to the Associated Press. He subsequently died that night while in the custody of Minneapolis police.

The four police officers involved in his arrest were swiftly fired Tuesday, May

26, after video surfaced showing one of the officers, who is white, kneeling on Floyd's neck. In the video, which is several minutes long, Floyd is seen chest down on the ground and is heard telling the officer kneeling on him that he can't breathe. The officer seen in the video kneeling on Floyd's neck has since been identified as Derek Chauvin, the AP reported.

On Friday, Chauvin was charged with third-degree murder and second-degree manslaughter, according to reports.

Hayden said she is worried that police are relying on racial profiling as part of their routine patrol work.

"I'd like to see them tone that down a lot," she said.

Another protester, Saoirse Scott, came from Edenton with her friends to participate.

"I came out tonight because it's painful to witness what's happening in our country right now," she said.

Speaking before the event got underway, Spain said she thought the peaceful protest would be good for the community, including local police.

The Elizabeth City Police Department was more than cooperative with helping her organize the rally, she said.

"What really touched us, is they really, really wanted to do something," said Spain, of the police response.

As an example, she said the city expedited her request for an assembly permit. What normally takes three to four days for permit approval she got done much sooner, she said.

Spain also said she doesn't believe all police are to be feared, but instead there are some officers who need to be weeded out of the ranks.

"There's always a bad weed," she said. "We have to get rid of those weeds."

John Maurice, president of Mid-Atlantic Christian University, thanked the youth for participating



CHRIS DAY/DAILY ADVANCE

At least 300 local residents turned out to peacefully protest the death of Minneapolis resident George Floyd and other African Americans who've died in police custody, in a field near Enfield Park in Elizabeth City, Monday evening.

and for holding a peaceful get-together.

"We have been given a mandate to care for each other," Maurice said.

Pasquotank Sheriff Tommy Wooten used the opportunity to speak to let residents know he will not stand for any excessive use of force by his deputies.

"Excessive use of force will not be tolerated at the Pasquotank County Sheriff's Office," he said, adding nor will racism or discrimination. As a commitment to his pledge, Wooten provided the audience telephone contact numbers, to include the number to his personal cellular phone.

Elizabeth City Police Chief Eddie Buffalo said Tuesday that his department gave prior notice to surrounding businesses of the demonstration. The notification was meant to allow business owners the opportunity "to make the best decision regarding their business and the safety of their staff and patrons," Buffalo said.

"By all accounts it was

very inspiring and successful and peaceful assembly," the chief said.

Meanwhile, North Carolina's capital city enacted a curfew Monday after two nights of protests over the latest killing of a black man by police led to street fires, store break-ins, and fireworks thrown at officers.

Raleigh Mayor Mary-Ann Baldwin said in a statement that the curfew will run each night from 8 p.m. to 5 a.m. until she decides to rescind it. Except for medical emergencies and certain professions, curfew-breakers face a misdemeanor charge and a fine.

"By setting a curfew, my hope is that this will allow our community to pause, collect ourselves, begin to repair the damage and turn our focus to the important work of finding connection and commonality," Baldwin said.

In Greensboro, where businesses were also damaged, Mayor Nancy Vaughan announced a similar curfew from 8 p.m. until 6 a.m. Fayetteville's mayor

previously enacted a curfew.

The National Guard was deployed in Raleigh, police said in a tweet. Gov. Roy Cooper, a Democrat, had said Sunday that hundreds of Guardsmen were available to cities that requested them. On Monday, Cooper said in a tweet: "We must do the work of fighting racism and building safe communities for everyone."

The curfew comes after Raleigh protests Sunday included confrontations with police who used tear gas. As protesters dispersed, roving groups smashed windows at businesses and set fires in garbage cans and on sidewalks. They also defaced a large Confederate monument on the old state house grounds with obscenities and the initials of the Black Lives Matter movement.

Demonstrators angry over the death of George Floyd in Minneapolis confronted officers in riot gear at the old state capitol, then marched to the governor's mansion and other parts of downtown. Officers in

tight formation and wielding long clubs pushed the crowd along, firing tear gas and flash bang grenades to clear the streets.

The protests over Floyd's death last week have spread to cities and communities around the U.S.

In Charlotte, more than 15 demonstrators were arrested during protests Sunday night, the city's police department said in a Twitter post. Charlotte police said four of the arrests were for assaulting officers, including one person accused of hitting an officer with a rock. Three others were arrested on illegal weapon charges, police said.

The North Carolina chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union criticized the tear gas and rubber bullets used by police in Raleigh, saying that only compounded "the suffering and grief gripping our black and brown communities." The ACLU also warned that curfews raise serious constitutional concerns by "broadly infringing on the rights of peaceful demonstrators, and serving as a pretext for biased arrests." Any such restrictions must have valid justifications and narrowly tailored to protect the right of expression, the ACLU said in a release.

House Speaker Tim Moore, who keeps an apartment in downtown Raleigh and was there over the weekend, criticized Cooper on Monday for failing to use the National Guard more aggressively to discourage property damage. Moore said he noticed flags associated with left-wing extremist groups, indicating outside troublemakers were trying to take advantage of peaceful protesters speaking out about injustice.

"Their legitimate protest and concerns were hijacked," he said.

Associated Press contributed to this report and Chris Day is a reporter for the Daily Advance.

OBITUARIES

David Stanley Riddick

BELVIDERE - David Stanley Riddick, 64, of 438 Turnpike Road, passed away Friday, May 29, 2020 in his home.

Mr. Riddick was born in Pasquotank County on May 20, 1956, and was the son of the late Stanley Nathan Riddick and Aldean Hudson Lajara. A graduate of Perquimans County High School, he was a lifelong farmer.

Surviving are his two sons, Jared Nathan Riddick and wife, Mariah, and Joseph Andrew Riddick, both of Merry Hill; and three sisters, Ronda Lynch of Monroe, Gwen Bistarkey of Palm Bay, FL, and Sharon Klotz of Port Richey, FL.

Graveside services were held Wednesday, June 3rd, at 11:00 a.m. in Cedarwood Cemetery, and were conducted by Pastor Chuck Hartman. Entombment followed in the family mausoleum.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Amedisys Foundation, 201 East Water Street, Plymouth, NC 27962.

Miller & Van Essendelft, Funeral and Cremation Providers, 1125 Harvey Point Road, Hertford, is assisting the family with arrangements, and online condolences may be made by visiting www.miller-fhc.com.

OBITUARY POLICY

For information on submitting obituaries or death notices Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., call 252-329-9505 or email obits@apgenc.com and specify that you are interested in obituary information for The Perquimans Weekly. On weekends and holidays, email obits@apgenc.com. We do not ac-

cept notices by fax.

Obituaries must be received, processed and approved by noon on Tuesday to appear in print in the Thursday edition.

Death notices are \$25 and can include the name and age of the decedent; funeral and visitation or viewing information; and the name of the funeral home.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED FY 2020-2021 BUDGET

The proposed FY 2020-2021 Budget for Perquimans County was submitted to the Perquimans County Board of Commissioners on June 1, 2020 and is available for public inspection at the Clerk to the Board of Commissioners' Office in the Courthouse, Hertford, North Carolina. A summary of the proposed budget is available on the County's website at www.perquimanscountync.gov. A Public Hearing on the proposed Budget for FY 2020-2021 will be held on June 15, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the Auditorium at the Emergency Services Building located at 159 Creek Drive, Hertford, NC.

All citizens attending the hearing shall have the right to provide written and oral comments concerning the entire Budget for FY 2020-2021.

Frank Heath, County Manager



Warrants Issued for Edenton Man

BY MILES LAYTON
Editor

Warrants have been issued for the arrest of Torrance Brock, 18, of Mexico Road, Edenton, for attempted homicide.

Perquimans County Sheriff's Department said when they responded May 23 to a call of shots fired at the Burnt Mill Creek Trailer Park, they discovered Ahmad Trafton, of Edenton, had been shot. Trafton was taken to Vidant Medical Center in Greenville where he remains in serious condition.

"He lost a lot of blood. He fought for his life because God gave him a second chance," said Trafton's mother, Shea Gaskins-Valentine. "I was not prepared

for this type of call and I do not want another mother to feel my pain. Due to the coronavirus, I have not physically seen my son yet. This is the worst pain any mother could every experience. He did not deserve what happened to him. I want justice, action, this has to stop."

Gaskins-Valentine said her son is an alumnus of John A. Holmes High School, Class of 2018. He played basketball for the Aces and later worked at Regulator Marine.

Anyone with information about the incident and/or Brock's location, please call the Perquimans Sheriff's Department at 252-426-5615 and/or the Edenton Police Department at 252-482-4444.

Projects Open for Review Perquimans County Schools Public Notice

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA-Part B, Public Law 108.446) Project is presently being amended. The project describes the special education program that Perquimans County Schools proposes for Federal funding for the 2020-2021 school year. Interested persons are encouraged to review amendments to the Project and make comments concerning the implementation of special education under this Federal Program. All comments will be considered prior to submission of the amended Project to the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction in Raleigh, North Carolina. The IDEA-Part B project is open to the public for review and comments during the week of June 8-June 12, 2020 in the Office of Mrs. Kanika Griffin, Chief Academic Officer of Student Services, at Perquimans County Schools Central Office, which is located at 411 Edenton Road Street, Hertford, NC 27944. Please contact Ms. Trischa Quinlan, Administrative Assistant, at 252-426-5741 ext. 234 to schedule an appointment.

CLARIFICATION

An article about an arson fire at a United Methodist Church in Winfall published in the May 21 edition needs some clarification. A sentence in the article, written by the Daily Advance as part of a story that appeared in the Perquimans Weekly, quoted Perquimans County Fire Marshal Barry Overman as saying that "he had notified the State Bureau of Investigation (of the fire) but ... the agency will not assist in the investigation."

The sentence may have been misconstrued by some as saying the SBI chose not to get involved in the investigation or refused to investigate the fire. That was not the case. An SBI agent asked if the agency's assistance was needed and was advised by local officials that since the fire did not involve a hate crime or a series of suspicious fires, local authorities thought they could handle the probe.

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