

# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

"News from Next Door"

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2020

\$1.00



## PAGE A6

See what pets are available at the animal shelter



## PAGE B1

Time to apply for Daughtery mini-grant



## INSIDE

Albemarle Magazine

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## Town Sets Curfew

Hertford Mayor Earnell Brown has imposed a week-long curfew to ensure the safety of citizens that started Tuesday and ends next Tuesday, Sept. 22.

Children and youth below the age of 18 are to be off the streets from 4 p.m. to 6 a.m.

Adults 18 and over are to be off the streets from 9:30 p.m. to 5:30 a.m.

The exceptions are for

See **CURFEW**, A3

## Trio of Shootings, One Fatal, Examined

BY MILES LAYTON  
Editor

Local and state law enforcement officials are investigating a trio of recent shootings in Perquimans County, one that claimed the life of a Hertford man, two others that sent two men to area hospitals.

And Perquimans County Sheriff's Office arrested a county woman Saturday in connection with a stabbing in Holiday Island that sent a man to a Greenville hospital.

The first of three shootings began around 2:36 a.m. Sunday morning when, according to the PCSO, authorities received a report of a shooting in the 100 block of Miller Street outside Hertford.

Tay'quan Coleman, 23, of Hertford, was shot in the incident, the Sheriff's Office said. Coleman was transported to Sentara Albemarle Medical Center in Elizabeth City where he died from his injuries, the sheriff said.

Roughly 13 hours later, at 3:30 p.m. Sunday, Hertford police and the PCSO responded to a second shooting incident in the area of King Street and Edenton Road in Hertford.

Responding officers found a man who had been shot numerous times. Police did not identify the man but said he remains in stable condition at an area hospital.

According to witnesses, occupants of a tan or brown older model Buick sedan and an older model boxy silver SUV shot the man and then left the area, Hertford police Chief Dennis Brown said.

"Officers are working several leads. However, we are asking anyone with information to call 252-426-5751," Brown said.

See **SHOOTINGS**, A3

## Hertford Town Council Nixes HUD Complex

BY MILES LAYTON  
Editor

Hertford Town Council voted against plans to pursue the possible development of a 245 residential unit federal Housing and Urban Development housing complex during Monday's meeting.

Also, council approved plans to pay past due 911 fees due to the county.

More to come from Monday's council meeting will appear in next week's Perquimans Weekly.

After a couple hours of debate, council voted 3-2 against paying \$25,000 for legal fees to explore whether a low to moderate income HUD housing complex is feasible — a project estimated to cost \$40 million — money that would come primarily from an Urban Development

Block Grant, if the grant was awarded.

Mayor Earnell Brown along with councilmen Ashley Hodges and Jerry Mimplitsch voted against pursuing the project while councilmen Frank Norman and Quentin Jackson voiced their support for the town house complex.

Mayor Pro Tem Hodges presented an extensive presentation as to why pursuing this

project would be a financial disaster for the Town of Hertford. Brown and Mimplitsch shared their own thoughts as to how housing complex would adversely affect the citizens.

Jackson and Norman countered that a project this size would benefit the town not only through economic development and enhanced

See **COMPLEX**, A2

## PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Flanked by a family that has deep ties to the Perquimans County School system, Hertford Grammar School Principal John Lassiter (center/blue shirt) has been named county schools' Principal of the Year.

## Lassiter Named Perquimans Schools Principal of the Year

'I believe that by serving others, I am serving my Savior.'

BY MILES LAYTON  
Editor

John Lassiter, principal of Hertford Grammar School, has been named this year's Perquimans County Schools 2020-2021 Principal of the Year.

Lassiter joined the Perquimans County Schools' family as principal of Hertford Grammar School in 2018. Prior to that he served as principal of Chowan Middle School from 2015-2018, Assistant Principal at Currituck County High School from 2013-2015, and as a math teacher at Perquimans County High School 2011-2013 and John A. Holmes High School from 2009-2011.

See **LASSITER**, A3



A Pirates' alumnus, John Lassiter has dedicated his life to public education. "There is nothing like walking into a classroom where a teacher is in her element 'turning light bulbs on' for students. If I serve teachers well they can serve students better. I try to balance out my personality with acts of service because I believe that by serving others, I am serving my Savior," said Lassiter, principal at Hertford Grammar School.

## ARHS Reports More Deaths from Virus

### FROM STAFF REPORTS

Albemarle Regional Health Services reported two more deaths from COVID-19 on Friday, raising the death toll from the respiratory disease in the health agency's eight-county region to 70.

ARHS said one of those who died lived in Perquimans County, the other in Hertford County. Both were over 65, ARHS said.

The Perquimans death was

the county's third. The Hertford death was that county's 25th overall and seventh of the week.

Meanwhile, the number of lab-confirmed cases of coronavirus in the eight counties surpassed 2,500 — an increase of nearly 200 in a week.

The number of active cases in the region as of Friday was 327, down from 358 a week ago. Pasquotank and Hertford counties, both of which have surpassed 600 COVID cases, were

reporting the most active cases, 80 and 75, respectively. Chowan County, which has 269 cases, had 54 active cases. No other county had more than 32.

The number of recoveries — those persons presumed to have recovered from COVID — rose to 2,118 on Friday, an increase of 213 from a week ago. That's about 84 percent of all cases.

ARHS also released updated

See **VIRUS**, A3

## ROUND-UP

## Birthdays, Rotary Photo Tour

BY MILES LAYTON  
Editor

A round-up of all things Perquimans County...

Mary Alice Brinn celebrated her 95th birthday Sunday. See story and photos on page B1.

It's always nice to cover good news. Lot of people joined the birthday celebration. In contrast to other news stories percolating up over the weekend, it was refreshing to see Hertford put its best foot forward by honoring one of its own.

Speaking of birthdays, Phil McMullan Jr. of Hertford turned 90 on Monday. He's lived a long productive life as has been written about in these pages in past editions. Born Sept. 14, 1930, Phil endured the Great Depression, the War years, came of age in the 1950s, witnessed the nation's struggles during the Vietnam era, 70s' malaise, 80s' restoration, 90s' grunge, 2000's awakening to global terrorism, the 10's decade of cultural and political upheavals topped off by 2020's pandemic and economic uncertainty. Now that's something.

Shepard-Pruden Librarian and Perquimans resident Jennifer Finlay has been swimming and body boarding in the Perquimans River. An accomplished swimmer, Finlay has been swimming open water for years in various locales including the San Francisco Bay. I'm envious, so I may join her the next time she takes a dip in the Perquimans River.

Gary Lico of Albemarle Plantation has written a few books — that's a new twist to the biography of everyone's favorite local Santa Claus and the guy behind Forensic Files.

Lico's newsletter says, "Feeling a little blue these days? A lot of us are. As a guy who has gone through a few valleys in his life, I've assembled a couple of collections of motivational writings, pep talks and spiritual passages." They're yours for free — head to the website: <https://www.garyllico.tv/free-motivational-books.html>

In other news, the Rotary Club of Hertford is hosting a photo tour rally of Perquimans County on October 9-11, 2020 designed to encourage our community to "get out of the house", explore our county, take a selfie photo to show that you were there, and submit your photos to qualify for a series of prizes including a two day vacation at a Wyndham Resort.

Our community can do all of this and keep within the guidelines of "social distancing". We hope it will be a lot of fun plus raise money for our scholarship program.

Usually the Rotary Club of Hertford sponsors a concert to raise

See **ROUNDUP**, A2



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