

OBITUARIES

Thomas Anthony Koelzer

HERTFORD - Thomas Anthony Koelzer, 71, of Albemarle Plantation, Hertford, passed away Sunday evening, November 1, 2020, in his home with his wife by his side, after a valiant four year fight against pancreatic cancer.



Tom was born in Detroit, Michigan, on March 29, 1949, and was the son of the late Gerald Louis and Mary Helen (Kaslik) Koelzer. He was the youngest of five children.

A 1967 graduate of Fraser High School, Tom enjoyed playing football and hockey over academics. He served in the US Navy from 1968 to 1972 having been a veteran of the Vietnam War and serving on aircraft carriers in Tonkin Bay, Vietnam, and the Middle East. While on the ship, he worked in radio mechanics and was known for playing the music for the crew (his first DJing gig?). He retired at 50, as an Engineering Work Order Writer with General Motors, Truck & Bus Group, where he had been employed for 32 years including his years of military service.

While at GM, Tom met his wife through a co-worker/golf buddy, Harvey Terry, and married his daughter Shannon. They lived for 21 years on a canal in Algonac, Michigan where he enjoyed boating, fishing, duck hunting, and always hockey—playing in an Over-Fifty League up until moving to North Carolina in 2008.

He honed his cooking skills and became known for his smoked salmon and for what he could pull off the grill, especially his ribs slathered with his own special sauce that changed names over the years—Top Shelf Sauce (using everything on the top shelf of the refrigerator), Marsh Mud (while living on the St. John's Marsh in Algonac) and finally Swamp Sauce (living near the swamp areas of the Albemarle Sound).

Retiring early at the age of 50, Tom was often asked what he was going to do next and he would simply reply with the question, "What part of retirement don't you get?" He did, however, continue to work by helping his wife in her design business and ultimately, giving himself the lofty title of Vice President.

For the last twelve years, Tom has enjoyed living in the Albemarle Plantation where he became the "Music Man" for social events, explored the Albemarle Sound by boat, and fed his passion for golf. He was still competing in golf tournaments up until mid-July while searching out clinical drug trials during a pandemic. He was known for his quick wit and always—his smile. He enjoyed nature, life, people and good times.

Along with his parents, Tom was preceded in death by sisters Sue Salter and Carolyn DeLamielleure.

In addition to his wife, Shannon Terry, of 33 years, Tom is survived by sister, Veronica Kelhofer of Conyers, GA; brother, Gerald (Carole) Koelzer of Clinton Twp, MI; mother-in-law, Margaret Terry of Las Vegas, NV; sister-in-law, Maureen Terry (Eric) Morehead of Gainesville, GA; brothers-in-law, Ed (Chris) Terry of Shelby Twp, MI, Rob (Adrienne) Terry of Las Vegas, NV, and Jim Terry of Las Vegas, NV; many nieces and nephews, where he was known as Uncle Tom or simply U.T.; extended family members and dear friends.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date once it is safe to do so.

If you wish to make a charitable donation in Tom's memory, please choose one that you feel best honors him, as Tom's own charitable commitments were all over the map (nature, wildlife, cancer research, food banks, children's hospitals, etc.).

A note to family, friends and neighbors asking what they may do: Please know you have already done it. You have shown great love and support throughout his lifetime, especially over the last four years. Your friendships spanning the years from Michigan to North Carolina were the reason when asked what was left on his bucket list to do, Tom replied, "Nothing. I'm living it. I wouldn't change a thing."

Miller & Van Essendelft Funeral and Cremation Providers, 1125 Harvey Point Road, Hertford, North Carolina, is assisting the family with arrangements. Condolences may be made online by visiting www.millerfhc.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 accept 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.

James Bean

WINFALL - James "Jim" Bean, 79, of Winfall, a retired counselor and math instructor, passed on to be with the Lord on Sunday, November 8, 2020.

Jim loved giving and sharing of himself with his family, friends, and persons hoping for a better future.

At his request and for the love and care of others, he wished there not be a service.

The family wishes to express their deep appreciation to everyone who has visited and expressed care and compassion to Jim during the years of his declining health and heart disease and also to Linda and the Bean family.

Online condolences may be made to the family by visiting www.millerfhc.com.

State Introduces COVID-19 County Alert System

FROM SUBMITTED REPORTS

RALEIGH — Governor Roy Cooper and Dr. Mandy Cohen, Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS) announced a new COVID-19 County Alert System to pinpoint counties with the highest levels of viral spread and offer specific recommendations to bring numbers down. This system will help give local leaders another tool to understand how their county is faring and to make decisions about actions to slow viral spread. The map will be updated every four weeks.

The system uses metrics informed by the White

House Coronavirus Task Force and North Carolina's key metrics to categorize counties into three tiers:

- Yellow: Significant Community Spread
- Orange: Substantial Community Spread
- Red: Critical Community Spread

Because no one metric provides a complete picture, the COVID-19 County Alert System uses a combination of three metrics: case rate, the percent of tests that are positive, and hospital impact within the county.

To be assigned to the red or orange tier, a county must meet the threshold for case rate for that tier AND the threshold for either percent positive OR hospital impact.

S-BRIDGE

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ncleg.gov

In other news, when the Waterfront Advisory Board met recently, each member introduced themselves to Platt and explained why they wanted to participate and their skills they thought would help with the project. The next meeting will be sometime in January.

At the January meeting, Platt will have a program in place that will record this and future meetings and citizen comments.

Sunday, twenty-one citizens came to Missing Mill Park to volunteer to do the housing assessment for the project. Five teams of 3-4 volunteers

were formed and assigned to sections of the town. There are 3 categories, building condition, property condition and architecture. This information will be entered into the county GIS program.

The purpose of this is to eventually apply for programs to improve these properties. A map that is color coded will show at a glance what sections need assistance. The plan is to be finished by the end of the first week in December.

So if you see a group of 2-4 people standing in front of your house or building with notebooks feel free to talk to them and offer any ideas as to what you would like to see happen in Hertford. Citizen input is wanted and needed.

TOWN OF WINFALL OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED

Thursday, November 26, 2020
and
Friday, November 27, 2020

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County Ballots to be Recounted

FROM STAFF, SUBMITTED REPORTS

RALEIGH — A statewide recount of more than 5 million ballots cast in North Carolina's Supreme Court chief justice contest will begin today, Nov. 19.

The recount likely will take several days in some counties, and county boards of elections must complete their recounts by Wednesday, Nov. 25. It is North Carolina's first statewide recount since the 2016 state auditor's race, which confirmed the results in that contest.

Democrat Cheri Beasley requested the recount in a letter to the State Board of Elections on Tuesday.

Beasley trails Republican Paul Newby by fewer than 400 votes out of nearly 5.4 million cast in the race for the state's highest court.

That puts the race within the 10,000-vote threshold for the trailing candidate to demand a recount.

"We cannot express enough gratitude for the hard work of our county boards of elections, who continue to ensure accurate and fair results in this election," said Karen Brinson Bell, executive director of the State Board of Elec-

tions. "Recounts are an important part of the elections process that help guarantee voters' wishes are realized in the closest of contests."

On Monday night, the State Board of Elections issued guidance to the county boards of elections on the recount process. See Numbered Memo 2020-31 for details on recount procedures.

County boards of elections may begin recounting ballots today, Nov. 19, or sooner if they meet the 48-hour public notice requirement.

All 100 county boards of elections will conduct recounts of their ballots by running them through tabulators. The counties are responsible for recount costs. Counties with recounts for local contests may conduct them at the same time.

Candidates, the media and the general public may attend the recount meetings, subject to space limitations and social distancing requirements.

However, use of video or still cameras by the public inside the recount room while the recount is in progress is not permitted because of the statutory prohibition on photographing or videotaping individual ballots.

Cooper Offers \$10K Reward in Girl's Death

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Gov. Roy Cooper announced on Friday that the state is offering a \$10,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible in the July shooting death of 9-year-old Makiia Slade in Chowan County.

The state's contribution brings the total in reward money to \$15,000, after state Sen. Bob Steinburg, R-Chowan, announced in September a group of concerned citizens were offering a \$5,000 reward in the case.

Makiia Slade was killed July 24 when she was struck by bullets fired into a vehicle being driven by her mother, Shatory Hunter Slade.

Shatory Slade, who was 30 at the time, also was shot and was critically injured in the attack. She was taken to Vidant Medical Center in Greenville for treatment and later released.

No arrests have been made in either shooting.

Makiia was a rising fourth-grader at D.F. Walker Elementary School. In August, more than 200 people attended a candlelight vigil to remember her, and in September a boat parade on the Albemarle Sound aimed to honor Makiia, and to keep the community's focus on her death. A poker run, which started in Hertford, was also held.

The shooting occurred around 10:15 p.m., Friday, July 24, and investigators suspect more than one person shot at Slade's vehicle.

According to the Chowan County Sheriff's Office, Shatory Slade was driving south on U.S. Highway 17 when several gunshots fired from a passing vehicle struck Slade's vehicle near the West Queen Street interchange.

Anyone with information about the case is asked to contact the Chowan County Sheriff's Office at 252-482-8484 or the State Bureau of Investigation at 919-662-4500.

LAW ENFORCEMENT LOG

Perquimans Sheriff's Office arrests between Nov. 6 and Nov. 12:

- Joyleesa Rankins of Rocky Mount was arrested Nov. 6 and charged with failure to appear. Bond was set at \$1,000 secured.
- Arick Hall of Elizabeth City was arrested Nov. 7 and charged with

failure to appear and driving while his license is revoked. Bond was set at \$500/other.

■ Lance Hall of Tyner was arrested Nov. 10 and charged with failure to appear/shoplifting and failure to return hired motor vehicle. Bond was set at \$7,000 secured.

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