

# Front-line Workers Receive Vaccine

BY PAUL NIELSEN  
For The Perquimans Weekly

Vidant Chowan Hospital began administering the COVID-19 vaccination to its employees last week.

Dr. Earic Bonner, with Vidant Internal Medicine-Edenton, and Jordan Walton, an occupational therapist in the Rehabilitation Services department, were the first team members to receive the vaccine.

Albemarle Regional Health Services, which runs the Perquimans County Health Department, expected to administer the

first doses of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine earlier this week.

ARHS expected 4,000 doses in its first allotment. Front-line health care workers will be the first to receive the vaccine in the agency's eight-county region.

Spokesperson Amy Underhill said ARHS is starting to receive the vaccine and the supplies needed to administer the vaccine. The Federal Drug Administration issued an emergency use authorization, or EUA, for the Moderna vaccine over the weekend.

## SANTA

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there are so many toys to make.

Mrs. Claus...here's a secret...she's the supervisor of just about everything, because I am too busy being jolly and doing all that HO-HO-HO! stuff. So to answer the question: your Christmas crew has never been more ready. Especially this year. We're bringing extra love and joy with every present."

Perquimans Weekly has talked to Santa and even had coffee with the big man at Brew 2 Rescue Cafe. Questions always arise because Santa is the ultimate man of mystery. Based on prior notes, here is what we know about Santa.

Known as the Inner Banks Santa, he shared his reasoning for planting roots at Albemarle Plantation in Perquimans County.

"North Pole can be kind of cold, so I come down to northeastern North Carolina a lot where it is nice and pleasant," he said. "The cold up there — you get used to it like anything else. With climate change, it is getting a little warmer there. Sometimes I wear a T-shirt, so I'm not always in the fur-lined winter coat."

As CEO of the world's biggest toy factory, Santa is keenly aware of how important it is to be a good boss.

"I believe in the rights of the working elf — they are paid in kind," he said. "I give them room and board, generous meals — all the cookies they can eat. Plus they get to play with all the toys. It's a sweet gig."

How does Santa go down

chimneys and enter homes?

"Santa has a special ability to snuggle in small places, but most of the time we're going in the front door," he said. "And we have a magic key that enables us to get into every house one night a year."

Santa explained how he's able to deliver toys in such a tight time frame.

"Not all countries and people celebrate Christmas," he said. "To them, Santa Claus might be a good myth, but it's not real in their lives, so that eliminates a huge number of people. Times zones work for us and the fact that there are so many people living in confined areas right now that it's easy to just drop off the presents and keep on scooting."

Santa says Christmas seems to resonate in some places.

"I like to visit places that love Christmas, places that make Christmas the centerpiece of their town — Edenton is that kind of town; New York City is that kind of a city," Santa said. "Almost any big city in Germany where they really get into it and it is beautiful. Switzerland is like that, so is Italy."

His favorite toy to give? "Books without a doubt, because what they offer lasts forever," he said.

'Tis the season for Santa to put in long hours.

"Our shift is 24/7 — as soon as the Halloween stuff is put away, we're cranking," Santa said. "Of course, the elves are making toys all year. Day after Halloween, we really start gearing up the sleigh, putting the reindeer through their paces."

Mrs. Claus is supportive of her husband's efforts to

## OBITUARIES

### Edward Wallace Huntington

HERTFORD - Edward Wallace Huntington, age 72, of Anglers Cove Rd., Hertford, NC died Thursday, December 17, 2020 at Sentara Albemarle Medical Center. Born in Westfield, MA on October 9, 1948 to the late Wallace E. Huntington and Maude Kingham Huntington, he was the husband of Evangelista Diaz Huntington. Ed was a retired photographer for the U. S. Navy and the U. S. Coast Guard.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by a daughter, Ava Pauline Ryan and son-in-law Troy A. Ryan of Chesapeake, VA; two stepsons, Chiral Hiraldo and Tony Hiraldo; and five grandchildren, Saxton Edward Cruz, Darrian Reece Cruz, Brittany Ryan, Rebecca Ryan, and Noelle Ryan.

A funeral service will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 20, 2020 at Twiford Memorial Chapel, officiated by Minister Kevin Reiver. Burial will be at Cedarwood Cemetery in Hertford, NC. Twiford Funeral Home, 405 East Church Street, Elizabeth City, NC is serving the Huntington family. Online memorial condolences may be sent to the family at [www.TwifordFH.com](http://www.TwifordFH.com).

spread joy worldwide.

"Mrs Claus is great — she has to contend with an overweight, over jolly guy all the time. She keeps me in line. She keeps me scheduled — 'yay Mrs. Claus,' Santa cheered.

Santa shared his thoughts on his lead reindeer.

"Rudolph — he's starting to get a little bit cocky. All these years of the song being sung, he's like 'I am the Red-nosed Reindeer,'" he said.

Santa doesn't rely on computers or social media to compile his famous naughty or nice list.

"I'm old school, so eye balling the list and writing down whose naughty and nice works best for me," he said.

Being Santa is about more than wearing the suit, it is a calling.

"The thing about being a Santa is that it is really a calling," he said. "I think most of us who are Santa on a regular basis will tell you that. I read this magazine ad, saying 'be a Santa Claus.' I thought, 'well, I'm the right size, my hair is white, let's let the beard grow.'"

What's the worst thing he's experienced as Santa?

"Nobody has peed on me and nobody has puked on me," said Santa as he laughed like a bowl full of jelly. "There's been a few crying babies, but that's to be expected. Plus half the time I think it is the parents who need to understand that they are thrusting their child at a big guy in red — maybe that might make the child a little nervous."

But in all seriousness, being Santa is not all Snickerdoodles and photo ops.

"Toughest story maybe — a kid asked, 'Santa will you bring my parents back together.' The only thing you can say is 'Santa can't do that. I wish I could do that, but Santa can not do that. But what I will do is keep you in my thoughts and keep your family in my prayers.' There is a real spiritual element to Santa that I didn't really realize going in, but most of the Santa Clauses that I know — and I know about 450 of them are religious and spiritual people."

Santa said the best part is when a kid looks up at him with sheer love and joy.

"What's really special is that when a child is 7 or 8 years old — the sweet spot of believing — when they just look and say, 'I just love you,'" he said.

After Christmas, there's a bit of let down for a lot of people, Santa included.

"Everyone has a little post-holiday depression I suppose or lower mood after the excitement of Christmas," he said. "Last year I saw upwards of 350 people — that's 350 hugs. That's a lot all of sudden to not have."

Santa's spirit not only shapes the lives of millions of people each Christmas, but one special guy in Hertford.

"Being Santa affects me very deeply," he said. "Being Santa has changed some of my behavior. I take it very seriously — all of us do really. I think anything you feel that passionate about when it goes away, there's a hole there."

For more information about how to connect with Santa, see [santa@innerbankssanta.com](http://santa@innerbankssanta.com).

### Maynard Lewis Selleck

HERTFORD - Maynard Lewis Selleck, US Navy, Retired, 80, of Hertford, passed away Monday, December 14, 2020, in Elizabeth City Health and Rehabilitation.



Mr. Selleck was born in Roanoke, VA on July 21, 1940, and was the son of the late John Lewis Selleck and Frances Marie Ward Selleck. A retired Master Chief and veteran of the Vietnam War, he proudly served his country in the US Navy for a total of 31 years. Memberships enjoyed included Hertford United Methodist Church, the Fleet Reserve Association, and Veterans of Foreign Wars. He had also volunteered with Sentara Albemarle Medical Center in Elizabeth City and enjoyed Square Dancing for many years.

Surviving are his wife of 59 years, Kathleen Wingo Selleck; two daughters, Elisa Selleck Mann and husband, Billy, of Chesapeake, VA, and Diane Marie Selleck and husband, Mike Evans, of Lake Havasu City, AZ; two sisters, Billie Gerring of Dublin, VA and Sharon Altizer of Salem, VA; four brothers, Roger Selleck of Spring Hill, FL, Jerry Selleck of Dublin, Terry Selleck of Radford, VA, and Perry Selleck of Mayo, FL; two grandsons, John Doolittle and Justin Mann; and a great-granddaughter, Riley Michelle Doolittle.

Graveside services with military honors were held Friday at 11:00 a.m. in Southwest Virginia Veterans Cemetery, 5550 Bagging Plant Road, Dublin, VA.

With restrictions associated with the Covid-19 Pandemic, no formal visitation was held. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to any chapter of the American Cancer Society.

Miller & Van Essendelft Funeral and Cremation Providers, 11215 Harvey Point Road, Hertford, is assisting the family with arrangements, and online condolences may be made by visiting [www.millerfhc.com](http://www.millerfhc.com).

### Barbara Jane Wentzel Mott

HERTFORD - Our community sadly lost a great woman early Sunday morning, December 20, 2020.

Barbara Jane Wentzel Mott, fondly known as "BJ", of the Snug Harbor community of Hertford, passed away peacefully in her home where she was surrounded by her loving family.



Barbara Jane was born in Pottstown, PA on July 17, 1927, and was the daughter of the late Clayton Wentzel and Ethel Houck Wentzel. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by a sister, Vivian, and brothers, Gerald and Ralph.

BJ was a graduate of Ben Franklin Institute in Philadelphia, PA. After completion of school, she became a commercial artist. Among her many talents included doll making, quilting, drawing, and painting, with her paintings having won numerous awards.

In 1948, she met her husband, Lincoln Owen "Linc" Mott, and after a wonderful courtship they were married on November 10, 1951 in a Lutheran Church in Pottstown, which was conducted by The Reverend Krouse. BJ and Linc had a wonderful 69 years of marriage. Together, they raised a son, Leigh Owen Mott. BJ thought the world of her son, a caring, thoughtful and wonderful husband and father. They resided in Tuckerton, NJ for many years and the Mott's hosted many events on the Mott's Farm to assist with local organizations. In 1984, they relocated to the Snug Harbor community of Hertford.

In addition to her husband and son, surviving are her daughter-in-law, Rhonda Pierce Mott; three grandchildren, Dylan Leigh Mott, Reagan Mott Carlin, and Jakob Pierce Mott; two great-grandchildren, Mason Sawyer Mott and Leighton Elizabeth Mott; and the family canine, Ava.

She will be missed dearly by her family, but they are so thankful to the Lord for bringing her home to all of her loved ones.

At her request, no services will be held. Miller & Van Essendelft Funeral and Cremation Providers, 11215 Harvey Point Road, Hertford, is assisting the family with arrangements, and online condolences may be made by visiting [www.millerfhc.com](http://www.millerfhc.com).

## LAW ENFORCEMENT LOG

Perquimans Sheriff's arrests between Dec. 11 and Dec. 17:

■ Peggy Gilliam of Wynne Fork Road, Hertford, was arrested Dec. 11 and charged with simple assault. Bond/other.

■ Lavonna Peterson of West Grubb Street, Hertford, was arrested Dec. 11 and charged with injury/damage to real property and simple assault. Bond/other.

■ Sonya Thomas of Stokes Street, Hertford, was arrested Dec. 11 and charged with cyberstalking and communicating threats. Bond/other.

■ Tracy Ghose of Pirate Cove Way, Hertford, was arrested Dec. 13

and charged with failure to appear for court. Bond was set at \$200 secured.

■ Kenneth Ferebee of Grubb Street, Hertford, was arrested Dec. 13 and charged with communicating threats. Bond/other.

■ Peggy Gilliam of Wynne Fork Road, Hertford, was arrested Dec. 14 and charged with simple assault. Bond was set at \$500 unsecured.

■ Kim Maddox of Dockery Drive, Hertford, was arrested Dec. 14 and

charged with larceny and possession of stolen property. Bond was a written promise.

■ Nyzir Tillet of Pender Road, Hertford, was arrested Dec. 16 and charged with injury to personal property. Bond/other.

# Baby's 1st CHRISTMAS

**Peyton Rose Trice**  
January 23, 2020

Parents  
**Ben & Shelly Trice**

Grandparents  
**Richard & Beverly Alexander**

Great-Grandparent  
**Berline Harrell**

**Savannah Grace Jorgensen**  
January 6, 2020

Parents  
**Dwayne & Amanda Jorgensen**

Grandparents  
**Richard & Beverly Alexander**

Great-Grandparent  
**Berline Harrell**

## 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](mailto:obits@apgenc.com) and specify that you are interested in obituary information for The Perquimans Weekly. On weekends and holidays, email [obits@apgenc.com](mailto: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 and can include the name and age of the decedent; funeral and visitation or viewing information; and the name of the funeral home.

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