

# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

"News from Next Door"

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 2021

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**PAGE A6**  
Tri-County Animal Shelter Pets of the Week



**PAGE B1**  
Pirates claim AAC volleyball championship, head to state playoffs



**PAGE B4**  
Newbold-White site still teaches history

## Jackson Files Lawsuit, Seeks Mayor's Censure

Motion to Censure Fails

BY MILES LAYTON  
Editor

Hertford Town Councilman Quentin Jackson announced Monday that he has filed a lawsuit against Mayor Earnell Brown and that he seeks a public hearing to censure her.

Jackson's plans come on the heels of Brown's public statement during a December council meeting about his actions, some of which involve criminal conduct.

"I have taken out a lawsuit on the mayor. I know that's not going to sit well, but what the mayor started saying was that everything she said was facts. What was so so funny is that I went back and researched all this stuff and she lies. She constantly lies," he said during Monday's council meeting.

Jackson's motion to censure failed



BROWN



JACKSON

3-2 with Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Ashley Hodges and Councilman Jerry Mimplitsch opposing the measure and councilmen Jackson and Frank Norman supporting it.

Previously during the Dec. 15 council meeting, Brown urged Hertford town councilors to take action against Jackson, claiming his conduct is reflect-

ing negatively on the town. Brown called for council to either censure Jackson, seek to remove him from office, or seek state legislation authorizing the town to hold a recall election.

Hodges said while any criminal and ethics policy violations should be taken seriously, censure is a simple gesture that doesn't affect an officeholder's ability to vote or serve on a board.

Hodges said though it is an action that can be taken and recorded in the official meeting minutes, "she

doesn't stop being mayor and you (Jackson) don't stop being a councilman. What I tell people is, if you don't like who's up here, that's what the voting box is for."

Hodges added that while council should all be holding itself to ethical standards, "there are so many problems to solve that spending a lot of time on this (censure) stuff to me is not the most productive use of time."

Mimplitsch said when council discussed the possibility of censuring

See CHALLENGES, A3

## Register to Get COVID-19 Vaccine

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Albemarle Regional Health Services established a registration system for those seeking the COVID-19 vaccine, and residents of the eight-county region who are 75 and older will be the first in line for the shots.

ARHS announced the new registration system Monday. It replaces the first-come, first-serve system ARHS used at eight regional clinics last week to distribute 8,000 doses of the COVID vaccine.

ARHS said persons 75 and older will get first priority for COVID vaccinations under the new registration system. They're being asked to visit ARHS' website and register for vaccinations at <https://www.arhsnc.org/information/COVID-19/vaccines/>.

The agency said that it has 300 vaccines allotted for Perquimans County.

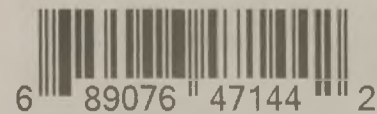
ARHS said it's currently collecting names and contact information for those 75 and older to "document actual demand" for the vaccine among that age group so clinics can be scheduled next week. Right now, those clinics are scheduled to be held Jan. 19-22, the agency said.

ARHS also plans to use the registration site going forward to schedule future clinics.

According to ARHS, it expects to receive a total of 2,800 doses of the vaccine, and distribution will be divided among its eight counties the following way: Pasquotank County will get 600 doses; Currituck County will get 500 doses; Hertford County 400 doses; Bertie, Chowan and Perquimans counties will get 300 doses each; and Gates and Camden counties will get 200 each.

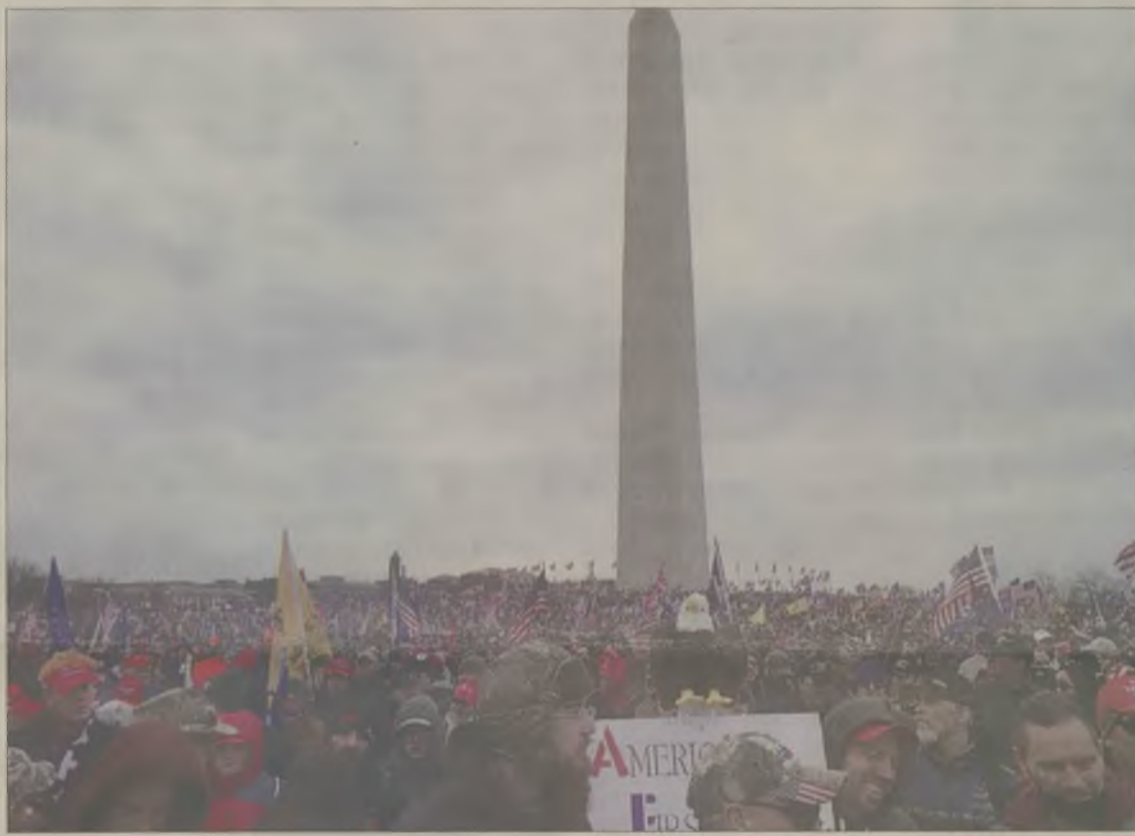
"We have set the allocation for each county and the first individuals signed up and registered through this link will be contacted to receive vaccine," ARHS said. "You can only register for one county; if you register for more than one county, your name will be removed."

See VACCINE, A3



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Vol. 87, No. 2  
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SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Many local people said they attended the event to protest what they view as a fraudulent election and to support President Trump.

## Locals Share What They Saw in DC

'A long, hard day.'

BY MILES LAYTON  
AND NICOLE LAYTON  
Adams Publishing Group

**Editor's Note:** We've talked to local people who were in Washington, DC, to learn why they attended the Save America Rally and what they saw during this historical event that shook the nation.

Much like other national stories of interest, we did this to learn more about what happened so we could provide a local perspective to our readers.

Based on negative feedback from social media when first reporting these events, we're not going to debate semantics as to whether to define the Save America Rally and the subsequent chaos that ensued as a protest, rally, riot or use words like sedition, treason or insurrection.

And in contrast to the major mainstream media, we're not going to demonize the people who attended the protest because they are part of our northeastern North Carolina community.

To read an editorial about judging people, see the editorial board opinion on page A4.

People we interviewed said they attended the rally to peacefully protest what they view as a fraudulent election and to support President Donald Trump.

Elections results indicate that 74 million people voted for Trump and 81 million people cast ballots for President-elect Joe Biden.

None of the people we spoke to participated in the Jan. 6 events inside the Capitol building that echoed around the world.

When rioters breached police perimeters, they then occupied, vandalized, looted and ransacked parts of the Capitol building for several hours. The breach led to

the evacuation and lockdown of the Capitol building, as well as five deaths.

Later as these events transpired, everyone we talked to was made aware of what was happening based on news reports, not firsthand knowledge.

Because of the bitter partisan divide and cancel culture, we are not publishing these people's names so as to protect their identities and their careers. To illustrate this point about repercussions, one woman we talked to was fired from her job because she attended the rally.

'A long hard day'

One man, a longtime conservative with strong ties to Edenton, shared his perspective about what happened. He was leading a group of people that he had trav-

See DC, A2

ROWELL'S WORDS

## Heroes

This is the promised second part from last week's regarding the 1978 Winslow Oil Fire. Early on a Tuesday morning Jan. 10, there was an explosion and subsequent fire at the Winslow Oil Com-



WILLIAM ROWELL

pany facility just off West Grubbs St. It engulfed the entire business and posed a threat to the surrounding area.

Any event of this magnitude presents some interesting individual stories. I would like to share a few

that I have learned of. I do not mean to say these are all, or the most important; simply, these are the one I know of. My apologies in advance to any omitted.

First, you need to know, that our local fire department answered a house fire call at 2:00 a.m. that morning prior to this going down at 7:55 a.m. So much for a good night's sleep! Sid Eley was on that call and later was on his way to school to teach his class when the explosion occurred. He was dressed for the indoors, but went straight to the site and a long, cold day ahead.

Jimmy "Catfish" Hunter had been hunting and heard the initial blast. He came to the scene and was later talking with some fireman in the street. Another tank exploded sending a metal cap flying in their direction. They scattered but one of

See HEROES, A3



WRAL/SCREENSHOT

An oil tanker is consumed by the blaze.

## Steinburg Tapped to Lead Committees in Raleigh

Influence Grows in Second Term for Key Local Issues

FROM STAFF REPORTS

EDENTON - NC Senator Bob Steinburg (R-Chowan) was appointed to serve on the following committees by Senate President Pro Tem Phil Berger, effective immediately and throughout the 2021-22 biennium:

- Chairman: Senate Select Committee on Prison Safety
- Chairman: Appropriations on General Government
- Chair: State and Local Gov-

ernment

- Member: Agriculture, Energy, and Environment
- Member: Commerce and Insurance
- Member: Judiciary
- Member: Pensions
- Member: Appropriations on Justice and Public Safety

Each committee plays an influential role in hearing legislation related to its respective policy area. Committee chairmen lead the meetings and help facilitate the amendment process before bills go to the floor for a vote.

"I want to thank Sen. Steinburg

See STEINBURG, A6



SUBMITTED PHOTO

NC Sen. Bob Steinburg, R-Chowan, who was sworn in recently, was appointed to serve many prominent senate committees.