

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



"News from Next Door"

THURSDAY, APRIL 29, 2021

\$1.00



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Soccer Stars' Season Ends



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Attorney: Andrew Brown Jr. Shot 5 Times

BY REGGIE PONDER
The Daily Advance

After viewing an independent autopsy report on the death of Andrew Brown Jr. in addition to 20 seconds of body camera footage from the April 21 shooting by Pasquotank County deputies, attorney Chantel Cherry-Lassiter described the shooting as an "assassination."

"It was an assassination of this unarmed Black man and this is painful," Cherry-Lassiter said Tuesday morning at a news conference alongside members of Brown's family and other members of their legal team.

Khalil Ferebee, the son of Andrew Brown Jr., mentioned that he had said on Monday that his father had been "executed" — and said information from the independent autopsy report shows he was correct.

"It's obvious he was trying to get away," Ferebee said.

Although attorneys said the foot-

age viewed Monday shows Brown driving away, attorney Harry Daniels said some of the first shots seem to have been fired when he was not fleeing, as he sat in his parked car with his hands on the steering wheel.

Daniels said deputies continued to shoot as Brown was attempting to drive away.

Attorney Wayne Kendall said the autopsy shows four bullet wounds to Brown's right arm that appear to have occurred while he had his arms on the steering wheel of his car.

The fifth wound is to the back of the head, he said.

"That is the fatal bullet wound," Kendall said. He said the shot was fired at Brown as he was in his car trying to evade being shot by officers.

About eight members of a Black Panther group who attended the press conference periodically shouted over the attorneys, claiming that courtroom justice was useless. "The streets will get justice,"

they shouted.

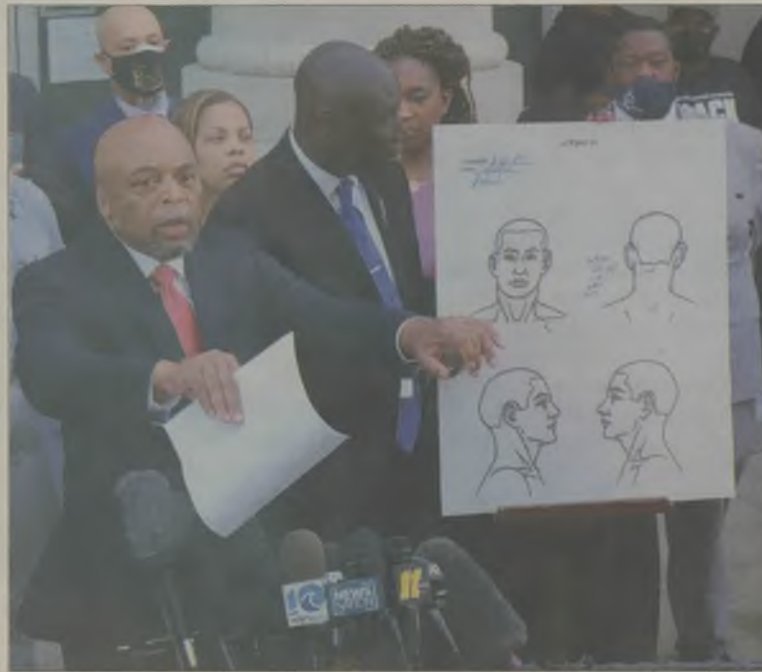
Responding to insults directed at him and also speaking to the larger community, attorney Bakari Sellers said he doesn't care whether people like him or whether they are Black or white, Democrat or Republican.

"You just have to have a beating heart to know this is an injustice," Sellers said. "We demand justice for Andrew Brown and his family."

Sheriff Tommy Wooten, whose deputies shot and killed Brown while serving arrest and search warrants, released a statement following the Brown family attorneys' press conference.

"I want answers about what happened as much as the public does," he said. "The private autopsy released by the family is important and I continue to pray for them during this difficult time. However, a private autopsy is just one piece of the puzzle. The independent investigation being performed by the

See **BROWN**, A3



BY CHRIS DAY/THE DAILY ADVANCE

Attorney Wayne Kendall holds both hands up to illustrate how Andrew Brown Jr. was struck four times by bullets fired by Pasquotank County deputies while Brown had both hands on the steering wheel of his vehicle, at a press conference outside the Pasquotank County Public Safety Building, Tuesday morning.

Town Clerk Suing County

BY MILES LAYTON
Editor

Hertford Town Clerk Olga Simpson is engaged in an ongoing legal battle against the Perquimans County Commission among other officials regarding how a general contractor paid through government funds damaged her home on Ocean Highway.

Filed in September of 2020, Simpson and her husband Charles' lawsuit claims the defendants breached their legal duty by not holding the contractor Theodore Holley accountable for his work and then paying him. Lawsuit said the money to pay for the repairs came from the NC Housing Finance Agency.

"The NC Housing Finance Agency also breached various provisions of the rehabilitation contract by improperly dispersing funds when the contractor's work was defective, or poor quality and incomplete," the lawsuit claims. "Defendants' actions resulted in defective construction, property damage, decreased property value and emotional distress that remains to the present."

See **SUING**, A3

God's Glory Overcomes Tragedy

Spirit and Truth United Methodist Church's Congregation Returns Home

BY MILES LAYTON
Editor

WINFALL — About a year after a fire destroyed a house of God, Spirit and Truth United Methodist Church's congregation returned home to worship for the first time on Sunday.

In March 2020, a fire that damaged the interior of the church was set deliberately, the Perquimans County fire marshal said.

Pastor Arthur Manigault said the church was vandalized, equipment was stolen, and then the church suffered \$300,000 worth of damage because it was set on fire. The perpetrators were never caught.

"Things happen for a reason and the way we look it, the person who did this is a person who is crying out for help," he said. "We just hope to one day to run into them to try and provide the help that they need."

Since the fire, this faithful

See **CHURCH**, A3



PHOTO BY CONNIE BROTHERS

A large crowd of faithful souls attended Sunday's worship service — first time the congregation has celebrated God's love in their home sanctuary since March of 2020.

ROUND-UP

McMullan & Biggs' Golf Tourney

BY MILES LAYTON
Editor

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

Special emergency meeting of **Hertford Town Council** to discuss personnel issues netted nothing — no action

taken when council emerged after at least 45 minutes in closed session.

In other news, I saw **Councilman Quentin Jackson's** face when studying video and

photographs of recent protests in Elizabeth City. No wonder Friday's council meeting was short — Jackson didn't attend. But to be fair, Jackson serves as the regional director of the National Black Caucus of local elected officials. Given current events, his voice was needed elsewhere.

The Town of Hertford is accepting contract bid proposals for mowing Cedarwood and roadside cemeteries, Missing Mill and Tree Memorial Parks and right-of-way on Service Road 1420. Concerned citizens deserve

See **ROUND-UP**, A3

Durants Neck Ruritan Club Continues Work

BY DANIEL TREVORS
For the Perquimans Weekly

It was with heavy hearts that the Durants Neck Ruritan Club Board of Directors decided in March of 2020 to suspend its regular Club meetings due to concerns of Covid 19. This decision was made 12 more times canceling regular meetings until March of 2021.

During this year of meeting

See **RURITAN**, A3



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Despite the pandemic, Durants Neck Ruritan Club has stayed busy this past year and club forecasts a busy 2021. Pictured (left to right) are club members distributing food. (Dale Trevors, Chuck Olean, Dan Gurganus, Kim Harcum, Joyce Gurganus, Rose Thomas, Lynn Mathis, Cindy Berrio, Rich Lodge, Jerry Harcum, Nancy Lodge and Dan Trevors). Scholarships for 2021 will be awarded in June.



SCREENSHOT

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