

# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



"News from Next Door"

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2021

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SCAN ME



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Hertford Grammar's Garney named Byrum Honored Scholar



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Museum's Cropsey exhibit explores unsolved murder



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Pirates' Jayden White wins four-team conference cross country race

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## Candidates weigh in on ending police force

Borders, Anderson, Brothers back decision; Felton opposes it says she

BY REGGIE PONDER  
Staff Writer

Candidates for Hertford Town Council in this fall's election mostly agree the town made the right move closing its police department and contracting for law enforcement services with the Perquimans County Sheriff's Office.

First-time candidates Martha Borders, Sandra Anderson and Connie Brothers all said they support the town's decision.

Former town councilor Gracie Felton, though, said she thought it was not the right decision.

Councilman Frank Norman III, who is seeking re-election, said he would not answer questions from The Perquimans Weekly.



FELTON



BROTHERS

Councilman Quentin Jackson, who also is seeking re-election, could not be reached for comment for this story.

Both Norman and Jackson voted against closing Hertford's police department, which council decided to do as of July 1, and contracting with the Sheriff's Office to provide law enforcement in the town.

Norman's and Jackson's seats on the council are the only two up for election in November.

Borders said she believes it was an "excellent" decision to contract out law enforcement to the sheriff's office.



BORDERS



ANDERSON

"Town Council made an excellent decision to contract with the Sheriff's Department," Borders said. "It saves the town lots of money, avoids the potential for corruption, and keeps our citizens just as safe if not more (safe). I spoke about this at council when they were holding a hearing regarding citizens' concerns about dissolving the police department."

Anderson said she, too, believes town council made the right decision in turning law enforcement in

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## ARHS: one of 10 new COVID deaths in Perquimans

ARHS: Four of 10 who died in region younger than 50

BY JULIAN EURE  
The Daily Advance

Albemarle Regional Health Services reported 10 more deaths from COVID-19 in its eight-county health district last week, four of them persons between the ages of 25 and 49.

Three of the deaths were reported in Pasquotank County, one involving a person between 25 and 49, ARHS said. The other two were persons over 65.

Two COVID-related deaths were reported in Chowan County, and one of those persons was also in the 25-49 age group, ARHS said. The other person who died was between 50 and 64.

COVID-related deaths were also reported in Bertie, Hertford, Gates, Currituck and Perquimans counties last week. In Bertie and Gates, the persons were in the 25-49 age group. In Hertford, the person was between 50 and 64. In Currituck and Perquimans, those who died from COVID were over 65.

The deaths in Pasquotank were the 99th, 100th and 101st from COVID, making it the first county in ARHS' health district to reach that milestone. The death in Perquimans was the 13th reported since the beginning of the pandemic last year. In ARHS' eight-county district, 320 people have now died from COVID-related illness.

While offering his condolences to the families and loved ones of the 10 COVID victims, ARHS Director Battle Betts also noted that persons contracting the disease continue to be younger.

"We are seeing younger and younger populations suffer from this virus," he said in Friday's report.

New COVID-19 cases in ARHS' health district climbed by 535, with half of them reported in Pasquotank and Currituck counties. That's more than 130 fewer than the 670 new cases reported the previous week.

Pasquotank reported the largest jump in new COVID cases (154), followed by Currituck (102),

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## Jollification!



REGGIE PONDER/THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

Docent Mike Soper (left) guides Bonnie McKee (center) and Penny Byrd on a tour of the historic sanctuary at Hertford United Methodist Church during Saturday's Jollification! event in Hertford. The annual tour of historic homes in Perquimans County is a fundraiser for the Perquimans County Restoration Association.

## Event delights history buffs, raises funds for restoration

BY REGGIE PONDER  
Staff Writer

A successful Jollification! was held in Hertford Saturday.

Jollification! is an annual fundraiser for the Perquimans County Restoration Association. PCRA was formed in 1973 to preserve and restore the Newbold-White House and to encourage the preservation of historic homes and other historic structures in

Perquimans County.

Saturday's event consisted of a tour of 11 historic homes and other historic buildings in downtown Hertford, and concluded with a dinner, cake auction and live music by Uphill at the historic Newbold-White House.

About 100 people participated in both the tour and the dinner and 43 others just took the tour. The cake auction featuring three pies and eight cakes raised \$1,325. A

Black Russian cake netted \$200 and two shoo-fly pies sold for \$175 each.

The event also raised \$1,600 in "plank" pledges for the reconstruction of an early 1700s plank house at the Newbold-White House historic site. The pledge drive had previously raised \$3,500.

Bonnie McKee said she was excited about taking the tour.

"I just look forward to seeing the houses," she said.

Although she has participated in similar tours other places, this was the first time McKee had toured historic structures in Hertford.

Sharon Burtner also said she had not toured historic downtown Hertford before. She helped out with the event but also enjoyed taking the tour herself.

"I think it's wonderful," Burtner said. "We're lucky

See JOLLIFICATION, A9



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Children help load a Chowan County Sheriff's Office trailer with toys for the Chowan/Perquimans Smart Start Partnership Toys for Tots program. The program is now open for applications.

## Smart Start now taking Toys for Tots applications

Last year's toy drive successful despite COVID obstacles

BY SARAH WILLIAMS

Chowan/Perquimans Smart Start Partnership

It is that time of year again.

Applications for Toys for Tots will be taken at Chowan/Perquimans Smart Start Partnership the entire month of October. Families in Chowan and Perquimans may apply for their children who are 12 and younger. The Partnership is located at 409 Old Hertford Road in Edenton.

Last year, donations for Toys for Tots in the region suffered due to COVID-19.

Pastor Rodney Coles, coordinator for Toys for Tots Northeastern North Carolina in Greenville, collects the majority of the toys that are distributed in the region. However, last year no collection boxes were put out and Greenville-based WITN did not hold its annual Toys for Tots toy drive, despite having more applications than ever before.

Despite the rise in COVID-19 infections because of the delta variant,

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## Tourney tops \$20K for ALS Foundation

TriB won Hunter tournament, Granny's Bomb Squad finished 2nd

BY REGGIE PONDER  
Staff Writer

This year's Jim "Catfish" Hunter ALS Softball Tournament is expected to top \$20,000 in funds raised to help ALS patients.



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"While we won't know the exact number for about a week we are very confident that we raised North of \$20,000 over the weekend," said Tournament director Guy Webb.

The championship team this year was TriB and the runner-up was Granny's Bomb Squad.

The tournament this year was billed as the 'Final Farewell' and was held in memory of tournament co-founder Joan Hunter, who died last year. A niece of Catfish Hunter, Joan Hunter was "the backbone" of the softball tournament, according to Webb.

Webb said the 2021 tournament T-shirts sold out.

"And that's the first time that that's ever happened," he said. He also noted that 500 shirts were ordered this year

— twice the usual number.

Joan Hunter's name and image are on this year's shirts, and Webb said people wanted to buy the T-shirts as a way of honoring and remembering her.

"We know that's why we sold more shirts," Webb said.

Because of Joan Hunter's death, and also because Webb now lives in the Charlotte area, the future of the tournament is uncertain.

But Jimmy Harrell, co-founder of the Jim "Catfish" Hunter ALS Foundation, said the foundation will continue to do all it can to raise money for ALS patients moving forward.

Hopefully that will include resuming the walk-a-thon fundraiser next year,

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