

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



"News from Next Door"

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2021

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Model train enthusiast donates collection to Albemarle Railroad Club



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Perquimans football rolls over Bertie for win on homecoming



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Pike's coffee business benefits "retired" working dogs

Hertford hopefuls support riverfront development plan

Borders, Brothers, Anderson also weigh in on economic development

BY REGGIE PONDER
Staff Writer

Three candidates for Hertford Town Council who responded to The Perquimans Weekly's questions about the town's Riverfront Community Development Plan say they support the plan and believe its implementation could benefit all Hert-



ANDERSON

ford residents. The candidates who responded — Martha Borders, Connie Brothers and Sandra Anderson — also outlined in their answers what they think should be Hertford's economic development priorities.

Hertford Town Council approved the Riverfront Community Development



BROTHERS

plan in September, saying it provides a blueprint for promoting a mix of tourism, commerce, recreation and housing in the town's riverfront and downtown areas. Council supported the plan by a 3-1 vote, with only Councilman Quentin Jackson voting against it. Councilman Frank



BORDERS

Norman III didn't attend the meeting. The Perquimans Weekly reached out about the plan to all six candidates for the two open seats on Hertford Town Council in the town's Nov. 2 election. Only three — Borders, Brothers and Anderson — responded with answers by the

newspaper's deadline. Candidates Gracie Felton and incumbents Jackson and Norman did not respond by the deadline.

TPW: What do you think are the pros and cons of the Riverfront Plan? How quickly should the town move to address the infrastructure concerns cited in the plan? What else do you think the town should do to spur economic development?

See HOPEFULS, A3

Four Rivers champs



HARLOW PHOTOGRAPHY

Members of the Perquimans County High School varsity volleyball team pose after winning the Four Rivers Conference regular season championship at home Thursday, Oct. 14. The Pirates defeated the Riverside Knights, 3-0, to run their unbeaten streak in the conference to 13-0 and their regular season mark to 19-1.

Pirates claim conference volleyball title

Pirates defeat Riverside, run league record to 13-0

BY PATRICK MCCARTHY
Correspondent

HERTFORD — The Perquimans Lady Pirates volleyball team claimed the Four Rivers Conference volleyball title last week by defeating the Riverside High School Knights 3-0. Set

scores for the game were 25-16, 25-15, 25-12.

The Pirates, who are 13-0 in the conference and 19-1 overall, jumped out to a 5-1 lead early in the first set, and that set the tone for the rest of the night. Riverside was able to fight back and bring the score to 10-8, before Perquimans finished out the set 25-16.

The second set saw the Pirates jump out to an early

5-0 lead before the Knights took a timeout. Following the timeout, the Knights were able to get some points on the scoreboard. However they could not stop the Pirates' dominant attack, and Perquimans won the set 25-15.

The third set began with Riverside taking their first lead in the game, winning the first point of the set. Perquimans was able to put to-

gether a 13-3 run, powered by six straight serves from junior Maddie Chaulk. The rest of the set was a back-and-forth battle, with the Knights fighting hard before Perquimans won 25-12.

"I thought we played really well tonight, and that it was one of the faster paced games that we have played so far," said Perquimans

See PIRATES, A7

County resident who died from COVID under 25

Betts warns residents to be alert to COVID-related scams

BY JULIAN EURE
The Daily Advance

Albemarle Regional Health Services reported another eight deaths from COVID-19 in the eight-county region last week, including a Perquimans County resident who was younger than 25.

ARHS said three Gates County residents also died of complications from COVID, two between the ages of 50 and 64 and the third over age 65.

Two Pasquotank residents, both over 65 and one a resident of Elizabeth City Health and Rehabilitation Center, also died from COVID last week, ARHS data show.

Deaths were also reported in Bertie and Hertford counties. The Bertie resident was between the ages of 50 and 64; the Hertford resident was over 65.

The Perquimans resident who died was between the ages of 18 and 24, becoming

the region's third resident in that age group to die from COVID. Two Bertie residents in the age group died earlier this year.

The Perquimans death from COVID follows the deaths of three county residents from the disease the week before. Two of those residents were between the ages of 50 and 64; the third was over 65.

New COVID-19 cases in the region, meanwhile, increased last week by 452, which is 34 more new cases than were reported last week. Active cases, meanwhile, held steady at 392, ending five straight weeks of declines.

Pasquotank continued to reported the largest jump in new COVID cases (148), followed by Hertford (71), Currituck (60), Bertie (48), Chowan (38) and Gates (34). Perquimans reported 33 new cases last week.

Bertie (16), Chowan (15), Perquimans (5) Gates (3) and Hertford (3) all reported increases in active cases.

See COVID, A7

Large crowd greets PAL gallery opening

Joyner's sculpture exhibit 'Art in the Land of Beautiful Women' featured

BY REGGIE PONDER
Staff Writer

HERTFORD — People from Perquimans County and beyond had a chance last weekend to see the new Perquimans Arts League gallery in Hertford.

PAL President Vaneeda Bennett told those in attendance Saturday, Oct. 9, that community support had made the gallery's restoration possible.

"Hertford is a wonderful community," Bennett said.

A capacity crowd turned out for the grand opening and Bennett said about 75 people showed up Friday afternoon for a ribbon cutting at the recently acquired and newly renovated space at



REGGIE PONDER/THE DAILY ADVANCE

Sculptor Alexis Joyner (left) and Keith Rouse stand next to one of the sculptures in Joyner's exhibit, "Art in the Land of Beautiful Women," during the grand opening of the new Perquimans Arts League gallery in Hertford, Saturday, Oct. 9.

104 N. Church Street.

Highlighting the grand opening of the gallery was the exhibit "Art in the Land of Beautiful Women" by Alexis Joyner, one of the most celebrated artists in the area.

Joyner chose the exhibit's name as a nod to the Algonquian heritage of Perquimans County and the name Perquimans, which means "Land of

Beautiful Women." He also said in an interview that he wanted to acknowledge that many of the people depicted in his works are women — especially women of African and African-American heritage.

One of the wood sculptures in Joyner's exhibit is titled "Yesterday's

See PAL, A3

Citizen urged board to keep county offices downtown

BY REGGIE PONDER
Staff Writer

Perquimans officials have no immediate plans to build a new government center.

That's according to County Manager Frank Heath, who was responding to a citizen's comments at a commissioners' meeting earlier this month.

During the public comment period at the Oct. 4 meeting, resident Pete Perry asked county officials to keep county government offices in Hertford's downtown district.

Perry said he recognizes a need for an updated public center. He said there seem to be two options: an upgraded public safety building or a more elaborate "governmental complex."

Perry suggested that a non-binding referendum be

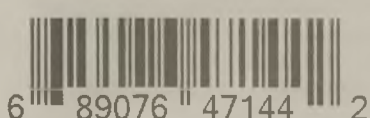
held in conjunction with the next county election to gauge the level of public support for either project.

Perry said he has heard the county might try to buy a piece of land to build a new government complex. But he said any new structure should be erected on property the county already owns.

Perry closed his remarks by saying that if county government officers were moved out of downtown Hertford it would be the nail in the coffin for the town.

Heath said there are no immediate plans for a new building.

"We have no immediate plans for a Public Safety building in Perquimans County," Heath said when asked about the project by the Perquimans Weekly. "It has been discussed by the Board in previous retreats, but only in terms of being a project for the future, possibly 10 years out."



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