

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



"News from Next Door"

THURSDAY, MARCH 3, 2022

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Hartman: Ash Wednesday and its importance to the Christian life



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Lady Pirates' playoff run comes to an end in third round



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Throckmorton: Child exacts revenge against an arrogant, absent father

New congressional map splits region between 2 districts

Perquimans, Pasquotank, Chowan now in 1st District

BY PAUL NIELSEN
The Daily Advance

Perquimans, Chowan and Pasquotank counties will join the newly drawn 1st Congressional District while Camden and Currituck counties will remain in the 3rd Congressional District, according to the new congressional map drawn by a three-judge panel and released last week.

All five counties previ-

ously had been part of the 3rd Congressional District, which is currently represented by U.S. Rep. Greg Murphy, a Republican from Greenville. The counties also had been redrawn as part of Murphy's district in the new congressional maps approved by the Republican-led House and Senate last year.

Those maps were challenged, however, by groups claiming the state's new legislative and congressional districts were an illegal partisan gerrymander.

The N.C. Supreme Court

struck down the maps on Feb. 4, saying that state courts had authority to throw out districts engineered to secure a long-term Republican advantage in an otherwise closely divided state. The court directed the GOP-controlled legislature to redraw the districts by Feb. 18 and provide an explanation of how they calculated the partisan fairness of the new boundaries.

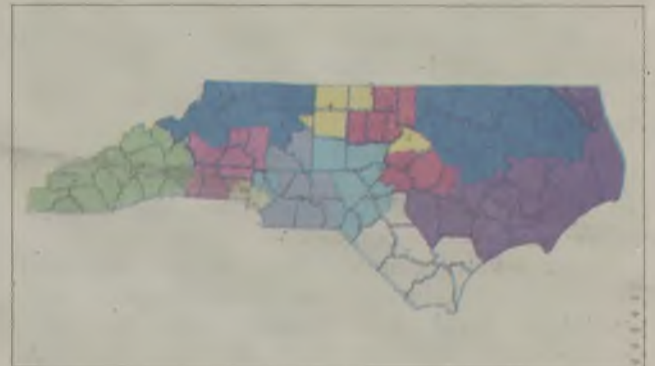
The General Assembly approved new maps late last month and a panel of three state Superior Court judges on Feb. 23 approved the

redrawn maps for the legislative districts and drew its own map for congressional districts. Those maps put Perquimans, Pasquotank and Chowan in the 1st Congressional District and leave Camden and Currituck in the 3rd District.

The 1st Congressional District is represented by U.S. Rep. G.K. Butterfield but he has already announced his plan to retire.

Thus far, five candidates have filed to run in the Democratic and Republican

See MAP, A3



NCLEG.GOV IMAGE

This interim congressional map drawn by a three-judge panel moves Pasquotank, Perquimans and Chowan counties from the 3rd Congressional District into the newly drawn 1st Congressional District. Camden and Currituck counties remain in the 3rd District.

2 more file for county boards

Ward seeking commission seat, Felton school board seat

BY JULIAN EURE
The Daily Advance

With judicial approval of the new legislative and congressional maps finally complete, filing for the May 17 primary and school board election in Perquimans County resumed Feb. 24.



FELTON



WARD

Two more candidates have filed for county seats, one for the board of commissioners and one for the board of education.

Republican James William Ward filed for one of the three open county commission seats, while Gracie Felton, a former Hertford

See FILING, A2

'Freedom in NC'



IMAGE STILL FROM 'FREEDOM OF NC'

Vinetrice Reynolds portrays 14-year-old Sarah Jones in "Freedom of NC," a film that depicts an enslaved family's escape from an eastern North Carolina plantation during the 19th century.

Film details escape from slavery

Greenville native's film screened at PCHS Feb. 25

BY CHRIS DAY
The Daily Advance

About 25 residents turned out for Friday's screening of "Freedom of NC," a regionally produced film that addresses slavery and the quest for freedom during the Civil War.

"I thought it was awesome," said Antonio Overton, following a showing of the film in the auditorium at Perquimans County High School.

Overton, who attended the movie with his children, said he appreciated the movie because it showed that people who were enslaved all had lives before they were captured and brought to the Americas.

"Freedom of NC" centers around 14-year-old Sarah, who lives on a plantation with her enslaved mother and several brothers in eastern North Carolina. Sarah dreams of freedom and suggests running away, but at first her family opposes her notions. After Sarah discovers a doll that contains clues to

achieving their freedom, her family decides to join her in escaping.

Overton's son Kingston said he liked how Sarah and her family stuck together once they fled the plantation and continued to resist efforts to capture them.

"I liked that they stood up for themselves," said Kingston, 8.

Kingston's sister also enjoyed the bond Sarah and her family shared.

"I liked how they weren't afraid to be themselves and they stayed

See FREEDOM, A3

Jackson convicted of 2 charges, gets two months in jail

Ex-official guilty of violating probation, trespassing

BY JULIAN EURE
The Daily Advance

HERTFORD — Quentin Jackson, the former Hertford councilor who's currently a candidate for Perquimans County commissioner, will serve the next two months in jail after being found guilty of two charges in Superior Court last week.

Superior Court Judge Jerry Tillet found Jackson guilty of second-degree trespassing and of violating probation on



JACKSON

Thursday, according to an official with the Perquimans Clerk of Court's Office. Tillet revoked Jackson's probation and sentenced him to 45 days on the violating probation charge. Jackson was sentenced to 20 days in jail on the trespassing charge but Tillet credited him for four days he had already served

See JACKSON, A3

Lennon resigns, withdraws from race

Former Perquimans official leaving county for Ill. job

BY JULIAN EURE
The Daily Advance

HERTFORD — The first-ever Libertarian elected to the Perquimans County Board of Commissioners has resigned from the board and withdrawn his candidacy for re-election in the May 17 primary.

Alan Lennon, who was first elected in 2018, resigned from the commission



LENNON

board Monday, Feb. 21, because he's leaving the county to take a new job in southern Illinois for The Maschhoffs, an international pork producer.

Lennon, who currently works for Goldsboro Milling, starts his new job

See LENNON, A3

Libertarian sought for vacancy

Next commissioner must be member of Lennon's party when he was elected

BY JULIAN EURE
The Daily Advance

Are you a Libertarian Party voter and registered in Perquimans County?

If so, Perquimans County commissioners may have a job for you.

The county board has 60 days to fill a vacancy on its five-member board following the resignation of Alan Lennon on Monday, Feb. 21,



HEATH

he resigned, he won the seat in 2018 running as a registered Libertarian. Because of that, the person who replaces him also has to be a registered Libertarian, County Manager Frank Heath said last week.

"We consulted with attorneys with the state and the board of elections ... and were told (Lennon's replacement) has to be from the party when he was elected, not his current party," Heath said.

When he was elected in 2018,

and under a unique state law, has to find his replacement from among the ranks of registered Libertarian voters who live in Perquimans.

Although Lennon was a registered Republican when he resigned, he won the seat in 2018 running as a registered Libertarian.

Knowing he planned to seek re-election in 2022, Lennon said he made the switch last year in plenty of time to run as a Republican in this year's general election. What he didn't know at the time was a good job opportunity with The Maschhoffs, an international pork producer, would become available or that he would get it.

Lennon said he "hates" that he's not able to complete his four-year term as a Perquimans commissioner. But the new job as senior production manager in The Maschhoffs'

Lennon was the first registered Libertarian to ever win county office in Perquimans. A former Republican, Lennon said he decided to switch his registration back to Republican because he "liked how we were progressing as a country" when President Trump was in office.

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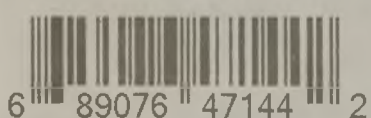
See LIBERTARIAN, A3

PIRATES GET THEIR RINGS



THE DAILY ADVANCE

The Perquimans County High School baseball team poses with their NCHSAA Class 1A State Championship plaque in June 2021. The Pirates will receive their state championship rings during a ceremony at Catfish Hunter Park in Hertford Friday at 5:30 p.m. prior to their home game against J.H. Rose High School in Greenville, last year's 3A state championship baseball team.



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