

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



SCAN ME

"News from Next Door"

THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 2022

\$1.50

PERQUIMANS COUNTY LIBRARY
514 S CHURCH ST
HERTFORD NC 27944-1225



PAGE 2
Resident leads effort to send supplies to Ukraine



PAGE 3
Hertford, Perquimans commit \$120K for riverfront wall



PAGE 6
Lend a Hand donates food baskets to help homeless families

Board picks Finch-Copeland to fill Lennon's unexpired term

Retired teacher replaces Lennon who resigned, left county in Feb.

BY REGGIE PONDER
Staff Writer

Retired public school teacher Thelma Finch-Copeland has been appointed to complete Alan Lennon's unexpired term on the Perquimans County Board of Commissioners.

The county commissioners

voted unanimously at a special meeting Monday night to appoint Finch-Copeland to the post.

"I am excited," Copeland said Tuesday when asked about the appointment. "I am honored. It's an honor to serve."

Copeland said she looks forward to being a voice for the community.

She said she has lived in Perquimans County since she was 3 years old.

"All of my teaching experience

was in Perquimans County," she added.

Lennon had been elected as a Libertarian, so state law requires the person appointed to replace him also be a Libertarian. Two Libertarians sent letters to the board asking to be considered: Finch-Copeland and Christopher Richardson.

Richardson said Tuesday he is not discouraged by the board's decision to appoint Finch-Copeland to the seat. He said he's looking

forward to his candidacy for county commissioner.

Though a registered Libertarian, Richardson is seeking to get enough signatures of registered voters to get on the November ballot as an unaffiliated candidate for county commissioner.

Richardson said he is working on his signatures to get on the ballot and currently has about 60. He needs 399, he said, adding "I'm pretty confident I can cover that."

she is not a candidate in the November election.

At Monday's board meeting, Chairman Wallace Nelson explained that the board had the option either to appoint someone at that meeting or establish some process for further consideration in order to make the appointment within a 60-day timetable.

"I would like us to proceed tonight," said Commissioner Joseph

See LENNON, A11

The community hub



TYLER NEWMAN/CHOWAN HERALD

Charles Woodard stands next to the counter at Woodard's Pharmacy, the business he took over 50 years ago in downtown Hertford. A half century later, the business is still thriving. In an era when big-box pharmacies like Walgreens and CVC are taking over the pharmacy business, Woodard believes his business's combination of nostalgia and personability has kept his customer base loyal.

50 years later, Woodard's still thriving

Pharmacy's personality, nostalgia keeps customers loyal

BY TYLER NEWMAN
Chowan Herald

In 1972, the number one song in America was "American Pie" by Don McLean. The most popular film was "The Godfather." And the Oakland A's beat the Cincinnati Reds in seven games in the World Series.

A lot has changed since then.

One thing that hasn't is

Woodard's Pharmacy.

Located at the corner of Church and Market streets, in the heart of Historic Hertford, Woodard's Pharmacy remains an iconic Perquimans County landmark. It's also a testament to its owner, Charles Woodard's dedication and service to his community.

Woodard, a Hertford native, took over ownership of the pharmacy in 1972, opening for business on Jan. 2. Since then, he has stood watch from behind the counter as hundreds of thou-

sands of patrons have come and gone over the decades.

The pharmacy's hallmark sign hangs high over the Church Street sidewalk, welcoming all who enter to experience a slice of bucolic Hertford where time moves a bit slower.

Around mid-afternoon in the autumn, one can find everyone from the high school quarterback to sheriff deputies wandering through Woodard's door, looking for a cold drink or a scoop of old-school hand-dipped ice cream. The usu-

al pharmacy customers dart in and out after saying their hellos and picking up their orders.

All the while, Woodard can be found behind the counter, calmly and methodically running the show. That usually means refilling prescriptions, answering phone calls and greeting old friends.

Everything from greeting cards to vitamins to handmade goods and locally produced items can be

See WOODARD'S, A10

Extra VFD training helps up Hertford fire district rating

New 5 rating to lower insurance costs for district homeowners

From staff reports

Thanks to the hard work of Hertford Fire Department's volunteer firefighters, Perquimans County residents who live within 5 miles of the town's fire station could soon be eligible for a cost break on their home insurance.

According to a press release, the department was recently reinspected by the N.C. Department of Insurance and the Office of the State Fire Marshal and, according to county officials, Hertford's 28 firefighters were found to have logged over 500 more hours than the required amount.

As a result of the increased training and the fire department's performance on other elements of the reinspection, homeowners in the Hertford Fire District

— regardless of how close they live to a fire hydrant — will have an insurance rating of 5 if they live within 5 road miles of the Hertford Fire Station. Those within 6 miles of the station will still have a rating of 9E. The change takes effect May 1.

Perquimans Emergency Services Director Jonathan Nixon commended Fire Chief Drew Woodard and the Hertford department for the achievement.

"This is an excellent rating for a rural volunteer fire department and shows the continued commitment of all of our volunteer firefighters," he said. "I commend you and your department for your dedication and commitment to making your community a safer place to live."

NC Insurance Commissioner and State Fire Marshal Mike Causey also expressed his congratulations.

See FIRE, A10



PHOTO COURTESY TOWN OF HERTFORD

This is the view of the Hertford Town Council seating area from the point of view of the public seating in the newly renovated Horace Reid Jr. Community Center.

Community Center gets face-lift, re-model

Hodges: Meeting room now better for public, councilors

BY REGGIE PONDER
Staff Writer

Hertford Town Council debuted new desks for councilors and a renovated meeting room at the Horace Reid Jr. Community Center at the council's regular meeting earlier this month.

Interim Town Manager Janice Cole explained that the need for the renovation became obvious when newly elected members of the town council discovered the height of the previous desks

made it difficult for them to sit safely and comfortably during council meetings.

Councilors now have individual desks at a height that allows their feet to touch the floor.

Cole said the town is working on numerous improvements, with the Community Center just a hint of things to come.

"The Community Room renovation is just a very small part of the improvements that the residents are going to start seeing shortly in town," Cole said.

Town Councilor Ashley

See CENTER, A11

'Perquimans Through the Years' opens April 1

Library to host series of exhibits looking back at past

From staff reports

With an infusion of new businesses changing the face of Hertford's downtown, members of the Friends of the Perquimans County Library thought it was a good time to look back at the "way we were."

Starting in April, the Friends of the Library will open "Perquimans Through the Years," a year-long series of exhibits at the Perquimans County Library that Friends President Brenda Hollowell-White says will "give the public an opportunity to take a look back through time."

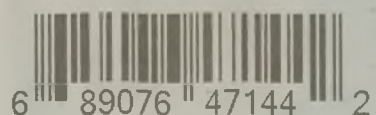
"The board members of the Friends of the Library have chosen topics of interest for the exhibits from their personal collections and hobbies which will be displayed in the showcase in the foyer as well as



PHOTO COURTESY BRENDA HOLLOWELL-WHITE

Hats, old toys and high school memorabilia will be the subjects of separate displays among the Friends of the Perquimans County Library's upcoming "Perquimans Through the Years" exhibit series that starts April 1.

See EXHIBIT, A10



6 89076 47144 2

Vol. 87, No. 12
WWW.PerquimansWeekly.com
©2021 Perquimans Weekly
All Rights Reserved