

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



"News from Next Door"

THURSDAY, AUGUST 4, 2022

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SCAN ME



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Stallings, Honza elected to lead schools foundation



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Three Hertford churches host joint Vacation Bible School



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Rapanick sees return to Pirates' sideline as 2nd chance

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Perquimans' Winslow drawing MLB scouts' attention

Pirates' catcher selected for two big scouting events

BY DAVID GOUGH
The Daily Advance

While former Pirate Tanner Thach mulls his future after being selected in last month's Major League Baseball draft, a current Pirate is on what he hopes will be his own path to the MLB draft.

Macon Winslow, a rising senior at Perquimans who, along with Thach, helped lead the Pirates to a second

straight state title in June, has been playing a lot of baseball this summer outside of Hertford.

He's a member of the Canes National team from the Perfect Game organization and Pro5 Academy. Both teams can be closely watched by MLB scouts.

And this summer, it seems to have paid off for the all-North Carolina catcher.

August will be a big month for Winslow. He has been selected to perform at the East Coast Pro Showcase this week and will

play in the Perfect Game All-American Classic later in the month. Only so many of the nation's top high school players get to participate in the two events.

"It's a sense of gratitude because I've really worked my butt off," Winslow said. "To see that paying off, it's amazing. I feel like I'm probably one of the hardest workers out there. I work my butt off day in and day out to be recognized like that."

The East Coast Pro event begins today. Winslow is

in Hoover, Alabama, along with 179 other top high school players from the East Coast.

Players only get to participate if a Major League scout sees them play and invites them to try out.

For Winslow, it was Los Angeles Dodgers scout Jonah Rosenthal who had him try out on the campus of UNC-Greensboro on June 27.

He officially got the East Coast Pro invite a couple

See **WINSLOW, A4**



Macon Winslow (34) high-fives his third base coach after hitting a home run at Tropicana Field, the home of the Tampa Bay Rays, on July 21 during a Perfect Game national showcase event, in St. Petersburg, Florida.

Splish Splash



JOHN FOLEY PHOTO

Kamron Hightower (center) performs a handstand for the crowd while his pals look on in awe during the mobile splash pad event hosted by Seeds of Success on East Academy Street on Saturday. The Hertford Fire Department provided the controlled spray for the splash pad. About 40 kids and adults took advantage of the opportunity to cool down during the three-hour event.

40 cool down at mobile splash pad

Seeds of Success sponsored event, VFD provided the water

BY JOHN FOLEY
Correspondent

Nearly 40 kids and adults got a respite from the heat Saturday after Hertford's Volunteer Fire Department transformed East Academy Street into a neighborhood mobile splash pad.

Firefighters raised the ladder on Engine #31 40 feet in the air and opened its discharge supply hose, spraying neighborhood children, parents, and volunteers from Seeds of Success.

"It has been so hot, I could hardly breathe these last few days and thought this would be a great way to have some fun and bring people together," said Mayor Earnell Brown, who

leads the volunteer organization that organized Saturday's event.

Happy kids and adults frolicked, skipped and danced in the fire hose's controlled spray during the three-hour event. Kamron Hightower performed handstands for the crowd while his pals looked on in awe.

Although the heat wasn't as stifling as it was earlier in the week, temperatures on

Saturday still hovered in the mid-90s.

Brown, a self-proclaimed "water person" joined in on the fun, as did most parents, and emerged cooler and very wet.

"It was a very successful, happy day for the youth," the mayor said. "Hertford is without a splash pad or pool, so today the Hertford

See **SPLASH, A4**

Hertford awarded \$14.9M for water, sewer upgrades

Funding to pay for water line, water treatment upgrade

From staff reports

The town of Hertford has been awarded \$14.9 million in infrastructure grants for water and wastewater projects from the program that administers American Rescue Plan Act funding for the state, the town said Tuesday.

According to the release, the town netted more than \$9 million for a waterline replacement project from the State Fiscal Recovery Program, another \$3.67 million for wastewater collection improvements,



COLE

and \$2.1 million for water treatment system improvements. The town partnered with Withers Ravel Engineering to apply for the funds.

Interim Town Manager Janice Cole noted that the maximum award allowed under the program was \$15 million.

"So we are especially pleased that we were able to demonstrate our needs

See **WATER, A2**

Stoop named new director at ARHS

Agency planning chief to take director's role Aug. 15

From staff reports

The Albemarle Regional Health Services Board of Health has promoted ARHS Director of Policy and Planning — and Perquimans County resident — Ashley Stoop to be the agency's next health director.

Stoop, 41, will assume her new duties on Aug. 15, taking over for R. Battle Betts Jr., who recently



STOOP

retired, ARHS said in a press release Friday. "This is a tremendous opportunity and I am honored to be able to continue to serve ARHS and our communities," Stoop said in the release. "I look forward to working with our board, staff, and our partners to

See **STOOP, A4**

Leigh named to NC African-American Heritage panel

Commissioner tapped by Moore to fill unexpired term

BY REGGIE PONDER
Staff Writer

Perquimans County Commissioner Fondella Leigh has named to the North Carolina African-American Heritage Commission.

Leigh was informed by N.C. Speaker of the House Tim Moore in a July 8 letter that she had been appointed to fill the unexpired term of Lisa Matthews on the commission.

The term ends Sept. 30, 2023.

"Thank you for your willingness to serve in this capacity," Moore, R-Cleveland, said in the letter. "I am confident you will have much to offer the African-American Heritage Commission and will be effective and diligent in your service to our state." In addition to her



LEIGH

service on the Perquimans County Board of Commissioners, Leigh is presiding elder of the Edenton District of the AME Zion Church and pastor of Porter's Chapel AME Zion Church in the Chapanoke community.

Leigh explained that she got to know state Rep. Ed Goodwin, R-Chowan, as they both were working on restoration of the historic Kadesh

AME Zion Church in Edenton. The Edenton District includes 19 churches in Chowan, Perquimans, Tyrrell, Washington and Martin counties.

Leigh noted that Goodwin was instrumental in securing \$2 million in funding for the Kadesh restoration. She said as they were working on the restoration project he told her he planned to recommend her for a spot on the African-American Heritage Commission.

She said she didn't hear anything right away and had actually forgotten about the potential appointment until she received the letter from Moore a few weeks ago.

"I am brand new to this," Leigh said of her service on the African-American Heritage Commission.

She attended her first meeting as a member of the heritage panel last week.

Leigh said she is excited about work the commission is doing in areas such as Rosenwald Schools and historical markers honoring African-American contributions to the state's history.

"I am still learning my role on the commission," Leigh said.

One contribution she plans to make is keeping the rest of the panel aware of the extensive African-Amer-

ican heritage in northeastern North Carolina, including Kadesh and other historic churches, the Colored Union Soldiers monument in Hertford, Rosenwald Schools, and Elizabeth City State University.

Leigh said she mentioned the Colored Union Soldiers Monument at the meeting last week.

Leigh is serving her second term on the Perquimans Board of Commissioners and is seeking reelection in November. She is the first woman to serve as a presiding elder within the Albemarle Conference of the AME Zion Church.



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