

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



"News from Next Door"

THURSDAY, AUGUST 25, 2022

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Throckmorton: Revolutionary War chaplains real 'Soldiers of the Cross'



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Hartman: Jesus is Jesus, no matter in what form he appears to us



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Pirates' offense stifled by Manteo in 22-18 home loss

Turner's back-to-school challenge: 'Be the one'

Staff attend convocation ahead of Monday's school start

BY REGGIE PONDER
Staff Writer

Perquimans County Schools staff are poised to start the 2022-23 school year on Monday with a renewed resolve to make a difference in students' life and learning.

"Every Child Every Chance Every Day" has been our motto since the 2019-2020 school year," Perquimans County Schools Superintendent Tanya Turner said in remarks at the Back to

School Convocation Monday morning. "It embodies what we should be about in education. It defines why we do what we do."

"It is our why," Turner continued. "This year we will continue to embrace this motto, but we are adding an additional challenge: 'Be the One.' Be the one that makes a difference in the life of a child. I believe that each one of us can make a difference, no matter our position, and my personal challenge to myself and to all of you is to be that one."

Perquimans County High School Principal Mickey Drew said there are current-

ly two vacant math teacher positions at the high school. But there's a plan in place to educate students until the new teachers are hired, he said.

"Middle school math teachers are actually coming over to help us out so we can have face-to-face instruction," Drew said.

Robert Spruill is a math teacher at Perquimans Middle School who will be pitching in at the high school. He explained that it's a comfortable fit for him because he taught at the high school for 20 years.

"So I'll basically just be coming back here," Spruill

said. He will continue to teach his other classes at the middle school.

Spruill said he and other teachers are glad to do "whatever it takes to help out."

Perquimans County Schools Chief Human Resources Officer Shawn Wilson said in an interview Monday that the district is not facing a severe teacher shortage that is troubling some other school districts.

"Compared to other districts we are doing well as far as filling our vacancies," she said.

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REGGIE PONDER/THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

Perquimans County Schools Chief Human Resource Officer Shawn Wilson (left) and Perquimans County High School Principal Mickey Drew discuss vacant teaching positions at the high school following the back to school convocation at the high school gym Monday morning.

ARE YOU READY FOR SOME FOOTBALL?



CHRIS DAY/THE DAILY ADVANCE

Perquimans' Jaxon Bailey (24) forces Manteo ball carrier Jackson Gaskill (9) to fumble during the teams' football game at Perquimans County High School, Friday night. The Pirates lost their season-opener to Manteo, 22-18.

Hertford's S-Bridge won't open to vehicle traffic on Saturday

DOT: Pedestrian crossing, ribbon cutting to go forward

BY JOHN FOLEY
Correspondent

HERTFORD — The long-awaited opening of Hertford's new S-Bridge to vehicle traffic will have to wait a little longer.

While the N.C. Department of Transportation still plans to hold a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new bridge and allow pedestrians and bicyclists to cross over it on Saturday, the bridge linking the towns of Hertford and Winfall won't

officially open to vehicles for a few more weeks.

"We have a lot of grooving and grinding and striping to do and the weather is just not cooperating," NCDOT spokesman Tim Hass said Monday. "Rather than open her and have to close her again, we decided to delay the actual opening (of the bridge) to automobile traffic."

Hass said the ceremony celebrating the bridge's completion will still be held at 11 a.m., and that afterward, pedestrians and bicyclists will have a

See **BRIDGE**, A2



JOHN FOLEY PHOTO

Hertford's new S-Bridge will not open to vehicle traffic on Saturday. A ribbon cutting and pedestrian crossing celebrating the span's completion will go forward, however.

Board eyes rule change for unruly members

Jackson believes rule targets him; county denies it is

BY REGGIE PONDER
Staff Writer

HERTFORD — Perquimans commissioners are weighing changes to their meeting rules that, among other things, would allow the board to order an unruly commissioner to leave



JACKSON

the meeting and use sheriff's deputies to enforce compliance. The board took a first look at the proposed changes at its work session Aug. 15. The changes are expected to be on the

agenda for the board's consideration at its next regular meeting.

The board's existing rules of procedure allow the board chair to determine whether a speaker is being disruptive.

The proposed revision goes further, allowing for the disruptive speaker to be removed from the meeting.

And there's also a new provision in the proposed

revisions that authorize the board — after issuing a warning — to order a disruptive board member to leave a meeting.

Some Perquimans residents have speculated that the provision is a pre-emptive move in response to the candidacy of former Hertford Town Councilman Quentin Jackson for one

See **RULES**, A2

Quillon retires; Cohen to head APG-ENC

Quillon had headed newspaper group since August 2018

The Perquimans Weekly

Adams Publishing Group announced Aug. 16 that Robin Quillon will retire as its regional president in eastern North Carolina ef-

fective Aug. 31.

Mark Cohen, publisher/president APG Ohio/Michigan, will move to Greenville to oversee a combined division, Ohio/Eastern North Carolina.

"This change allowed us to review our organizational structure and we have decided to consolidate Ohio

and ENC under one region," said Nick Monico, APG chief operating officer. "Mark and his team have grown the Ohio operation significantly on many fronts." Cohen has more



COHEN



QUILLON

than 30 years of experience in the publishing business. Prior to joining APG in Ohio in 2019, he served as president of the Pennsylvania Press Association, advocating for the state's newspapers. Cohen will relocate to North Carolina on Sept.

6 and oversee operations from Rocky Mount east to Elizabeth City and south to Duplin County.

"I'm excited about this expanded role and look forward to blending into the community, visiting customers and supporting our employees," Cohen said. "I can't wait to explore the region and I also get to visit the Ohio locations monthly, which is the ideal situation."

Quillon joined Adams Publishing Group as Eastern North Carolina regional president in August 2018.

See **COHEN**, A3

Perquimans saw 7th-highest growth in visitor spending

Visitors spent \$19.2M in 2021, 67% rise from 2020

BY PAUL NIELSEN
The Daily Advance

A study commissioned by Visit North Carolina said that visitors spent \$19.2 million in Perquimans County in 2021, an increase of \$7.7 million from 2020.

That 67-percent increase was the seventh-highest percentage increase in the state.

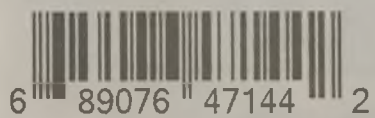
The same study shows that visitor spending in Pasquotank County in-

creased from \$56.4 million in 2020 to \$82.4 million in 2021, a increase of 46.5 percent. The \$26 million increase ranked Pasquotank 28th for the highest percentage increase in the state.

Visitors to Perquimans spent \$8.5 million on food and beverages and almost \$4 million on lodging.

Perquimans Tourism Director Stacey Layden attributed the increase to visitors wanting less hectic vacations that "bring them back to their roots." She said many North

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