

# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



"News from Next Door"

SATURDAY, MARCH 11, 2023

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SCAN ME



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## Residents establish scholarship in Key's memory



PHOTO COURTESY PERQUIMANS COUNTY SCHOOLS FOUNDATION

**Two top Perquimans County officials have taken the lead in launching a new local scholarship in memory of William "Tony" Key, a longtime county resident recently killed in a vehicle collision in Virginia.**

Heaths, Nelsons make first donations to endowment fund

From staff reports

Two top Perquimans County officials and their wives have taken the lead in launching a new local scholarship in memory of William "Tony" Key, a longtime county resident recently killed in a vehicle collision.

Frank and Roberta Heath and Wallace and Freda Nelson helped launch the William Tony Key English/Language Arts & Fine Arts Scholarship in Kee's memory. Frank Heath is the county manager and Wallace

### INSIDE

Story honors parents with new Richard & LaRue Winslow scholarship. Page A3.

Nelson is chairman of the Perquimans Board of Commissioners.

Both the Heaths and Nelsons have donated funds for scholarship, and they hope others will join them in paying tribute to Kee's life by sending contributions to the Perquimans County Schools Foundation Inc. to establish an endowed fund for the scholarship.

Key, 69, was killed Feb. 12

in a two-vehicle collision on South George Washington Highway in Chesapeake, Virginia. The crash occurred at the intersection of South George Washington Highway and Fox Trail.

Chesapeake Police reported that shortly before 2 p.m., the mini van that Key was driving south crossed into the northbound lanes and was struck by a pickup truck.

An adult male and one toddler who were the only occupants of the pickup truck were both transported to a local hospital with minor injuries, according to Chesapeake Police.

Schools Foundation Executive Director Brenda Lassiter described Kee as "a friend to everyone."

"If Tony painted the walls of your house, he ate at your table," she said. "He was a friend to everyone. Attributes of a good friend include being kind, being a good listener, making yourself available, showing you can be trusted and sharing personal experiences. These characteristics truly represent our friend."

According to foundation President Carson Stallings, it takes a minimum of \$10,000 to establish an endowment for a scholarship. The fund will be overseen by the foundation, and an

award will be made available annually to a PCHS senior. The award will come from the endowment's earnings so that the initial contribution is never used.

"Much of what we invest in over the years has a limited lifespan but this fund will grow and live on forever," Lassiter said.

The William Tony Key English/Language Arts & Fine Arts Scholarship for 2023 will be for \$1,000 and is being funded by the Heaths and Nelsons' contribution.

Subsequent donations received in memory of Key will be used to establish the

See KEY, A3

## Queens of the court



FACEBOOK

The Albemarle Regional Volleyball Club's 14U team sports their medals and plaque after finishing first in their 96-team division at the Capitol Hill Classic club volleyball tournament in Washington, D.C., Feb. 18-20. Team members include (front row, l-r) Cameron Underhill, Alyssa Winslow and Kaitlynn Barnes; and (back row, l-r) Coach Courtney Owney, Daisy Pond, Hailey Roberson, Eleanor Howell, Reese Underhill, Harper Evans and Assistant Coach Tammy Barnes.

## Volleyball club takes top honors in DC

3 ARVC teams won 1st, 2nd, 3rd at Capitol Hill Classic

BY JULIAN EURE  
 Managing Editor

If you're curious about why area high school girls volleyball programs, including Perquimans County's, are becoming state powerhouses in the sport, a good place to start is the Albemarle Regional Volleyball

Club. The club's players, who hail from either Perquimans, Camden, Currituck, Pasquotank or Chowan counties, have helped fuel Camden's two straight trips to the 2A state championship match and Perquimans' first-ever trip to the 1-A championship match this past year.

The club also recently showed its volleyball prowess with its teams' perfor-

mances in the Capitol Hill Classic, held in Washington, D.C. over President's Day weekend.

More than 900 volleyball teams from around the country and other countries competed in the three-day tournament, filling the facility's 122 volleyball courts. And when the play was done, all three Albemarle Regional Volleyball Club teams in the tournament took home top honors.

The club's 14U team, coached by Courtney Owney and assistant coach Tammy Barnes, finished first in its 96-team division. The 18U team, coached by John Tanis and assistant coach Delaine Tanis, finished second in its 72-team division. And the club's 13U team, coached by John Tanis and assistant coach Ashley Miller, came in third in

See VOLLEYBALL, A3

## Emergency services to launch community paramedicine program

Grant pays for paramedic to make in-home visits

BY REGGIE PONDER  
 Staff Writer

Perquimans County officials gave a green light Monday to a new community paramedicine program in the county.

The startup of the Mobile Integrated Health Program in Perquimans County is being funded through a \$355,000 grant from the Duke Endowment.

The Board of Commis-

sioners voted unanimously at its regular meeting to authorize Perquimans County Emergency Services to move forward with implementing the program.

The board also voted unanimously to adopt a resolutions allowing funds from the county's share of the national opioid settlement to be used to buy a vehicle for the community paramedic who will be providing health care services through the grant-funded program.

See PARAMEDICINE, A2

## Wife of injured deputy addresses commission

Farrar: Husband forced to take medical leave after call

BY REGGIE PONDER  
 Staff Writer

The wife of a former Perquimans County sheriff's deputy injured in the line of duty asked the county last month for assistance with his health insurance coverage.

Samantha Farrar addressed the Perquimans Board of Commissioners regarding her husband, former Perquimans Deputy Robert Farrar, during the public comment period at the board's Feb. 6 meeting.

She said her husband is medically retired from his

service as a deputy with the Sheriff's Office. Robert Farrar had to take medical retirement because he was injured while responding to a call, Samantha Farrar said.

The county accepted the request for medical retirement, Farrar said. But she said that they had been shocked to learn that his health insurance coverage had stopped.

Farrar said that her husband is unable to continue work due to his injury.

She said she had asked for help paying for health insurance for her husband.

After Farrar concluded her comments, Perquimans

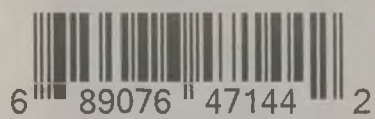
See DEPUTY, A3

## Fundraiser for Open Door set for April 21

Barbecue, chicken meal will be at Hertford Baptist

BY TYLER NEWMAN  
 Staff Writer

The Open Door Food



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Pantry of Perquimans County will host a fried chicken and barbecue dinner next month to raise money for its new building fund.

Dina Hurdle, chair of the Open Door Board of Directors, said the Friday, April 21 fundraiser will help the nonprofit renovate and remodel the former Highway 55 restaurant building it purchased in Winfall.

See FUNDRAISER, A3

## Central students highlight Black inventors

Library wraps up successful Black History Month programs

TYLER NEWMAN  
 Staff Writer

Bright, smiling students from Perquimans Central School greeted a full house at the Perquimans County Library in Hertford last week for the final event of the library's series of Black History Month programs.

Students led by Connie Ashley took center stage in the library's meeting room the afternoon of Tuesday, Feb. 28. The room typically

occupied by county commissioners instead was filled with young people.

The students' assignment over the course of February was to research Black inventors or prominent Black individuals from American history.

Their final project consisted of presenting that research in the form of colorful posters, while singing a rendition of Paul Robeson's song, "Get on Board Little Children."

Jonathan White, employee of the month at

See INVENTORS, A3



TYLER NEWMAN/ THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

Jonathan White (left) assists a student from Perquimans Central School with his presentation on Duke Ellington during the last in a series of Black History Month programs sponsored by the Perquimans County Library, Tuesday, Feb. 28.