

# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



"News from Next Door"

SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 2023

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 Perquimans High to present 'High School Musical' Thursday, Friday



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 First PCHS seniors awarded Godfrey, Winslow scholarships



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 HT dinner boat's arrival now pushed back to 2024

## Restraining order blocks town from moving monument

Tillett granted opponents' request to halt relocation

BY JULIAN EURE  
 Managing Editor

EDENTON — Even though Edenton Town Council approved moving the town's Confederate Monument to a new site a month ago, the controversial marker can't be relocated because of a restraining order imposed by a Superior Court judge.

Town officials acknowledged April 19 that an order signed by Senior Resident Superior Court Judge Jerry



TILLETT

West Queen Street.

"While Council has already taken action, and we are both eager and committed to move forward, we are currently under court order that prohibits any monument movement, so we urge any concerned residents to please exercise patience as

we move through this situation," Town Manager Corey Gooden said in a statement.

The statement notes that "recent publications have accused the town of not taking any action" to remove the monument. The statement didn't cite specifics, but a group called the "Concerned Citizens of Edenton" published a paid ad in the April 15th edition of the *Chowan Herald* that said the following: "Councilmen: Honor Your Resolve. Remove the Confederate Monument Today!"

The town's statement details Edenton's efforts to move the monument,

including the unanimous vote by town councilors on Feb. 8, 2022, "affirming an intent to relocate the monument" after the town's Human Relations Commission recommended the move "to promote racial harmony." The statement points out that an attorney for three groups opposed to moving the monument — the United Daughters of the Confederacy, North Carolina Division, Inc.; the Sons of Confederate Veterans, Inc.; and the Colonel William F. Martin Camp 1521 of the Sons of

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THE CHOWAN HERALD

A sign calling for the removal of Edenton's Confederate statue is seen in front of the monument plaza in 2022. Town officials acknowledged last week that an order signed by Senior Resident Superior Court Judge Jerry Tillett March 24 is preventing the monument's relocation from South Broad Street to Hollowell Park on West Queen Street.

## Honoring the Patiences



TYLER NEWMAN PHOTO

Officials from Edenton, Chowan County and the N.C. Museum of History join Dr. Juanita Patience Moss (third from right) and Joseph Lawrence to dedicate the Patience-Lawrence Monument in honor of their ancestors, Crowder and Thomas Patience, both of whom escaped enslavement in Edenton and went on to fight for the Union in the Civil War. The dedication ceremony was held at the Providence Missionary Baptist Church Burial Grounds in Edenton, Saturday, April 22.

## Brothers fled slavery, fought for Union

Patience marker installed at Providence cemetery

BY VERNON FUESTON  
 Correspondent

Edenton residents gathered Saturday, April 22, to honor Crowder and Thomas Patience, two brothers who escaped slavery, joined the Union Army, and fought

as privates in the Civil War.

The monument to the Patience brothers is the result of research by Dr. Juanita Patience Moss, a retired biology teacher from New Jersey and descendant of the brothers.

According to Edenton officials, Moss' historical research began after a 23andMe DNA test led her to several cousins in Edenton she

did not know about, including Joseph Lawrence Jr.

Comparing family notes, Moss and her cousins pieced together the Patience brothers' story.

Crowder, who was born in 1846, enlisted in the 103rd Pennsylvania Volunteers, a mixed-race unit garrisoned at Plymouth.

Thomas, who was born in 1840, enlisted in the 5th

Massachusetts Colored Cavalry, one of four segregated regiments allowed to keep their state designation before the organization of the United States Colored Troops.

The brothers served separately during the Civil War and never saw each other again. Thomas, who lived

See HONORING, A6

## Autopsy: Chowan toddler drowned in bucket of water

Officials to decide soon on possible criminal charges

BY JULIAN EURE  
 Managing Editor

EDENTON — State and local investigators and the District Attorney's Office will decide "within the month" whether criminal charges will be filed following public release Monday of an autopsy report indicating a 2-year-old Chowan County boy died last fall from drowning in a bucket of water.

The March 30 medical examiner's report of the autopsy performed on Dinari Don Keith Lindsey Jr. indicates the toddler died in October 2022 from "asphyxia via drowning."

The report also states the child was found by law enforcement officers "submerged in a 5-gallon bucket of water" after a caretaker at a community center "was unable to locate him."

Chowan Chief Deputy John McArthur con-

firmed Monday that the Lindsey child was found submerged in a bucket of water. Chowan sheriff's officials previously had declined to confirm that.

The autopsy report also indicates officials attempted emergency measures to revive the child.

Chowan sheriff's officials have said previously that the Lindsey child was in the care of guardians who live on Virginia Road, but have declined to discuss other details, citing an ongoing investigation by the Sheriff's Office and the N.C. State Bureau of Investigation.

The *Chowan Herald* previously reported that Corneyah Lindsey, identified as the child's mother, said she had left her son in the care of a couple who live on Virginia Road. Lindsey also told reporters from WAVY-TV that her son was found by deputies "upside-down in a bucket" that contained water and that his feet were hanging

See TODDLER, A6

## Gilliard third to announce bid for First Ward seat

Pharmacist plans to run in Edenton's fall election

From staff reports

A third candidate has announced plans to seek the open First Ward seat on Town Council in this fall's Edenton election.

Travis Maurice Gilliard, head pharmacist at the Edenton CVS for the past 34 years, said he plans to seek the seat being vacated by current Councilman Hackney High. High has already announced he will not seek re-election to council but will run for Edenton mayor instead.

Gilliard joins Stephanie Bergeron and Robert "Bob" Turner, both of whom announced their plans to seek the First Ward seat last week.

Gilliard, an Edenton



GILLIARD

resident since 1990, said in a press release that he's originally from Charleston, South Carolina. A graduate of Seventy-First Senior High School in 1980, he attended Fayetteville Technical Community College in 1982 and then the Medical University of South Carolina's College of Pharmacy in 1988.

"I moved to Edenton in 1990 after being accustomed to larger cities such as Fayetteville and Charleston," he said in the release. "I honestly gave Edenton four years, but the town and its people

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## Children's Fest draws 700 kids, parents

15th annual event featured petting zoo, kiddie train

BY KESHA WILLIAMS  
 Correspondent

HERTFORD — A siren-squalling firetruck, a small kiddie train and a petting farm were among the attractions at the 15th annual Week of the Young Child Children's Festival on Saturday, April 22.

The annual event is coor-

minated by Chowan/Perquimans Smart Start Partnership, a 25-year-old agency that works with parents and organizations to enhance early childhood development and school readiness.

Sarah Williams, program coordinator for Chowan/Perquimans Smart Start Partnership, said nearly 700 parents and children attended the four-hour event at the Perquimans County Parks and Recreation Center in Hertford, roughly 200 more than last year.

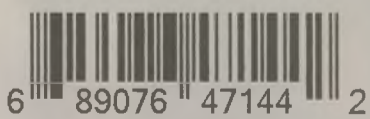
Toddlers and kids roamed from one vendor station to the other during the event, arranging a line of trains, flipping



KESHA WILLIAMS PHOTO

Perquimans County Sheriff's Deputy Faran Sawyer tries to block the sun's glare as her 3-year-old son, Channing, tackles the challenge of matching oversize plastic rings at the 15th annual Week of the Young Child Children's Festival at the Perquimans County Parks and Recreation Center in Hertford on Saturday, April 22.

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