

# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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

"News from Next Door"

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2023

\$1.50



SCAN ME



**Page 4**  
Tobias: 'The Red Wagon,' Part 3 — Winter



**Page 6**  
Mackey's Ferry has new owner, same family tradition



**Page 6**  
Rodanthe gears up for Old Christmas, Old Buck's return

## Hodges believes Hertford is a town on the rise

Town nets \$21M in grants over 2 years

PAUL NIELSEN  
The Daily Advance

New Mayor Ashley Hodges says a lot of good things are happening in Hertford and his vision for the next four years is to keep that trend going.

Hodges and Hertford's Town Council which includes two new councilors — Keith Rouse and

Rhonda Waters — began their new terms Monday night.

Hodges, a former Hertford town councilor, defeated first-time candidate Reginald White 313 votes to 192 votes, or 61.61% to 37.8%, in last month's mayor race. Rouse and Waters won the two open seats on council, outpacing former town councilor Gracie Felton, who finished third, and first-time candidate

Virginia Harvey, who finished fourth.

"The word is out about Hertford," Hodges said. "(Town) Manager Janice Cole and I talk about all the time that we are a community on the rise. Things are moving forward and we are excited about the future."

Hodges said Hertford is a great place to live, work and play and that is something the town can use to expand future economic development.

"We have great schools, affordable property, state programs have made huge investments in infrastructure the past couple of years and we are seeing renovations all over town," Hodges said. "We love the small-town character and all the things that make it great. But we don't want to be complacent and we want to be looking to the future and new ideas."



THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

Gathered in the Perquimans Board of Elections office after filing for town office in Hertford Friday, July 7, are (l-r) then-council candidates Keith Rouse Sr. and Rhonda Waters, and mayoral candidate Ashley Hodges. All three won election in the town's Nov. 7 election.

More **HERTFORD** | A7

## Change of leadership



KESHA WILLIAMS PHOTO

Judge Janice McKenzie Cole swears in Ashley Hodges, center, as the town of Hertford's new mayor at a Hertford Town Council meeting, Monday. Holding the Bible as Hodges swears his oath of office is his wife, Sonja Hodges.

## New mayors, councilors sworn in

KESHA WILLIAMS  
AND JULIAN EURE  
Staff Writers

Hertford and Winfall both saw changes in leadership Monday night.

In Hertford, Ashley Hodges was sworn in as the town's new mayor and Keith Rouse and Rhonda Waters took their oath of office as new members of Town Council.

More **SWEAR IN** | A3



JULIAN EURE/THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

Perquimans Clerk of Superior Court Todd Tilley, right, swears in new Winfall Mayor Preston White, left, as outgoing mayor Fred Yates looks on at the Winfall Community Center during a Town Council meeting, Monday night.

## Audit: County took in \$1.8M more in revenues than spent

JULIAN EURE  
Managing Editor

Perquimans County's took in more than \$1.8 million in revenues than it spent in the fiscal year that ended June 30, nearly doubling the county's unassigned fund balance to more than \$8 million.

Those were a few of the takeaways from the 2022-23 fiscal year audit of Perquimans' finances performed by the county's outside auditing firm, Thompson, Price, Scott & Adams of Wilmington.

Austin Eubanks, audit manager with Thompson, Price, Scott & Adams, told the Perquimans Board of Commissioners on Dec. 4 that the firm found no material errors or irregularities in the county's finances while performing the annual audit and he described Perquimans' financial statements as "neutral, consistent and clear."

The Board of Commissioners voted unanimously to approve the audit as submitted.

More **AUDIT** | A7

## Treiber files for commission seat

JULIAN EURE  
Managing Editor

A former director of the Perquimans County Board of Elections has filed to run next year for one of three open seats on the county Board of Commissioners.

Kathryn Treiber, a Republican, filed last week to run for one of the seats in next year's General Election. She joins



Treiber

fellow Republican Charles Woodward and Democrat Joseph

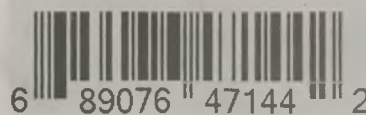
Hoffler, both incumbent commissioners, who filed on Dec. 4, the first day of the filing period.

More **FILING** | A7

## School Foundation gets \$45K grant to renew HELP program

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Perquimans County Schools Foundation has received grant funding to continue for another year a program that



Vol. 88, No. 50  
WWW.PerquimansWeekly.com  
©2021 Perquimans Weekly  
All Rights Reserved

helps the families of Perquimans County Schools students connect with the resources offered by community nonprofits, churches and others.

The foundation received word last week that it will again receive \$45,000 from the HCWGMW Donor Advised Fund, which focuses on projects and programs that address poverty, homelessness and education. The foundation plans to use the grant for its initiative called Helping



Hinton

the Perquimans County Schools and Elizabeth City-Pasquotank Public Schools for 31 years before retiring. Hinton came out of retirement last year to operate HELP after the foundation

Everyone Live Productively, or HELP.

The HELP initiative is operated by Joycelyn Hinton, an educator who worked in

received the first grant for it.

According to the foundation, the \$45,000 grant will continue to pay for Hinton's employment with HELP another year.

Foundation Executive Director Brenda Lassiter praised Hinton's efforts with HELP, noting that Hinton recently told the foundation board of directors that the program, assisted by the school district, had been able to help two families with children in the Perquimans

County Schools establish housing.

"Hinton has established partnerships throughout the community that she is able to call on for assistance when a family is in need," Lassiter said. "She maintains a resource room at one of the local schools where struggling families are able to secure food, clothes, hygiene items, furniture and small appliances."

More **HELP** | A9

Have Eastern North Carolina Living  
Delivered To Your Mailbox!



\$14.95 plus tax  
6 Issues

Call 252-329-9505 to subscribe!