

THE PERQUIMANS



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STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS

An office cubicle wall was placed between Hertford Councilman Sid Eley (left) and Mayor Pro Tem Quentin Jackson would be to comply with a judge's order. Jackson would sit on the other side of Mayor Horace Reid (right).

Special meeting cut short

BY PETER WILLIAMS
 News Editor

A special meeting of the Hertford Town Board to discuss policies started late and ended after just four minutes when one board member said he wanted to make sure other members had a chance to fully review the documents and made the motion to table the issues.

Some of the dozen residents who came out for the

meeting were not pleased. "We come here with sincerity and we are were prepared," said Muriel Harmon. "To call us out to a special meeting and it adorned in four minutes?"

The meeting was supposed to start at 6 p.m. but it was 6:18 p.m. before it got underway. By 6:22 p.m. Council Member Frank Norman had made the motion to table the only two items on the special agenda and the meeting was closed. The

regular meeting was scheduled to start at 7:30 p.m.

Harmon wasn't the only member of the public who was upset.

"Can you check with council before you waste our time," Connie Brothers asked Norman.

Missing from the special meeting was Mayor Pro Tem Quentin Jackson. He did attend the regular meeting.

On Thursday, Chief Superior Court Judge Jerry R. Tillett found Jackson was

in violation of his pre-trial release conditions for being in contact with Councilman Sid Eley. The order said Jackson was to have "no contact, direct or indirect" with Eley.

Jackson was found guilty in District Court in January for assault on a government official for hitting Eley in the head with a closed fist after a town meeting in October.

See MEETING, 2

Memorial Day event planned

From Staff Reports

The Perquimans County annual Memorial Day observance will be held May 27 on the courthouse green in Hertford starting at 11 a.m.

The effort is held by Hertford American Legion Post 126 with participation from American Legion Post 362.

In case of inclement weather, the observance will be moved to the Perquimans County Recreation Center.



GRASTY

Retired U.S. Marine Corps Chief Warrant Officer Phil R. Grasty will be the guest speaker.

Grasty retired from the Marine Corps in June 2000. He is currently employed by the Department of Defense's Security Forces Training Company, to oversee range operations, at their training facility at Northwest Annex in Chesapeake, VA.

Grasty's military service included duty tours in Beirut, Lebanon, and southeast Asia during Operation Desert Storm.

Grasty enlisted in the Marine Corps in May 1980. Upon completion of his training he was assigned to Golf Battery, 3rd Battalion, 10th Marines as a field artillery batteryman and deployed to Lebanon from October 1982 until March 1983.

From Lebanon, he was transferred to a Weapons Training Battalion, Camp Lejeune as senior noncommissioned officer in charge of a weapons range. Shortly thereafter he was transferred to Headquarters, 10th Marines, as an artillery instructor. In 1985 he was transferred to the Basic Cannoneer School, Ft. Sill, OK, with principal duties as a weapons instructor. In

See MEMORIAL, 2



STAFF PHOTOS BY PETER WILLIAMS

Master Gardener Tom Abbott answers a quest and the garden show held at the Perquimans County Recreation Center. The show provides a way for buyers to learn more and raises money for a scholarship for a high school student in Chowan, Perquimans or Gates that wants to study at N.C. State University in the field of plant sciences. Top, a man picks up a Petunia at the Master Gardener's show in Hertford.



STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS

A seller displaces decorated gourds at the Master Gardener garden show held at the Perquimans County Recreation Center.

Garden show draws 650

BY PETER WILLIAMS
 News Editor

The ninth annual Master Gardeners' show May 4 drew a near record crowd of people to the Perquimans County Recreation Center.

Volunteers who have completed the four-month training programs put on the show. The money raised from the show in turn goes to pay for scholarships to students in Chowan, Perquimans and Gates counties who

want to go to college to study agriculture, horticulture or similar fields. The \$1,000 scholarships can be renewed for up to four years.

Katy Shook, the extension director who created the local Master Gardener program, said attendance this month topped 650 people. That was second only to the total last year of 750 people.

"The Master Gardeners put a lot of hard work into it, and the attendance is a direct result of that," Shook said.

With nine shows now under their belt, the public knows what to expect and it shows, she said.

"The program supports the community and the community supports the program," Shook said. "It's free and that's important to us and it's important for the education part of it."

There were local vendors present as well as some from the Hampton Roads area and one from Wilmington.

See GARDEN, 2

People gather for Day of Prayer

BY PETER WILLIAMS
 News Editor

Eight speakers asked for prayer for specifics segments of society earlier this month at an annual ceremony on the Perquimans County courthouse lawn.

The annual Day of Prayer is a national movement held on the first Thursday of

May. It was designated by the United States Congress, when people are asked "to turn to God in prayer and meditation."

Winfall Mayor Fred Yates, a retired U.S. Marine, prayed for the military.

"Our father I ask for your blessings on veterans who are returning home and those who have not returned home," Yates said.

Carroll Bundy, the pastor of New Hope United Methodist Church, asked for blessings for the nation. He pointed out the vast ex-

pense of America.

"I think about how great our nation is and could be," Bundy said. "Lord you have blessed us with so much, but our nation isn't just geography, it's about people."

Apostle Gwayland McCleney of All For His Glory Church, prayed to heal families.

"Teach the children your word and call the absent fathers to come back unto them," McCleney said.

Hertford Grammar

See PRAYER, 2



STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS

People bow their heads and pray during the National Day of Prayer event outside the old Perquimans County Courthouse this month.



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