

# Strother's words, music characterize life in Perquimans County

Perquimans is no stranger to beautiful words and music. The classic "Carolina Moon" was inspired by the moon shining its glittering gold on the sparkling waters of the Perquimans River.

The county inspired another song recently, "Beautiful Morning," written by Jon E. Strother, former pastor of Hertford United Methodist Church. Strother wrote colorful lyrics that paint a picture of life in rural Perquimans County. He gave the rights to the music to the Chamber of Commerce. The chamber immediately adopted "Beautiful Morning" as the county song. Cassettes and possibly CDs should soon be available for sale.

Albemarle Plantation partnered with the chamber to produce the song. A contest for cover art for the cassette was won by Mary White of the Wishing Well, who painted a stool based on the words to the song.

The song was introduced when state and federal agency representatives visited Perquimans in conjunction with review of the heritage tourism development plans of the county. Strother was joined by local fourth graders on the song's cho-

rus.  
The words to beautiful morning are:

It's a beautiful morning,  
the sun is peekin' a smile  
As the geese take to calling,  
silhouettes in the sky.  
And neighbors are waving,  
where cotton is king  
While the wind on the river,  
plays a sweet melody.

It's a place called Perquimans  
The land of beautiful women  
The place that we call home

Can you hear the crowds cheering,  
as the bat meets the ball?  
See the Pirates' band marching,  
over one-hundred strong.  
As the Plantation duffers,  
strolling down seventeen,  
See where ospreys have nested...  
hear the mockingbirds sing

It's a beautiful morning  
It's a beautiful morning  
It's a place called Perquimans

The land of beautiful women,  
The place we call hoime.

There's new day dawning,  
can't you feel it inside?  
Take a look all around you,  
with your eyes open wide,  
There are people of interest,  
and places to see  
We're a quilt-top of patchwork,  
sewn in humanity.

It's a place called Perquimans,  
The land of beautiful women,  
And best of all,  
it's the place we call home...

It's a beautiful morning...  
There's a new day a daawning...  
It's a beautiful morning.

Perquimans is the place many of us call home. It's also the place where many people are working diligently to preserve the past in order to bring a brighter future.

There are two main components of local economic development plans —

strengthening small, local businesses through the development of heritage tourism and slow, steady development of the county's Perquimans Commerce Centre with non-polluting industry that will provide jobs without overtaxing county services and damaging the precious natural resources so abundant in the county.

With Hertford's designation as one of the state's two Heritage Tourism Development Pilot communities, the emphasis today is on working to give life to the development plans into which so much time and effort was poured.

The people in Perquimans are welcoming, and the county has benefitted from the "patchwork" of residents — some who trace their roots back to the area's earliest settlers, others who found what has been called the Albemarle's finest hidden jewel and fell in love.

Let's look at what Perquimans has to offer in the way of heritage tourism. Where are those places others might like to visit?

Join the tour...



## Perquimans County Courthouse

- County Manager, Paul Gregory 426-8484
  - Finance Officer - Sharon Ward
  - Clerk to the Board - Mary Hunnicutt
  - Register of Deeds, Deborah Reed 426-5660
  - Clerk of Court, Gail Godwin 426-1332
  - Tax Department, Cheryl Phillips 426-5564
  - Economic Development Commission 426-2027
  - Water Department, Russ Chappell
- Location: 128 North Church Street

## Courthouse Annex

- Sheriff's Department, Ralph Robinson 426-5615
  - Magistrates, Todd Tilley & William T. Winslow 426-2201
  - Building Inspector Izell Jackson 426-8283
- Location: 110 North Church Street



## Cooperative Extension Service

- Agricultural Service, Lewis Smith 426-5428
  - Livestock, Jeff Copeland
  - Family & Consumer Science Education & 4-H, Jewel Winslow & Juanita Bailey 426-7697
  - Elections Office, Eula Mae Forbes 426-5598
  - Soil Conservation, Ginger O'Neal & Bill Blackwell 426-5545
- Location: 608 Edenton Road Street

## Library

- Jeri Oltman 426-6319
- Location: 110 West Academy Street



## Parks & Recreation

- Tim White 426-5695

## Senior Citizen Center

- Delphine Barr 426-5404
- Location: 300 West Grubb Street

## Emergency Medical Service - Rescue Squad

- Director, Larry Chappell 426-5646
  - Captain, Mary White
- Location: 608 Edenton Road Street, behind Extension Office

## Perquimans County Office Building

- Farm Services Agency, Tommy Riddick 426-5802
  - USDA Rural Development, Barbara Scaff 426-5733
- Location: 512 South Church Street



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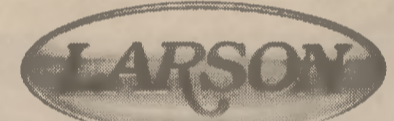


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