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THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



"News from Next Door"

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50 cents

Mother, daughter guilty of murder

By WILLIAM F. WEST AND CATHY WILSON
Staff Writers

A Perquimans County Superior Court jury found a mother and her daughter guilty of first degree murder Monday afternoon. Judge Cy Grant sentenced both women to life imprisonment without the possibility of parole.

Jennie White, 64, and Katherine White, 45, both were found guilty in connection with the June 2007 shooting death of Thomas Woodrow

White in his Mill Drive home. The jury deliberated about two hours before reaching the verdict.

"I feel that justice has been done," said a teary-eyed Barbara Rios, a stepdaughter of the slain man. "And it's been a very, very long time coming."

The slain man's son, Thomas Lee White, said, "I'm so happy this is over with and closure has finally come and a great man - my father - has finally gotten justice."

District Attorney Frank

Parrish, who prosecuted the case himself rather than by an assistant, said he was happy to see closure and is satisfied justice was done.

After the verdict, Katherine White's attorney, Jamal Summey, and Jennie White's attorney, Sam Dixon, indicated both women will appeal the jury's verdict.

Thomas Woodrow White was 58 when was shot once in the head June 22, 2007 while lying in his own bed in the

See MURDER, 8



STAFF PHOTO BY THOMAS J. TURNEY

Jennie (left) and Katherine White are led from the courthouse, Monday after being found guilty and sentenced to life without parole for the murder of Thomas Woodrow White.

Candidates air views at forum by NAACP

By CATHY WILSON
Staff Writer

Local and state political candidates each told why he or she should be elected during a NAACP political forum held at the Perquimans Courthouse last Thursday night.

All state and local candidates

Decision 2010

andidates appearing on the November voting ballots in Perquimans County took part in the forum except for Jody Cohee-R who is challenging incumbent Sheriff Eric Tilley (D). No candidates running for the U.S. Senate or House of Representatives, District 1, appeared.

In the Nov. 2 general election, four people are vying for three seats on the Perquimans County Board of Commissioners. Incumbents Tammy Miller-White-D, Charles H. Ward-D, and Benjamin (Ben) C. Hobbs-R are trying to retain their seats on the board against challenger and local political newcomer Edward R. Muzzulin-D.

Miller-White, who said she got her start in local politics through the local NAACP chapter, is seeking her third term on the board. She has served as vice-chairman since 2007.

"My first term on the board was a learning experience," she said. "My second term was an opportunity to see things move forward. We have to continue to work together to

See CANDIDATE, 2

Spiking out breast cancer



STAFF PHOTO BY THOMAS J. TURNEY

The Perquimans County High School varsity volleyball team will be raising money to fight breast cancer at the Volley for the Cure benefit on Sept. 29.

Benefit game to fight breast cancer

By CHIC RIEBEL
The Daily Advance

For Rachel Phthisic, every volleyball hit into the rear end of the defense becomes a passion play.

Six inches off the floor? The Perquimans senior will dive for it. Deflected backwards off a teammate? Phthisic will track it down and send it forward. Headed for a crack in the Lady

Pirates defense? The team's libero -- a defensive specialist on the back row -- displays a will that finds a way to keep the ball alive.

"Rachel is excellent on defense, she gets everything that's hit near her," Lady Pirates coach Kristie Thach said. "Even when she can't, she knows what to do to get to it the next time. "She's the fire behind the team, just a ball of energy."

"That sounds like me," Phthisic said when Thach's assessment was relayed to her. "I'm very competitive. I don't like to lose."

"I love the fast pace of volleyball. Hitting the floor, digging the ball, saving it. When I do good, it's 'Yeah, I love this.' It's so awesome."

The emotional and demonstrative Phthisic (pronounced "Tiss-ick" -- it's Russian) sets

the tone for the rest of the team. "She's always talking and picking people up," Thach said. "She's going to be irreplaceable next year because of her leadership and her ability to get everybody together."

"She has that go-get 'em attitude about everything she does. She always does the best she can do."

See CANCER, 8

WEEKEND WEATHER

FRIDAY
HIGH: 86 LOW: 67
SUNNY

SATURDAY
HIGH: 85 LOW: 66
PARTLY CLOUDY

SUNDAY
HIGH: 81 LOW: 63
ISOLATED T-STORMS



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United Way comes through in times like these

Live United is the slogan for the United Way of America. It speaks for itself. Now it's time for all of us to walk the talk.

The Albemarle Area United Way launched its annual fund-raising campaign last Tuesday with a goal of raising \$400,000. Most of the donations come through employer campaigns. For example, Piedmont Gas recently completed their workplace campaign with 100% participation. The employees of our banks, hospitals, government



agencies all support the area United Way with payroll deductions.

Many of us, however, are self-employed, work for small firms or are retired and do not have the opportunity to participate in an employer-based campaign. Today, we're making it easy for anyone to donate. You'll find self-addressed AAUW envelope in today's newspa-

per that you can use to mail your contribution, or you can drop it off at The Perquimans Weekly office.

The \$400,000 goal may seem like a lot of money but the AAUW has to stretch those dollars across 25 agencies in nine counties.

If you're reading this, you most likely live in one of those counties, or have friends and relatives who do. That means AAUW is working for you.

Last year, 60% of the funds allocated went to

non-profit organizations that provide emergency services. We're talking about food, shelter, clothing -- the very basics of life. Agencies such as the Albemarle Chapter of the American Red Cross, Food Bank of the Albemarle, Catholic Charities in Hertford, the Chowan/Perquimans Habitat for Humanity, Pilmoor UMC Food Center in Currituck County and the Salvation Army rely on United Way funds to meet the needs of the less fortunate who live in Northeastern

North Carolina. The economy is struggling to recover. The need for services continues to grow.

The latest poverty data released by the U.S. Census Bureau show the percentage of people living in poverty in North Carolina rose from 13.9 percent in 2008 to 16.9 percent in 2009. Almost 300,000 more North Carolinians joined the ranks of the poor in 2009.

Stephanie Harrell, ex-

See UNITED WAY, 8