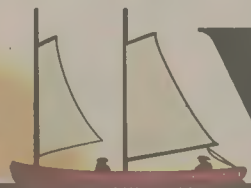


THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



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AUG 16 REC'D

Steinburg may run for Senate

BY PETER WILLIAMS
 News Editor

If a set of proposed redistricting maps become law, Rep. Bob Steinburg (R-Chowan) says he'll likely run for the First District Senate seat next time.

Steinburg now represents Perquimans and five other counties in the N.C. House of Representatives. He's on his third term in the House.

The new Senate district, as drawn in the initial map,

would include 11 counties. It currently has eight, including Perquimans.

It's the lure of representing 11 counties that has Steinburg thinking about running for the Senate.

Currently the Senate district includes Beaufort, Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Hyde, Pasquotank and Perquimans counties. The new district would gain Chowan, Hertford, Tyrrell and Washington, but lose Beaufort.

Steinburg, stressed that his intent is not to challenge Sen. Bill Cook (R-Beaufort), who holds the District 1 Senate seat now. Steinburg notes that the new Senate District 1 map doesn't include Beaufort, where Cook lives.

Cook's legislative aide Jordan Hennessy said Cook is not on the Senate Redistricting Committee and isn't yet taking a position on what

See STEINBURG, 2

County Grouping for 2017 Senate Plan



SUBMITTED PHOTO

One map of proposed new N.C. Senate districts shows District 1 (in blue) includes all of northeastern North Carolina.

PERQUIMANS HOSTS AG EXPO

BY PETER WILLIAMS
 News Editor

Some area farmers are adding a new crop to the rotation — grain sorghum.

Some have been growing it all along. Both Laurence Chappell and Gretchen Ownley won awards last year in a national contest.

At first sorghum resembles corn, but the plants don't grow nearly as high. Sorghum is primarily used as livestock feed and for ethanol.

Sorghum produces the same amount of ethanol per bushel as comparable feedstocks and uses one third less water. As a rotational crop ahead of corn, sorghum can help control some corn diseases.

But don't expect to see a huge increase in sorghum production, said Dylan Liley, the Hertford-based agriculture extension agent for field crops. "It's been around but it's not a widely grown crop."

Sorghum was just one of the things that were discussed when the Northeast Ag Expo was held recently in Belvidere.

Ricky Stallings, the owner of R & R Farms, hosted the event and more than 300 people attended.

The educational field day is an annual event that held by NC Cooperative Extension agents from Camden,



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Grain sorghum (left) is much smaller than the corn in the background. Top, Chris Eure captured farmers harvesting wheat just ahead of a heavy thunderstorm in June.



See EXPO, 2

Senior Center workers retiring at end of year

BY PETER WILLIAMS
 News Editor

Delphine Madre, the director of the Perquimans County Senior Center will be stepping and the end of the year. Also retiring will be Faye Myers, the secretary at the center.

Madre and Myers are the only full-time employees at the center. The county also employs one part-time worker and the Albemarle Commission has a part-time nutrition coordinator at the site on Harvey Point Road.

"It's kind of bitter-sweet," Madre said last week. "I've really loved my job. I don't love the paperwork, but I've loved my job. It's had many wonderful blessings. I've had a lot of people pass through my life."

"I enjoyed it," she said of her 24-year career. "It wouldn't be so difficult to retire if you hated your job, but I love mine."

Madre is 69 years old and doesn't mind saying it.

"I don't mind you telling you my age, just don't ask me my weight," she joked.

She started working for the county recreation department as a secretary/senior coordinator in July 1993.

Madre praised the Perquimans



MADRE



MYERS

See RETIRING, 2

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Chuck Hartman, the pastor of Up River Friends Meeting, authored and illustrated a children's book called "It Must Be a Weed."



Minister writes children's book

BY PETER WILLIAMS
 News Editor

Just because something may appear different, doesn't make it wrong.

That is the premise of a new children's book authored by Chuck Hartman, the 43-year-old pastor of Up River Friends Meeting.

The book is called "It Must Be A Weed."

Hartman said he got the idea years ago when he worked in an



HARTMAN

adult day care. "One of the things I did was real the news to the participants. One feature was called 'News of the Weird.'"

"There was one thing in about 2001 where it said caterpillars only eat at night. I knew that may not actually be true, but it would make a

neat idea for a children's book."

The book will be available on Amazon starting in September. The cost will be \$8.99.

Hartman grew up in Caswell County. He and his wife Sonya now live with their dog Sarah in Perquimans County.

He did his own illustrations for the book. He dedicates it to his grandmother, Etheleen Walker, thanking her for teaching him

See BOOK, 2

End of life program planned

BY PETER WILLIAMS
 News Editor

Vidant Chowan Hospital will hold a session on end of life issues on Sept. 5 at the Shepard-Pruden Memorial Library from 10 a.m. until 11:30 a.m.

"Bringing up end-of-life issues with your family can be challenging," said Kelly

Herr, community relations director for the hospital. "Making your preferences known in legal documents can be even tougher. Having conversations now, while you're well and not in a crisis, will help ensure that the care you receive matches what's most important to you."

Herr said trained experts will lead the free educational session and help people complete health care power of attorney and living will forms including the witness

FIRST RESPONDERS HONORED BY NAACP



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

More than 60 Perquimans County first responders were honored recently at an event hosted by Perquimans County NAACP at the Perquimans County Recreation Center. Next year there is a black tie event planned for them. Left, Perquimans County Sheriff's deputies dine at a event to honor all first responders. It was sponsored by the Perquimans County branch of the NAACP.



See LIFE, 2