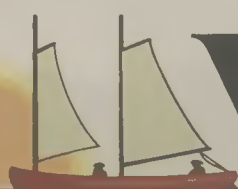


THE PERQUIMAN WEEKLY



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To Benefit Open Food Pantry

17 - 9a.m. - 5p.m.

18 - 9a.m. - 2p.m.

Keys and other food Thanksgiving Dinner

Drop Off at 200 Dobbs Street
 Hertford United Methodist Church

"News from Next Door"

NOV 15 REC'D WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2017

50 cents

Hertford Police Chief retires

BY PETER WILLIAMS
 News Editor

Hertford is in the market for a new police chief

Hertford Town Manager Brandon Shoaf confirmed that Chief Douglas Freeman has set a retirement date of Dec. 1. His last day in the office was Tuesday.

"Then he'll be out for a medical procedure," Shoaf said in an e-mail. "Doug has done well for the town and he will be missed."

The town board will decide this week how to go about replacing Freeman, Shoaf said.

"We'll have an interim in place until we can put together a hiring process," Shoaf said.

Freeman could not be reached for comment. He submitted his letter on Oct. 30 and it was accepted on Nov. 1, Shoaf said.

Freeman was hired in 2012.

Freeman replaced Interim Chief Mike Carver who has served at the helm of the local police department following the termination of former chief Joe Amos. Amos was fired over an issue involving a Facebook post and the arrest of then Hertford Town Council candidate Quentin Jackson. Carver, a retired 30-year law enforcement veteran, agreed to take the job only until a replacement could be hired.

At that point Freeman had more than 22 years of law enforcement experience and was serving as deputy chief of police for a 15-man police department in North Topsail Beach in Onslow County.

At the time Shoaf said Freeman was selected through a process that started with over 75 applications from all over the United States. Shoaf hired Freeman for the position following an

See CHIEF, 2



STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS

Dr. Mark Olesen, a retired Navy captain, speaks Saturday at the Veteran's Day ceremony in Hertford.

Crowd honors local veterans

BY PETER WILLIAMS
 News Editor

Temperatures in the low 40s didn't stop several hundred people from attending a Veteran's Day event outside the courthouse in Hertford Saturday.

The speaker, retired U.S. Navy captain Dr. Mark Olesen, still works at the V.A. clinic in Elizabeth City. He stressed that he was speaking in an unofficial capacity.

Olesen admitted he was a little rusty at public speaking since he retired five years ago.

"It's a rare pleasure for this old country doctor to be speaking in front of you today."

He largely quoted a speech President Ronald Reagan made in 1985. Reagan remarked about how we may view those lost in war as old and wise, but many were just boys when they died.

"They gave up two lives, the one they were living and the one they would have lived. When they died they gave up their chance to be husbands and fathers and grandfathers. They gave up their chance to revered old men, they gave up everything for our country, for us."

Reagan went to say "the living have a responsibility to remember the conditions that led to the wars in which our heroes died. Perhaps we can start by remembering this: that all of those who died for us and our country were, in one way or another, victims of a peace process that



STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS

Richard Caporale, a retired Navy Chief Petty Officer, gestures Saturday during the Veteran's Day ceremony in Hertford. Caporale is Commander of American Legion Post 126.

failed. Victims of a decision to forget certain things, to forget, for instance that the surest way to keep a peace going to work is to stay strong.

"Strength is a condition that declares that actions have consequences. Strength is a prudent warning to the belligerent that aggression need not go unanswered.

Peace fails when we forget that agreements, once made, cannot be broken without a price."

He also said peace fails when people forget common sense.

"Common sense tells us that man

has magic in him, but also clay. Common sense can tell the difference between right and wrong. Common sense forgives errors, but always recognizes it to be error first."

Saturday's event was special in that it reached out to all Vietnam War era veterans to make sure they knew they were appreciated.

The event in Hertford was sponsored by the William Paul Stallings Post 126 of the American Legion with support from Legion Post 362.

See VETERANS, 2

Jackson, Norman election winners

BY PETER WILLIAMS
 News Editor

Voters sent two new people to the Hertford Town Council last week, and for the first time in more than 250 years of the town, blacks hold the majority on the five-member board. Also for the first time since 2002, there are no women on the board.

Quentin Jackson and Frank Norman finished first and second in the four way race for two seats on the town council.

Losing out were Ed Lane and Lillian Holman. Each served the past eight years.

Jackson garnered 213 votes while Norman collected 198. Lane finished with 177 votes and Holman had 162 votes.

Hertford today is made up of roughly 50 percent black residents and 50 percent white but until Horace Reid was elected to the council in 1997, the board was all white. At best since then whites held a three-to-two majority on the board. Now blacks how a four-one majority.

Does Reid think it will make a difference?

"Hopefully it won't," Reid said of having the majority. "We as council members need to come together. I don't want to get into situations like in Elizabeth City."

See ELECTION, 2



JACKSON



NORMAN

High school students to present play Friday, Saturday

From Staff Reports

Students in the Perquimans County High School theater program will present the play "The Importance of Being Earnest" on Friday and Saturday in the high school auditorium.

Drama teacher Rachel Sanders said she picked the play because it's a classic.

"It is hysterical and fits our students to a tee. These roles show off their gifts beautifully."

The play will be per-

formed Friday at 7 p.m. and Saturday at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students.

The Importance of Being Earnest is a comedy about Jack Worthing and Algernon Moncrieff who both ironically pretend to have the name Ernest. When Jack proposes to his love, the sophisticated Gwendolen Fairfax, Lady Bracknell refuses to let her daughter accept the proposal. The men's lack of earnestness soon causes mayhem, when

Algernon falls in love with Jack's ward, the beautiful and young Cecily Cardew. Matters come to a head when Cecily meets Gwendolen, who happens to be Algernon's cousin. Tensions rise as both women believe they are engaged to "Ernest." The sequence of events only get more chaotic from there and end up revealing long lost secrets that even the characters themselves do not know

See PLAY, 2



STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS

Perquimans County High School theater students will perform "The Importance of Being Earnest" on Friday and Saturday.

Church collecting holiday food

From Staff Reports

The fourth annual "Turkey Drop" — a countywide collection of turkeys — will be held on Friday and Saturday to assist those in need this Thanksgiving season. The collection is sponsored by The Open Door Food Pantry of Perquimans Coun-

ty and the Hertford United Methodist Church.

This year's goal is 200 turkeys and trimmings. Last year the people of Perquimans County donated 183 turkeys, 736 pounds of food and over \$1,400.

"We try and raise the goal each year because the need grows each year," said Vera Harrell, one of the organizers of the event.

Open Door is planning to help 325 families this season, and if donations aren't made, then the pantry must

buy the food and that limits what it can do during other times of the year.

Turkeys, canned vegetables, sweet potatoes, rice, cranberry sauce and stuffing mix will be collected curbside at the Hertford United Methodist Church, 200 Dobbs St., between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. on Friday and from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. on Saturday. Monetary donations will also be accepted.

The Open Door Food Pantry will distribute Thanksgiving meals on Nov. 20.

Ruritans looking for holiday help

From Staff Reports

The Parkville Ruritan Club is once again reaching out to the community to help children who might not otherwise get anything for Christmas.

"Santa Trees" are located at both Woodard's Pharmacy and Family Care Pharmacy. Hanging on the branches are the names of local children.

The families have been screened through the Perquimans County Department of Social Services and the cards have been created for each child that has a genuine need. The cards list the gender, age, wishes and particular needs of each child.

The deadline to help is Dec. 6.

According to Action for Children in North Carolina, more than 30 percent of the children in Perquimans County live in poverty, said Michael Hurdle, a member of the club. For those children and their families, the holidays are a difficult time, where children face the likelihood of few to no gifts Christmas morning.

People are asked to pick a child or group of children and pick up a few gifts then return them wrapped, with the tag attached, to the pharmacy where they got the card. The Ruritans will take it from there and complete this mission of giving by picking up the wrapped toys and distributing the gifts to the families.



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