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"News from Next Door"

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2018

75 cents

Jackson barred from contact with Eley

BY PETER WILLIAMS
 News Editor

Quentin Jackson is effectively barred from going to Hertford Town Council meetings so long as Sid Eley is there.

The ban is a consequence of Jackson's assault charge against the fellow councilman.

District Attorney Andrew Womble explained it.



JACKSON

said in an e-mail.

"That is a standard condition applicable to every

"One of the conditions of his pretrial release is that he not be in the presence of Mr. Eley," Womble

defendant charged with an assault-type crime. His attendance at town board meetings is immaterial."

Jackson admits punching Eley in the head with a closed fist on Oct. 1 after a council meeting. Jackson claims he did so out of fear because Eley "got in my face" and refused to back away. Jackson said he didn't find out about the restraining order condition until

Oct. 8 when he was told to contact the magistrate's office.

"I got a call that Monday at 4:50 p.m. and they said we need to see you before the council meeting, and I couldn't imagine why."

Jackson is set to appear before a civil district court judge on Friday to hear his request to have a restraining order against Eley.

Jackson said he's been

trying to get a magistrate to hear his side of the case for charging Eley with assault as well, but none of the Perquimans magistrates will hear it.

"It won't work, it will not work. The DA claims to be impartial but he's not talked to me and every magistrate has recused themselves on this case. I've tried to get clarity, but no one has talked to me."

Jackson is set to go before a judge on Oct. 24 on the charge of assaulting a government official.

Jackson claims he was in fear of Eley so that's why he punched him. He said the fact that he is 35-years-old and Eley is 72-years-old isn't the issue.

"I don't see him as an old guy. He's a firefighter and

See JACKSON, 2

Voting starts today

From Staff Reports

Early voting for the 2018 election starts today and runs through Nov. 3.

Voters can go to the elections office between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. and cast a ballot. On the final Saturday, they can vote between 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. There is no Sunday voting in Perquimans County. The elections office is at 601A S. Edenton Road St.

There is only one contested local race. Sheriff Shelby White is facing opposition from Jim Bray. White is a Democrat and Bray is a Republican.

There are three seats open for the Perquimans County Commission and three people running.

Two incumbents are running, Fondella Leigh and Wallace Nelson. Also running is Alan Lennon who is running as a Libertarian. Leigh is a Democrat and Nelson is a Republican.

Incumbent Todd Tilley is running opposed for Clerk of Superior Court.

In a race for the N.C. House, Republican Ed Goodwin is facing Democrat Ron Wesson.

In a race for N.C. Senate, Democrat Cole Phelps is facing Republican Bob Steinburg.

Planetarium to visit HGS

BY PETER WILLIAMS
 News Editor

If third grade students from Hertford Grammar School can't make the long trip to the Morehead Planetarium in Chapel Hill, the planetarium will come to Hertford — or at least a smaller version of it.

See VISIT, 2



Tony Cook (left), Mason Rhodes and Makayia Williams talking during practice for the upcoming play "Our Town" at Perquimans County High School.

PCHS to present 'Our Town'

BY PETER WILLIAMS
 News Editor

When Rachel Sanders was thinking about the fall theater performance for Perquimans County High School, "Our Town" was not top on the list.

It wasn't even on the list. But when the first choice fell through, it was students who started coming to her suggesting they do "Our Town."

And do it they will Nov. 8-9, at 7 p.m. each night the PCHS auditorium.

"I was stunned my high schoolers were convincing me we needed to do this play."

First produced and published in 1938, the Pulitzer Prize-winning drama is Thornton Wilder's most frequently performed play. It looks at life in the small village of Grover's Corners, N.H. where people are born, grow up, get married and die.

Sanders won't call "Our Town" a "dark" play but she did call it "deep."

"It's going to be a stark contract

"It's going to be a stark contract from the Wizard of Oz where you had kids of all ages and it had bright colors and intricate costumes and props."

Rachel Sanders
 PCHS teacher

from the Wizard of Oz where you had kids of all ages and it had bright colors and intricate costumes and props," Sanders said. "We can get sidetracked by the production values and the beautiful costumes and that can blindside us on the point of these stories."

One reason Sanders was hesitant to do "Our Town" was she has 28 kids in her technical theater class. They are the ones that build the sets and does a lot of the backstage work.

She said "Our Town" has very minimalist sets. That will give the

technical theater class a running start for the spring program.

"Thornton Wilder wrote it to have minimalists sets and to focus on the lives of people. He didn't want to have any props, but we have used some, like umbrellas. The whole point of the production is to value every day life. The stories are timeless," she said.

In her time as drama teacher at PCHS Sanders said she always tries to find a play that fits her students and not force students to fit in the mold of a play.

"That is the case for every production. The number one priority is to showcase the talents of my students."

Tickets are \$5 for a students and \$10 for adults.

The "Our Town" cast in order of appearance is: Stage Manager — Mason Rhodes; Dr. Gibbs — Ethan Davis; Joe Crowell — DJ Levesque; Howie Newsome — Elias Holley; Mrs. Gibbs — Marlie Wright; Mrs. Webb — Tina Courtwright; George Gibbs — Tony

See TOWN, 2



SUBMITTED PHOTO

A woman wears a Project Lifesaver tracking band on her wrist.

Tracking bands can save lives

BY PETER WILLIAMS
 News Editor

Families of someone who may have Dementia or something else that cause them to wander off, have a way to bring them back home safe quickly.

Beverly Gregory, the director of the Perquimans County Seniors Center, asked Sheriff Shelby White to come and speak to a group about the program.

"We are going to be hosting the Dementia Friends program in October, but this applies to the community at large, including people with children with Autism," she said.

Gregory said the talk about the program is a bigger effort to reach out to people, not just seniors.

The sheriff said the product is not new. Project Lifesaver is a nonprofit organization that provides law enforcement, fire/rescue, and caregivers with a program designed to protect, and when necessary, quickly locate individuals with cognitive disorders. It was founded in 1999 in Chesapeake, Va.

White said the sheriff's office has offered the program for a long time, but no one using the program right

See BANDS, 5

Rouse to retire from banking

BY PETER WILLIAMS
 News Editor

The bank name has changed five times. Banking itself has changed.

But for 42-years, Anita Rouse, 62, has been a constant at what is now PNC Bank on Church Street.

At the end of this month, that era ends when she retires.

After she graduated from Perquimans County High School in 1974 when went to Washington D.C. and

worked for the FBI. With her ex-husband's job with the Air Force they moved to Michigan. She still remembers the bitter winters.

After moving back to Hertford, she got the banking job. For a time she thinks 12 people worked in the building including three loan officers.

It's been Hertford Banking Company, then Peoples Bank, the Centura, the RBC-Centura, then RBC and now PNC.

"We found a bunch of ancient stuff from the Hertford Banking days. R.L. Stevenson was the one who hired me."

The drive-through teller wasn't always there. There was a building there once,

but it was torn down and a closet was converted into a space for the drive-through teller.

Before the Internet, if people wanted to bank, they had to drive to one.

"I never thought I'd see the day, but on a Friday we might have two people come in over a two hour time."

Rouse remembers the times if a customer couldn't get to the bank, the bank would come to them.

"It was called Personal Banking." She said if a customer called and needed money, someone from the bank would go to their house, have them sign a slip and then take the money

See ROUSE, 2



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Anita Rouse (far left) is pictured with the staff of what is now PNC Bank in the 1980s. Seated are Ben Berry and Roy Chappell.

