

LAYTON

Continued from A1

documents which are available for the public to view? Normally I get public record request about a particular issue or document. I think all your questions will be asked from documents that are available for anyone upon request.

The process of this is: Fill out a public record request form which can be obtained from the Clerk.

The Clerk will forward your request to you.

As I had stated in an earlier email, most of the documentation is available but we are waiting for another bank statement which may obtain traveling expenses."

Mrs. Hurdle - I wouldn't have it any other way. Agreed. Some governmental bodies - less formal - other places are more formal about such, and that's OK.

North Carolina Press Association says my initial inquiry serves as a public records request. However, I prefer to do it the way Town Hall asks by filling out a more standardized public record request form - good policy.

Seeking information via FOIA request from a state government or a large public university - very formal process.

In contrast, one story I wrote seeking information regarding the outcome of a legal settlement between a small city and company - just a simple email with a public records request followed up by a walk over to the town manager's office on a sunny morning for a cup of coffee.

Trust me, I'm easy - whatever works.

In other news, an independent audit is being conducted to learn more about the Town's finances.

That information is being scrutinized by auditors, thus most questions won't be answered during the course of the audit as this information falls under the guise of an investigation as is standard policy, so we'll have to wait until the audit is released.

No worries - sooner or later, the community and this newspaper will learn more about the town's finances.

One audit story I covered long ago was picked up by the Associated Press, made it into the state briefs section of USA Today.

Speaking of finances, each year for the past 15+ years the Hertford Rotary Club has sponsored a VITA (Volunteers in Tax Assistance) program in Hertford, according to Sandy Stevenson. This program prepares tax returns for lower income residents at no charge. More on that program in a future edition.

In other matters, Per-



(L-r) Robert, Miles, Samantha, Nicole and Joseph Layton in 2015 as Miles reads "Twas the Night Before Christmas."



A bunch of first grade students were treated to a holiday party Dec. 19 funded by the "Pass the Buck" campaign because they wrote notes to veterans thanking them for their service. Merry Christmas to Perquimans Central teachers - Holly Jordan and Laura Duncan - and Lee Duncan, General Manager Albemarle Plantation Properties, along with these first grade students - thanks for the Santa letters too!

quimans Central School first graders taught by Holly Jordan and Laura Duncan were treated to a holiday party on Thursday, December 19th funded by the "Pass the Buck" campaign from the residents of Albemarle Plantation.

In early November for the past three years, first grade students have written thank you notes to veterans for their service to our country. These notes are distributed and displayed during the annual Albemarle Plantation Veterans Day activities.

To return their gratitude to the students, the AP residents created the "Pass the Buck" campaign to show their appreciation. Residents are invited to contribute at least one dollar to the campaign. In addition to the holiday party, the remaining funds are used to purchase new books for each student and their classrooms.

The PCS first graders and the AP "Pass the Buck" campaign are shining examples of the age

old phrase "one good turn deserves another"!

Thursday, Perquimans High School's boys' basketball team took a trip across the river to defeat Northeastern 61-51. Scoring leaders were Shilene Foreman with 20 pts, 7 rebounds, 5 steals; E.J. Gatling with 15 pts, 3 rebounds, 2 steals; and Amari Hunter 12 pts, 6 assists.

Perquimans moves to 7-1 on the season. Next game will be Friday Dec 27 away vs Gateway Christian in the Perquimans Holiday Shootout

In other matters, I met Connie Brothers and Murielle Harmon this past week, good conversation.

Brothers is the type of person that makes this town tick.

Harmon is a talker. I'm a listener. Era of good government has dawned in Hertford.

Think Harmon said she sold her house on Front Street recently and is living nearby, renovating a new place. I like Front Street's

neighborhood. Large wooden two-story house at 100 South Front Street has a Walton's appeal, sort of reminds me of a place where perhaps a large family - as they used to have - lived way back when.

Large houses and the people around Perquimans County make me think of what Mayberry must have been like. Even the nice woman working at the One Stop gas station talked to me one quiet Sunday afternoon.

There is a garage (apartment/cottage?) that looks really neat at the very end of a driveway by South Front Street, more or less right next to the water. Perfect place, more my style. Imagine rolling out of bed, picking up the kayak and paddling out on the water near sunrise.

Anyone with news tips can reach me at mlayton@ncweeklies.com or via Facebook.

Staff writer Miles Layton can be reached at mlayton@ncweeklies.com



Santa Claus knows that children like 5-year-old Clover Brown in Perquimans County are on his "nice" list, that's why it's one of his favorite stops on Christmas Eve.

CHRISTMAS

Continued from A1

And then, in a twinkling, I heard on the roof

The prancing and pawing of each little hoof.

As I drew in my head, and was turning around,

Down the chimney St. Nicholas came with a bound.

He was dressed all in fur, from his head to his foot,

And his clothes were all tarnished with ashes and soot.

A bundle of toys he had flung on his back,

And he looked like a peddler, just opening his pack.

His eyes-how they twinkled! his dimples how merry!

His cheeks were like roses, his nose like a cherry!

His droll little mouth was drawn up like a bow,

And the beard of his chin was as white as the snow.

The stump of a pipe he held tight in his teeth,

And the smoke it encircled his head like a wreath.

He had a broad face and a little round belly,

That shook when he laughed, like a bowlful of jelly!

He was chubby and plump, a right jolly old elf,

And I laughed when I saw him, in spite of myself!

A wink of his eye and a twist of his head,

Soon gave me to know I had nothing to dread.

He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work,

And filled all the stockings, then turned with a jerk,

And laying his finger aside of his nose,

And giving a nod, up the chimney he rose!

He sprang to his sleigh, to his team gave a whistle,

And away they all flew like the down of a thistle,

But I heard him exclaim, ere he drove out of sight,

"Happy Christmas to all, and to all a good-night!"

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

(USPS428-080)
Vol. 87 No. 52

Published Each Wednesday

A publication of Adams Publishing Group

Established 1934

111 W. Market St., Hertford, NC 27944

Robin L. Quillon.....Publisher
Miles Layton.....Editor
Bev Alexander.....Advertising Representative

Phone 252-426-5728 ■ Fax 252-426-4625
Email: perquimansweekly@ncweeklies.com

Subscription Rate

Home delivery..... \$35 per year

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Perquimans Weekly, Hertford, NC 27944

HABITAT

Continued from A1

Habitat for Humanity has been building and renovating homes for those in need since 1976. Using the power of volunteer sweat equity as it states on their website, families across the country are getting a fresh start in a beautiful home they can call their own. The partners are selected at local level, meaning that the houses chosen are close to their original place of residence. Partnership with Habitat depends on the

following factors: the partner's ability to pay the mortgage, their level of need for better housing, their willingness to partner with Habitat and work alongside volunteers of the organization. Partners of Habitat can fulfill their service hours in a number of ways: through building projects, at the Habitat Re-Store Consignment Shop or at any of their committees or offices. Complete information regarding volunteering projects are available on their website: www.habitat.org There is even an office at 1370

North Broad Street in Edenton.

For Bunch and her busy family, the blessing of a new home couldn't have come at a better time. "Our living conditions could

be better. We live in a very small space. There is barely enough room for us to hang our clothes, we have to put them in totes. So I am very grateful for this house."

* * * * *

Town of Winfall Offices are Closed:

* * * * *

Wednesday, January 1, 2020

* * * * *

In case of an Emergency call 426-5751

* * * * *

Minzies Creek Sanitary District

Monthly meeting will be held on

DECEMBER 28, 2019

AT 10:00am

The Meeting Will Be Held at 139 Treasure Lane, Hertford

BUILDERS CONTAINER SERVICE

ON-SITE DUMPSTER RENTALS

HERTFORD, NC
(252) 340-5191

PUBLIC NOTICE

Except for the Sheriff's Department, Dispatch Office and Emergency Medical Services, all County Offices in the Perquimans County Courthouse, Courthouse Annex, Social Services, Agricultural Extension Service, Perquimans County Library and the Perquimans County Recreation Department will be closed on Wednesday, January 1, 2020, for New Year's Day. In addition, the Perquimans County Library will be closed at 5:00 p.m. on December 31, 2019. The Water Department will be closed but emergencies may be reported to the Dispatch Office by calling 426-5751.

Frank Heath, County Manager