

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

"News from Next Door"

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2020

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Montana is one of the pets up for adoption at the Tri-County Animal Shelter.



PAGE B1

Ruritan Club helps food pantry feed community



PAGE B2

Ben E. King was born on Sept. 28, 1938, in Henderson.

Dead People Should Not be Able to Vote

BY MILES LAYTON
Editor

File this story to come in the next edition as an eye opener.

Kathryn Dixon Hoyle Schmitt was sent four applications so that she could request an absentee ballot to cast her vote in November's general election. Trouble is, Kathryn died more than a year ago in April of 2019, so voting could be a bit of a problem for her.

Photo shows Kathryn's husband Walter holding up one of the letters his dear departed wife has

received in the mail.

Notice that the letter from the Raleigh based Center for Voter Information is postmarked with a paid permit from Lansdale, Pennsylvania – a reliably Democratic Philadelphia suburb that is a long way from Perquimans County.

What's even more interesting is that Kathryn, a Democrat, received four applications to apply for absentee ballots, while her husband, Walter, a Republican, has not received any such paperwork – even though he is still among the living – from the Cen-

ter for Voter Information.

According to the Center for Voter Information's website, the organization is a non-profit, non-partisan partner organization to Voter Participation Center, both founded to provide resources and tools to help voting-eligible citizens register and vote in upcoming elections.

In the days ahead, the Perquimans Weekly is going to ask a lot of questions about how a dead woman can vote even if she receives such

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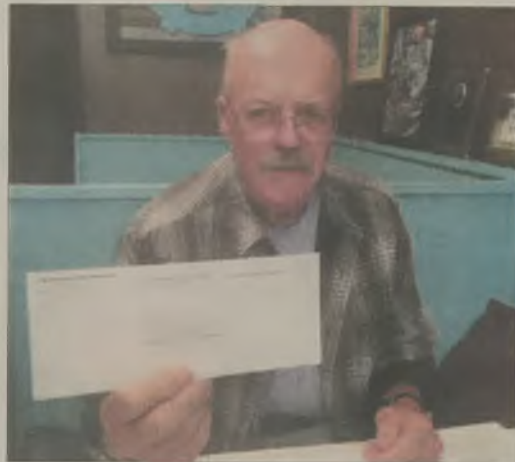


PHOTO BY MILES LAYTON

Perquimans County is not Chicago nor Texas where dead people are said to have the right to vote, so why is Walter Schmitt's dear departed wife Kathryn being sent letters so she can request an absentee ballot so as to be able vote in November general election?

Hertford Curfew Extended

BY MILES LAYTON
Editor

Mayor Earnell Brown has extended the curfew until midnight, Thursday (Sept. 24).

Brown said Hertford citizens should "be cautious and stay aware of their surroundings."

"Thanks to all citizens for adhering to these strict measures to keep everyone safe," she said.

In the wake of a trio of shootings, a curfew was enacted that started Sept. 15 was to end Tuesday, but has been extended.

Children and youth below the age of 18 are to be off the streets from 4 p.m. to 6 a.m.

Also, adults age 18 and over are extended an extra hour, to be off the streets at 10 p.m., not 9 p.m. The exceptions are for scheduled doctor appointments and employment. Visits to the store, gas stations and to pick-up prescriptions should be done during non-curfew hours.

The police are enforcing the curfew.

Police Chief Dennis Brown said if someone violates the curfew order, officers have discretion on how to handle each incident on an individual basis.

Moreover, he said initially police/town hall has taken the opportunity to educate anyone out after curfew and this approach so far has been successful. He said overall, the goal, as with all law enforcement actions, is voluntary compliance.

Local and state law enforcement officials are investigating a trio of recent shootings in Perquimans County between Sept. 13 and Sept. 14, one that claimed the life of a Hertford man, two others that sent two men to area hospitals. No update on the health status of the men who are in the hospital.

Law enforcement has not indicated if any arrests have been made.

In related news, during a special meeting held Wednesday (Sept. 15) Hertford Town Council approved plans to hire a new police officer and buy protective gear.

Due to extreme space and time constraints, more about council's affairs, particularly regarding the HUD housing debate and other matters, will appear in future edition.

SEVEN DECADES OF FASHION HISTORY



PHOTO BY MILES LAYTON

White's Dress Shoppe manager Joanne (Meads) Jones and husband Bernie have decided to close the store that has long been a fashion institution for downtown Hertford and northeastern NC.

White's Dress Shoppe Poised to Close

BY MILES LAYTON
Editor

After 74 years of being a family-owned business, White's Dress Shoppe in downtown Hertford is closing its doors.

A sunny day was Tuesday

morning, White's manager Jo Anne (Meads) Jones tells the story about a woman who came into her store, who wasn't from around these parts.

"Woman needed a dress for a wedding, so we let her take it home for her husband

to see," Jones said. "Later when the woman and her family moved to Perquimans County, she said that friendly experience at our shop was what convinced her that Hertford is a nice place to

See WHITE'S, A2



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Old photo of when White's Dress Shoppe was on Church Street.



Located at 108 Market St., White's Dress Shoppe is closing in October after more than seven decades of business. Check out some great deals and bargains before it's too late!

HARTMAN TO HEART

Power to Forgive

BY PASTOR CHUCK HARTMAN
Up River Friends

Editor's Note: Based on recent headlines, the Perquimans Weekly sought Pastor Chuck Hartman's thoughts to put the matters in a perspective of faith.

What can I say, I contemplate the violence in our world, and the future seems bleak. We have been blessed to live in a protective bubble, and have possibly thought, violence from outside could never break through the blessed life we know in our corner of the world, yet it has. Why?

The sages from antiquity to present have attempted to answer why, and I will not endeavor to add to their reasons. What I will say is the same thing that so many of you feel—I hurt, I am saddened, and I am angry that such violence happens, both in our global and local communities.

I do not desire to sound political, nor do I want to appear overly spiritual. Nevertheless, I want to speak blessings and encouragement over our town, its residence, its leaders, and all who serve her so diligently.

A wise person once said, the tiniest action today pays dividends down the road. I note this because we can allow anger to move us.

In grief, we can return violence for violence, or we can take control over anger.

If we allow anger to move us—move us to actions of love, care, compassion, and forgiveness, these actions will pay dividends down the road.

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Police Chiefs Dismiss Company's Crime Survey

BY CHRIS DAY
AND MILES LAYTON
Adams Publishing Group

Elizabeth City ranks 50th safest among North Carolina's 57 mid-sized cities, according to a new crime survey from a New York-based business and research organization.

Hertford and Edenton rank 76th and 145th, respectively, among the state's 174 small cities, according to AdvisorSmith's survey of the state's safest cities.

Area law enforcement officers shrugged off the study as flawed because it provides an inaccurate portrayal of crime statistics.

AdvisorSmith used data from the

FBI's most recent Uniform Crime Reports (UCR) to compile its survey. The FBI uses crime statistics reported by about 18,000 participating federal, state and local jurisdictions to compile the UCR.

AdvisorSmith only used data from law enforcement agencies in communities that had reported at least two months of crime statistics

to the FBI, the survey's methodology stated.

Hertford police Chief Dennis Brown responded to the survey first by stating that as the county's governmental seat and economic engine, crime will inevitably occur in Hertford. His police force is trained

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