

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

"News from Next Door"

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2020

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Hertford Town Council meeting recap



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Lazy Weekends celebrates 20 years of lawncare service



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News from Newbold-White House

Dead or Alive: An Autopsy of Voter Registration

BY MILES LAYTON
Editor

After American author Mark Twain received reports that he was dead after his obituary was published, Twain is said to have remarked, "The reports of my death are greatly exaggerated."

Patty Bittner of Hertford can surely commiserate because until recently, she was listed as being no longer among the living by the Perquimans County

See **VOTER**, A2



PHOTO BY MILES LAYTON

Until recently, Patty Bittner of Hertford was dead, according to her voter registration at the Perquimans Board of Elections; passed away in April 2019. Being a good citizen, Bittner decided to change her voter registration status from dead to alive so that she can cast her vote in the 2020 election. Go Patty!

Cole's Letter Rocks BOE

BY MILES LAYTON
Editor

Friday morning's Perquimans County Board of Elections meeting was eye opening, heated at times and should serve as a wake-up call to voters thinking about casting their ballots in the November general election.

Janice Cole, a former District Court Judge and US Attorney, submitted a letter Tuesday (Sept. 22) to the county's BOE sharing her concerns about how the BOE is "not complying with the spirit and the letter of

See **LETTER**, A3

School Board Approves Plan A

BY MILES LAYTON
Editor

Perquimans Board of Education approved plans to move K-5 to Plan A with the option for families to continue remote learning under Plan C beginning the week of October 19th which marks the beginning of the second nine week grading period.

Plan A will follow the same health and safety procedures as Plan B with social distancing recommended but not required in classrooms and on buses.

"Every attempt will continue to be made to social distance students as much as possible while requiring health screenings, masks, and disinfection procedures," Superintendent Tanya Turner said. "The move to Plan A will enable our school system to make several modifications to better serve our children."

Plan A requires important safety protocols for students, staff and teachers. Details about the plans and safety protocols are online in the Strong Schools NC Public Health Toolkit.

Beginning the week of October 19th,

1. 5th grade will return to HGS.
2. 7th and 8th grade will return to PCMS.
3. K-5 buses will be able to accommodate two children per seat if needed.
4. 6-12 buses are still required to have one child per seat.
5. Each week, Monday will continue to be a full day of face to face learning for grades 9-12 only. K-8 will be remote.

See **SCHOOL**, A6



PHOTOS BY MILES LAYTON

The mission of Sunday's prayer walks was to inspire prayers for healing and for local law enforcement in the wake of recent three shooting incidents.

Prayer Walk for Peace

BY MILES LAYTON
Editor

In lieu of the recent violence that has affected the community, a Prayer Walk for Hertford was held Sunday to pray for healing and for local law enforcement.

Recently, Hertford Mayor Earnell Brown imposed a 9-day curfew in the wake of three shooting incidents in the town within 72 hour time frame, one that left a resident dead and two others that sent local men to hospitals. Though the

See **PRAYER**, A3



When reflecting the violence and the choice between good and evil, Pastor Greg Owenby said, "There is an option and it is a better option. If you're looking for somewhere to join, find you a good Bible-believing church, join up and start serving the Lord. That'll be more fulfilling than any gang activity that you should never be a part of."



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ROUND-UP New Owner at Barley and Vine

BY MILES LAYTON
Editor

A round-up of all things Perquimans County... Shop local!

Other day, I brought my wife and daughter to **White's Dress Shoppe** on Market Street. Store is closing soon, so there are good deals on dresses - check it out! They bought a couple of dresses and then we moved onto lunch at **Woodard's Pharmacy** on Church Street.

We had three sandwiches - turkey with lettuce, tomato, mustard - along with fountain drinks, a moon pie and some chips. Excellent food at good prices.

Afterward, we headed to

See **LAYTON**, A6



PHOTO BY MILES LAYTON

Sharon Smith co-owns Barley and Vine with her husband Jim. The couple is saying goodbye to their shop; it's under new ownership - Lisa Verrastro.

Sen. Steinburg Completes Prisons' Tour

BY MILES LAYTON
Editor

Editor's Note: This is the first of a two-part series updating our readers on prison reform and NC Senator Bob Steinburg's trip to every state correctional institution to talk to corrections officers and see conditions first hand. Steinburg's zeal for reform began in the wake tragedies at correc-



STEINBURG

Bob Steinburg said he learned a lot during his recently complet-

ed tour of the state's correctional institutions. His journey across the state started about a year ago in the wake of deadly attacks at Pasquotank and Bertie county's prisons.

Since that time, Steinburg has spearheaded prison reform that seeks to provide safer working conditions and better pay for employees.

"Nothing like this had ever happened in the history of the

North Carolina Prison System - five people killed in one year," he said. "So I knew after that, something had to be done. I went to all the funerals, visited with all the families. To me, it's personal. I know these people working at these correctional institutions. Some of them had visited my house. They were out on my front porch chatting

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