

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



"News from Next Door"

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

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Throckmorton: Growth in population, crime, drove need for police pros



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Edenton tennis group adds to Key endowed scholarship



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Holy Trinity to host blessing of the pets service

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Home Sweet Home



PHOTO COURTESY HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Mike Finamore, president of Chowan-Perquimans Habitat for Humanity, hands Ke'ena Riddick the keys to her new home at 313 Artie St., Hertford, during a dedication ceremony Aug. 12. Also on hand for the ceremony were Riddick's three children — Nyquan Riddick, Savion Riddick, and Tyonna Chapman — Habitat board members and Hertford town officials. Riddick's home is the 22nd completed by the Chowan-Perquimans Habitat for Humanity chapter.

Hertford family, Habitat partner on home

FROM STAFF REPORTS

HERTFORD — Thanks to volunteers with Chowan-Perquimans Habitat for Humanity and the non-profit's community partners, Ke'ena Riddick and her three children have a brand new place to call home.

Riddick and her kids — Nyquan Riddick, Savion Riddick, and Tyonna Chapman — received the keys to

their new home at 313 Artie St., Hertford, from Habitat board members during a dedication ceremony Aug. 12, a Habitat press release states.

Mike Finamore, president of Chowan-Perquimans Habitat for Humanity, began the ceremony by introducing Deacon Leveille Miller of Melton Grove Missionary Baptist Church in Winfall,

who read scripture from the Psalms emphasizing the significance of homes in building communities. A prayer was offered for the family, encouraging them to allow God to guide their decisions and take control of their new home.

Also attending the ceremony were Hattie Downing and Katie Askew, both local Habitat board members and family support advocates.

They presented Riddick with an engraved family Bible, a monetary housewarming gift, and a binder containing home warranty information and a maintenance schedule for the new home. Members of New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church in Hertford also contributed a laundry basket filled with cleaning supplies.

More HOME | A7

Perquimans board mulls Narcan training for school employees

REGGIE PONDER
Staff Writer

HERTFORD — Perquimans County school officials are weighing a policy that would allow properly trained school employees to administer Narcan in the case of a suspected opioid or opiate overdose on school grounds.

The board held a preliminary discussion of a proposed policy on Naloxone/Narcan administration in schools Monday night. The item was on the agenda for information and discussion only, with action on the proposed policy expected at the board's October meeting.

"The Perquimans County School Board recognizes the increasing frequency of opioid use/abuse in our surrounding

community and the impact this use/abuse may have on all students, staff and community members," the introduction to the proposed policy explains. "Perquimans County Schools wishes to prevent opiate-related overdose deaths by making Naloxone/Narcan available in each of our schools."

The board's discussion followed a presentation on Narcan by Bethany Buttram of Perquimans County Emergency Medical Services.

The policy would authorize the Perquimans Schools superintendent or a designee to obtain a standing medical order from a physician that prescribes Naloxone/Narcan for use by authorized school personnel.

More NARCAN | A7

Brief tornado spotted as Ophelia passed

No damage from storm reported

FROM STAFF REPORTS

A brief and skinny tornado was spotted briefly in the area of Belvidere early Saturday as Tropical Storm Ophelia was passing over the Albemarle.

According to the National Weather Service in Wakefield, Virginia, the EF-0 tornado was observed near Belvidere in the northern part of Perquimans County.

WTKR News 3 in Norfolk, Virginia, posted a viewer-submitted video of the tornado at the station's Facebook page. WTKR meteorologist Kristy Steward shared the video to her page, too, and said the tornado was filmed from a location off Hickory Cross Road at around 7:38 a.m. Saturday. One person commented that the tornado was spotted off Hickory Cross Road

between Perrys Bridge and Sandy Cross roads, but closer to Perrys Bridge.

In the video, the tornado appears to originate over a field and touch ground before dissipating about 10 seconds later. There have been no reports of damage.

The Enhanced Fujita scale is used to rate the strength of a tornado with measurements ranging between EF-0 to EF-5.

Julie Solesbee, assistant director of Perquimans County Emergency Services, included the tornado sighting in a list of incidents that occurred as a result of Tropical Storm Ophelia.

"A tornado warning was issued for the Belvidere Community on Saturday morning," Solesbee said. "We have confirmed that residents visualized a rotation in the sky, but there were no reports of a tornado touching down."

More TORNADO | A7

PCRA's Jollification! tour goes on despite storm

VERNON FUESTON
The Perquimans Weekly

BELVIDERE — Tropical Storm Ophelia played havoc with organizers' plans but failed to stop Jollification!, the Perquimans County Restoration Association's annual historic home tour on Saturday, Sept. 23.

Jollification is held each year to fund the Perquimans County Restoration Association's historic preservation efforts, which include operating the Newbold-White House in Hertford, North Carolina's oldest brick home.

Plans this year called for an outdoor dinner and silent auction on the grounds of the Newbold-White House, but high winds collapsed the tents, and the event was moved inside the site's visitors' center.



VERNON FUESTON/THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

The Elihu A., White House, built sometime in the 1890s, was featured on the Perquimans County Restoration Association's Jollification! tour Saturday, Sept. 23, as an example of a Quaker Victorian-era home.

More TOUR | A7

Speakers at hearing critical of redistricting process

PAUL NIELSEN
The Daily Advance

A legislative panel heard criticism after criticism about how the General Assembly plans to redraw the state's political districts Monday afternoon.

Nearly all of the 20 speakers at the forum at College

of The Albemarle's Performing Arts Center seeking public input on redrawing all 170 seats in the General Assembly and the state's 14 U.S. House seats were critical of how the GOP-led General Assembly is handling the process.

The forum was led by Senate Majority Leader and Elections and Redistricting Co-Chair Sen. Paul Newton, R-Cabarrus, state Rep. Bill Ward, R-Pasquotank, state Sen. Norman Sanderson, R-Pamlico, and state Sen. Kandie

Smith, D-Pitt. Sanderson represents Pasquotank, Perquimans and Chowan counties in the eight-county 1st District.

The legislators, however, did not address the forum and only listened to citizens' input.

That was one of several complaints legislators heard during the 45-minute session.

Several speakers said lawmakers should present proposed new maps before seeking public input or have input sessions before and after the proposed maps are drawn.

Other speakers complained that they were given

just a week's notice about the three public input sessions scheduled across the state before legislators begin the redistricting process. Several were also critical that the input session was held at 4 p.m. when many people were still at work.

"There should be access to draft maps," one speaker said. "We all want transparency in the process."

The other two legislative public input sessions were Tuesday in Hickory and today at the General Assembly in Raleigh.

More DISTRICTS | A2



PAUL NIELSEN/THE DAILY ADVANCE

Pasquotank NAACP President Keith Rivers addresses a panel of the state Senate's Elections and Redistricting Committee chaired by Sen. Paul Newton, R-Cabarrus, during a hearing at the College of The Albemarle Performing Arts Center, Monday. The panel was seeking public input on lawmakers' plans to redistrict the state's 170 legislative districts and 14 U.S. congressional districts.



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