

# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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25 CENTS

## Voter turn-out heavy in county

By JANE B. WILLIAMS  
Approximately 70 percent

of Perquimans County's  
registered voters turned out



Heavy voter turn-out on Tuesday seemed to be the rule, not the exception, as approximately 70 percent of Perquimans County's

registered voters made their way to the polls in the November General Election. (Photo by George Wilmore.)

to cast their ballot on Tuesday during the 1984 General Election.

Slightly above average to heavy voter turn-out was reported at each of the county's seven precincts, with precinct registrars noting the number of votes cast as follows: Bethel 586; New Hope 585; Nicanor 130; Parkville 633; East Hertford 591; and West Hertford 448. There were 113 absentee ballots cast, and the total number to vote in the Belvidere Precinct was unavailable at press time.

Republican candidates were projected to win three of the major races early Tuesday evening, however Perquimans County voters did not follow the trend set by other North Carolina voters in the top two contested state races.

On the presidential ballot, incumbent Ronald Reagan (R) received 1935 of Perquimans County's votes, while Walter Mondale (D) received 1441 votes. Projected figures indicate that Reagan captured 60 percent of the vote.

In the highly contested U.S. Senate race between incumbent Senator Jesse Helms (R) and N.C. Governor James B. Hunt (D), Helms received the bid across the state, while Hunt

picked up the majority of the popular vote in Perquimans County with 1728 votes to Senator Helms 1578 votes. Percentage figures indicate that Helms captured 54 percent of the popular vote.

Although totals across the state gave Congressman James G. Martin (R) the nod of approval for the next Governor of North Carolina with 54 percent of the vote, he received only 1333 votes in Perquimans County, to 1957 votes cast for Attorney General Rufus Edmisten (D).

In other major races Perquimans County residents voted as follows: U.S. Congress First District - Walter B. Jones (D) 2121 - Herb Lee (R) 1095; Lt. Governor - Robert B. Jordan (D) 2143 - John H. Carrington 1041; and the Constitutional Amendment requiring Attorney Generals and District Attorneys to be duly authorized to practice law prior to election or appointment received overwhelming support with 2439 votes in favor of the amendment and 642 votes against the amendment.

On the local ballot there was only one contested race for the N.C. Senate between Marc Basnight (D) and Barry McCarty (R). Basnight received 2143 votes in Perquimans County, to McCarty's 1098.

## Commissioners sign proclamation

By JANE B. WILLIAMS  
Perquimans County Commissioners met Monday and unanimously approved the signing of a proclamation declaring the week of November 16 through November 22 as Farm-City Week in Perquimans County.

The proclamation, signed by Commissioner Chairman Joe Nowell reads as follows:

Whereas, the growth and well-being of this county are dependent upon cooperation and exchange between the two essential environments of our society; farmers and city people, and

Whereas, the complexities of their individual problems and the divergence of their activities have led to a widening gap of misunderstanding, and

Whereas, this gap of misunderstanding must be eliminated, and each group must understand the other if our American way of life is to endure, and

Whereas, Farm-City Week provides an unparalleled experience for farm and city people to become reacquainted,

I, therefore, Joe Nowell, Chairman of the Perquimans

County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim the period of November 16 through November 22 to be Farm-City Week; and I do further call upon all citizens of this county to participate to the limit of their capabilities in the joint visits, the seminars, the pageants, fairs, civic and social events associated with a successful Farm-City Week in Perquimans County.

In other action taken Monday, the Commissioners:

- Approved the purchase of a Cannon 270 copier to replace a rented unit at the Perquimans County Extension Department.

- Approved a request by the Perquimans County Rescue Squad to use monies gained through donations to upgrade radio equipment for that organization.

Instructed County Manager Randy Keaton to look into a state grant program that will enable the county to erect street signs on county roads.

Discussed the feasibility of renovation of the Blanchard Building for an additional courtroom and office space for the county. Instructed Keaton to have a contractor inspect the building for structural soundness.

## Farm-City Week plans complete

Plans for the Perquimans County Farm-City Week Banquet and Tour are virtually complete, according to Willard L. Pettengill of the Perquimans County Farm-City Week Committee.

Farm-City Week extends from November 18 through November 22, which is Thanksgiving Day. It is an annual event which spotlights a concentrated exchange of ideas and information between farm and city people.

By learning about each others jobs and their problems, we can create an atmosphere of cooperation between the farming and urban sectors of the county.

The local Farm-City Week Observance is being spearheaded by the Perquimans County Ruritan Clubs assisted by the Agricultural Extension Service.

"Through the excellent efforts of our Farm-City Week Planning Committee, we have several events planned as part of our observance," said Pettengill.

On Monday, November 19 at

1:30 p.m., there will be an educational tour featuring cotton. The theme of this tour will be "Cotton - From the Field to the Mill." The participants will trace cotton from the fields where it is grown to the gin and then finally to the cotton mill.

Stops included on this tour will be a cotton field where cotton is being picked, the Ward-Nixon Cotton Gin and Edenton Cotton Mills Incorporated. This is a chance to learn about cotton first hand.

The tour bus leaves the Perquimans County Agricultural Extension Office at 1:30 p.m. on Monday. Call the Extension Office at 426-5428 to sign up for the tour.

The other scheduled activity is the Farm-City Week Banquet which is under the local sponsorship of the Ruritan Clubs.

The guest speaker for the banquet is Jim Futrell, an assistant Vice President of the Federal Land Bank of Columbia and the Federal Intermediate Credit Bank of Columbia in Columbia, S. C.

## Overcrowding in classrooms presents problems for two of the county's schools

By MONICA ROACH

Oversized classes in Perquimans County Schools caused Perquimans County Board of Education members to voice their opinions regarding the recent relocation of students that were made within Perquimans Central School recently.

Due to the changes made, an additional aide, Edna Wolverton was hired to help the overloaded teachers. Also, some of the teachers took on additional students so the teachers that were extremely overloaded, could have some type of assistance.

## Christmas Parade slated

"Christmas Around the World" will be the dominant theme of the 1984 Christmas parade sponsored by the Perquimans County Jaycees.

The parade will begin at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 1 at Perquimans County High School. The line-up time for units and floats is at 1:15 p.m. at the school.

Cash prizes will be awarded for floats in two divisions; church and civic category and schools. First place winners in each category will receive \$15.00. Second place winners will receive \$10.00. Third place winners will receive honorable mention.

Participating bands will be judged in two divisions, 60 and over members and under 60 members, with first and second place trophies being given in each division. Third place bands in each division will receive honorable mention.

Anyone interested in participating in the 1984 Christmas Parade should contact Parade Chairman Edgar Robertson at 426-5225 or 426-7719.

The deadline for entries in the parade is November 26.

Classroom size is limited to 26 students in K-3, and 29 students per class in grades 4-6. Approximately four classes were subjected to overcrowding at the beginning of the 1984-85 school term.

School personnel were able to organize a combination class consisting of students in the first and second grade, thus causing a lot of students to be switched to a different classroom to aide in the elimination of overcrowding.

Board members expressed that they were "very pleased" with the change and are hoping that in the future more changes can be made to cut down the total number of students taught per day by each teacher.

To solve this problem, Board members are hoping to be able to hire additional teachers and aides in the foreseeable future.

Problems still exist at Perquimans Union School, where overcrowded classrooms and overtaxed teacher workloads have not been remedied.

Science, math, and social studies classes consist of 158 students at Perquimans Union and the state limit is 150 students per teacher per day.

According to Perquimans County Schools Superintendent, Pat Harrell, the only classes at Union School that are overcrowded at this point are those that are among the required curriculum. Steps are currently being taken to resolve this situation.

During the business session of the meeting the Board:

- Accepted a new policy submitted by Pat Harrell concerning Selection of Instructional Materials/Media Selection. This was the first revision of the policy since 1969.

- Approved the release of Toby Edwards to attend the Edenton/Chowan Schools.

- Approved the Public School Laws Granting Rule - Making Authority to Local Boards of Education.

- Discussed the expiration of the School Board Members Legal Liability Insurance. Decided to gather more information

concerning the cost of the insurance.

Presently, the members are insured by Alexander and Alexander. An increase of approximately \$1,200 per year was brought to the attention of the members, therefore, discussion was asked to be made on whether or not this type of coverage was really needed in the system.

Members decided that this type of insurance coverage was needed, and Pat Harrell is to investigate further into the renewing of their policy.

- Accepted the resignation of Teri Copeland effective November 15, 1984.

- Requested that copies of the North Carolina Basic Education Plan be sent to them as soon as possible.

- Discussed the site work at the

high school. There was no bids submitted, therefore, an extended date was moved to November 13th at 10:00 a.m.

- Was made aware that the heating and cooling system at Perquimans High School is not working properly, but arrangements are being made to repair the system sometime this week.

- Approved the adding of additional light fixtures to the gymnasium at Perquimans High School.

- Was informed that renovations are beginning for the track field at the high school. Also, the softball field will begin making necessary arrangements in the near future.

- Approved to make arrangements for buying another copier for the Board of Education office.

## Local fire departments get new trucks

Two of the county's volunteer fire departments have gained an additional truck to aide in fire protection for county residents.

Members of the Durants Neck Volunteer Fire Department recently purchased a tanker that will enable them to be

more effective, as well as enabling them to aide other county fire departments.

A fund-raising pig-picking and auction sale held on Saturday night will aide in paying for the new truck.

Bottom left, are members of the department who worked

toward providing the meal that helped boost the fund-raising effort.

Pictured, below right, is a new van that was donated to the Hertford Volunteer Fire Department by VEPCO. Pictured are Hertford Chief, Pete Riddick accepting the van from

Clayton Gentry, VEPCO District Manager, while Edgar Roberson of the Hertford Department and Alvin Mizelle, Senior Service Representative for VEPCO look on.

Photos by Monica Roach.

