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# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

Volume 59, No. 45

USPS 428-080

Hertford, Perquimans County, N.C., Thursday, November 8, 1990

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## Briefs

### Property owners meet

Snug Harbor Property Owners Association annual meeting will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 10 in the clubhouse. Governors will be elected to fill terms expiring on Dec. 31. Members in good standing are urged to attend.

### Lions plan drive

The Hertford Lions Club will be selling brooms and light bulbs on Nov. 13 in Hertford. The brooms are made by the blind and the proceeds will be used by the club for various projects, including programs for the blind.

If you are not contacted during this drive and would like to purchase a broom or light bulbs, contact Bob Clinkscales at 426-7720.

### PCHS presents drama

The Perquimans County High School Drama Club will present three one-act plays on Monday, Nov. 19 at 7:30 p.m. in the school's auditorium.

'The Necklace' by Guy De Maupassant features Rosa Riddick, Trevor Vaughn, and Ann Miller.

Trevor Vaughn, Dena White, Duffy Franco, Tanya Trueblood, Linda Layden, Stephanie Ferrell, and Barry Seebo will present 'The Cry of Crows.'

W. Gordon Mauermann's 'Just Us Girls' will be performed by Patricia Tekaucic, Lakeisha Brown, Suzanne Eiland, and Jenny Roffo.

The students are working diligently learning lines and rehearsing scenes. The plays will showcase some of the county's finest young talent.

### Christmas Ramble set

The annual Christmas Ramble sponsored by the Perquimans County Extension Homemakers and Agricultural Extension Service will be held on Thursday, Dec. 13 from 6:30-9:30 p.m.

Homes on tour will include the homes of Sadie Eure of New Hope, Mr. and Mrs. Willard Copeland of Winfall, Mr. and Mrs. Elbert Hayes of River Croft, and Audrey Orlikowski on Hopewell Road, who has restored the old Creecy home.

Refreshments and displays will be at the Perquimans Center on the Newbold-White historic site. The tour can begin at any home. Tickets are \$2 for adults and \$1 for students. Tickets will be on sale at each home.

The homes will feature a variety of old and new. There will be individual styles at each home which reflect taste, interest, unique furnishings, and collections.

Patrons will be able to begin the tour at any location. It is suggested that tourists stop in at the Newbold-White House as they cross from one community to another to avoid congestion at the Perquimans Center.

For more information, call the Perquimans County Extension Office at 426-7697.

## Fire ravages police station

### Arson suspected

A Winfall man has been arrested and charged with setting the fire that swept through the building housing the Hertford Police Department and the Perquimans County Chamber of Commerce last Wednesday.

Christopher Scot Dance, 26, of N.C. 37, Winfall, was arrested on Oct. 31 and was confined to Albemarle District Jail in lieu of a \$15,000 secured bond.

Hertford Fire Chief Edgar Roberson said his department received the summons to the blaze at 6:39 a.m., and personnel were on the scene by 6:41. The fire was extinguished within 10 minutes, Roberson said. He said that there were indications that the fire might not have started accidentally, and his department turned further investigation over to the Hertford Police Department.

Hertford Police Chief Aubrey Sample said that the fire did not appear accidental. "There was evidence indicating that it (the fire) was intentionally set," Sample said. He said that there appeared to be several points of origin, some of them being located in the former squad room.

The portion of the building that formerly housed the police department was the most severely damaged. In addition to damages to the building, the department also suffered heavy equipment, supply, and record losses.

"We lost some original records," Sample said. "We've got some that were totally destroyed, some partially destroyed. We're trying to salvage what we can."

Although the files kept at the police department are backed up by computer histories, Sample said it will take numerous man-hours to reconstruct each file. Since the department does not have a computer terminal which can access the information stored in state and federal files, Sample said he will ask the state for a loaner. He said it will probably take one hour to reconstruct 12 files.

Sample said the department suffered heavy equipment losses. An inventory is still being completed, so no dollar amount can be placed on the losses yet. However, among those pieces of equipment lost was an answering machine, a breathalyzer, photographic equipment, identification equipment, radio equipment, ammunition and firearms, a computer, a typewriter, uniforms, telephones, radar units, and other large-ticket items.



Photos by Susan Harris

Above, (l to r) fire chief Edgar Roberson, police chief Aubrey Sample, secretary Aileen Maillott, and captain Brad Krause survey the damage to the Hertford Police station after fire swept through the building Wednesday. At right, officer Tommy Teague, rakes through the debris left by the fire.



Also damaged was a patrol car parked behind the police station. Sample said the windshield was cracked, the front lights and grill were damaged, and the blue lights melted. The car is, however, still operational.

The department has set up temporary headquarters at the county extension building, and officers are using sheriff's department facilities and equipment to process those arrested. Salvageable office equipment is being thoroughly cleaned and aired out. Efforts to move to the temporary location have been hampered several times, Sample said, because evidence supporting the alleged arson continues to come to light. "We're still finding physical evidence," Sample said. He stated

that each time new evidence is found, the cleaning and moving efforts must stop to allow further investigation.

"I feel it's a total loss," said Hertford Mayor W.D. 'Bill' Cox about the building owned by the Town of Hertford. "I don't believe they can repair that as economically as they can tear it down and build it all over again from scratch."

The insurance company, however, has not determined whether they will declare the building a total loss. Cox said that the Interlocal Risk Financing Fund of North Carolina, an N.C. League of Municipalities self-insurance fund administered by Johnson-Higgins, has surveyed the damage and

should make a decision this week.

"I anticipate it will take four months if everything moves as it should, and it may possibly be longer than that (before the building is replaced)," Cox said. He added that the insurance company must settle before the town council can make a decision on the building's disposition.

The Chamber has moved into the municipal building, and is back in business. Chamber Executive Director Mary Harrell, secretary Betty Waters, and cleaning crews have scrubbed and aired most of the Chamber equipment and fixtures.

Cox said the county had rallied to help the town. "The county has been very helpful and I appreciate it," he said.

## Democrats take county

Perquimans voters turned on en-mass Tuesday, and voted overwhelmingly in favor of Democratic candidates. Almost 60 percent, or 3,153, of the county's approximately 5,500 registered voters went to the polls. Board of Elections Supervisor William 'Buddy' Tilley said the number of people voting may be a record.

Mack Nixon defeated H.R. 'Bobby' Jones by over 800 votes, 1840-1020, for the New Hope Township seat on the Perquimans County Board of Commissioners. Nixon garnered a majority vote in each of the county's seven precincts.

Incumbents R.M. 'Pete' Thompson and Vernon James will continue to represent the 1st District in the N.C. House of Representatives. The two collected 2,055 and 1,925 votes, respectively, in Perquimans County, and 19,108 and 18,631 overall. Republican challenger Shirley Perry received 1,289 votes in Perquimans and 12,080 across the District. Perry's strongest local showing was in the Bethel Township, where she earned 309 votes to Thompson's 313 and James' 283.

Janice McKenzie Cole swept Perquimans in her bid for the district court judgeship in the 1st Judicial District, taking 2,015 votes to John Flora's 933. Cole also took the district 17,297-10,279.

Perquimans voters vetoed the prison bond referendum, 1,462-1,442, but early indications are that the measure will receive acceptance statewide.

On the national level, the county backed Harvey Gantt over incumbent Jesse Helms for the United States Senate by a narrow margin, 1,552-1,514. Helms, however, is expected to stymie Gantt statewide. Representative Walter B. Jones captured 1,800 votes to challenger Howard D. Moye's 1,116 locally. Jones is expected to win statewide.

Running unopposed locally were Albemarle Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisors Carroll R. Williams and J. Floyd Mathews Sr., State Senator Marc Basnight, District Attorney H.P. Williams, District Court Judges Grafton Beamon and J. Richard Parker, Clerk of Superior Court L. Gail Godwin, sheriff Joe Lothian, and first district county commissioner candidate Leo Higgins.

All vote totals are unofficial.

## Two women fall prey to scams of con artists

Two pairs of flim-flam artists have allegedly visited Perquimans County within the past two weeks, according to reports received by the Perquimans County Sheriff's Department and the Winfall Police Chief.

Sheriff Joe Lothian said he received a call from an elderly woman in the Bethel community who gave \$500 to men she said were posing as law enforcement officers.

The woman told Lothian that two men approached her at her home and identified themselves as police officers. The two allegedly showed her a badge and informed her that they were investigating an armed robbery and murder that had taken place in Washington.

"Sometime during their conversation, they asked the lady if they could come inside her house," Lothian said. "They talked to her about a subject named 'Betty Davis.' The Bethel woman knew there was no one in the area by that name."

The men entered the house, the woman told Lothian, and asked her if she kept any money in the house. When she replied that she did, they told her they were looking for some marked bills from the robbery.

The woman said she handed over her money for inspection. She said the men diverted her attention and switched her money for pieces of newspaper that, inside an envelope, felt like real money.

One of the men involved in the

scam is described as a heavyset white male. He was wearing a gra suit at the time of the incident. His accomplice is a black male, over six feet tall. Both were well-dressed and well-spoken, according to the woman.

The sheriff's department is investigating the robbery. Anyone who has information which may lead to the arrest and/or conviction of the pair is asked to call the sheriff's department.

The second incident also involved an elderly woman, this time in Winfall.

Winfall Police Chief Dale van Scoy said he was notified that a woman had been robbed by two men posing as rug salesmen from Greenville. "She told them she didn't want any rugs, but they stepped right inside her door in the kitchen," van Scoy said. One asked for a drink of water. The other held up a piece of carpet to demonstrate.

The woman told van Scoy she did not actually see the men enter another room, but after they left she discovered that her purse, containing an undisclosed amount of cash, was missing.

The woman described the two as white males, approximately 22-years-old, of medium height. Van Scoy asks that anyone with any information on the incident call the police department. The alleged crime is still under investigation.



Photo by Nancy Royden-Clark

Ruth Winslow (left) is offered refreshments by Centura Bank customer representative Ann Stallings during the bank's first day in business. Peoples and Planters banks officially became Centura Bank on Monday. Executive officers say that Centura will continue the tradition of friendly, courteous service and quality banking services previously offered by both banks.

## Broughton Building may be torn down

By NANCY ROYDEN-CLARK  
Perquimans reporter

The Broughton Building, owned by Hertford resident Claude Brinn, could be torn down next month, said Town Attorney Walter Edwards Tuesday afternoon.

A letter was drafted to Brinn from Building Inspector Aubrey Onley Jr. on Feb. 20, 1989 asking him repair the building, and other

attempts were made more recently in writing to correspond with Brinn.

In a letter, Onley stated that there "is a large crack in the east wall that seems to be separating from the top of the building to the bottom."

The letter also states that Onley "saw Hertford resident Lester Keel storing miscellaneous items which

may be adding an additional load to the building and creating a fire hazard to the entire block."

During a town meeting months ago a Hertford resident expressed her concerns over the possibility that windows could shatter and fall from the building, injuring a pedestrian.

Also under consideration for further condemnation proceedings are several other structures.

**DEADLINES FOR THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY ARE AS FOLLOWS:**

NEWS RELEASES 3:00 PM

RETAIL ADVERTISING 3:00 PM

CLASSIFIED & LEGALS 3:00 PM

MONDAY PRIOR TO THURSDAY PUBLICATION PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

119 W. Grubb St.  
426-5726  
8 AM-5 PM, MON-FRI.