

# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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## Federal grand jury indicts Hertford banker for embezzlement

A federal grand jury in Raleigh indicted former Hertford bank vice-president J. Wayne Ashley Tuesday of last week on charges of embezzlement and falsifying loan records.

In addition, the Bank of North Carolina filed a civil suit last August against Ashley to recover the embezzled money.

The grand jury charged Ashley with one count embezzling \$176,000 from

the bank between March 1979 and March 1981. The money had been given to Ashley by bank customers for deposit in certificates of deposit.

Ashley was also charged with two counts of falsifying loan records, one for \$46,867.17 and the other for \$9,252.82.

Ashley, who resigned from the bank August 12, was served with a criminal summons Tuesday and will be

arraigned on the three charges November 17 at the federal district court in New Bern.

The BNC civil suit against Ashley, filed in Superior Court in Pasquotank County, charges that he "wrongfully and without authorization from the plaintiff (BNC) appropriated to his own use sums totalling \$176,000 which had been delivered to the defendant by a customer of the plaintiff for

deposit in exchange for plaintiff's certificate of deposit."

The suit demands the the money be returned with interest. The bank has filed to have all of Ashley's property garnished awaiting judgement of the court. The court has granted a change of venue from Pasquotank to Perquimans County.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation is still investigating

allegations that Ashley was involved in "laundering" money at the Hertford bank illegally obtained in a fraudulent contracting scheme in Florida.

Nine South Carolina and Florida men have been charged that they received \$1.5 million through padded and phony contracting bills during construction of a hospital addition in Pinellas County, Florida.

This investigation is not connected to the grand jury charges or the civil action filed against Ashley, according to the FBI.

A.P. Carlton, secretary and general counsel for BNC in Raleigh, said the "an internal investigation is continuing" against Ashley.

If found guilty, Ashley faces up to five years in prison and \$5,000 fine for each offense.

## PCRA shows off Newbold-White House

The Perquimans County Restoration Association rolled out the red carpet last Sunday at the Newbold-White House for a tour group of 45 persons from the Smithsonian Institution in Washington.

And by all accounts — both from the visitors and the hosts — the event was a big success.

The event is also of some significance, because this is the first tour the PCRA has booked since the historic house — the oldest existing house in North Carolina — opened last July.

It is also significant for two other reasons: the people in the group, all members of the Smithsonian Associates (individual contributors to the museum), are all die-hard history nuts, who can be expected to take the word of their reception back to Washington, D.C. and farther.

In addition, besides their smiling faces these people have one other thing the PCRA needs desperately: money. Each one of them paid \$400 to take the tour of northeast North Carolina's historic houses. No doubt there's more where that came from.

For example, one woman — finding out that most of what little furniture in the house was on loan because the PCRA couldn't afford to buy its own — quickly dug into her purse and pulled out \$40 in cash — no tax deduction there — and donated it toward buying furniture.

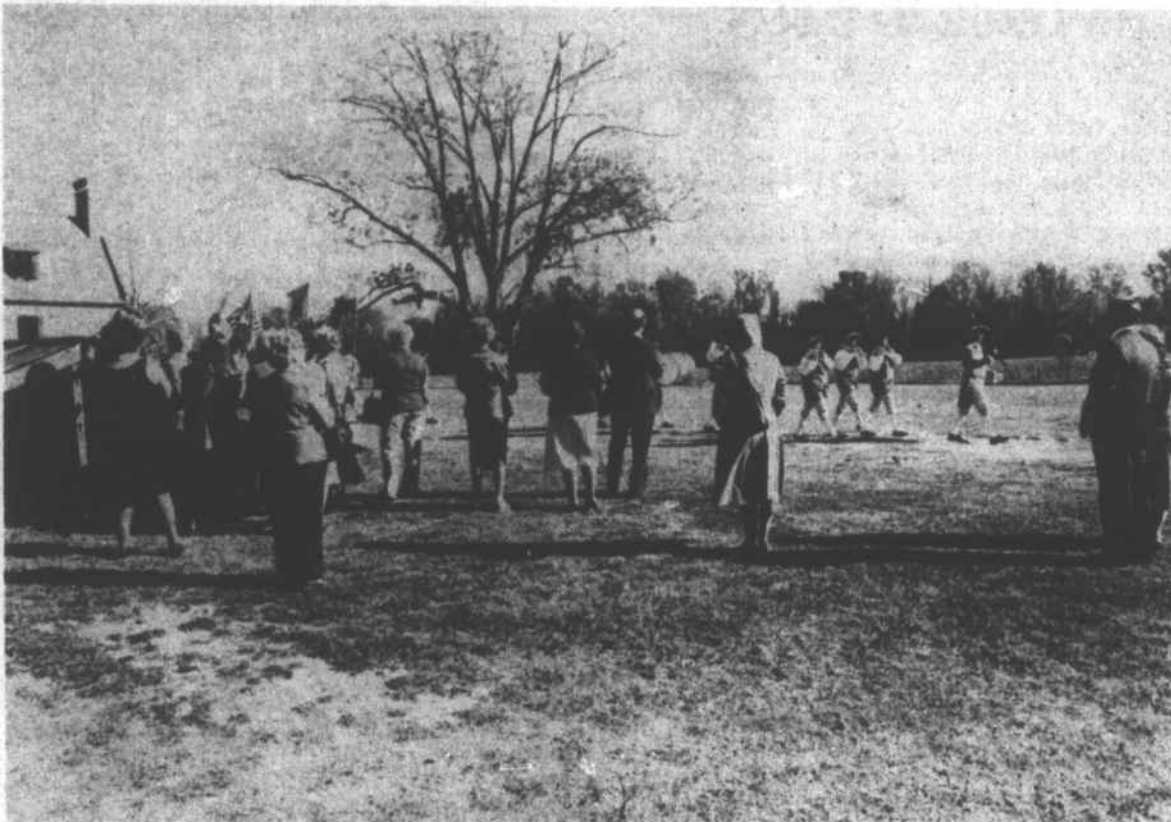
After traveling to such places as Roanoke Island, Edenton and Hope Plantation, the historic society here was apprehensive that the tourists would be too wide-eyed to appreciate the Newbold-White House. The PCRA has had neither the money nor the time to put on a big show like one might see at other historic sites.

But as far as some of the visitors were concerned, the Smithsonian had left the best for last.

As the bus drove up the lane coming in, the Hertford Fife and Drums — dressed out in their period costumes — played a salute for the visitors. When they did, the bus-load of tourists stood up and applauded.

Women wearing old-fashioned dresses — volunteers working for the PCRA — served tea and shortbread and guided the tour group through the house. Site manager Herbert Nixon explained the restoration work, which he helped complete. John Smith of Edenton, who has offered his technical assistance as an antique dealer, described the furniture to the tourists.

Members of the fife and drum corps explained their cloths, their



instruments, and the historic flags. By all accounts, the local folks knocked 'em dead.

One woman, asked how the fledgling tourist attraction appealed to her, was enthusiastic. "They didn't have the Hertford Fife and Drums anywhere else we went," she said.

"It's those little things that make a difference," she added. "They give it a distinctive touch. Like this tea: it's delicious! Make sure you have the same tea all the time."

Ford Peatross, a curator at the Library of Congress who helped lead the group, was also impressed. Scholars have known of the house's significance, he said, for some 50 years, but the public has not been made aware of it.

"Everyone's heard of Williamsburg and Newport News," he said, "but North Carolina...they don't know what's here."

"Things here are just as interesting. Time has sort of left this place behind. At a place like Williamsburg, everything has been put back to one period in time, and that's not realistic. This is more to my taste. Out here there are living communities, where you can see the progression of time."

He added that he enjoyed the presentation. "These local crafts you have here are great. I think the people have been bowled over by it."

Karen Gray, tour director, was also pleased with the reception they received. "I'm hopeful that there will be a ripple effect," she said. "These people will talk about



At top, tourists from the Smithsonian's tour group look on as the Hertford Fife and Drums marches off on the Newbold-White House grounds. Above, the volunteers who guided the

it. They will tell their friends about it."

Gray said she hopes to bring another group down when the PCRA holds its planned spring festival.

Ann Young, operations manager at the house, admitted the hosts were just as nervous as the guests were excited, but things turned out better than expected. "This was a big success," she said. "We couldn't have had a better group of people."

## Election vote stuns Hertford

### White whips other candidates

The results of last week's Hertford council elections were a surprise to everyone — including the candidates.

Joe Towe White, Jr., running for elective office for the first time, came out on top in the two-seat, three-candidate race by a surprisingly large margin.

White said that his first job as a councilman would be to help the council decide what to do with the \$119,000 the Virginia Electric and Power Company refunded to the town following an overcharging ruling by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

"I think first an explanation should be brought out explaining why the town was in the red," he said. "And then when the explanation is out, we can more clearly see where the money should go."

Once the town's obligations have been met, White would like to see the rest of the money set aside.

"What's left should be saved until we find something really worthwhile to spend it on," he said. "Dividing the money up won't do any person much good, but if we keep it all together it might be worth something. And the interest could bring in right much money."

White captured 259 votes — 63 percent of the possible 401 townspeople who voted. Incumbent John Beers followed with 220 votes, retaining his seat on the council, while incumbent T. Erie Haste had 199 votes, leaving him the odd-man-out in the race.

In Winfall, council-appointed mayor Lloyd Ray Morgan won the mayor spot with 51 votes, running unopposed. Jack Symons was re-elected to his council seat with 41 votes, and William Ray Miller won the other council seat with 46 votes. Both men ran unopposed.

White admitted that he was just as surprised as anyone by his victory. "In a way I'm surprised and in a way I'm not," he said. "People say they will support you, but you never know."

"But I was especially surprised to get the top vote."

White explained his success had partly to do with his "getting out and seeing people. I didn't miss too many. But also I think the people were ready for a change."

Haste was just as surprised by the outcome. "I felt I had given my best

effort to the job," he said. "I was not aware there was any dissatisfaction with my job."

Haste admits he should have used more shoe leather in his campaign. "I probably didn't knock on enough doors," he said.

He's learned his lesson though. He said that if he runs for office again, "if you don't want me to knock on your door, you'd better call me, because I'm going to knock on every one."

He added that his surprise came from his belief that he had done a good job. "I don't say that one person does everything, but I worked well with the other members of the council, and I tried to lead the town on a progressive footing."

He will not be a sore loser though. Haste said that though he won't be keeping his finger in town affairs, "I intend to be available if members of the council need advise. I feel I have some knowledge of the requirements for running the town."

At this time, Haste would not speculate on the possibility of running for another office.

John Beers didn't not expect the outcome of the vote either. "You never know what might happen until the final vote has been counted," he said.

In particular, he was a bit puzzled by the vote in relation to the issues and the stands of the candidates. "There was really not much variation between the candidates. I don't think you can pinpoint one specific thing that made people vote the way they did."

Concerning White's youth and perspective — his chief campaign selling point — long-time councilman Beers said, "This is a young man's world, and a lot of people voted for a younger man."

But Beers added that a young man's ideas may find some tough going in real world of running a town. "Some people think that by changing one man they can change everything," he said.

Others who received votes in Hertford were: Eldon Winslow 3; Gene Boyce 19; Mrs. Keith Haskett 2; Emmett Landing 3; Dr. John Crawford 2; Billy White 2; Bernice Glover 1.

In Winfall, Clifford Towe received one write-in vote.

## Following drug bust

## Police make further arrests for stolen goods

Hertford Police arrested two men Sunday for receiving stolen goods in connection with the police's investigation of heroin dealing in Hertford.

The two men — Fred Julian Harvey, 28, of 317 Gum Street, and his brother George Harvey, 26, of 323 Grubb Street — are already under indictment in Perquimans County for dealing in heroin. Local police forces and the State Bureau of Investigation arrested them during an early-morning raid of their homes on October 26.

Fred Harvey — indicted two weeks ago for two counts of the sale and delivery of heroin, one count of conspiracy to sell and deliver heroin, one count of keeping a dwelling place for

the sale of controlled substances, and one count of assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill and inflicting serious bodily injury — was charged Sunday with three counts of receiving stolen goods.

He was released from Albemarle District Jail after posting \$7,500 bond for the last three offenses, and \$50,000 bond for the drug and assault charges.

George Harvey — indicted for two counts of conspiracy to sell and deliver heroin, one count of selling and delivering heroin, and one count of keeping a dwelling place for the sale of controlled substances — was charged Sunday with two counts of receiving stolen goods.

He is being held in Albemarle

District Jail on \$5,000 bond for the last two offenses, and another \$40,000 bond for the drug offenses.

According to Police Chief Marshall Merritt, the two men allegedly exchanged stolen property for drugs. Police seized what they believe to be stolen goods — worth about \$7,950.50 — from the homes of the two men during the October 26 raid.

Of the other five indicted for drug offenses after the raid — John Henry Askew, Annette Johnson Harvey, Linda Gregory Harvey, Mickey Louis Johnson and Donald Vernel Broady, all of Hertford — all but Linda Harvey and Annette Harvey are still in Albemarle District Jail.

**This week**  
The Perquimans Pirates host their Fuquay-Varina for their first game of the state playoffs. See page seven.

**Weather**  
Fair weather through Saturday. Highs will average from the upper 50s to the lower 60s. Lows will be from the upper 30s to the mid-40s.

## Board adopts new insurance policy

The Perquimans County Board of Education unanimously approved a new professional liability and general coverage insurance policy for county teachers and employees of the board.

One of the policies will cover professional legal liability for teachers, principals, board members and the superintendent, and the other will cover the same persons for possible bodily injury and property damage in the course of their work.

The new legal liability policy replaces the old one which did not cover teachers.

Both policies will cover up to \$1 million in damages, and will

become effective immediately, according to School Superintendent Pat Harrell.

The board bought the professional legal liability insurance through the brokerage firm of Alexandra & Alexandra. The premiums will be \$2,522 over three years.

The general employee insurance was purchased from Guaranty National Insurance Co. through the North Carolina School Board Association with \$830 annual premiums. The money for the premiums on both policies was accounted for in this year's budget, Harrell said.