

# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

Volume 57, No. 52

USPS 428-080

Hertford, Perquimans County, N.C., Thursday, December 17, 1987

30 CENTS



## Councilman sworn into office!

Jarvis Ward, Clerk of Perquimans County Superior Court, swears in the newly elected members of the Hertford Town Council.

Pictured left to right: Mayor Bill Cox, Councilman Billy Winslow, and Councilman Jesse L. Harris.

## Hertford town council supports Project DARE

The Hertford Town Council went on record Monday evening in support of the Perquimans County Drug Coalition, and Project D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education).

Anne Flippen, the guidance counselor at Perquimans Middle School, and Pat Harrell, superintendent of Perquimans County Schools went before the council Monday evening to ask for their support of Project DARE a new drug education program, which will be implemented in the schools next year.

Flippen explained to members of the council on Monday that Project D.A.R.E. is a program aimed at educating fifth and sixth graders about drugs.

The program, through the use of trained law enforcement officials not only educates kids about drugs and their uses, but also breaks down the stereo type ideas they have about law

enforcement officials. The program makes kids aware of their choices when it comes to drugs.

Flippen told members of the council that the program has been very successful in other areas where it has been implemented, and that she is very excited about the support she has received so far from the community concerning this project, and the formation of the drug coalition.

Chief Merritt who was on hand for Monday evening's meeting told the council that senior patrolman Tim Spence has been selected by the department and the school system to attend the two week training course in Raleigh for the project. Upon his return Spence will work with teachers and school officials in getting the program ready for implementation in the school system next year.

Perquimans County is one of a few selected counties in the state to participate in Project D.A.R.E..

Harrell and Flippen also emphasized on Monday evening that the drug problem in or area is not just a problem which should be addressed by or schools, but is one which should be addressed by or entire community.

Wallace Nelson came before the council on Monday to update members on the progress of the newly formed Perquimans County Drug Coalition. Nelson also asked for their support of this project.

The council also conducted other business at the meeting Monday including: Passage of a resolution allowing the sale of C-4 Media to US Cable. Mike Adamchek of C-4 Media informed members of the council that their customers should not experience any changes with the new company.

The council also instructed Mayor

Bill Cox to look into the cost of curb and guttering and paving Phillips Street. He is to report back to the council at the next meeting with those bids.

The town council also passed a resolution making littering a civil offense punishable by \$20.00 fine or for hours of community service work.

The council also voted Monday evening to continue insuring town employees with Blue Cross and Blue Shield Medical insurance. After reviewing Blue Cross and Blue Shield which increasing it's premiums significantly and other programs the board decided to leave the current policy in effect until July 1st.

The town council also voted to pass a resolution submitted to them by the local American Legion asking that they support the naming of the Albemarle Sound Bridge to The Veterans Memorial Albemarle Sound Bridge.

## Solution being sought for water problems

Once again Perquimans County residents are experiencing water problems, and over the past several weeks Perquimans County officials have been attempting to find a solution.

According to Perquimans County manager, Paul Gregory this round of problems began approximately three weeks ago when too much chlorine was released into water system at the Bethel plant. The chlorine acted as a scrubbing agent on the water lines in the area, stirring up rust in them and many of the residents in the Bethel and Snug Harbor communities of the county experienced problems with their water. That problem was cleared up quickly, but then over the weekend of December 5th and 6th and again last Thursday other problems with the water system developed when a pump at the Bethel water plant allowed too much of the water treatment chemical potassium manganate into the system. As a result of that incident residents had additional problems.

According to Gregory the chemical turned the water a pinkish-red color, and some residents said their water had taken on the appearance of pink lemonade.

The pump, which was one of the last things added to the plant at Bethel when the system went on line was fixed after the weekend problems with pink water, but apparently malfunctioned again on Thursday.

The additional amount of potassium manganate introduced into the water system caused no health problems to anyone, but was most upsetting to residents, who have had to suffer for sometime with water problems.

In a telephone interview on Monday Gregory stated that the pump which caused the problem has been turned off and removed, and a new pump will be installed on the system as soon as it arrives.

Gregory also added that some residents suffered water problems this past weekend in the Harvey Pl. road area when a main water line at Holiday Island broke. He stated that the problem was on the Holiday Island system, but drained much of the county's water supply forcing the county to take on water from Chowan County. The reduced water pressure did not permit flushing of the water lines before obtaining water from Chowan County, and many residents in the Beech Springs and Belvidere areas of the county may have experienced discolored water.

According to Gregory that problem has been corrected and hopefully the other problems with the water system will soon clear up. The county is working and committed to preventing future problems. All of the county's water storage tanks have been cleaned out, and all of the water lines are being flushed on regular basis to prevent future problems.

## Local school board to re-advertise bids

The Perquimans County Board of Education has announced that it will re-advertise for the general contractors bid for their new office complex.

Following bid openings last week, which came in over the allotted budget by some \$33,000.00, the school board has decided to review the plans to see if there is something that can be deleted or revised, which will make it possible for the total project to meet the projected budget figure of \$200,000.00.

The board received six general contractor's bids for the project, but they are hoping to reduce the bid figures by making some changes to the

project.

The board will re-advertise for a general contractor and upon acceptance of a bid, they will also accept bids from the plumbing, heating and air conditioning, and electrical contractors.

Low bids covering those aspects of the project were received from the following: plumbing, White's Heating and Sheet Metal Works - \$1,200.00; heating and air conditioning - Central Builders, Inc. - \$22,149.00; and electrical - Pitt Electric - \$28,950.00.

The board hopes to accept a bid from a general contractor on the project within 30 days.

## State extension granted for student bus drivers

The Perquimans County Schools can breathe a sigh of relief following a decision last week by the federal government to grant an extension regarding student school bus drivers.

Federal and state officials announced last Thursday that North Carolina has been granted an extension until the 1988-89 school year to have all adult bus drivers in place.

Originally the new law requiring all school bus drivers to be 18 years of age or older was to go into affect on January 1st.

In an appeal to the federal government made by Governor Martin, he stated that the new law would have a tragic effect on the rural counties of North Carolina. In Perquimans County alone the new law would have forced school officials to make many changes. School officials would have been forced to reschedule routes, combine routes, and take other action to comply with the law.

The extension granted by the federal government will now allow school officials more time to adequately recruit and train adult drivers, as well as evaluating the current needs for drivers.

The county will also be looking for dual employment for some employees, which would require that the driver of a school bus would be a part of their job.

According to Pat Harrell, Superintendent of the schools the extension will also allow the general assembly time to look into increasing driver's salaries, and providing funds to assist counties with their needs in paying adult drivers.

According to Harrell very few of this county's student drivers are 18, but he added any who are will be able to drive a bus next year. He also added that any students who turn 18 throughout the year could be used as substitute drivers.

## Early deadlines set

Deadline for all ads for the special edition "Christmas in Perquimans County" must be in our office no later than 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 16th. All ads and copy for the regular edition of the paper must be

in our office no later than 3:00 p.m. on Friday, December 18th.

We would like to thank everyone in advance for their help in observing the deadline schedule.

## Apricot, Inc. open house planned

Apricot, Inc. will hold a ribbon cutting and open house on Sunday, December 20th in honor of the relocation and opening of their new factory.

The ribbon cutting and open house will begin at 2:00 p.m.. The new factory will be open for tours, and refreshments will be served.

## Motorist urged to drive safely

Raleigh—The Christmas and New Year's holidays are certainly times to enjoy friends and family. It is a time for festive occasions, a time to give and a time to celebrate. But, for too many people, it is a time marred by death and tragedy.

During the Christmas holiday period last year, 23 persons were killed in motor vehicle accidents in North Carolina. An additional 28 were killed during the New Year's holiday period. Over 2,000 persons were injured in motor vehicle accidents during both holidays.

Colonel J. F. Cardwell Commander of the North Carolina Highway Patrol, offered some sobering remarks. "For these families, this holiday season will never be the same. They must live with their memories of loved ones who were senselessly killed on our highways. Those who were injured will always remember this season as a time they suffered because someone drove carelessly. The Patrol can emphasize safety programs, concentrate manpower in selected locations, and even increase the time Troopers spend on patrol, but highway safety actually depends upon the motoring public. Without their support, we all lose."

During this holiday season, buckle up, stay alert and drive safely. If you plan to travel, take a rest stop every hour. A fatigued driver could lead to a fatal mistake.

The Christmas holiday period begins at 6 p.m. December 24 and ends midnight December 26. The New Year's holiday begins at 6 p.m. December 31 and ends midnight January 3.



Showing obvious pleasure with the new facilities at Perquimans County High School Dr. A. Craig Phillips addresses members of the community during Sunday's successful open house festivities at the high school.

## Open house successful Sunday

Over 200 people gathered on Sunday to get a glimpse of the new facilities at Perquimans High School during the school's open house and Christmas program.

In a tribute to the school and the community, Dr. A. Craig Phillips, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, stated that Perquimans County has shown their commitment to public education by providing such a nice facility for the county's young people to learn in. "The record is clear," said Phillips, during his remarks, "The community has

worked hard and they have produced very nice results."

Dr. Phillips also referred to a poem on Sunday, which states that the school in a community should be the loveliest place in town. "You have made this the loveliest place in town," said Phillips. Phillips added that he felt the community had captured the beauty of the past as well as the school's heritage with the new building, and added that Perquimans County High School is truly a facility the community can be proud of.

He added that he feels the commu-

nity has produced an atmosphere for achievement, and he congratulated everyone involved with the project on their efforts.

Dr. Phillips also gave a brief overview of the basic education plan on Sunday, and stated its importance in North Carolina public education.

Following Dr. Phillips remarks the Perquimans County High School Chorus and concert band gave a beautiful performance of Christmas music for members of the community and special guests.

**Bloodmobile scheduled  
Dec. 29th, Tuesday  
Hertford Methodist Church**

## WEATHER

### Weekend Forecast



Weather forecasters are calling for partly cloudy windy weather on Thursday with temperatures in the low 30s to mid 50s.

The weekend forecast calls for cooler weather with a chance of rain. Temperatures will be in the low 20s to high 40s.