

Community:

James 'Pat' Harrell turns in his books after 32 years: Pages 5

Sports:

Perquimans athletes perform well in State Games, Junior Olympics: Pages 6,7



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Hertford, Winfall council seats open

By SUSAN R. HARRIS
Editor

Election day and cooler weather seem like a long way off in the heat of July, but the filing period for November's municipal elections opened Friday at noon.

Seats are open on the town councils in both Hertford and Winfall. Hertford will fill two council seats, the two now held by Sid Eley and Erie Haste. Voters in Winfall will elect a mayor and two council persons. Elbert "Bert" Hayes is currently serving as acting mayor due to the leave of absence of mayor William Bartlett. William Ray Miller and Fred Yates hold the council seats.

Eley was the first candidate to file, filling out his forms and paying his filing fee Tuesday around noon. He was elected in November 1991 to fill the unexpired term of John Beers, who resigned to run for mayor. Haste, who has served a total of 20 years on the Hertford council, said he intends to file.

Hayes said Friday he will not resign his council seat to run for mayor of Winfall. He said he has enjoyed serving in that capacity on an interim basis, but is not interested in holding it for a long term.

Miller and Yates told *The Daily Advance* they will probably run again. Yates was appointed to fill the unexpired term of his wife, Shirley, who resigned to run for county commissioner.

Hertford council persons are elected for four-year terms, Winfall for two years.

The filing period will close Aug. 6 at noon. Voter registration deadline is Oct. 11. The election will be held on Nov. 9.

Officials fight, keep license office open

By SUSAN R. HARRIS
Editor

Hertford officials drove through red tape and kept the local driver license office open.

"We were real happy about that," said Hertford mayor John Beers.

North Carolina Department of Transportation officials announced late last month plans to close the Hertford office effective July 1. In a new release dated June 22, DOT stated that closing the office would enable the department to "provide more effective computerized service to the public and allow for more efficiency in the full service offices."

But local officials disagreed with the state's decision and took immediate action, contacting district and state DOT officials to lodge complaints.

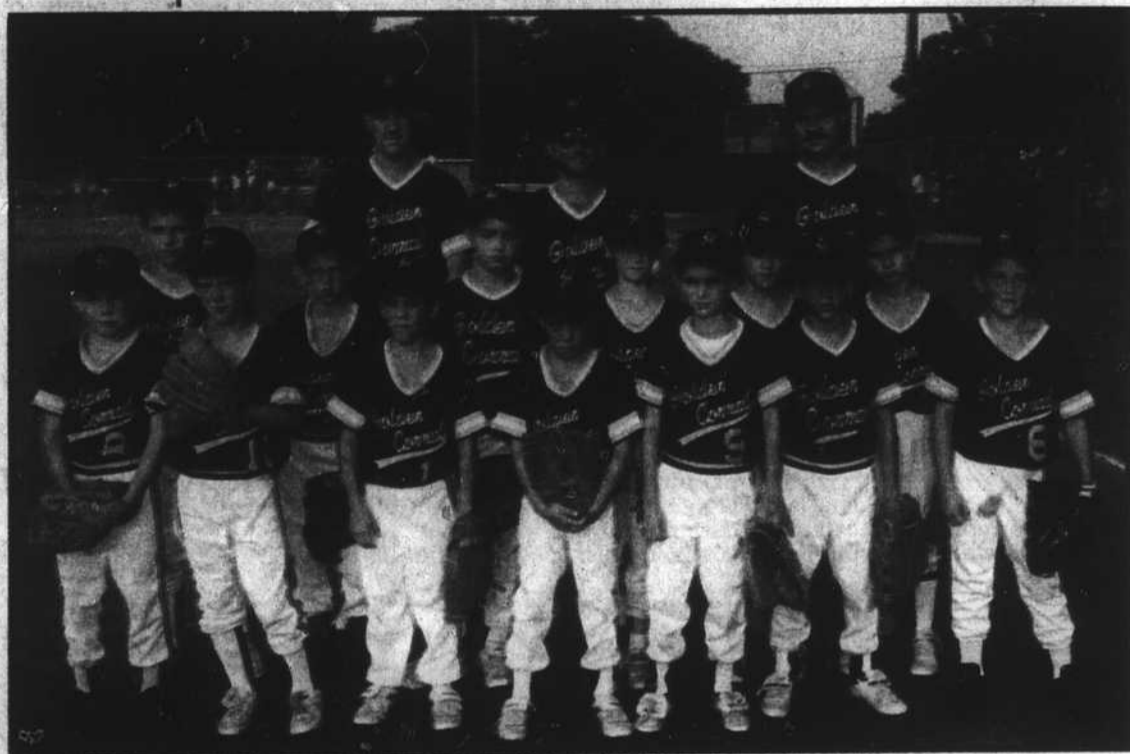
Beers said the town needs the local service, and that the town has provided space and utilities for the driver license office for many years.

Chamber of Commerce president Sherry Harrell said she understood had the Hertford service shut down, the Elizabeth City office would have gotten a new computer and an additional employee. Harrell said she could not see how that move could not see how that move could save money.

Although the local office is open only on Wednesdays, both Beers and Harrell said closing it could create a hardship for county residents who would have been forced to go out of town for service. Beers said he hopes people will use the Hertford office to justify its continued operation.

"It would be painful (for the office to close)," Harrell said. "I would hate it. It would be one more strike against us."

Champs



Hertford (above) finished first in the Perquimans Youth League 9- and 10-year-old competition by defeating Bethel (left) in a play-off game last Friday evening. For a review of last week's Perquimans Youth League competition, please see page 7. (Photos by Susan Harris)



Rescue and law enforcement personnel work to get two people injured in a wreck Friday out of their vehicles. All four passengers in the vehicles were transported to the hospital. Three were admitted. (Photo by Susan Harris)

Four people injured in two-car collision

Four people were injured Friday morning in a two-vehicle collision at the intersection of U.S. Highway 17 Bypass and N.C. Highway 37 Business.

Keith Weatherly, 34, of Elizabeth City and Judy Spence, Trina Boyce and De'Entle Boyce, all of South Mills, were transported to Albemarle Hospital by Perquimans EMS. Trina and De'Entle Boyce were transferred to Sentara Norfolk General Hospital and Kings Daughter Hospital, respectively, later in the day.

Weatherly was admitted to Albemarle Hospital and was released on Sunday. Spence was

treated and released. Trina Boyce was listed in stable condition at Sentara Norfolk General on Tuesday morning. De'Entle Boyce had been released from Kings Daughters by Tuesday. No other information on her condition was available.

Winfall Police Chief David Lane said witnesses reported that Weatherly was traveling east on N.C. 37 Business in a 1983 Chevrolet van. Lane was told that Weatherly failed to stop at the stop sign at the intersection of N.C. 37 and U.S. 17. The van hit a 1985 Cadillac driven by Spence, 38, in the front passen-

ger side of the Cadillac. The van came to rest heading west (toward Winfall) in the southbound lane of U.S. 17. The Cadillac ended up in the median.

Both Weatherly and Trina Boyce were removed from their vehicles by first responders with the Hertford Fire Department.

Lane said Friday afternoon that no charges had been filed pending further investigation.

Personnel from the Hertford Police Department, N.C. Highway Patrol and the Winfall Fire Department responded in addition to Lane, Perquimans EMS and the Hertford Fire Department.

H.P.D. will help with community watch crime program

By SUSAN R. HARRIS
Editor

Hertford residents must get involved if communities in the town want to set up a Community Watch Program. Hertford Police Chief Aubrey Sample Jr. said recently.

Sample said some residents who attended a public hearing in May expressed interest in forming a Community Watch Program. The police department is

poised to assist communities who want to implement the program.

Sample explained a little about the program.

"It's not going to be like a vigilante group, it's going to be where people look out for each other," Sample said.

Under a Community Watch Program, the town would be divided into districts with a volunteer captain designated in each

district. The people in each district would report suspicious or illegal activities in their district either to the captain or to the police department, Sample said.

"The program requires that people are going to become involved and participate," Sample said. The chief added that people must be willing to follow through on the legal process in order to make the program work. Incidents must be called in immedi-

Authority inks \$60 million waste deal

By SUSAN R. HARRIS and
JULIAN EURE
News staff

Perquimans County officials won't be talking trash so often anymore, thanks to the solid waste deal signed by the Albemarle Regional Solid Waste Authority and Addington Environmental Inc.

The authority, the largest governmental body in North Carolina, ended months of negotiations last Thursday when the 20-year deal, with an estimated value of \$60 million, was finalized.

Under the terms of the contract, solid waste from seven northeast counties - Perquimans, Dare, Currituck, Gates, Hyde, Tyrrell and Chowan - will be transported to a high-tech landfill Addington is ready to build in Bertie County. Addington will receive about \$3 million per year from fees charged to the authority.

Addington is an Ashland, Ky.-based waste disposal company. Company officials estimate it will take 90 days to construct the Bertie landfill.

Perquimans will pay \$40.64 per ton of waste transferred to Addington, which covers the flat waste dumping charge of \$31.25 per ton and transportation. There will also be a \$2 per ton transfer fee. The county can expect to pay over \$255,000 per year for the 6,000 tons of garbage estimated to be generated in the county.

Waste Industries has sub-contracted with Addington to build and operate transfer stations and haul the authority's waste to the landfill. Perquimans County manager Paul Gregory said Friday that the transfer station for Perquimans, Gates and Chowan will be located at the site of the present tri-county landfill. Gregory said that residents around the landfill should see a decrease in traffic at the landfill because Gates and Chowan counties will haul part of their trash straight to Bertie County, and the town of Edenton will haul all its garbage to Addington. In addition, Gregory said the big compactors at the convenience centers means less loads must be hauled to the landfill.

After Oct. 1, the only trash that will be buried at the tri-county site will be demolition materials and yard waste.

The authority also got some monetary gain out of the landfill deal. Addington agreed to pay the authority \$1 for every ton of waste disposed of in the landfill by a customer with a shorter term contract with Addington. The authority can anticipate receiving at least \$30,000 a year from the 30,000 Pasquotank County proposes to dump at the landfill. Pasquotank signed a separate contract with Addington several weeks ago for only 7 years.

Gregory said the \$1 per ton payback was a concession by Addington to make the long-term deal more attractive to the authority.

Authority regional director Jerry Park said the authority

Concerned Citizens happy with decision

The Concerned Citizens group formed to fight building a high-tech landfill in Perquimans County to receive solid waste from counties in the Albemarle Regional Solid Waste Authority is rejoicing over the 20-year deal with Addington Environmental Inc.

Doug Layden, one of the committee's founders, said Tuesday the group is happy with the decision made by the authority to sign with Addington rather than construct a landfill near the Perquimans River, a move the group argued could have a grave environmental impact on the county.

While Layden said he did not think the group's efforts had been the deciding factor in the Addington deal, he said he felt the committee had played a role in the decision-making process.

In addition, Layden said the group let the Perquimans commissioners know that residents are concerned about issues in the county.

"I hope we bettered the relationship between the county and the commissioners," Layden said. He said the committee let commissioners know that although residents do not attend meetings on a regular basis, they are concerned about issues and the future of the county.

hopes to use the payback to finance the administration of the authority.

Bertie County will have the option to take over the landfill if Addington defaults on its agreement to operate the landfill for 20 years. The authority will then have the option of contracting with Bertie.

Gregory said the sealed deal ended about six years of study, planning and negotiating. He said counties in the region first met to look at the waste management needs in the region in the winter of 1987. The first contact with Addington was made two years ago.

