

# The Perquimans Weekly

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Hertford, North Carolina 27944

## County to collect town tax

County and municipal officials reached a compromise Monday on a contract that calls for the county to collect ad valorem taxes for the towns of Hertford and Winfall.

In negotiations for several months, the commissioners put their final stamp of approval on the contract, which calls for the towns to pay 2 percent of taxes collected as the county's fee for performing the service.

Beginning this year, residents in the towns of Hertford and Winfall will receive only one property tax bill. The bill will list the amounts owed to the county and towns. The municipalities will no longer collect taxes at their respective town halls.

County Tax Supervisor Tony Jordan presented the commissioners with projected costs to the county tax department associated with collecting the taxes, as well as the savings to the towns. The estimates were based on both towns' 1994 tax rates and estimated assessments for 1995.

Jordan projected that the county will receive \$4,133 from Hertford at the 2 percent fee. He estimated that it will cost the county \$2,400 to collect the taxes. Jordan further estimated that the town will save \$6,650 in mailing and labor costs, resulting in a net savings to the town of \$1,517.

Jordan estimated that the county will lose money on Winfall collections. With projected revenue of \$723, the tax supervisor estimated that it will cost the county \$1,100 to collect Winfall taxes, resulting in a net loss of \$377.

The contract originally called for the towns to pay 2.5 percent as a collection fee. The commissioners approved the 2 percent rate, but directed Jordan to try to keep up with the staff time and expense associated with collecting for the towns so that the commissioners will have that information next year when the contract will be renegotiated.

In addition to the 2 percent fee, the towns will pay the one-time cost of transferring the towns' records to the county's computer system.

Hertford Town Manager John Christensen told councilmen last month that having the county collect the town's taxes will not cut personnel. Christensen said that removing tax collection responsibilities will allow the town to hold off on hiring additional employees and free up time for other duties.

## CELEBRATING WORLD CULTURES



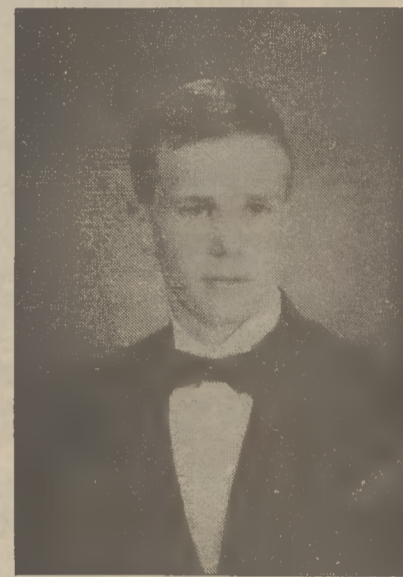
PHOTO BY SUSAN HARRIS

First graders hosted Hertford Grammar School's first Multicultural Festival last week. The festival culminated studies of countries around the world. Each class chose a different country and presented native songs and dances.

## Graduation is Friday



Ebony Harris



Christopher Gregory

One hundred and sixteen young adults clad in black caps and gowns plan to walk onto Memorial Field Friday night to collect their reward for 13 years of classes, homework and tests during graduation exercises at Perquimans County High School.

Perquimans Schools Special Assistant to the Superintendent William E. Byrum will address the class of 1995, led by valedictorian Ebony Harris and salutatorian Christopher Gregory.

Harris is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ken Harris. She will continue her studies at COA in the School of Nursing.

Gregory is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Gregory. He will attend UNC-Chapel Hill next fall.

School officials announced this week that the gates to Cedar Wood Cemetery will close Friday evening at 6:45. Those attending graduation, set for 8 p.m., should enter the campus from the Edenton Road Street entrance. There will be attendants to assist with orderly parking.

Handicapped parking will be available behind the school. All other vehicles should park in the bus parking area.

Graduation guests should walk down the service road behind the school and enter the stadium at the entrance to the rear of the grandstand.

There will be a promotion ceremony for eighth graders at Perquimans Middle School Friday morning at 9:30 in the gymnasium.

## Veterans look to Flag Day

Ceremony will be attended by vets, guests from across United States

By SUSAN R. HARRIS  
Editor

There will be no competition on the Perquimans High School Athletic field on June 14. Those involved in the huge Flag Day ceremony have already won one of the toughest battles life can offer: They survived World War II.

Part of Perquimans County's World War II commemorative observance, the ceremony will bring together World War II veterans from across the country, as well as honoring those who served during other eras. According to Jack Hoffer, State Commander of the Veterans of Underage Service and a Perquimans County resident, the ceremony is meant to honor all veterans, not just those who served during WWII.

The ceremony will open at 2:30 p.m. with a 50-person color guard bearing flags stepping onto Memorial Field. All members of the guard are World War II veterans from Perquimans County.

Dewey Spencer, United States Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs, will be the principal speaker.

**JUNE 14, 1995  
HERTFORD, NC**

**50th ANNIVERSARY of WORLD WAR II  
COMMEMORATIVE COMMUNITY PROGRAM  
HONORING ALL WORLD WAR II  
VETERANS**

SIGN SPONSORED BY  
**SMITH'S JEWELRY WOODARD'S PHARMACY  
SWINDELL FUNERAL HOME  
VETERANS OF UNDERAGE MILITARY SERVICE**

Billboards on U.S. Highway 17 Bypass and signs in store windows announce the Flag Day observance planned by veterans groups for next Wednesday at Perquimans High School's Memorial Field. The afternoon program is part of Perquimans County's 50th anniversary of World War II Commemorative Community Program.

The U.S. Marine Corps 2nd Division Band from Camp Lejeune will perform during the event, as will the 82nd Airborne Division American Chorus. Also on hand, will be the Junior Air Force ROTC Drill Team and color guard from Northeastern High School, a U.S. Coast Guard color guard, a U.S. Marine Corps color guard and a U.S. Army color guard from Fort Bragg.

On the field will be a list of all those from Perquimans killed in WWII. There will also be a roll call of those killed in action.

Two wreaths will be laid; one by underage Navy veterans Harrell Johnson and Paul

Nelson of Elizabeth City to honor all veterans, and one by a former prisoner of war in honor of POWs and MIAs. Receiving the wreaths will be Richard Hartman of Redding, Penn., Harry Myer of Brooklyn, N.Y., and Hoffer, the only living survivors aboard the US LST 512 on June 6, 1944 when Normandy was invaded.

James J. Nemer, Cdr., U.S. Navy retired and director of the U.S. Navy Memorial and Heritage Foundation in Washington, D.C. will present an American flag encased in a box to the Perquimans County veterans. It will be accepted by the official cub cadet to the U.S. Navy Memorial, Aaron

Hoffer, a midshipman aboard the USS North Carolina in Wilmington. Hoffer will in turn will present the flag to county commissioners chairman Mack E. Nixon. The flag will be on display in the courthouse for one year before being buried in a time capsule, along with a flag previously flown over the U.S. Capital being sent by Rep. Eva Clayton and other memorabilia from the program.

A Coast Guard rescue helicopter will be at the sight for viewing.

A remembrance time will include the dedication of Memorial Field and recognition of those who raised funds for its construction, and memories of the Harvey Point Air Station, black-outs and Civil Defense workers who were here during WWII.

Also attending the ceremony will be Spencer Jackson of Baltimore, who enlisted in the Army at age 14 and was decorated by age 16. He holds the Guinness Book of World Records' distinction for donating the most time to VA hospitals - over 48,000 hours. National Veterans of Underage Service Commander George Browse of Philadelphia and underage veterans from as far away as the state of Washington will attend.

At least three television stations are covering the ceremony. It will conclude with a Coast Guard C-130 fly-over and two Marine Corps buglers echoing "Taps."

## County's industrial park named

At the recommendation of the Perquimans Economic Development Advisory Commission, the county commissioners officially adopted Perquimans Commerce Centre as the name of the new industrial park on Harvey Point Road.

The county purchased the 400-acre tract bounded by the Perquimans River for \$800,000. A loan of \$850,000 was obtained from Centura Bank for land purchase and initial costs

associated with the park.

Although the county owns and controls the park, the towns of Hertford and Winfall are working cooperatively with the county to plan its development. To facilitate the development, the advisory board was formed with the county having three appointments and each town, two. Serving for the county are commissioners Charles Ward and Mack Nixon and at-large

member Becky Winslow. Councilman Billy Winslow and appointee Bill Cox serve on behalf of Hertford. Mayor Fred Yates and appointee Chris Lane represent Winfall. County manager Paul Gregory and Hertford Town Manager John Christensen are ex officio members.

The commissioners are reviewing a job description for an industrial developer to be hired by the county next fiscal year.

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Central School honors achievers

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Band students earn honors

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Middle school athletes awarded

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### Outside

THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY	
High: 90s	Low: 60s	High: 90s	Low: 60s	High: 80s	Low: 60s
PARTLY CLOUDY		PARTLY CLOUDY		PARTLY CLOUDY	