



# The Perquimans Weekly 35¢

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## Inside



**Rast hired as head football coach at PCHS**

Page 6



**Class of 1947 enjoys weekend reunion**

Page 5



**Dark and stormy nights; All Over the Map**

Page 4

**Sheriff makes arrests**

Page 8

## Tice ousted from Hertford Grammar

By **SUSAN R. HARRIS**  
Editor

A veteran principal in the Perquimans County school system was suspended last week.

Schools superintendent Randall L. Henion confirmed Tuesday afternoon that William D. Tice was suspended without pay effective July

31. Henion said that there is no investigation in progress surrounding Tice's suspension; however, information is under review. Because personnel records are confidential under state statute, Henion said only limited information could be released regarding the personnel action.

Tice could not be reached for comment Tuesday.

Henion said former assistant principal Susan Winslow has been assigned principal at the school.

Henion said he would not speculate on any actions Tice might take in regard to the suspension, although he did say that Tice "will not be re-assigned to that school."

Tice has been employed by the school system since the

late 1960s. Henion said he could not release hire date or other personnel information.

Tice's suspension follows several administrative changes in the school system, including a principal change at Perquimans Middle School and the hiring of a new principal at Perquimans Central School. Henion said he does not anticipate further adminis-

trative reassignments.

"At this time I feel like we're set for the school year," Henion said.

The superintendent said it is his duty to assign and reassign staff to best serve the students of the district. With changing needs, Henion said it is necessary to re-evaluate personnel and staffing needs and make adjustments.

## Rabies confirmed in county

A Perquimans couple found out that befriending a stray cat can have some pretty serious side effects.

A cat straggled on to the property of David Peckham and his wife in Winfall recently. The couple began feeding and playing with the animal, only to discover that it had rabies. The two were forced to undergo treatment to prevent the disease. The cat was destroyed.

According to Jill Jordan of the PPCC District Health Department, rabies is most commonly found in raccoons, skunks, and foxes. It has infected and caused disease in dogs, cats, horses, cattle, bats and bobcats in North Carolina. It is extremely rare in small rodents such as rats, mice and squirrels, as well as opossums, rabbits and hares.

Rabies is caused by a virus that can infect all mammals. The virus infects the brain of the animal causing a change in behavioral patterns. It is almost invariably fatal to animals.

Humans can acquire this dangerous disease as well through contact with infected animals. However, human exposure to the virus does not always mean that the disease will result. Because rabies is a viral disease, antibiotics are not useful in arresting the disease once it begins.

Although a post-exposure rabies vaccination is available, the best way to control rabies is to prevent it. Domestic animals should not be allowed to roam unrestricted, and should be vaccinated against rabies for protection during encounters with infected animals.

Avoiding exposure to infected animals is important for people as well as pets. This means not making pets of animals that are not known to you, not petting or feeding strange animals or wildlife, and not coming in contact with animals engaged in unusual behavior.

Teaching children not to approach unknown animals, even those not showing signs of disease, is beneficial. Normal-appearing animals may have saliva capable of transmitting disease.

Certain habits that attract wild animals into people's living space need to be altered. Dog or cat food should not be left outside at night because it may attract wildlife. Garbage cans should have tightly fitting lids or have cords across the lids to keep them fastened.

If a person is bitten by an animal, the wound should be washed immediately with soap and water. The person should contact the local animal control office and the local health department or a physician's office for treatment.

(Please see related story, page 7.)

## CELEBRATING 20 YEARS



PHOTOS BY SUSAN HARRIS



Twenty years ago, a young band director named David Ziemba came to Perquimans County Schools to develop an instrumental music program. Since that time, hundreds of students have been a part of the band program at both the middle and high school levels. The 1997-98 Marching Pirates are hard at work preparing this season's show, which will include music important to the history of the band program. After two weeks of sectional practices, students will hit the P.C.H.S. campus next week in full force for the annual band camp. On Friday, band fans can get a preview of the show during a lunchtime performance. (Please see related story, page 6.)

## Hobbs to replace Gaudet

Tim Hobbs, advertising director of the News-Journal in Longview, Texas, has been named publisher of The Daily Advance. He succeeds Belinda Gaudet who will become publisher of The Daily News in Lufkin, Texas.

The administrative changes, announced last week by Brian Cooper, senior vice president of Cox Newspapers, Inc., take effect Sept. 1.

Hobbs, a native of Dayton, Ohio, began his newspaper career at the Dayton Daily

News in 1975. He held several positions in the Daily News classified advertising department, rising to classified advertising manager in 1988.

At the News-Journal in Longview, he is responsible for all retail, classified and national advertising. He has an extensive background in newspaper marketing and promotions.

"I am very excited about relocating to the Elizabeth City area," Hobbs said. "I look forward to strong community

involvement personally and as publisher of The Daily Advance."

Gaudet was named publisher of The Daily Advance in December after having served as vice president and general manager of Cox Arizona Publications, Inc. and Tribune Newspapers.

She earlier worked as a reporter, editor and controller at the Port Arthur, Texas News and as publisher and editor at The Leader in Orange, Texas

## Hertford voters will have choice; no races in Winfall

Hertford voters will have a choice on their town council representatives, but there are no races in Winfall for the November municipal elections.

At the close of the filing period Friday, Hertford incumbents Sid Eley and Eric Haste had signaled their intentions to seek re-election. They were joined by first-time Hertford candidate Horace C.

Reid Jr., a member of the town's board of adjustments.

Over in Winfall, incumbent Fred Yates was the lone filer for the mayor's post. Incumbent Willie B. Moore also filed for a council seat, as did political newcomer Joan A.H. Mansfield. Present councilman William Ray Miller is not seeking re-election.

The municipal elections are scheduled for Nov. 4

## Senior Center policy okayed

The Perquimans County Commissioners approved a new policy on the use of the senior center Monday—again.

After approving a policy that would have limited the permitted use of the building to government agencies and senior citizens and recreation department activities in June — and therefore forcing several groups presently meeting at the center to find alternative meeting sites — commissioners were called on the carpet by citizens in July. The commissioners held a work session on the matter prior to Monday's meeting and came up with a second policy.

The latest policy allows those groups presently meeting at the center — the NAACP, Hertford BPW, Woodmen of the World, VFW and Head Start — to continue to use the facility at no charge until Jan. 1. No other groups may meet there in the meantime.

Beginning Jan. 1, the county will implement a \$20 per use fee on the building to help pay for upkeep and expenses, such as heating and air conditioning. Only non-profit and civic groups may apply to use the building after Jan. 1.

Commissioner Bert Hayes questioned how the county would define and restrict the use of the building once the new policy is effective. He asked how the county could turn down groups that might not be working for the best interest of county citizens without policy restrictions.

"You may be upset with some of the people who want to rent that place for \$20," Hayes said.

Commissioner Shirley Yates, who was vocal in her opposition to the June policy, said she hoped there were no hate groups in Perquimans County. She added that she is against use of the building by groups other than those composed primarily of senior citizens. She said other organizations, including youth groups and those who might want to (Please see policy, page 7.)

## Outside

THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY	
High: 80	Low: 60	High: 80	Low: 60	High: 80s	Low: 60
MOSTLY CLEAR		MOSTLY CLEAR		MOSTLY CLEAR	

### Perquimans County

#### an All of Us

Community

August's theme: **Know who you are** focusing on

Asking yourself what you stand for; Personal values

Incorporate these Healthy HABITS into your daily life and help make our community a better place to live!

For All of Us Care information, contact Sandra Smith Perquimans County Chamber of Commerce 426-5657