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HERTFORD NC 27944

# NOV 0 6 1997 The Perquimans Weekly

Vol. 65, No. 44

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The only newspaper for and about Perquimans County people

Hertford, North Carolina 27944

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**Perquimans County** an All of Us Community

November's theme: Show a positive attitude.

# PCHS celebrates homecoming

# **Halloween** in daylight treat for town police

#### **By SUSAN R. HARRIS** Editor

There were no tricks for Hertford Police on Halloween this year.

Interim Chief Dale Vanscoy said the Hertford Town Council's decision to designate Saturday afternoon as the time to trick-or-treat in Hertford resulted in a very positive celebration.

"We had absolutely no calls to report vandalism or people cutting through yards or anything," Vanscoy said. "It was absolutely wonderful."

The interim chief said he patroled down every street in town, and was pleased with what he saw.

"In some neighborhoods it was like a big block party. Parents dressed up to take their kids out, teenagers were dressed up giving out candy and jumping out from behind bushes, and people were stopping to talk as they walked down the street. I am really pleased with how well everything went. It was just great." Several businesses in the

downtown area participated in the afternoon trick-or-treat, including some that are not open on Saturday.

The Saturday afternoon trick-or-treat time was designed by action of the Hertford Town Council as the major component of a Halloween Safety Initiative spearheaded by The Perquimans Weekly newspaper. Homecoming at Perquimans High School, including a 4 p.m. parade, was set for Halloween. The increased traffic brought by a home football game, coupled with the serious vehicle/pedestrian accident that occurred in Hertford last Halloween, was a concern discussed by several people in the community. Upon hearing the concerns voiced, The Perquimans Weekly began calling government, school and civic groups asking for their support to change the designated trick-or-treat time.

The Hertford Council, with the backing of the newspaper, the Family Support Partnership, Snug Harbor



PHOTO BY SUSAN HARRIS

These unidentified creatures were among those spied trick-ortreating in Hertford Saturday afternoon. Hertford's interim police chief Dale Vanscoy said in some parts of town, the celebration resembled a block party.

Youth Program, Stepping Housing Stones/Beacon Academy, Perquimans County Athletic Hertford Police Department, Boosters, Hertford Fire Chamber of Commerce, Department, Perquimans Perquimans Commissioners, NAACP, Perquimans County Sheriff's Department, Town of Winfall, Kidz' World Inc., Hertford

Authority, County Learning Center, PCHS SADD **Club and Perquimans County** Board of Education, opted to change the time in the interest of public safety.



Principals and teachers will receive assistance, such as comprehensive training, to help them use this information to improve school culture, conditions, and climate for students, parents, and teachers.

# Reid, **Eley** win Hertford council seats

Write-in votes almost change Winfall totals

#### By SUSAN R. HARRIS Editor

Single-shot voting was a key factor in the election of the first African-American member of the Hertford Town Council Tuesday.

Horace C. Reid carried the East Hertford Precinct with 204 votes to Sid Eley's 124 and T. Erie Haste's 98. Many of the ballots had only one candidate marked. There were two seats open and each voter was allowed to vote for two of the three candidates.

In West Hertford, Eley collected 92 votes; Haste, 74; and Reid, 71.

Including absentees, the final totals were Reid, 275: Eley, 220; and Haste, 175. The totals are unofficial until the canvass later this week, according to Perquimans **County Board of Elections** Supervisor Eula Forbes.

The number of voters who went to the polls was not avail-



#### **By SUSAN R. HARRIS** Editor

The royal court was crowned Friday night when Perquimans County High School capped its week-long homecoming celebration during halftime of the **Perquimans-Northside football** game.

Crowned were Jennifer Rountree, queen; Clif Stallings, king; Ravann Horton, princess; Travis Hurdle, prince; Brandi Dennison, Miss Class of 2000; Clifton Jenkins, Mr. Class of 2000; Wendy Pierce, Miss Class of 2001; and Darion James, Mr. Class of 2001. Also chosen to represent their classes on the court were Laura Matthews, Tavarus Ferebee, LeAnn Ferrell, Jerriell Perry, Sharra Lee, Ryan Woodell, Lucretia Sellers and Dyron Hardy.

Pajama Day, Class Colors Day, rally and a parade.



#### PHOTO BY SUSAN HARRIS

Town of Hertford crews and inmates from the state Department of Corrections work to clean up the oak trees that had to be cut down on Academy Square. Both the town and county called in experts from several agencies who determined that the stately old trees were diseased and could not be saved.

PHOTO BY SUSAN HARRIS

Jennifer Rountree and Clif Stallings were crowned homecoming queen and king, respectively, during halftime festivities at the Perquimans County High School football game Friday night.

Blast From the Past, Black and Gold Day and Dress-Up Day led up to the big night. Friday featured almost the entire student body dressed up in the school colors of black and gold, Themed days including a car decorating contest, a pep

In honor of the occasion, the **Marching Pirates presented** special pre-game and halftime performances.

Homecoming is sponsored by the PCHS Student Council. The parade is sponsored by the PCHS SADD Club.

### Businesses wary of map service

Several local businesses have had billing problems with a map company calling on business people in the area.

Larry Swindell of Swindell Funeral Home and Swindell Monuments said D&L Map Service is calling businesses regarding local maps. Swindell said he has dealt with the company on two previous occasions, and has been double charged both times. He added that he has spoken with several other business owners who have encountered the same problems.

The company is insinuating that its product is endorsed by the Chamber of Commerce, but Swindell, a Chamber board member, said the Chamber has not endorsed the product.

### performance

aims to improve

Project Wingspan, a performance-based research program aimed at improving student performance at the middle and high schools, was awarded to Perquimans County Schools by the N.C. State Board of Education.

Perquimans will pioneer total quality performance results and strategic plans to improve teaching methods and to raise test scores for students in grades 6-12. This \$75,000 renewable grant will focus on mathematics, language arts and other end-of-course exams established as part of the ABCs program and the Excellent Schools Act.

**Research Triangle Institute,** an independent, nonprofit research organization, will serve as a resource partner in Perquimans' effort to raise test scores. RTI, established in 1958 as the cornerstone of the state's Research Triangle Park, has extensive experience in research and development school performance on improvement.

A service called RTI Vector will provide administrators and teachers with tools to interpret test data and find opportunitites for performance improvement.

"There is an excellent set of tests in place to measure how students are progressing," said Suzanne Triplett, director of **RTI's School Management** Program. "What's lacking is an interpretation of test results that provides specific guidance for improving the overall instructional program within the school. Vector does this sort of interpretation."

The Wingspan project will help school principals and staff prepare to evaluate their schools' performance.

A major goal is to gather comprehensive information on student performance, the school environment, faculty and staff, the community, and both technical and financial resources. All this information will be compiled into a format that can be used to plan an integrated management system for improving school per-

The ABCs of Public Education is a comprehensive plan to reorganize public schools in North Carolina around three goals of strong accountability, an emphasis on the basics and high educational standards, and on providing school districts with as much local control over their work as possible.

In 1995, members of the General Assembly looked at public schools in the state and found that many improvements had taken place, but that change was not fast enough to meet the demands of the workplace and of higher education.

Legislators passed a law that directed the State Board of Education to "examine the structure and functions of the state public school system with a view to improving student performance, to increasing local flexibility and control, and promoting economy and efficiency." In response to that mandate, the state board developed The New ABCs of **Public Education.** 

The focus of Wingspan will be to specifically provide information and analysis of test data and ABC performance results and develop specific strategies to improve the quality of teaching and ultimately improve student achievement.

able at press time.

Eley was the only candidate to visit the elections office Tuesday evening.

"I feel very fortunate to have been elected," Eley said. "I look forward to serving with Horace and I enjoyed serving with Erie. Both of them are friends of mine, and I didn't run against either of them. I ran for the office.

"I don't think anyone ran against anyone," Eley added. "I think we all ran for the office."

The Town of Winfall had no races on the last day of filing for office, but almost had an upset thanks to a strong writein vote for present councilman William Ray Miller. Miller opted not to run for re-election, but received 54 write-in votes for council and three for mayor.

Incumbent Willie B. Moore collected 80 votes and newcomer Joan Mansfield, 59. Stanley Winslow also received a writein vote for council.

Mayor Fred Yates also ran unopposed to keep his seat, tallying 87 votes. In addition to the three write-in votes for Miller, Jarvis Ward received four, and Durwood Barber and Carol Cooper, one each.

The Winfall totals are unofficial until the canvass.

