

# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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## Hertford traffic pattern changes

### 4-way stops added at two intersections

By SUSAN R. HARRIS

Editor

Protecting children was the deciding factor in making two Hertford intersections four-way stops.

Police Chief Dale Vanscoy said Monday that the intersections of King and Hyde Park streets and Grubb and Front streets are four-way stops. Officers will be watching the intersections closely and citations will be written to violators, he said.

Vanscoy said excessive speed on King Street, especially when school gets out in the afternoon, is a concern. He said the high school lets out at the same younger students are walking home and getting off buses in the neighborhoods near the high school. The speed, combined with the possibility that a young child might dart into the street, led officials to change the traffic pattern on the street.

High school administrators announced the change to students prior to the Easter holiday, Vanscoy said. He will ask that a reminder be made when students return to school on Monday.

Vanscoy said heavier use and the number of children residing on Front Street are responsible for the change at Front and Grubb streets. The chief said more people are traveling down Front Street, then cutting through and entering Church Street close to the bridge, rather than going through the downtown block. Several families with young children now live in the neighborhood. With the children playing, riding bicycles and skating, speeding could be especially dangerous on the street. The street also curves.

The speed limit on Front, King and Hyde Park streets is 25 miles per hour, Vanscoy said. Too few people abide by the speed limit, he said.

Vanscoy said he and another officer patrolled the King and Hyde Park intersection shortly after the new stop signs were installed Monday. He said drivers did not notice the new pattern and continued to run the stop signs.

To help people realize there is a change, Vanscoy is borrowing warning signs from the state for a couple of weeks until people become accustomed to it.

Vanscoy said the traffic grant his department submitted to the Governor's Crime Commission has been received. Preliminary indications are that the grant is in line with goals of the grant program. Vanscoy said he has been told funding looks promising. He expects to find out around April 15 if the grant is funded.

In the meantime, watch for the new stop signs. The department has lots of ticket books.

## EASTER FUN DOWNTOWN



PHOTOS BY SUSAN R. HARRIS

Saturday's warm sunshine and soft breezes provided perfect weather for the Historic Hertford Business Association's second annual Easter egg hunt. The activities included an Easter bonnet contest, which was won by Chris Campbell. Marcel Barnes won the decorated bike contest. Bryant Cottrell won the raffle for the bunny cake made by Will "Daddy Ruth" Ferguson. The courthouse lawn was full of scampering little folks when the eggs were all hidden and it was time for the hunt. Some stopped to get a photo taken with the bunny, others just talked with him. Parents enjoyed browsing downtown and at the flea market while kids enjoyed the games.



## Women's history exhibit on display at Newbold-White House

### County artifacts localize display on loan from MOA

An open house will highlight the North Carolina Women Making History exhibit currently on display at the Newbold-White House. The reception is set for Saturday, 1-4 p.m.

The exhibit, on loan from Museum of the Albemarle, examines the contributions of women to the State's history. It includes photos and personal artifacts from Perquimans families. Also on display are quilts and other needlework from Perquimans. It is set up in the Visitor's Center, part of the Newbold-White House Historic Complex.

During the open house, quilters will demonstrate their needle craft. Special events for children are planned, including storytelling and hands-on activities. Refreshments will be served.

The exhibit will be on display through May 9. The Newbold-White House is open Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. and Sundays, 2-5 p.m. It is located on Harvey Point Road, just off U.S. Highway 17 Bypass. Call 426-7567 for information.

Newbold-White is the oldest standing brick house in North Carolina.



Newbold-White House site manager Stephanie Bandy shows Leah Allen one of the historic quilts on display as part of the exhibit "North Carolina Women Making History." The exhibit, on loan from the Museum of the Albemarle, is on display at Newbold-White through May 9. An open house on April 10, 1-4 p.m., will feature members of the Perquimans Quilters demonstrating their craft. There will also be activities for children.

## Holiday Island incorporation is uncertain

### Culpepper email says legislator didn't know move was controversial

By SUSAN R. HARRIS

Editor

Holiday Island may remain a subdivision instead of becoming a town.

The General Assembly's Commission on Municipal Incorporations did not recommend incorporation for the subdivision, according to Ed Oatley. Oatley, who is against the proposed incorporation, said he and three others against the plan attended the Commission meeting in Raleigh on March 25.

Oatley said of the five requests for incorporation, only Holiday Island's was not approved. The Commission recommended to the General Assembly that a referendum be held, he said.

Oatley said representatives of the other communities attended the hearing along with their legal counsel, while his delegation was the only one there from Holiday Island.

Proponents of the incorporation had contacted Rep. Bill Culpepper of Chowan County to introduce legislation to incorporate Holiday Island.

But Culpepper may withdraw his support of the proposed legislation. According to a copy of an email dated March 31 provided The Perquimans Weekly by Oatley, Culpepper was not aware when the issue first came across his desk that there was staunch opposition.

"The large amount of opposition to the incorporation of Holiday Island has certainly gotten my attention," Culpepper wrote. "When I first heard about the proposed incorporation, I had no knowledge of the background pertaining to the matter and, for sure, did not know about it being so controversial. I can assure you that I am not going to introduce any legislation regarding this matter as long as the controversy fairly exists."

Culpepper was responding to an email message from Oatley asking the legislator to consider the arguments of those against incorporation.

Oatley told Culpepper in his

letter that over the registered Holiday Island incorporation. There are 384 registered Holiday Island and they signed a petition that they are against incorporation.

Oatley said he said at a public hearing on March 19 that 100 percent of the registered a community supporting opposing incorporation. Incorporation shall not recommend. Oatley said Culpepper, then introduced the legislation so that it will die.

Those in favor of incorporation have said the Commission needs both a referendum and ordinance to improve a town's order to improve.

Ken Ries told Advance the day after the hearing that it will help enforce the code and receive state money to repair and lighten improving recreation facilities.

"We need ordinance enforced by a town government," he said. "I established meeting covenants and they (upon you) will be in addition, in atrocious condition may take 10 years to get lighting is non-existent."

An incorporation of Holiday Island would allow hire a police department, animal control, build a wastewater treatment plant.

One thing opponents have said is distasteful about incorporation process. Those who are not registered have no say in the process, even though they pay the same as those who are community full-fledged.

According to Oatley, even if the incorporation passes the General Assembly, only those registered in Perquimans would be eligible to vote. Whether to incorporate would mean the number of the property owners subject to the change. Another level of fairness due to the incorporation could not vote in the referendum. Oatley said it is fair to the property owners.

## Weekend Weather

Thursday

High: 80s Low: 50s Partly Cloudy

Friday

High: 80s Low: 50s Partly Cloudy

Saturday

High: 70s Low: 50s Chance of Rain