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THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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No races yet for local offices

SUSAN R. HARRIS
Editor

There are no races for county commissioner or school board as the filing period for those offices comes to a close.

As of mid-day Monday, Perquimans Board of Elections Director Eula Forbes said three people have filed for county commissioner and three for school board.

For county commissioner, present chairperson Shirley Wiggins was the most recent candidate to file. She joined Democratic challenger Randy Lassiter and Republican challenger Vernon Hammons. Wiggins is a Democrat.

Democrat Archie Miller, who holds one of the three seats up for election, had not yet filed. Republican Bert Hayes said he will not seek another term.

For the non-partisan school board race, incumbents Helen Shaw and Thomas L. Riddick have filed along with challenger Ramona Murphy. Former chairman Wallace Nelson had not filed Monday.

The filing period closes Monday at noon.

Trooper escapes injury in wreck

Archer treated and released after car smashes into him on U.S. Hwy. 17 N

SUSAN R. HARRIS
Editor

A North Carolina Highway Patrol trooper escaped serious injury after being sandwiched between two vehicles in his patrol car Monday afternoon.

Trooper J.S. Archer was treated and released from Sentara Norfolk General Hospital early Tuesday morning, according to NCHP 1st Sergeant C.D. Gould.

Gould said Tuesday morning that Archer was traveling north on U.S. Highway 17 between Hertford and Woodville on a stretch known locally as Newbold's Curve when he noted an RPS truck in the roadway in the southbound lanes. Archer turned around, pulled behind the truck, activated his emergency lights, and put on his hat as he prepared to leave his car to help the truck's driver. The driver of the truck, Andre Eugene Green, 38, of 105 Holly Grove Road, Edenton, approached the driver's side window of the patrol car to speak with Archer, but Gould said Archer directed him to the passenger side of the vehicle, off the roadway.



PHOTO BY SUSAN HARRIS

N.C. Highway Patrol Trooper J.S. Archer escaped serious injury Monday when he was hit in the rear and slammed into a delivery van on U.S. Highway 17 North of Hertford. While law and emergency vehicles were still on the scene, a second accident involving three vehicles occurred at the intersection of U.S. Highway 17 and N.C. 37 in Winfall.

As Archer prepared to get out of his 1999 Ford patrol car, he was hit in the rear by a 1996 Jeep driven by Dora Frost, 35, of Rt. 2, Box 15T, Hertford. Archer's vehicle slammed into the RPS truck, which then rolled ahead about 30-50 feet. The Jeep rolled upon impact, coming to rest on the passenger side straddled the southbound lanes.

Gould said Frost reportedly did not see the vehicles in the roadway, and therefore did not slow down. Her estimated speed at the time of impact was 55 miles per hour.

Frost, her 4-year-old daughter and Green were all transported to Chowan Hospital by Perquimans County EMS. Green and child were both treated and released, Gould

said. Frost was admitted, but was expected to be released Tuesday morning.

Both the patrol car and the Jeep were totalled, Gould said.

The accident is still under investigation. No charges had been filed at press time.

Perquimans County Sheriff Department and Winfall Fire Department personnel were dispatched to assist with traf-

fic control. A portion of the northbound lane of Highway 17 from about Carwright Swamp Road to Union Hall Road was made two-way from just after the accident at about 3:45 until about 6:30 p.m.

Less than half an hour after arriving on the scene, emergency personnel were summoned to the scene of a three-car accident beside the state highway shop on U.S. Highway 17 in Winfall.

According to Winfall Police Chief David Shaffer, Kelly Rountree Wilson of Hertford failed to yield when she made a left turn off of U.S. Highway 17 onto N.C. 37 in a Kia Sephia. She was hit by a white Mustang operated by Joseph Ward of Elizabeth City. The impact knocked the Wilson car into a 1996 Pontiac driven by Arthur Rogers of Winfall. Rogers was sitting at the intersection.

Shaffer said the occupants of all three vehicles were wearing seat belts, and therefore avoided serious injury. Fire and rescue personnel coordinated efforts to treat those who needed transport, working short-handed as two ambulances were already transporting victims of the earlier wreck.

Wilson was charged with a movement violation. Shaffer said he estimated total damages of over \$10,000 to the three vehicles.

Winter weather plays havoc in Hertford

Schools must add days to calendar for 5 lost to snow

SUSAN R. HARRIS
Editor

Slippery roads, cold temperatures and school days missed have punctuated the last two weeks in Perquimans.

A post-Christmas break on Jan. 17 and 18 for the Martin Luther King holiday and an end-of-semester teacher work day was extended for two days by the first winter storm.

On Jan. 23, there was more of the white stuff, but roads were clear enough on Monday for students to go to school. By Tuesday morning, freezing rain and ice hit the area, making driving hazardous. By midday, snow had begun to fall over the layer of ice, and continued until the evening hours.

While most of the main highways and rural roads were navigable by mid-day on Wednesday, many back roads remained icy. County offices opened at 10 a.m. Wednesday, and students enjoyed a fourth day off in two weeks. School resumed Friday, although delayed two hours, and was in session Saturday until 2 o'clock.

Saturday was bitterly cold, with rain turning to freezing rain coming in early Sunday morning. Once again, a layer of ice covered the county.

But temperatures warmed, and although it rained all day on Super Bowl Sunday, by Monday morning, almost all of the ice and snow from the past 10 days was melted and county residents headed to school and work on schedule.



PHOTOS BY SUSAN HARRIS

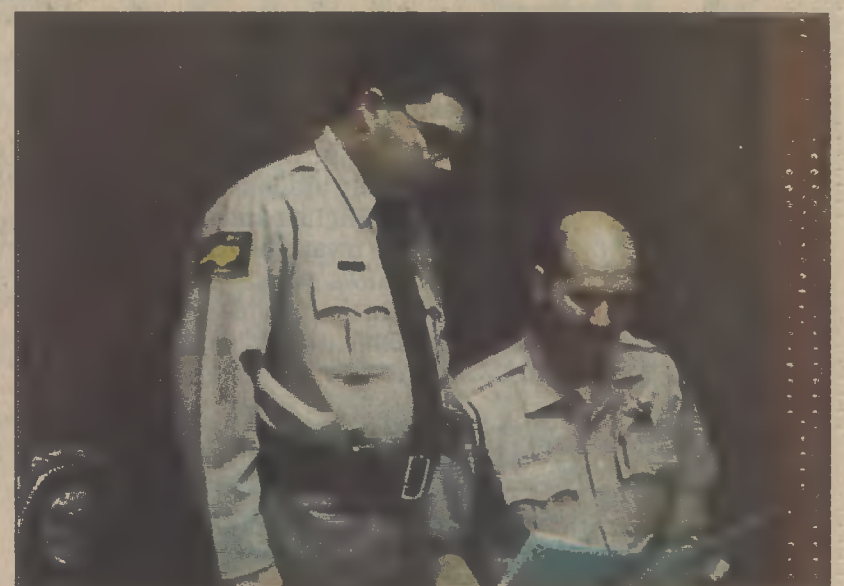
Last week's snow brought out the artists in the county as snow and ice creatures were sculpted. At Joyce Taylor's home on Center Hill Road, grandparents, parents and kids had fun building a snow family (above). The Michael Winslow family, including children Kathy and Kyle, got very creative and built a polar bear in their yard.

Mary Kay Peele, administrative assistant to schools superintendent Gregory Todd said make-up days will be proposed to the school board at the February meeting. Students made up one day Saturday, and officials must reschedule four more. The make-up day proposal will include a March 3 teacher work day, the April 21 Good Friday holiday, the May



29 Memorial Day holiday and adding June 8 to the student calendar. June 7 was added ear-

lier as a make-up day for Hurricane Floyd. Graduation is still set for June 9.



Perquimans deputies Lee Price (seated) and Ersal Overton were recently appointed to the Youth Council, a sub-committee of the Region R. Workforce Investment Board.

Three locals join Youth Council

Three Perquimans County residents were appointed to the Youth Council, a sub-committee of the Region R. Workforce Investment Board.

Lee Price, Ersal Overton III and Ann Foreman accepted positions on the 24-member committee. The group is composed of representatives from Camden, Currituck, Chowan, Dare, Gates, Hyde, Perquimans, Pasquotank, Tyrrell, and Washington counties.

The council is charged with developing effective year-round and summer components of the youth employment program, which has taken the place of JTPA. The program assists eligible young people, ages 14-21, in finding jobs. Through participation in the program and on-the-job experience, youths have the opportunity to develop good work habits, learn basic work skills, and explore career options. The program is open to those who have never worked or who have limited work experience.

In addition to work experience, the youth program offers educational enrichment in reading and math to all participants.

A native of Perquimans, Overton is a deputy with the Perquimans County Sheriff's Department. He has been in law enforcement 8 years, and enjoys working in his hometown.

Price, also a Perquimans deputy, currently serves as the D.A.R.E. officer, working primarily with county fifth graders. He has a daughter, 18, and two sons, 13 and 7. He and his wife, Sharon, are expecting twins in May.

A businesswoman and youth advocate, Foreman owns and operates Kidsworld Child Care Center. She also coordinates many activities for local youth.

The youth program is administered by the Mid-East Commission located at the JobLink Center in the Employment Security Commission Office in Elizabeth City. For information, call 330-4790, ext. 29.