

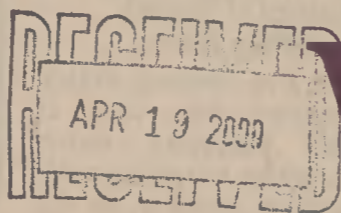
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Be fair in athletic realignment  
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# The PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

35 cents

## Winfall: Speed is problem

ANNA GOODWIN MCCARTHY  
 Correspondent

Roadside checks will be enforced to prevent the ever increasing speeds of motorists throughout the town of Winfall.

"Traffic continues to be a problem," said David Shaffer in his police report to the Winfall Town Council Wednesday night.

Shaffer said that the Winfall Police have received several complaints from residents about drivers traveling at dangerous speeds on Winfall's roads.

A majority of the complaints cite Main Street Extended and Two Mile Desert Road as two of the main roads where speeding occurs.

"Someone is going to get killed," said Shaffer.

Concerned about the reckless speeding of drivers, Shaffer has decided to set up roadside checks immediately.

The Governor's program for roadside checks does not start until May, but Shaffer said he believed the checks needed to start now.

The Winfall Town Council also discussed writing a letter to the North Carolina Department of Transportation in support of lowering the speed limit on the streets in Winfall where hazardous speeding is taking place.

## Boone arrested on drug charges

Former Hertford cop charged after SBI probe

JEREMY DESPOSITO  
 The Daily Advance

A former police officer for both Elizabeth City and Hertford was arrested last Wednesday on charges of cocaine trafficking and destroying evidence following a State Bureau of Investigation

probe. According to Perquimans County Sheriff's Department records, Charles Nathan Boone Jr., 25, was arrested April 12 and charged with possession with intent to sell and deliver cocaine, sale and delivery of cocaine, and offering to steal or destroy criminal evidence. A \$10,000 secured bond was set.

Sheriff Eric Tilley said SBI officials asked to use the Sheriff's Department to conduct the probe and to process paperwork, but did not share details of the investigation with him.

"They (SBI officials) won't

discuss it," he said. "They sat down and filled out paperwork."

Hertford Police Chief Dale Vanscoy said Boone's last day as a Hertford police officer was Oct. 25, 1999. He had resigned to "supposedly" take a job in Connecticut, Vanscoy said.

"I believe his wife had family up there and he was going up there to work," Vanscoy said.

Vanscoy said he had no reason to believe Boone was involved in any illegal activity while a member of the Hertford Police Department. There are, however, allegations

unrelated to the recent charges that Vanscoy is now preparing to investigate.

"I was getting ready to call for an investigation myself to see if the allegations were true," Vanscoy said.

District Attorney Frank Parrish could not be reached for comment.

Two complaints have been filed against Boone and dismissed in the past two years. A citizen made a complaint against him in August 1998, alleging that he had pointed a gun at him. A member of the Elizabeth City Police Department at the time, Boone

later resigned to join the Hertford Police Department, Elizabeth City Police Capt. Bill Williams said.

An arrest warrant was also issued for Boone on June 24, 1999, after a complainant said Boone had rammed his head into a car window and threw him to the ground five months earlier. The complainant at the time of the incident was arrested by a second Hertford police officer for assaulting Boone's sister. Boone was found not guilty in district court.

SBI officials could not be reached for this story.

## Bistro offers new choices downtown

SUSAN R. HARRIS  
 Editor

The smells that drift through Hall of Fame Square make your mouth water. The aromas of fresh coffee brewing, warm sticky buns, scones, French toast, cooked-to-order omelettes and other delights assault the senses as customers stop in for a leisurely breakfast. In addition to regular and decaf, bistro patrons may enjoy specialty coffees such as the macadamia nut brewed for the grand opening, or maybe a steaming cappuccino.

Around lunchtime, the fare — and the smells — turns to



The Blue Heron Bistro & Bakery in Hall of Fame Square held a chamber-sponsored ribbon cutting last Friday. The shop adds unique offerings to dining in Hertford.

thick sandwiches on a variety of breads stuffed with Boar's Head meats and cheeses, soups and salads.

After months of anticipation as Joseph and Judith

Monks put finishing touches on her new business, the Blue Heron Bistro & Bakery opened last month. A ribbon cutting last Friday sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce marked its official grand opening.

The bistro offers dining both upstairs and down. Downstairs, diners can watch the activity on Church Street through the large plate glass windows or sit at the chic bistro-style tables and chairs in the Hall of Fame hallway.

Upstairs, there is room for larger groups, and even an area that will accommodate meetings.

The Blue Heron is open Monday—Friday, 7 a.m.—4 p.m., with breakfast served until 11 each morning.

On Saturday and Sunday, the bistro's hours are 8 a.m.—4 p.m. Breakfast is served until 11 on Saturday and until 12:30 on Sunday.

## Five candidates seek three school board seats

susan r. harris  
 Editor

Five candidates — two incumbents and three challengers — seek election to the Perquimans County Board of Education on May 2.

Iris Byrne, Ramona Murphy, Helen Shaw, William Byrum and Thomas Riddick are asking voters to seat them on the school board. Shaw and Riddick are presently on the board, and Riddick serves as vice chairman.

Each candidate was asked to respond to a set of written questions about educational issues. Their responses appear exactly as submitted. They have not been edited.

Byrne, Murphy and Shaw were the first candidates to respond. As there is limited space in this week's edition, their answers will appear this week. Next week, we will feature the responses of Byrum and Riddick.

**What talents/abilities/experiences/training qualify you to sit on the school board?**

**Byrne:** My 18 years experience as an elementary teacher and three years of instruction at the college level can help me bring a classroom perspective to the school board. As an adjunct faculty member at College of the Albemarle, teaching Early Childhood Education, I have learned the importance of utilizing community resources and encouraging parental involvement in our schools for the benefit of



Iris Byrne

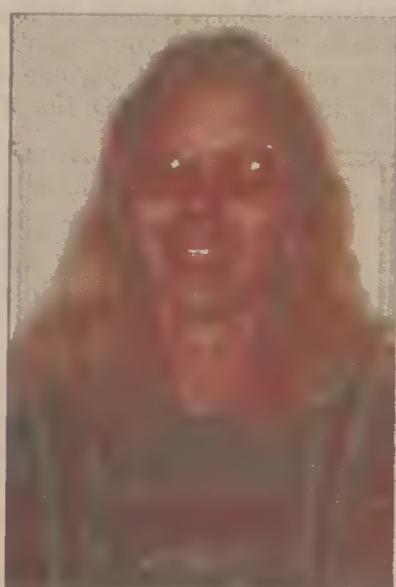
the child. My experience in the business world enables me to understand budgetary priorities and how to put our tax money to the best use.

**Murphy:** Being a parent and my children's first teacher qualified me to sit on the Board of Education. I have their best interest along with all of the other students. Without our children there would not be a school system.

**Shaw:** My interest covers every aspect of the school system, mainly elevating the students to their highest possible attainment.

**What is your interest in the school system?**

**Murphy:** Everything about the school system interests me. We are all needed to help all students grow up to be happy, healthy, well educated individuals. I have always taught my children that their education is



Ramona Murphy

the one thing that no one can take away from them. Our children are not dollar signs they are individuals, all of them are special and their opinions and their parents opinions are very important to me.

**Shaw:** My interest covers every aspect of the school system, mainly elevating the students to their highest possible attainment.

**Byrne:** My grandson, Daniel Carnall, attends first grade at Perquimans Central School. I began to take a personal interest in Perquimans County Schools when he entered Kindergarten in 1998. I was delighted that he could be a student in the new Central School facility. When I heard that North Carolina students tested in the lower third of the nation, I became concerned because I did not want this for my grandson or any of the stu-



Helen Shaw

dents in our school system. What could I do as a grandparent? Become a member of the Board of Education and help where I can to raise the standard of education in our community.

**Why are you running for school board?**

**Shaw:** To continue to give my input for a better school system.

**Byrne:** (See previous answer.)

**Murphy:** I am running for the Board of Education for several reasons. I want to be a voice for our children and our parents. As a parent I have the final say over my children, not the system. Parents have been lost in the process of decisions for their children. I want to promote school bus awareness in our community and across the nation. I will take the fee paid to the Board of Education members and give it back to

the students involved in the band, art, music and drama classes by purchasing much needed supplies. Our children need a very well rounded education not only ABCs. They need the arts. The high school needs an art teacher. I want to see more respect and discipline taught at home and in our school system. I want children to be able to sit and learn in a class room that does not have a hole in the roof. I want our children to be safe in school and on the buses.

*(Editor's note: The candidates were asked to base answers to the next questions based on state statutes and local policies.)*

**What is the greatest challenge facing Perquimans County Schools? What can the school board do to meet this challenge?**

**Byrne:** Perquimans County Schools need to raise all students to the level of standards set by the state and even above that level. We became an exemplary school last year because of the improvement of testing results over the previous year. We still need to bring the 40 some percent of children who are still testing below level up to state requirements. This requires teacher, parent, administrator, and school board cooperation. We all need to work toward this goal.

**Murphy:** The greatest challenge facing our school system is to not count our children as percentages on a piece of paper. They are individuals and our future, they deserve

the best education that we can provide them with. The Board of Education can help by acting in the best interest of the students and parents. Quit pressuring our teachers and students to compete with other areas. Keep in mind that all students have parents that have the final say in educating their children and that they can remove them from the system and teach them at home or elsewhere.

**Shaw:** The greatest challenge is making sure our students continue to perform at the highest rate possible and receive exemplary status at all four schools.

Please see BOARD, page 10

### WEEKEND WEATHER

THURSDAY  
 High: 64  
 Low: 52  
 PARTLY CLOUDY

FRIDAY  
 High: 76  
 Low: 59  
 ISOLATED T'STORMS

SATURDAY  
 High: 81  
 Low: 60  
 ISOLATED T'STORMS