

Miss Relay for Life crowned

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Winter sports stand-outs honored

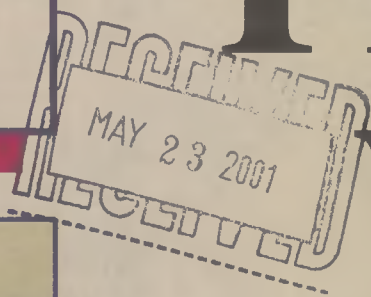
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Childcare center earns award

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PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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Wells is new superintendent

Dare assistant accepts local school post

SUSAN R. HARRIS

Kenneth Wells said he is ready to come to Perquimans County.

The present assistant superintendent of Dare County Schools was officially appointed superintendent in Perquimans Monday night. He will assume his new duties July 1.

Wells was obviously excited about his appoint-

ment, staying he was looking forward to coming to he area. He said he had learned a lot about the community through his application and interview process, and liked what he found.

"I am truly anticipating July 1," he said.

The 1997 University of North Carolina graduate praised the school board for its superintendent search process. He said he was impressed with the depth of the questions asked during his interviews, the fact that the entire board was involved in the interview process, and that the board chose to include administrators and

community residents in the process.

"You obviously make good decisions because I think this was a good one (hiring me)," Wells said with a smile to sum up his comments after being appointed, bringing laughter from board members and those in the audience.

Wells earned his BA in education from UNC, then worked as a teacher and assistant principal at Windsor Park Elementary School from 1978-1983. The next school year, he taught seventh grade at a Charlotte middle school.

During this time, Wells earned his masters of education from UNC-Charlotte.

In 1984, Wells was named assistant principal at East Mecklenburg High School. He served as a junior high school principal at two sites from 1986-1991. Then, he moved to South Mecklenburg High, where he was principal until January 1996. At that time, Wells became executive director of secondary education of Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools.

In August 1996, Wells moved to Manteo upon accepting the position of assistant superintendent for Dare County Schools. He also served as interim superintendent there from Nov. 1999—June 2000.

He is presently doing

doctoral work in educational leadership at East Carolina University with an expected completion date of 2002.

Wells' wife, Donna, was with him Monday night when the board made its official appointment.

The Wells have two children, Meredith, 17, and Taylor, 14. Wells said his daughter will finish her senior year at Manteo High School.

"I promised her she could finish high school in Manteo when we moved here," Wells said from his Manteo office Tuesday.

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Kenneth Wells speaks to the school board after being named superintendent Monday night. He will assume his duties July 1.

Cole named party chair

ROBERT SHILES
The Daily Advance

Janice McKenzie Cole was elected Saturday as the Democratic Party's chairman for the state's 3rd Congressional District.

Cole, who last month resigned as U.S. attorney for the Eastern District of North Carolina, was the top choice for the leadership position. She was one of approximately 200 party delegates who attended the 18-county 3rd District Convention held in Kinston. She defeated two other candidates for the job, Chris Hardee, the current 3rd District chairman from Dare County, and Mary Swartz, a delegate from Craven County.

A prominent figure in the Albemarle area, Cole was the first black woman elected as a district court judge in the 1st Judicial District—a position she held for 3 years before being appointed U.S. attorney by former President Bill Clinton in February 1994.

She recently opened a law office in Perquimans County, and is involved in superior court mediation work and family law.

In her first comments to the delegates as party chairman, Cole stressed the importance of Democrats understanding what their party stands for. She also noted that communication between counties in the district needs to improve.

"We have not communicated well, and we have not been organized," she said. "I think communication is very important. We have many Democrats that are swing voters and do vote Republican at times. We need to make them understand that their vote is not just for a representative, but also for the party platform."

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Spring Weekend draws crowds

SUSAN R. HARRIS

Beautiful weather and friendly people combined for a successful annual Perquimans Spring Weekend.

Activities began Friday evening with barbecued pork and entertainment on the courthouse lawn.

"It just seems to be getting better every year," said Mary White of The Wishing Well. White is a member of Historic Hertford Business Association, sponsors of the event.

White said more local businesses contributed to the evening. The band, Silver Spurs, donated their time, also. Proceeds from the dinner go to the 4th of July fireworks.

Those whose tastes run to antiques and collectibles were in heaven Saturday during the Antique Dealers Association of Perquimans County show and sale at the high school. A variety of items to suit many tastes were on display.

Proceeds from the event will benefit the Hertford Main Street Program. Spring Weekend activities were capped with the ever-popular Perquimans County Restoration Association Garden Party. Held this year on the waterfront back lawn of Dr. and Mrs. Robert Earl Lane in Winfall, the ele-



The Perquimans County Restoration Association's annual garden party (above) and pig out on the green (right) were two of the three events featured Friday and Saturday for Perquimans Spring Weekend. An antiques show and sale Saturday rounded out the activities.

gant evening affair drew 175 guests.

"It was a great success," and LuAnne Pendergraft, state Development Officer with PCRA. "It was one of the largest in history. Thanks to the volunteers who made the food and decorations, we made over \$3,000."

The garden party, which has grown more and more popular every year, is now the premiere fund raiser for the



restoration group. This year's gala served as part of PCRA's 30th anniversary celebration and as an opportunity to present two PCRA awards. Original board members Albert Eure and Doris Nixon joined the event. Ann Jones earned the Lucille Winslow Award for outstanding service, while Perquimans County and the Town of Hertford were presented with the

William and Catherine Nixon Award for outstanding support.

PCRA operates the Newbold-White House on Harvey Point Road, the oldest brick house in the state. The group is dedicated to preserving and promoting the cultural heritage of Perquimans County.

PCRA membership ranges from \$5 to \$250. Call 426-7567 for information.

Writing scores are up

SUSAN R. HARRIS

Writing scores continue to rise in Perquimans County Schools, with 2001 results showing significant increases since 1998.

Fourth graders moved from 55.3 percent proficiency last year to 71.9 percent in 2001. In 1998, 35.2 percent of fourth graders in Perquimans tested proficient. That number moved up slightly to 38.6 in 1999. Regionally, fourth graders scored at 54.3 percent proficient.

The school hired a writing facilitator to work with students and teachers on writing. Classroom teachers also incorporated more writing into the curriculum.

"We are extremely pleased with our writing scores at Hertford Grammar School," said Edward J. Williams, principal. "All of our staff has been listening, facilitating, teaching and reinforcing the proper writing skills to our students. Over the past two years, we have seen tremendous growth in writing proficiency."

At the middle school, efforts over the past 2 years are paying off, also. About half of all seventh graders were deemed proficient in 1998 and 1999.

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Town adopts drug, alcohol, safe work policy

SUSAN R. HARRIS

The Town of Hertford adopted a policy on drugs, alcohol and safe work during its regular session in May.

Town Manager John Christensen said the town needed to add the safe workplace component to its policy manual.

In addition to defining drug use, the policy states that town employees may be subject to random drug

and/or alcohol tests or may be tested when there is reasonable suspicion that they may be under the influence of illegal drugs or alcohol. Employees involved in an accident while operating town equipment while at work or on town business will be subject to drug and alcohol testing. Failure to submit to the test may result in disciplinary action, including termination.

The policy requires any employee charged or con-

victed of a criminal drug law violation to notify his or her supervisor in writing no later than 5 calendar days after the charge and within 5 calendar days following disposition by the court.

Further, the policy states that employees are expected to inform supervisors of the use of prescription or over-the-counter medications that might adversely affect the safe and reliable performance of their work. All employees who

observe conduct that indicates a possible violation of the policy "shall" report the observation to a supervisor.

Compliance with the safe workplace policy is a condition of employment for town employees. Violations may result in severe disciplinary action, including termination.

The policy states that the town manager is responsible for interpreting and ensuring compliance with the policy.

WEEKEND WEATHER

THURSDAY
HIGH: 75
LOW: 56
PARTLY CLOUDY

FRIDAY
HIGH: 70
LOW: 58
PARTLY CLOUDY

SATURDAY
HIGH: 72
LOW: 58
PARTLY CLOUDY