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THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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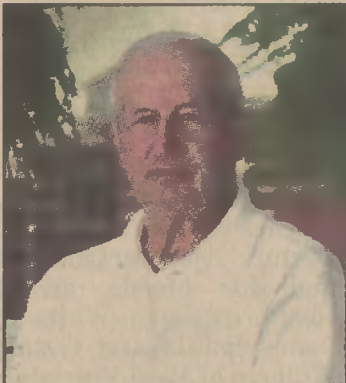
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November 8, 2001

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Horace Reid Jr.



Marvin Hunter Sr.

Reid, Hunter elected to HTC

SUSAN R. HARRIS

The present mayor pro tempore and the former town clerk were elected to the Hertford Town Council Tuesday.

Horace Reid Jr. and Marvin Hunter Sr. got 234 and 216 votes, respectively. Incumbent Dan Daneker received 73 votes.

Hunter will replace Daneker during the December town council meeting.

Although the number of voters who cast ballots was not available at press time, it appears that between 19 and 38 percent of the 1,363 registered voters showed up at the polls. If each voter chose only one candidate, then about 38 percent voted. However, if each voter chose two candidates as they were allowed, then only 19 percent voted.

All results are unofficial until the county canvass later this week.

Yates keeps mayor's post

Towe, Rowland also elected

SUSAN R. HARRIS

Fred Yates will continue serving as mayor of Winfall.

The incumbent received almost twice as many votes as his challenger, Winfall

businessman Johnny Webb. Yates got 182 votes; Webb, 88.

Incumbent Clifford P. Towe received 185 votes for a seat on the Winfall Town Council. Towe was the only candidate to file for a council seat.

Also elected was Alice Rowland, who launched a late write-in campaign. According to The Daily Advance, Rowland has lived in Winfall for 15 months.

Former council candidate Wayne Hurdle got 33 votes and Webb received three. There were a number of people who received a single write-in vote.

Although poll books were not available at press time, it appears that about 70 percent of Winfall's 419 registered voters showed up at the polls Tuesday.

All vote totals are unofficial until the county canvass later this week.



Clifford P. Towe



Fred Yates

HALLOWEEN IN DOWNTOWN HERTFORD



Downtown merchants celebrated Halloween with trick-or-treating on Church Street. Margaret Ainsley (top left), known as Cruella DeVill, welcomed visitors to Gregory's, while an adorable pumpkin was all smiles with his treats (top right).



A pumpkin-bearing giraffe and All-American family were also spied downtown on Halloween. There were not nearly as many trick-or-treaters on Hertford's streets as in the past, nor did as many residents flip on their porch lights and participate.



Mendez to lead holiday parade

Sadot Mendez will lead the annual Perquimans County Christmas parade sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce.

Mendez was chosen in honor of his selection as a torchbearer for the 2002 Olympic Games.

The parade, themed "An American Christmas," is set for Saturday, Dec. 1 and will step off from the high school at 2 p.m.

Cash prizes for floats will be awarded in several categories with first prize being \$50. The Perquimans Weekly offers a Best in Parade Award for the best overall float.

Highlights of the parade include participation by the Perquimans County High School Marching Pirates and Perquimans County Middle School Marching Tigers. Northeastern High School is also scheduled to participate.

There will also be food and craft booths downtown on parade day. Spaces are available for rent on the courthouse lawn.

Downtown merchants will open their stores to shoppers.

Applications for the parade and for booths downtown are available at the Chamber Office at the Visitors Center on Market Street. Call 426-5657 for information.

County to borrow money for rec facility

SUSAN R. HARRIS

The county will borrow \$750,000 for a community recreation complex to be built at the new commerce park in Hertford.

Commissioners voted Monday to move ahead with the project, which has been in the works for about 2 years. Total project cost is estimated to be \$1.5 million. Phase I of the project will include a building which will serve as a gymnasium and community center, and will also have a conference room, offices for recreation personnel, storage and restrooms.

Outside, there will be a lighted soccer field, lighted baseball field, concession/press box/restrooms and parking.

The project will be paid for with a \$250,000 state

grant, \$250,000 in this year's county budget, \$250,000 from next year's county budget and a \$750,000 loan from BB&T.

Commissioners opted not to fund phase II of the project, which would have required the county to borrow about \$1.62 million.

Phase II includes a wellness center complete with indoor pool. The wellness center will be operated by an outside agency, probably through a medical facility such as a hospital. There will be a charge for services.

Commissioner Wallace Nelson spoke against postponing phase II of the project.

"I just feel like we have a golden opportunity to touch a lot of lives positively," Nelson said. "It will be disappointing if we back

off."

Nelson said the county needs the wellness center to offer services to those who need rehabilitation for strokes or heart disease as well as those with diabetes and other medical conditions. He said wellness centers can help with doctor-prescribed exercise therapy programs.

Commissioner Shirley Wiggins agreed, noting that with a growing senior population, the wellness center would be a plus for good health.

While other commissioners agreed that the wellness center would be a positive addition to the community, they said they were reluctant to borrow over \$1.5 million with the economy down and school needs looming in the future, including the need

for a new gym at the high school to replace the ca. 1948 structure.

"I'm reluctant to put the county in long-term debt right now for a recreation center," said chairman Charles Ward.

Commissioner Evelyn Stubbins said she sees no problem proceeding with the project in phases. Ward and Nixon voiced their agreement.

In fact, Nixon said he would be willing to revisit the decision to postpone the wellness center if a group affiliated with Chowan Hospital that has considered operating the center came up with a firm proposal to the county.

The county got an extension on the \$250,000 state recreation grant until June 30, 2003.

Originally, the county

planned to add lighted soccer and baseball fields with concessions, press box and restrooms, along with a gymnasium and recreation offices adjacent to the present softball fields in Winfall. The original cost projection was \$500,000, with half of that coming from the grant.

Then problems getting privately-owned land next to the fields and siting the new facilities on the site arose.

As commissioners wanted to make the commerce park stand out among others in the region, they began exploring the idea of moving the recreation facility to the commerce park. It will be located along the river, and plans call for the eventual inclusion of a par-three golf course and boat ramps.

WEEKEND WEATHER

THURSDAY
HIGH: 72
LOW: 46
SUNNY

FRIDAY
HIGH: 63
LOW: 36
SUNNY

SATURDAY
HIGH: 62
LOW: 40
SUNNY