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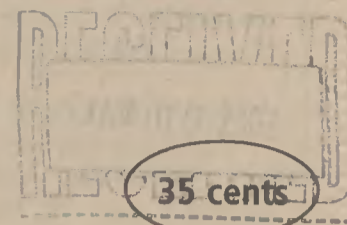
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# PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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## Town strategic plan to be presented

Final 5-year plan to be unveiled at public meeting

SUSAN R. HARRIS

Everyone can see what Hertford could look like in 5 years at the public presentation of the town's strategic plan on Jan. 23.

Hosted by the Town of Hertford Main Street Program, the presentation will be in the courthouse annex. Fourteen colorful streetscape designs, signage recommendations, area mapping, suggested plantings and more will be on display from 5:30-6:30



Part of the 5-year plan will be streetscapes, including a look at the intersections of Church and Grubb (left)

p.m. in the commissioner's room in the annex. At 6:30, all the displays will be moved upstairs for a presentation from 7-8 p.m.

The designs are the concepts of LandMark Design Group, an interdisciplinary planning, landscape archi-

tecture and engineering firm in Virginia Beach and Williamsburg, Va. and Raleigh. The company was hired by the town of Hertford to work with the Main Street Program to provide planning and design services for the



and Church and Market (right) streets. The plan will be presented on Jan. 23 at a public meeting.

strategic plan for the Hertford Heritage Tourism Development area.

In November 1998, the North Carolina Division of Tourism, Film and Sports Development issued a challenge to the town to develop a wish list and a vision plan

for heritage tourism in Hertford. In January 1999, about 85 people came together to work with the community to develop a wish list. As part of the process, a public meeting was held, the Heritage Tourism Development

Council was created, and a strong pool of local knowledge and research resulted in a plan titled "Hertford and Perquimans County, A Vision for Heritage Tourism."

Next, the town made application and was designated as a Main Street Community in June 2000.

The contracted with Perquimans County Restoration Association for funding received from the N.C. Department of Commerce for the purpose of Heritage Tourism Pilot Community Projects. Using these funds, LandMark was contracted to work with Main Street on the strategic plan.

The presentation is open to anyone interested.



Daily Advance photo

The Perquimans Pirates won the annual Daily Advance Holiday Basketball Classic last week, while the Lady Pirates came in second. Titus Stepney earned MVP honors for his outstanding play. For highlights of the Lady Pirates games, please turn to page 6.

## PCHS Pirates are tourney champs

SUSAN R. HARRIS

They hung on against a stubborn Camden team in the tournament opener, then cruised to a 63-51 victory in the annual Daily Advance Holiday Basketball Classic last week.

The PCHS Pirates used an inside-outside game and awesome first-quarter shooting to claim the crown.

Perquimans' Titus Stepney earned MVP honors for his play. The point guard scored 13 of his game-high 19 points in the second half, including two clutch mid-range jumpers when the Aces cut the lead to five in the fourth quarter. In the last two minutes, Stepney went 4-for-4 from the line.

Earlier in the game, the Pirates found offensive power in guard J'Sean Wilkins and forward Jerrell Foreman. Wilkins, a long-range shooter, found his stroke and dropped in

three consecutive shots from downtown. The outside shots that were missed were grabbed and slammed by Foreman, who had two dunks and four rebounds in a three-minute span.

Wilkins left the game in the second quarter with an ankle injury, but the rest of the talented, deep team did their jobs to take the win.

Wilkins finished with 15 points; Shavoris Lewis, 13; Foreman, 11; Monte Tunnell, three; and Bevon Miller, two.

Against Camden, Perquimans won 61-60 on a put-back by Foreman.

The Pirates went up by as many as 15 in the third quarter, but poor decisions down the stretch allowed Camden to take a 60-59 lead after going on an 11-0 run in the fourth stanza.

Foreman poured in 20; Stepney, 14; Tunnell, 10; Lewis, nine; Wilkins, six; and Edward Meadows, two.

The Pirates will take on Williamston at home on Jan. 8.

## Some Winfall residents upset over change in sewer project

ROBERT SHILES  
Staff Writer

Some local businesses will have to pay a hook-up fee to be connected to Winfall's new sewer system, and they don't like it.

Because "the sewer grant monies will be absorbed, upon completion of the residential hook-ups, we deeply regret that we cannot provide the free hook-up service to our businesses," reads a Dec. 17 letter sent by Mayor Fred Yates to town business owners. "Therefore, each business will be personally responsible for hooking-up their business to the town sewer system."

Free hook-ups for the town's residents are now underway and are expected to be completed by February, said Yates, who has been working to find the financial resources to bring central sewer to this small Perquimans County community for more than 10 years. Also, as required

by a federal Community Development Block Grant received in 1996, all businesses - as well as residents - in Old Winfall are being hooked up to the system free of charge.

Construction of the \$6.4 million project began in August 2000. Except for \$500,000 that is statewide clean water bond money, all of the money to fund the project is being generated from a variety of grants. The most recent grant for the project, awarded in November, was \$200,000 from the Rural Development Center.

But businesses outside the limits of the Old Winfall contend that they were under the impression that like residents and other businesses operating within the community they would share in the free hookups. The letter, they said, caught them off guard.

"We all knew that Old Winfall would be the first hooked up and we would be

done if enough money was left," said Larry Chappell, of Larry's Drive-In. "We accepted that. But when there was some extra money (the recent \$200,000), we were under the impression we would be hooked up free."

Russell Hollowell, president of Hollowell Oil Co. Inc., also received a letter saying his business would not be included in the free hook-ups, despite his business being located in Old Winfall. Yates, however, said Hollowell's receipt of the letter was a mistake since his business is already slated to be connected to the sewer system.

Yates defended his decision to make businesses pay connection fees, since there is not enough grant money to hook up all residents and every business.

"They (businesses) were just put on notice," Yates said. "If there is money available after all residents are connected to the system then businesses will be

reimbursed the cost of hooking in to the system ... Right now the money is absorbed, but there is a day-to-day change in this. This is not set in stone."

Yates lashed out at the business owners, claiming they are not interested in what is best for the community. He charged last week that some of the town's business owners care only about lining their own pockets.

"The businesses want to take advantage of the citizenry of Winfall," the mayor said. "What are they doing to contribute to the town, other than just taking people's money?"

In response to claims by members of the business community that they are left in the dark concerning the sewer project and other town issues, Yates said they should attend town meetings and learn what is happening in their community.

"They never come to meetings to find out what is really taking place," Yates

added.

The mayor said that T.A. Loving Construction Company, of Goldsboro - contractor for the sewer project - has indicated all town residents and select businesses should be connected to the sewer system by February. The system is already up and running, and those properties already connected to the system now no longer need to use septic tanks.

The new sewer collection system is replacing individual septic tanks, many of which are obsolete and leaking. As part of the new sewer system, Winfall has an agreement with the Town of Hertford to treat wastewater generated by Winfall. The connection between the town communities runs under the Perquimans River.

Yates said that he has dedicated the past 10 years of his life to getting a central sewer system for Winfall, and is proud of the

fact that enough grant money was obtained over the years to build the system and still provide for all community residents to have their homes connected to the system free.

### WEEKEND WEATHER

THURSDAY  
High: 36  
Low: 29  
SNOW

FRIDAY  
High: 37  
Low: 27  
PARTLY CLOUDY

SATURDAY  
High: 40  
Low: 25  
SUNNY, COLD