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# PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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## Stallings promoted to PCS assistant superintendent

SUSAN R. HARRIS

The school board reinstated an administrative position Monday night and promoted from within its personnel ranks to fill the slot.

Perquimans County High School Principal Dwayne Stallings will assume new duties as assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction on July 1.

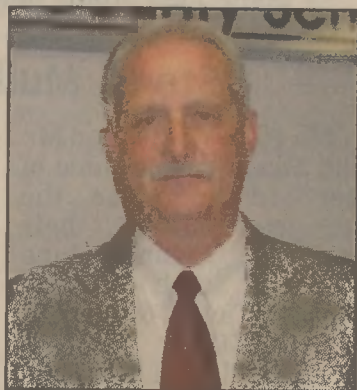
The system employed a director of curriculum and instruction until a year ago, when Elaine Pritchard retired. At that time, state budget cuts were in progress, and Superintendent Kenneth Wells said the local system was unsure of funding, so opted to hold the position open.

The funding is available, and Wells said the position is critical in the schools' goal to provide a quality education for all students and show sustained growth. The superintendent said he knew from speaking with the local finance officer and people at the state level that Perquimans County Schools could reinstate the position within the budget.

Wells said Stallings, who holds a master's degree in curriculum and instruction, is a good fit for the post.

"We need an individual with leadership experience and principalship experience who understands curriculum," Wells said. "Dwayne has done a good job leading our schools. He has met or exceeded performance goals at each school in which he has served. He knows how to get things done."

Stallings' duties will include leading administrators and teachers through



Dwayne Stallings

upcoming changes in the state's math, social studies and science curriculum and new testing requirements. In addition, he will be pivotal in helping the system comply with the challenges they face with implementing the federal No Child Left Behind Act.

"We have to have somebody who's driving all of that (change)," Wells said.

In his new role, Stallings will also be charged with keeping principals informed of curriculum issues, as well as meeting with school-based instructional specialists and instructional teams.

As assistant superintendent, he will be the superintendent's representative for all curriculum issues, and will attend regional and state-level meetings in the superintendent's absence.

He will also provide support for teachers.

"Our teachers need more support with curriculum," Wells said. "Only one of our schools met their goal last year. We want all of our schools to meet our goals."

"I want our school system to grow and I want our students to perform at the highest level," he added. "We need this position to make progress and grow."

Perquimans is the only school system of its size in the state and the only sys-

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## SHOW TIME



M. Crutchfield's watermedia entry, "As You Like It" earned first place in the painting category in the Perquimans Arts League's eighth annual Membership Show.

## PAL Members Show hanging in gallery

The painting "Tikal" was named Best in Show at the eighth annual PAL Members Art Show.

The watermedia piece was entered by M. Crutchfield.

Marie Lynn Stuart claimed the People's Choice Award with her watercolor "High Water."

Second place in People's Choice was split five ways by Audra Orlikowski's oil "Baking Day," Pat Burkett's mixed papers and watercolor "Catching the Breeze," Elizabeth Cloutier's oil "Miss Julia's Garden," John Matthews' photograph "Christmas Gift," and Marge Soper's oil "A Big of Bull, Williamsburg, Va."

Winners in individual categories were:

Painting: First-M. Crutchfield,

watermedia "As You Like It."

Second - Marge Soper, oil "A Big of Bull, Williamsburg, Va."

Photography: First - M. Shortall "Angles in the Sun."

Second - John Matthews "Free Fall Show on Front Street."

Drawing: First - Angela Karus, pencil "Power of Control."

Second - Helen Pionka, pastel "Wolf."

Fibert Art: First - Charlotte Bunch, fabric "Who's Got the Button?"

Second - Paulette A. Lobbell, fabric, "Susans and Marys."

Honorable mention - Charlotte Bunch, fabric, "Label It."

Mixed Media: First - Dolores J.

Davenport, collage-watermedia "Expressions."

Second - Nancy Reighard, watermedia and collage "Emerging."

Honorable mention - Pat Burkett, mixed papers and watercolor "Catching the Breeze."

Fine Crafts: First - Doris Reinheimer, acrylics "Awakening."

Second - Doris Reinheimer, acrylics "Trilogy."

Honorable mention - Barbara Cipra, acrylics "Got Milk?"

The show features 66 entries, including paintings, fabric art, pottery and jewelry.

The show will be in place at the PAL gallery in Hall of Fame Square until April 12. Gallery hours are Tuesday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

## NCCAT establishes Byrum award

SUSAN R. HARRIS

The North Carolina Center for the Advancement of Teaching Foundation recently established a scholarship in honor of a well-respected former Perquimans County educator.

Superintendent Kenneth Wells announced at Monday night's board of education meeting that the Foundation has established the William Byrum Scholarship. One teacher from Perquimans County will be able to attend the North Carolina Center for the Advance of Teaching each year as a Byrum Scholar.

Wells, a member of the NCCAT board of directors, said that the NCCAT Foundation was established to sponsor scholarships to help teachers pay for courses at the Center. Because most of the offerings at the Center involve overnight stays, it can be expensive to attend them, he said. NCCAT board members were looking for a way to allow more teachers to attend these classes, which Wells said are very beneficial.

The Foundation now offers one scholarship in each North Carolina county, each presented in honor of an outstanding, respected educator from that county. Wells said the board approved Byrum's nomination as the honoree from Perquimans County unanimously.

Byrum began his career as a teacher at Perquimans County High School, and was soon promoted to principal, a position he held for 30 years. During his tenure, he earned the respect of the community.

He served briefly as an assistant to the superintendent before retiring.

Byrum then ran for a seat on the school board and was elected by an overwhelming margin. He is currently in his second year of service and was elected chairman by his fellow board members.

## Shipman wants to see yellow ribbons here

Military: use email to contact troops in Iraq

SUSAN R. HARRIS

The scarcity of yellow ribbons and American flags flying in support of military troops in Iraq is disconcerting for Ruth Shipman.

Shipman, who last week was preparing to say good-bye to her son-in-law as he shipped off to war, said she was upset by the lack of visible support for the troops as she traveled around the county.

"Where are the yellow ribbons?" Shipman asked. "Yellow ribbons have come to symbolize support for our troops. In Desert Storm, they were everywhere. Where are they now? Our troops need our support."

Shipman was looking for a group or organization willing to encourage residents of the county to show

support for those men and women who daily face the rigors of war.

The Perquimans Weekly accepted the challenge.

"Perquimans County has long contributed its greatest resource, its youth, to the defense of this country," said Perquimans Weekly editor and publisher, Susan Harris. "Whether each individual supports the war is not the issue. We would hope that Perquimans County residents will show their support for our troops as well as their family members back home by tying yellow ribbons in their yards or flying their flags."

The newspaper is also in the process of collecting information about those with ties to Perquimans County who are serving in Iraq. The name, branch of service, family in the county and photographs may be submitted to the newspaper for publication. The information may be mailed to P.O. Box 277, Hertford, NC 27944, brought by the office at 119 W. Continued on page 12

## Change clocks, smoke detector batteries this weekend

Spring is beginning to show her face with the buds on the trees, warmer weather and longer days. With the season comes the annual return to Daylight Saving Time, when clocks are set forward an hour. This year's Daylight Saving Time begins Sunday, April 6.

Insurance Commissioner and State Fire Marshal Jim Long suggests that everyone use this chore as a reminder of a much more important routine — the changing of smoke alarm batteries.

Commissioner Long urges North Carolinians to synchronize smoke alarm maintenance along with the twice yearly changing of the clocks. Assuming that the batteries "still work" may give a family a false sense of security and could jeopardize their safety in the event of a fire.

The Department of Insurance's Office of State Fire Marshal suggests the following simple maintenance tips for smoke alarms:

Test smoke alarm batteries

once a month, and replace the batteries with new ones at least twice a year.

One smoke alarm is not enough. Every home should be equipped with alarms on every level — including the basement — and outside each sleeping area.

Encourage children to help test the smoke alarm and familiarize them with the sound it makes.

Buy only smoke alarms that bear the mark of an independent testing laboratory. Replace them at least every 10 years.

Smoke alarms need to be cleaned. Remove cobwebs and dust with a vacuum cleaner attachment. If you are going to be doing work nearby that could send dust or paint in the air, cover the alarm with a shield.

Home fires kill an average of 200 North Carolina citizens every year, and these deaths are preventable. Practice good smoke alarm maintenance and find other fire protection tips at [www.ncdoi.com/osfm](http://www.ncdoi.com/osfm).

## WEEKEND WEATHER

THURSDAY  
High: 82  
Low: 58  
MOSTLY SUNNY

FRIDAY  
High: 78  
Low: 55  
PARTLY CLOUDY

SATURDAY  
High: 66  
Low: 47  
SCATTERED T'STORMS