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# PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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## School board OKs two new principals

SUSAN R. HARRIS

The school board hired two new principals Monday night, effectively changing the top leadership at half of the county's schools.

Hans Lassiter will assume the duties of principal at the high school, while Melvin Hawkins will become the new middle school principal. Both appointments are effective July 1.

"I think that we got two good folks," said superintendent Kenneth Wells.

Lassiter and Hawkins were both at the school board meeting. Both spoke enthusiastically of the opportunity to come to Perquimans County Schools.

Lassiter, who lives in Durham, is presently an assistant principal at Southern Vance High School. He has experience as both a high school and community college teacher and as a high school coach.

"I believe that the principal's position at Perquimans County High School is an exciting opportunity and that I am the ideal candidate for it given my experience as an assistant principal in a school similar to Perquimans High," Lassiter stated. "I believe that I was called by God to be an educator. I am a dynamic and energetic educator who will welcome the challenge of effective and total leadership. I look forward to the opportunity to serve."

Lassiter taught and coached high school in both Durham and Guilford counties. He also taught at Vance-Granville Community College. His teaching certification is in social studies.

In addition, Lassiter worked as a driver education specialist with the NCDOT.

A 1989 graduate of North Carolina A&T University, Lassiter earned his masters in history from N.C. Central University in 2000.

In 2002, he earned a masters of school administration and N.C. Principal Licensure from N.C. State University.

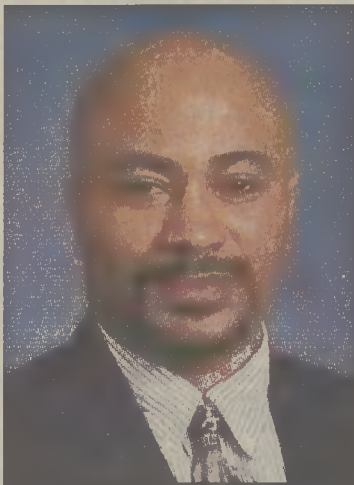
He has completed the Principals' Executive Program sponsored by UNC-Chapel Hill and is currently working on his doctorate at N.C. State University. He has gotten permission to take a year off of his doctoral studies to concentrate all his energies on his new job at Perquimans High.

Lassiter and his wife said they are looking forward to moving with their three children to a county with such a sense of community.

Hawkins comes from a family of educators. His father is a retired superintendent and his mother a retired teacher.

Hawkins actually began his career in education at Perquimans, serving as an interim teacher at the high school in the spring of 1988.

After that, he accepted a position as teacher and



Hans Lassiter



Melvin Hawkins

coach at his alma mater, Northeastern High School. He also served as athletic director during his 10 years in Pasquotank.

He left Northeastern to accept the position of assistant principal at Camden Middle School.

During his tenure in the classroom, Hawkins was named Employee of the Year, Teacher of the Year and Northeast Region Teacher of the Year Runner-up.

He earned his undergraduate and masters degrees from East Carolina University and is currently enrolled in the EdD program there.

"After teaching for 10 years, I began my career as an administrator," Hawkins stated. "I now eagerly await my transition to Perquimans County Middle School where I look forward to working with the competent staff to shape the vision of the school."

In addition to the principalship changes, Lisa Mills Perry, presently the assistant principal at the middle school, will be reassigned to teaching duties within the system. Perry holds a certification in grades 6-12 mathematics.

The high school position became available when present principal Dwayne Stallings was named assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction earlier this spring. He will officially move into his new position on July 1.

The middle school opening was approved Monday night when the school board accepted the resignation of John Dublin, who came to Perquimans County Schools last year from Elizabeth City-Pasquotank. Dublin resigned with a year left on his contract.

Wells said that more changes in the system may be forthcoming.

## Garden party is sell-out

SUSAN R. HARRIS

Saturday evening's cool weather didn't dampen the spirits of the almost 200 people who gathered for the annual Perquimans County Restoration Association Garden Party.

The event was hosted by Montgomery Spindler on the lawn of his Albemarle Plantation home.

Early estimates indicate that the event raised close to \$4,000 for the association, chaired by Hiltrud Aubert.

In addition to enjoying elegant foods, dancing and fellowship, those in attendance heard the announcements of special recognition of people in the community who have contributed greatly to the success and operation of PCRA and its programs.

The 2003 Lucille Winslow Award for outstanding and distinguished service to PCRA and the Newbold-White House was awarded to Montgomery Spindler.

Spindler has taken a lead role in the PCRA periauger project. He helped organized a local crew to



The annual Perquimans County Restoration Association Garden Party drew almost 200 people to the Albemarle Plantation home of Montgomery Spindler Saturday evening. Many volunteers (below) worked to make the event a success.



build the mast, sweeps and other components of the boat at the Perquimans 2020 Business Center.

He will also be a crew member on the completed periauger as it makes its way from Beaufort to

Hertford upon its completion.

The 2003 William & Catherine Nixon Award for an individual or group who shows outstanding support of PCRA and the Newbold-White House was awarded to the group of ladies who planned the Periauger Gala which raised over \$18,000 for the periauger.

The Periauger Gala Committee is Hiltrud Aubert, Betty Lane Bissett, Mary Alice Brinn, JoAnne Foreman, Peggy Huffman, Donna Koppleman, Ruth Lacefield, Cam Rivard and Anne Rowe.

Other certificates of appreciation were awarded to Ellie Vickers, Peter Rascoe, Melanie James, Derrick James, Erik Van de Bogart and LuAnne Pendergraft.

The garden party has become one of the premiere fundraisers for the PCRA.

The PCRA owns and operates the historic Newbold-White House: A Quaker Homestead and provides education on local history and tradition to the public and to county students.

## PIG OUT ON THE GREEN

SUSAN R. HARRIS

The most successful Pig Out on the Green ever took place on the courthouse lawn Friday evening.

According to Mary White, one of the Historic Hertford Business Association event organizers, 500 barbecue plates were sold. Proceeds benefit the 4th of July fireworks.

Loose Change provided the music.

The dinner was the first fund raising project of the newly-formed Belvidere Ruritan Club. The club was sponsored by the Parksville Ruritans.

"It was so great," White said. "Everybody had a blast. Some people even danced."

White said cooking the pig on the courthouse lawn this year seemed to whet



County residents and visitors enjoyed the annual Pig Out on the Green Friday evening on the courthouse lawn. Pork barbecue cooked on site and live entertainment provided a nice kickoff to the weekend.

appetites of passersby.

Business sponsors of Pig Out included Woodard's Pharmacy, RBC Centura,

Frankie's Hertford Cafe, The Heritage House, One Stop and Jackson Wholesale.

Volunteers included Sid Eley, Bev Alexander, Karen Godfrey, Harriette Woodard and Angela Harrell.

## Ribbon cut for Beyond the Garden Gate

SUSAN R. HARRIS

Friends and well-wishers welcomed Beyond the Garden Gate to the Hertford business community Friday when the Chamber of Commerce sponsored a ribbon cutting for the shop.

Tina McClanahan established a shop that offers arts and crafts, including those from several vendors, as well as art supplies, gifts and antiques.

In addition, she offers art classes ranging from tole painting to pottery to candle carving. Craft classes are already underway at Beyond the Garden Gate.

The store boasts the largest art rubber stamping collection in the Albemarle. If a craft supply is not



The Chamber of Commerce sponsored a ribbon cutting for Beyond the Garden Gate, a new business in downtown Hertford, Friday.

available in the store, McClanahan will do her best to find the item.

A unique service of Beyond the Garden Gate is that McClanahan is available to do craft projects for such events as children's birthday parties.

The colorful shop is located at 144 N. Church Street in downtown Hertford, the site of the former Wishing Well.

For more information, stop by and see McClanahan or call 426-7312.

## WEEKEND WEATHER

THURSDAY  
High: 70  
Low: 60  
SHOWERS

FRIDAY  
High: 71  
Low: 62  
RAIN/THUNDER

SATURDAY  
High: 77  
Low: 60  
SCATTERED SHOWERS