

Tire project abates mosquitoes

Page 3

PCMS athletes honored

Page 7

Student honors

Page 9

PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

35 cents

May 26, 2004

Vol. 72, No. 21 Hertford, North Carolina 27944



Randy Martin shakes hands with school board members after his appointment as assistant principal at Perquimans County High School Monday night. Martin will begin his duties in Perquimans on July 1.

Martin will be asst principal at high school

Board also okays other personnel items

SUSAN R. HARRIS

Randy Martin was appointed by the school board Monday night to fill the vacant assistant principal slot at Perquimans County High School.

Presently serving as an assistant principal at Southern Wayne High School in Goldsboro, Martin has a background in both education and business.

Upon earning both his bachelors degree in history from East Carolina University in Greenville in 1970, Martin taught in both Pitt County and Rocky

Mount City schools early in his career. His duties included classroom teaching, coaching and directing student activities.

During this time, he also received a master of arts in education from East Carolina University.

In 1982, Martin entered the business world, where he worked for both Dean Pickle and Specialty Products Company and Vlastic Foods, Inc.

He opted to go back into education in 1999, and has served as an assistant principal with Wayne County Public Schools ever since.

His positions in Wayne County have entailed a wide variety of functions including maintaining an orderly and safe learning environment, facility rental, textbook acquisition and inventory, faculty and staff evaluations, student discipline, management of buses and bus drivers, and cultivating and promoting good community relations.

Martin believes that safe and orderly schools provide the best learning environment for students.

"I am a firm believer that a safe and orderly school is necessary for our educational efforts to succeed," Martin wrote in his resume. "Over time, a structured discipline policy fairly and firmly enforced will result in a school environment that's more conducive to learning and more enjoyable for the student, teacher, staff and community."

Martin said students respond well to teachers and administrators who show an interest in them and take the time to nurture them.

He added that he spends as much time as possible developing relationships with his students. "And even though I don't have scientific data to support this, I am convinced that our most successful teachers are the ones who nurture our students," Martin wrote.

Martin is married to Perquimans County native Rebecca Eure Martin.

The personnel summary report at Monday's meeting also included several other changes at the high school.

J.E.B. Stuart will serve as a part-time teacher and part-time administrator at the high school next school year. Stuart is presently a science teacher at PCHS.

In addition, the board accepted the resignations of PCHS social studies teacher and coach Harrell Thach and counselor John Wells.

Tenure was approved for Michelle Aydtlett, Cindy Henderson, Joe Bunch, Ramona Carver, Amy Craddock, Mary Lyons, Tikisha Moore, Sandra Pollard, Doris Price and Angel Workman.

The school system is advertising for several vacant positions for the 2004-05 year at present.

Whitley, Higgins to lead class of '04 Friday night

Kim Whitley and Taylor Higgins will lead the class of 2004 Friday night for commencement exercises. Whitley is valedictorian and Higgins, salutatorian.

Graduation will begin at 8 p.m. and be held in Memorial Stadium.

Each graduate has received tickets to give to family and friends that will allow them entry into the ceremony. School personnel may enter with their employee badges.

In the event of rain, the commencement exercises will be moved into the auditorium. If that should happen, each graduate will receive five color-coded admission tickets for seating in the auditorium, and the rest of the tickets will be coded for seating in other places in the school building where guests can view the graduation on closed-circuit television.



Kim Whitley



Taylor Higgins

BEAUTIFUL WEEKEND, GREAT SUCCESS



The lawn at Springfield Inn, the gracious inn of Mary and Joe Towe White, was ideal for annual Perquimans County Restoration Association garden party. At latest count, over 200 tickets were sold to the Homes Tour, with many coming from Virginia, the triangle area, and the Outer Banks. Also, over 200 attended the garden party. Early estimates indicate that both events netted over \$8,000 for PCRA and Newbold-White House.

NCHP gears for increased holiday weekend traffic

The N.C. Highway Patrol reminds motorists to be careful as they enjoy the Memorial Day weekend. The holiday officially kicks off the summer vacation season in North Carolina. This means more people will be on our highways, increasing the chance of traffic crashes.

State troopers and motor carrier enforcement officers will be conducting operation "Safe Travel" this holiday weekend. Operation "Safe Travel" is an effort by the Highway Patrol to reduce collisions by increasing patrols on the interstates and highway

work zones targeting aggressive and impaired drivers.

Troopers will be participating in the nationwide Combined Accident Reduction Effort. "C.A.R.E." is a coordinated effort by highway patrol and state police agencies to increase their visibility along selected routes during holiday periods to prevent crashes.

"The Highway Patrol will be busy this weekend making the roads as safe as possible for all motorists. We want to make sure you have a safe and enjoyable

Officials divided over OLF

SEAN JACKSON
Staff Writer

Battle lines have been drawn in the OLF debate, and some state and federal politicians are staying out of the line of fire.

Some elected leaders have openly joined the opponents, while others have either said little publicly or have been accused of quietly siding with supporters of the U.S. Navy's plans to build an outlying landing field in Washington and Beaufort counties.

Roper Mayor Bunny Sanders is tired of such hedging by political leaders. Specifically, she wants Gov. Mike Easley to come out against the OLF, which will consume more than 30,000 acres of prime farmland in Washington and Beaufort counties.

"The state should join the lawsuit," she said, referring to legal action OLF opponents and nature conservationists have taken against the Navy.

She said Easley and other state officials "have a responsibility to protect the lives and property" of all North Carolinians, including those east of I-95.

"And, by God, I don't see them doing that," Sanders said during an interview last month.

"They have left us on our own to fight the battle."

Beyond the local level, both U.S. Rep. Frank Ballance, D-N.C., and state Sen. Marc Basnight, a Manteo Democrat, have led the charge against the OLF since the Navy's Sept. 10 announcement that Washington County would house the airfield for the new Super Hornet fighter jets.

Last week, Ballance asked the U.S. House Appropriations Committee to halt \$95 million in proposed spending to construct the airfield. Ballance's 1st District contains much of northeastern North Carolina. He thinks the money could be spent in a better way.

"These funds should be directed toward other immediate national security needs in eastern North Carolina while the legal hurdles and community opposition are sorted out," Ballance said in a May 18 press release.

Ballance has made no secret of his opposition to the OLF's placement in Washington County.

"By the Navy's own admission, this project would have devastating impact on tax revenues, farmland and the quality of life people enjoy in Washington and Beaufort counties," Ballance said last week.

The question is if Balance, a one-term congressman not seeking

reelection in November, has the power to help reverse the Navy's plans. Area officials point to a more powerful foe: Virginia Republican John Warner. The 77-year-old U.S. senator has long-standing ties with the Navy.



And Warner has clout. He chairs the Senate Armed Services Committee.

Neither Warner nor his staff returned phone calls or emails seeking comment for this story. On his Web site, however, Warner praised the Navy's decision to place 10 of the 12 Super Hornet squadrons at Oceana Naval Air Station in Virginia Beach, Va.

"This (squadron distribution and OLF siting) plan will also reduce the noise/environmental impact in the areas of Chesapeake and Suffolk by relocating the essential Outlying field, to North Carolina," Warner said Sept. 10.

Opponents hope to persuade Warner, and all others who have influence, to move the proposed OLF to Carteret County. Some Carteret officials have embraced the idea. But their interest has fallen on deaf ears.

Adm. Robert Natter, commander of the Navy's Atlantic Fleet, has said Washington County was the best site because it would be easy for jets from both bases to use.

U.S. Rep. Walter Jones, a Farmville Republican, preferred putting the OLF at Cherry Point, where North Carolina's two Super Hornet squadrons will be based.

"I have long said that Washington County was not my preference for the outlying landing field (OLF) site," Jones said

Continued on page 8

WEEKEND WEATHER

THURSDAY
High: 87
Low: 70
ISOLATED T'STORMS

FRIDAY
High: 90
Low: 71
SCATTERED T'STORMS

SATURDAY
High: 86
Low: 69
SCATTERED T'STORMS