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# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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Vol. 76, No. 18 Hertford, North Carolina 27944

"News from Next Door"

35 cents

## OLYMPIC GOLD



Photos courtesy PERQUIMANS COUNTY SCHOOLS

SCHOOL SYSTEMS FROM ACROSS the region joined for Special Olympics Friday at Northeastern High School. Tarik Hurdle (above) went way back for the big softball throw, while Nicole chooses an underhand method when her turn comes. Hundreds of athletes, huggers, teachers and helpers enjoyed a beautiful day of athletic competition.



## Tuesday is election day

CATHY WILSON  
Staff Writer

Voters will go to the polls Tuesday to elect their party's candidates for national, state and local offices. Three seats on the Perquimans County Board of Education will be filled as well.

Polls will be open from 6:30 a.m.—7:30 p.m.

Eula Mae Forbes, director of the Perquimans County Board of Elections, is expecting a large voter turnout on May 6 and encourages county residents to take advantage of shorter lines and less confusion by voting now at the county elections office during one stop absentee early voting. Located at 601A South Edenton Road Street (the Extension building), the one-stop absentee early voting site will be open Wednesday—Friday, April 30—May 2, 8 a.m.—5 p.m. and on Saturday, May 3, 8 a.m.—1 p.m.

As of Monday afternoon 317 voters had already cast their votes in the primary election.

"It's been steady," she said of the early voting. "Voters with questions should call now rather than waiting until Tuesday."

Locally, four Democrats and one Republican candidates are vying to run on their party's ticket seeking three seats on the county's board of commissioners.

Republican Sue Weimar is seeking re-election and is unopposed on her party's ballot. Her name will automatically be placed on the ballot for the November general election.

Democratic incumbents Mack Nixon and Shirley Wiggins are being challenged by newcomers Tommy Riddick and Neil Trueblood on the Democratic ballot. Voters will get to vote for one candidate, and the top three vote takers will run in the general election in November.

Voters who have registered as Democrats will receive a democratic ballot to vote on in the primary and registered Republicans will receive the republican ballot. Those registered as unaffiliated may choose to vote on either the democratic or republican ballot.

There are also seven people vying for three school board seats in the May 6 primary. The school board election is nonpartisan and each voter may vote for one candidate. The top three vote takers will be elected and take office in June.

Seeking to be seated on the board of education is incumbent Gail Vaughn Hill and newcomers Lula Mae Billups-Eason, Susan B. Cox, Dianne M. Layden, Pam Modlin-Hurdle, Amy Spough, and Arlene Yates.

Also listed on the Democratic primary ballot are the following candidates for state positions:

Governor-Richard H. Moore, Dennis Nielsen, Bev Perdue.

Lieutenant governor-Walter H. Dalton, Hampton Dellinger, Pat Smathers, Dan Besse.

Auditor: Beth A. Wood, Fred Aikens.

Commissioner of Insur-

Polls open Tuesday,  
May 6, 6:30 a.m.—  
7:30 p.m.

Vote early at the  
Board of Elections  
office, April 30—  
May 2, 8 a.m.—5  
p.m., May 3, 8  
a.m.—1 p.m.

ance: Wayne Goodwin, David C. Smith.

Commissioner of Labor: Mary Fant Donnan, Ty Richardson, Robin Anderson, John C. Brooks.

Superintendent of Public Instruction: Eddie Davis, June St. Clair Atkinson.

Treasurer: Janet Cowell, Michael Weisel, David Young.

North Carolina State House District 005: Annie Ward Mobley, Robert Richardson.

Candidates seeking election to national offices on the Democratic ballot include:

President: Hillary Clinton, Mike Gravel, Barack Obama.

United States Senate: Kay Hagan, Duskin C. Lassiter, Jim Neal, Howard Staley, Marcus W. Williams.

On the Republican primary ballot are the following candidates seeking state offices:

Governor: Bill Graham, Pat McCrory, Robert F. (Bob) Orr, E. Powers, Fred Smith.

Lieutenant Governor: Timothy Cook, Greg Dority, Robert Pittenger, Jim Snyder.

Superintendent of Public Instruction: Joe Johnson, Richard Morgan, Eric H. Smith.

In addition to the local board of election, candidates seeking the following nonpartisan offices will appear on both the democratic and republican ballots as well as the official nonpartisan primary ballot:

Court of Appeals Judge: Jewel Ann Farlow, Dean R. Poirier, James A. (Jim) Wynn.

Court of Appeals Judge: Sam J. Ervin IV, Janet Pueschel, Kristin Ruth, John M. Tyson.

## Courthouse, annex beef up security

CATHY WILSON  
Staff Writer

Beginning May 1, you will have to use the front doors to enter the county courthouse and the courthouse annex.

The measure is an effort to make the court buildings more secure.

Customers may continue to access the county's tax and water departments through the Front Street entrance.

The back door to the courthouse annex, however, will be locked during the day.

Todd Tilley, clerk of Superior Court, said the decision to restrict access to the buildings to the front only is an effort by the Perquimans County Court Security

Committee to enhance the security of the courthouse facilities, its employees and the public.

"There have been no specific security incidents that have happened, but we have had minor security concerns," Tilley said. "Unfortunately we hate to admit it, but in today's world, security is an issue."

The committee, he said, is made up of representatives of several different groups including judges, employees, law enforcement and citizens. It is chaired by Judge J. Carlton Cole.

Appropriate signs will be in place to assist with handicapped accessibility.

Two weeks ago, Hertford Town Council voted to lock the front doors of town hall during council meetings.

## PQ CELEBRATION



PIRATES ROBERT JACOT AND Alex Weaver celebrate a seventh-inning, come-from-behind win over Williamstom last Thursday in Hertford as teammate Josh Phthisic looks on. Story on

## Fire marshal warns of burning rules

CATHY WILSON  
Staff Writer

Before burning that outside trash pile, trash barrel, or stack of debris, check the open burning laws and regulations first.

While there is no open burning ban in effect, there are still regulations restricting what can be burned outside.

Basically, if it doesn't grow, don't burn it.

Two weeks ago, a resident burned an abandoned mobile home to the ground on Second Avenue causing firefighters from Hertford and Bethel to respond. The firefighters put out what

was left of the intentional structure fire which is not allowed under statewide outdoor burning regulations.

Perquimans County Fire Marshall Mark Rogerson said the fire was first reported by a North Carolina Department of Forestry spotter airplane flying overhead investigating smoke. While the homeowner had obtained a burning permit, the permit clearly states what is permissible residential burning. The permit also states in bold print, "Under no circumstances shall anything other than plant growth be burned."

"By signing the burn per-

mit, you are saying that you have read and understand what is permissible to be burned and the requirements for you to burn," said Rogerson. "This is a legal document. Basically only naturally grown vegetation and debris that is grown on the lot or land is to be burned and nothing over six inches in diameter. Nothing can be brought from another parcel of land onto the property where the burning is being conducted. No man-made materials may be burned."

Code violations could result in fines being imposed up to \$25,000 for each offense or separate offenses,

Rogerson said. The incident on Second Avenue is currently being reviewed by the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources for enforcement actions, he added.

"My advice to all county residents is to know the laws and regulations concerning open burning," he said.

Information can be obtained by contacting the county fire marshal's office at 312-3616, the North Carolina Department of Forestry, or the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources at 252-948-3830.

## WEEKEND WEATHER

THURSDAY  
HIGH: 79 LOW: 61  
PARTLY CLOUDY

FRIDAY  
HIGH: 83 LOW: 63  
PARTLY CLOUDY

SATURDAY  
HIGH: 81 LOW: 63  
SCATTERED T'STORMS



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