

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



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"News from Next Door"

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Carver to serve as interim police chief

Carver: 'I wasn't hired to clean house. I'm here to make sure this ship is sailing on the right course.'

By CATHY WILSON
Staff Writer

A retired, 30-year veteran of law enforcement will serve as interim chief for the Hertford Police Department.

Mike Carver, a resident of Gatesville, began his duties Monday morning following the town's termination of Joe Amos as police chief on Friday.

Amos was fired by Hert-

ford Manager Brandon Shoaf for allegedly violating town policies and police department rules by posting a link to a news story regarding a town council candidate on the Hertford Police Department's Facebook page just prior to last week's town elections. The link was to a news story by a Norfolk television sta-



Carver

tion on candidate Quentin Jackson's arrest for failing to pay court-ordered child support.

The Facebook page has since been taken offline.

Shoaf immediately began looking for an interim chief and hired Carver over the weekend.

"After meeting with him about the expectations

through this transition period and careful consideration, I decided he would make an excellent fit in this position," said Shoaf. "One of his specialties is community-oriented policing and his ethical and professional reputation is what drew me to call on him."

Carver retired as deputy chief from the Kitty Hawk Police Department after a 30-year career in law enforcement that began

with the Elizabeth City Police Department. He also worked for the Nags Head Police Department.

"His experience and attitude will be a great asset to us and his knowledge of all aspects of the administration of a law enforcement agency will serve us well," Shoaf added.

Carver met with Hertford's police officers Monday morning. He said he looks forward to working

with them.

"I wasn't hired to clean house. I'm here to make sure this ship is sailing on the right course," Carver said. "The citizens of this town are our customers. We are here to serve and protect. I expect the department to treat our customers as nicely and courteously as we can. I am not advocating we hold hands

See CARVER, 11

Honor veterans best by enjoying freedoms

By CATHY WILSON
Staff Writer

The best way to honor veterans is to not take for granted the freedoms for which they served, fought and died.

Tom Culver, a member of American Legion Post 126, told a large crowd Friday morning that the best way to honor American veterans of all wars is to practice the freedoms they fought so hard to protect.

"I believe the best way to honor our veterans is not with a ceremony, a day off, or a cookout; but by not taking for granted those freedoms for which they served to obtain and maintain," Culver told the crowd. "Use your freedom to worship in your place of choice to draw strength and guidance from God and pray for those in authority. Use your freedom of speech to learn to understand and to build up. Use your freedom to vote thoughtfully and prayerfully. Give back to your community and the country which has allowed you the opportunities you have had."

A cold, stiff wind may have chilled the fingers of those listening to ceremonial speakers, but hearts were warmed by the special recognition given to veterans who served in the Korean War, sometimes referred to as "the forgotten war."

From June 25, 1950, to July 27, 1953, U.S. soldiers who fought in Korea paid as painful a price as soldiers in any other war in the nation's history, said Culver.

Culver pointed out that according to the Department of Defense, 33,686 U.S. troops died in battle



STAFF PHOTOS BY CATHY WILSON

Mike Ellis, a veteran of the U.S. Navy, snaps a crisp salute during the Veterans Day observance Friday in Hertford.



A large crowd attended Friday's Veterans Day ceremony on the county courthouse square.

See VETERANS, 11

Shoaf fires Hertford police chief Amos

By CATHY WILSON
Staff Writer

Chief Joe Amos was fired Friday afternoon for allegedly violating the town's personnel policy by posting political information on the Hertford Police Department's Facebook page.

Town Manager Brandon Shoaf said he terminated Amos at 5 p.m. Friday after determining Amos not only violated

the town's personnel policy but the police department's general conduct rules as well.

"Since Nov. 8, you and I have spoken on several occasions about an incident involving a 'town' webpage..." a copy of Shoaf's termination letter to Amos reads. "After talking with you about the above referenced incident, I believe this was a horrible judgment call on your part and consequently has caused me to lose confidence in your ability to lead our police department."

Reid: Change on the way

By CATHY WILSON
Staff Writer

Change.

It was a political slogan that helped Barack Obama become the first African-American president of the United States three years ago. It appears to be the same reason behind the first black mayor being elected in Hertford.

Sixty-nine-year-old Horace Reid Jr. defeated incumbent Sid Eley Tuesday, Nov. 8, by an almost 17 percent margin to become the town's first black mayor-elect.

Making history is nothing new to Reid. He was also the town's first black councilman. Reid was first elected in the 1990s



STAFF PHOTO BY CATHY WILSON

Hertford's Mayor-elect Horace Reid Jr. shares a laugh with his wife, Louise, in their Hertford home.

and served on town council for 12 years until he lost his re-election bid in 2009 by only one vote.

"In talking with the citizens, a lot of them said the town just needed a

change," Reid said of his mayoral victory. "Young people say they have nothing here to do; others say there are no jobs here.

See REID, 11

Town elects new mayor

Reid beats Hertford incumbent Eley

From staff reports

Horace Reid Jr. made history last week, defeating incumbent Sid Eley to become Hertford's first African-American mayor-elect.

According to unofficial results, Reid received 274 votes or 54 percent of all votes cast to Eley's 188 votes or 37 percent. Lloyd Hodges finished third in the three-candidate race, garnering 45 votes, or just under 1 percent.

"I am very appreciative to the citizens of Hertford for their votes and trust in me," Reid, 69, said Tuesday, Nov. 8, after the votes were tallied. "I appreciate all that they have done to make this day beneficial. I want to thank all the people who assisted me in making this day a complete success."

Eley, who congratulated Reid as soon as the votes were counted, said he had enjoyed his 20 years with the town of Hertford, the past 12 as mayor.

"I think you have a good mayor," Eley, 64, said. "I have enjoyed working on the board with him. I wish him the best of luck."

Eley was referring to Reid's previous service as a member of Hertford

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Stroll set for Friday

From staff reports

This month's Friday Night Stroll will feature a variety of musical entertainers, good food and other vendors.

Slated to be held Friday from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. on the historic courthouse green, the fun-filled event will include music by Bill and Katy Toney as well as the New Hope Christian Fellowship Youth Worship team.

There will be hot dogs available as well as hot chocolate and baked goods.

Craft vendors will be in attendance.



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