

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



"News from Next Door"

JANUARY 11, 2012 - JANUARY 17, 2012

Swindells sell long-time funeral business, Page 2



After 10 games, Pirates are all even, Page 7

50 cents

Vote challenge tabled until February

By CATHY WILSON
Staff Writer

A challenge to last month's Hertford's mayor pro-tem decision has been tabled until council's February meeting after Councilman Ed Lane did not attend Monday night's meeting.

Councilwoman Ann White was elected mayor pro-tem of Hertford Town Council during its December meeting by what was believed to be a 2-1 vote with one abstention recorded.

Lane, who says his no vote last month was not heard by new Mayor Horace Reid, latter chal-

lenged the vote after the meeting when his unheard vote was recorded as a yes vote, giving White the title. Not voting equals a yes vote, Reid said. Councilwoman Lillian Holman was not present at last month's meeting.

Reid said back in December that he would seek clarification

on the matter and revisit it at the next full meeting of council.

Town Manager Brandon Shoaf said Lane called him earlier Monday afternoon and notified him Lane would not be able to attend the meeting because of work obligations.

"Because Mr. Lane is not pres-

ent here tonight, the issue will be tabled until next month," Reid told council members Monday night. "I want him to be here when that is addressed."

Last month, Reid suggested council consider White for the

See TABLED, 8

EMS BUILDING TAKES SHAPE



STAFF PHOTOS BY CATHY WILSON

Renovations have begun on the former Albemarle Electric building that was purchased by Perquimans County to house Perquimans EMS, Emergency Management and 911 Communications.

Three agencies will operated at new site

By CATHY WILSON
Staff Writer

County officials plan to move three agencies into the new EMS building this spring.

Renovations to the former Albemarle Electric building have begun with the project completion expected by May 18.

"It's really going to be a nice building," said Frank Heath, interim county manager.

The building located on Creek Drive in Winfall will be the new home for Perquimans EMS, Perquimans Emergency Management, and the county's 911 Communications Center.

Walls are being knocked out to make larger rooms, bathrooms are being made handicapped accessible, and an additional metal building to house ambulances has been ordered, Heath said.

ColVot Construction from Perquimans County is renovating the building. Renovation costs total \$188,800.

Heath said plans call to move the 911 Communications Center into the new building first.

Homeria Jennette, director of the center, applied for and received almost \$280,000 in grant funds from the North Carolina 911 Board for new upgraded equipment that will be installed in the new building. The funds are part of the Perquimans County E-911 Enhancement/Replacement Program.



Workers are making progress on renovations to the new EMS building that is expected to ready for occupancy this spring.



Carl Butts, with ColVot Construction, works on a front area of the former Albemarle Electric building in Winfall that is being renovated to house three Perquimans County agencies.

Search for police chief in full swing

By CATHY WILSON
Staff Writer

Hertford officials have begun the search for a permanent police chief.

Town Manager Brandon Shoaf said advertisements have run in various publications as well as the N.C. League of Municipalities web site



Shoaf

seeking qualified candidates for the job. He hopes to have one onboard by the end of next month.

Even though the deadline for resumes isn't until Jan. 31, Shoaf already has received 43 resumes. Most of the resumes are from outside the Hertford area. No one with the Hertford Police Department has applied yet, he said.

Shoaf plans to whittle down the list of candidates for interviews by the end of January. A panel that will include town council members will help conduct the interviews, he added.

The pay range for the new police chief is \$42,516-\$62,923.

Mike Carver, a retired veteran law enforcement officer from Kitty Hawk, was hired Nov. 14 to serve as interim chief following the Nov. 11 termination of former chief Joe Amos.

Amos was fired by Shoaf for 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 the November town elections. The link was to a news story by a Norfolk television station on candidate Quentin Jackson's arrest for failing

See CHIEF, 8

Perdue names Cole to NC judicial panel

From staff reports

County Commissioner Janice Cole has been appointed to a state Judicial Nominating Commission for a four-year term to help fill judicial vacancies throughout North Carolina.

Governor Bev Perdue announced the 18 members of the Commission

last week.

The Commission will review applications when vacancies occur on the Supreme Court, the Court of Appeals or Superior Court. Members will select three nominees to fill the vacancy and the governor will appoint



Cole

See COLE, 8

Junk cars stolen for scrap metal

From staff reports

Cleaning up the community is one thing. Stealing other people's property to do it is something else.

Sheriff Eric Tilley said a county man was arrested Jan. 3 for stealing three scrapped vehicles from farm property and selling the vehicles to a salvage yard for cash.

According to police reports, Lenay Felton of the 100-block Creecys Lane faces three felony charges of larceny of motor vehicles as well as additional charges of being a habitual felon, second degree trespassing, and communicating threats. He was taken to Albemarle District Jail under \$40,000 secured bond.

See STOLEN, 8



STAFF PHOTO BY CATHY WILSON

This year's Martin Luther King, Jr. motorcade/parade through Hertford and Winfall will be Jan. 16.

MLK events set for Monday

From staff reports

The Perquimans County Chapter of the NAACP will sponsor their annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Jan. 16.

The motorcade/parade begins at Perquimans County High at 11 a.m. and will wind through Hertford and Win-

fall, making its way to Galatia Baptist Church in the New Hope area where the 1 p.m. program will take place. Anyone may participate. Line up will be in the school parking lot prior to the 11 a.m. start.

The church is located on New Hope Road.



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