

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



"News from Next Door"

THURSDAY, JULY 21, 2022

\$1.50



SCAN ME



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HERTFORD

Winfall cools on sheriff taking over policing in town

Town doesn't want long-term contract with Perquimans

BY REGGIE PONDER
Staff Writer

WINFALL — Winfall town officials appear in no hurry to follow their counterparts in Hertford in turning over policing to the Perquimans County Sheriff's Office.

At last week's regular meeting of the Winfall Town Council, Councilwoman Carol Cooper reported that she had spoken with Perquimans County Manager Frank Heath about the possibility of Winfall entering a one-year trial contract with the sheriff's office.

Cooper said Heath had indicated to her the county is not interested in a short-

term agreement.

Cooper said Heath specifically expressed concern about the difficulty of hiring a deputy for Winfall under a short-term deal.

"The county manager says it's a forever deal or no deal," Cooper said. "So at least now we know."

Heath confirmed after the meeting that while a deal wouldn't actually be

permanent, it would need to be long-term in order for the county to be interested in providing police services in Winfall.

"They would be asking us to hire a deputy to dedicate service to the town of Winfall and they could pull out after a year and we would have spent the money to hire a deputy," Heath explained. "And you can't

fire somebody after a year. So it doesn't make practical sense for the county."

Heath pointed out that Hertford's policing contract with the county is a long-term agreement.

Winfall Councilwoman Virginia Harvey also noted at last week's meeting that when the town of Hertford entered its policing agreement with the Perquimans

Sheriff's Office, the sheriff's office took possession of all of the town's police equipment and vehicles.

Cooper said that didn't seem right or smart to her. She expressed opposition to doing something similar with the town of Winfall's equipment and vehicles.

Heath confirmed after

See WINFALL, A4

Planning for the unthinkable



PHOTOS BY REGGIE PONDER/THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

An actor portraying a gunshot victim warns law enforcement officers entering Perquimans County High School to expect more than one gunman, during an armed intruder drill at the school Thursday, July 14. More than 50 law enforcement officers and other emergency responders from Perquimans and neighboring counties participated in the drill.

Responders drill for armed intruder

In exercise, 3 gunmen entered Perquimans High School

BY REGGIE PONDER
Staff Writer

HERTFORD — Everyone knew it was a drill. Even so, the shots that rang out in the Perquimans County High School cafeteria Thursday, July 14, and the enraged screams of a man portraying an active shooter were unsettling sounds in this close-knit community.

PCHS Principal Mick-

ey Drew was at his lunch duty post in the cafeteria as he could when the incident began.

Drew led people out of the cafeteria as quickly as he could when the incident started. A lockdown was then announced over the school's intercom.

As law enforcement officers participating in the drill began to arrive they started to encounter people portraying shooting victims, some of whom had already

died, others who were severely wounded.

They also began to learn from some of those portraying victims that there might be more than one active shooter inside the school building.

"There's two of them," one of the actors portraying a wounded victim told arriving officers. "One shot me and one went that way," pointing

It turned out there were actually three shooters in all. Two were "killed" by law enforcement and a

third was taken into custody. But not before three people portraying victims in the exercise were "killed" and 12 others were "wounded."

Perquimans County Schools Superintendent Tanya Turner participated in Thursday's armed intruder exercise in her regular role as superintendent. She was in the command center along with law enforcement and emergency services au-

See DRILL, A4

Committee setup to reduce Yates' role in Winfall

Councilors, instead of mayor, to oversee town departments

BY REGGIE PONDER
Staff Writer

WINFALL — Winfall Town Council is significantly reducing the duties formerly carried out by the town's longtime mayor, Fred Yates.

At the Winfall Town Council's regular meeting last week, new committees were announced that will give council members oversight responsibilities of various areas of town government.



YATES

Councilwoman Carol Cooper said she had reviewed the committee assignments with all

council members to be sure everyone was happy with the responsibilities they were given.

She said a list distributed at the meeting was based on that mutual agreement among council members.

See YATES, A4

Hertford to make \$15K in cemetery improvements

Cole: Survey could add 100 burial plots at Cedarwood

BY REGGIE PONDER
Staff Writer

HERTFORD — The town of Hertford will begin a series of improvements and upgrades at Cedarwood and Roadside cemeteries.

Interim Town Manager Janice Cole told Hertford Town Council at its regular meeting last week that the town's cemetery fund contains \$107,000.



COLE

"We would like to take the money out of that fund for the things that we want to do," Cole said.

Among the planned uses for the funds is \$4,000 for about 100 feet of new fencing at Roadside Cemetery.

Cedarwood Cemetery is running low on marked

See CEMETERIES, A4

Longtime sailor Reis enjoys helping others on, off the sea

Resident once served as sailing coach at U.S. Naval Academy

BY JOHN FOLEY
Correspondent

Salt air can become addictive. While enrolled in the prep school program at the Naval Nuclear Power School on Mare Island in Vallejo, California, the summer before heading to Purdue University, Ken Reis decided to learn how to sail dinghies.

That was 1962. The Akron, Ohio native who would go on to a career as a U.S. Navy commander has yet to let his sails luff.

"I came from Akron and if you had a boat in Akron, it was a power boat, but I was always interested in sailing," said Reis, who now lives at Holiday Island.

Reis said learned how to sail "by the seat of my pants" after being introduced to dinghies at a small basin in San Diego.

"My next sailing opportunity came when I got to Purdue, but I didn't have free time to join the sailing club because I had to get good grades since I was there on the government's money. I had to be a good steward of that money," Reis said.

"Steward" is an appropriate word to describe Reis' life. He's been helping others enjoy the ben-

efits of sailing for years, starting with his sister.

"One day my sister and her friends wanted to learn how to sail and they wanted to build a boat but they didn't have any money," Reis recalled.

He went on to explain how he sketched out a design that his sister and her friends then used to build a boat out of metal. They used 1942 car hoods for the bow, 1950 hoods for the stern, as well as refrigerators, all welded together by an airplane mechanic.

"They built a 20-foot scow, complete with a sail made out of an old parachute, and we sailed that boat on the Mississippi for four summers," Reis recalled.

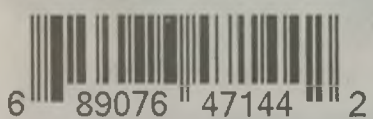
The naval officer would go on to sail his own personal Flying



JOHN FOLEY PHOTO

Ken Reis, a retired Navy commander who also served as a sailing coach at the U.S. Naval Academy, poses for a portrait at his home in Holiday Island. Reis, 84, still likes to sail; he owns six boats.

See REIS, A4



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