

Study Shows Few Control County Land

Number Of Landowners Holding At Least 300 Acres At 111: Study

By MIKE VOSS
Editor

Weyerhaeuser may be Craven County's largest landowner, but there are plenty of other landowners who own at least 300 acres in the county. There are 111 people, companies and corporations that own at least 300 acres in the county.

And according to a study — "Who Owns North Carolina" — by the Institute for Southern Studies 45 landowners own one-fifth of the state's land. The federal government is the largest landholder in the state and owns 2,230,000 acres. Weyerhaeuser is the second-largest landowner and the top private landowner in the state with 599,770 acres in 25 counties.

The study said Weyerhaeuser owns 95,682 acres in Craven County and the real value of the land is \$20,751,817. The company's land is divided into 151 parcels and they are located in every township in the county ex-

cept four.

The federal government is the county's second largest landowner. It owns 72,500 acres, said the study. Most of that land is in land used by the military (Cherry Point Marine Corps Base) and national forestland.

Federal Paper Board and U.S. Steel together own 6,074 acres. The study said the real value of the land is \$733,190. Other landowners holding over 5,000 acres are Lodges Camp Bryan out of Morehead City with 5,760 acres, B.H. Oates Jr. of New Bern with 5,337 acres, and Kennedy Ward of New Bern with 5,061 acres.

Area landowners with holding over 1,000 acres include G.A. Whitford II of Ernul with 4,243 acres, Allison Land of Dover with 3,300 acres, Floyd Lancaster of Vanceboro with 1,363 acres, Mary B. Ward of Cove City with 1,234 acres and Vanceboro Mayor Jimmie Morris with 1,028

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Where The Action Is For Gulls

For ring-billed gulls, an eastern North Carolina landfill is one of the places to be during the day. Sleeping in great rafts each night on the sound, they leave by daybreak to forage for their day's food. Some follow ferries, others fly up creeks and rivers, some move far inland to scour farmland. Thousands upon thousands

spend their day in landfills removing bits of nourishment from the garbage. These are but a few who spent Wednesday alternately resting and browsing for scraps at an eastern North Carolina landfill.

(Ric Carter photo)

Mrs. Perdue Files To Keep 3rd District Seat In N.C. House

Rep. Beverly M. Perdue filed Friday for re-election to the North Carolina House of Representatives. Mrs. Perdue, a first-term Democrat, represents the Third District that is comprised of Craven, Pamlico and Lenoir counties in the General Assembly.

If filing for the seat Mrs. Perdue said, "It has been a real honor to serve the people of Craven, Lenoir and Pamlico counties in the North Carolina House of Representatives. I appreciate the support, trust and especially the friendship from so many good people in our area."

Responding to questions about what she had accomplished in her first term Mrs. Perdue said, "I believe that I have learned how to get things done for our

area, from roads, to jobs, to needed special projects." Mrs. Perdue added, "The best part of the two years has been the opportunity of working closely with many of the people in this district on actually making a difference and in bringing home those tax dollars to support our own needs."

Mrs. Perdue said she emphasized economic development, roads, education, health care and tourism development during her term. According to the freshman legislator, she has worked closely with farmers and fishermen and has spoken out "often for their interests."

Mrs. Perdue said, "North Carolina must continue to help our rural areas have jobs. Farmers, fishermen, loggers — all those



Beverly Perdue

people are critical in today's economic climate. It is also critical that we work to create small, home-grown businesses in the east and continue to encourage tourism and retirement so that

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Wild Game Feast Provides 'Paws' From Mundane Menu

By GAIL POLLOCK

Special to the West Craven Highlights

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to dine on alligator or rattlesnake?

The Clarks Neck Volunteer Fire Department in Beaufort County is out to satisfy your curiosity as well as your appetite when it puts on its 3rd annual "Wild Game Feast" February 20, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., at the department's sub-station at the Wharton Ruritan Building.

According to Frank Rhem Jr., it is time to talk turkey — deer, rabbit, duck, coon, bear, elk, alligator and rattlesnake. The feast also allows the cooks and their families "to clean out their freezers and pantries," as an assortment of not-so-wild vegetables will be served. For the less game, domestic tur-

key and pig will be available.

Rhem said feast organizers are hoping to "trap" a man from Bath who donated a freshly-trapped beaver last year. Organizers would like the man to repeat his kind deed this year.

Rhem "warned" that just because an item does not appear on the menu that doesn't mean it won't be served.

Cooks will be busy preparing alligators from Louisiana, elk from Colorado and bear from Hyde County. And the cooks won't be disappointed if a few other wild animals should happen to "drop in," especially in the pots.

Those planning to dine at the feast shouldn't worry about preparation of the food. In a word of caution, Rhem said that when cooking bear stew

measures are taken to make sure it is thoroughly cooked and that the meat is separated from the fat and juices.

Rhem said that the most popular dishes have proven to be barbecued coon, that tastes similar to shredded dark pork; barbecued elk that tastes like a prime cut of beef, and barbecued alligator that tastes like choice chicken.

The menu will also include country-style steak and deer, fried dove, roast duck and goose (with a secret additive for flavor and tenderness) and bear stew. A special herb-seasoned batter will make the fried elk and alligator a real treat.

For salad lovers, a dish guaranteed to "rattle" their tastebuds will be offered.

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Heat Turned Up On TV Personality In Fund-Raiser

By JIM GREEN

Sports Writer

About 300 people gathered at Beaufort Community College Monday night to "roast" WITN-TV personality Dick Jones. The event raised about \$3,000 for Pamlico Pals.

Among the roasters for the event were: Dick Paul, an executive at WITN; television broadcaster Lee Moore; former North Carolina attorney general Rufus Edmisten; television broadcaster Jim Woods (who was absent but sent a letter), Commissioner of Agriculture Jim Graham; Kingston Recreation Director Jimmy Tyer; hunting expert Ed "Booger" Harris, former NFL football player Jim Clack; former WITN employee Tom Atkins, who now works with C.O. Tankard Company; Reggie Fountain, the owner of Fountain Power Boats; Major League umpire Joe West; Washington Daily News sports editor Mo Krochmal; and former Major League pitcher Gaylord Perry.

Also involved with the organization for the event were Beaufort Community College Student Government Association, WITN-TV, The Washington Daily News, WNCN-TV, WDLX, Lowe's of Washington, Johnson's Sports and Trophies, Washington Square Mall Association, WCTI, WWGN, C.O. Tankard Co., Pepsi Cola Company, Hamilton Beach, Bubbles the Clown, Gene Woolard, Trish Woolard, Bill's BBQ (caterers of the meal) and Trade Mart.

Jones, while a man of many jobs since he came to WITN in June of 1970 from Fairmont, N.C., is a caring man who is willing to help anyone in need, as his friends (or roasters) pointed out.



Dick Jones reacts to slow roasting by panel at fund-raiser

In fact, they said as many good things about Jones as bad.

But there several stories that received much laughter and applause from the crowd.

"Dick always wanted to be a pirate," Jimmy Tyer, a former Washington Recreation Director who worked closely with Jones, said. "But the closest he got to that was stealing sports stories from Lee Moore."

"Everyone knows how Dick loves to eat, right?" Tom Atkins, who's affiliated with C.O. Tankard and was once an employee at WITN-TV, said. "Well, one night,



there were two pieces of pie left in the WITN refrigerator. When the owner of the two pieces of pie came to claim it, there was just one piece of pie in the refrigerator, and all fingers pointed to Dick. When the owner asked Dick why there was only one piece of pie left, Dick replied, "Gosh, I guess it was so dark I didn't see the other piece."

"Dick's first job at WITN was a sports anchor," West said. "Now you are big enough to be an anchor on one of Reggie Fountain's boats, that's for sure," West told Jones. Gaylord Perry, the last roaster



Tuesday night (Ric Carter photos)

to speak, relayed several stories about Jones. "He tried to get me not to come... I didn't drive 300 miles to be nice to you," Perry said.

"I have to give WITN credit, they're trying to find you a spot," Perry said. "You were bad enough on Almanac, then the weather, and now this Country Rover thing."

Even though the jokes were the highlights of the evening, the roasters also praised Jones for his work with various charities and various fund-raising events. "He's one of the few original

people I hired that's still at WITN," Dick Paul said. "I'm very proud of what he has done and the lives he has touched over the 18 years he's been here. In other words, Dick, you done good."

Jim Mallory, who co-hosted Almanac with Jones, said of his friend, "Dick is a fella who cares and he shares. He helps everyone who is in need in the community... He gives of himself more than any man I've ever known. He's one heckuva good guy."

"He is a true friend to those who need help... He's always stretching out his hand to those in need," Rufus Edmisten said. "He was always willing to help others," Lee Moore said. He's been a good friend to me over the years."

Perhaps David Crabtree, WITN's newperson and a co-worker of Jones' for the past 2½ years, said, "Dick and his wife Lillian were the first two people that made sure I had someplace to go, to spend Thanksgiving, to make sure I knew someone (when I moved here two-and-a-half years ago). You don't forget people who do things for you. Obviously, you people are here because you have been touched as much as I have by Dick Jones."

But Jones also had a chance to respond to his friend's comments. "Jim Graham (Commissioner of Agriculture) is Rowan County's answer to Jim Bakker. But he's a super human being and I could always count on his assistance."

"The money Jim Clack has raised you can't touch... He's a great human being," Jones noted.

"David (Crabtree) is a part of

our family... Wednesday's Child says a lot about David and how much he cares."

"I don't think of Gaylord Perry as a baseball star," Jones said, "I think of him as a brother. When I've needed anything, he's always been there to help me."

And finally, as tears swelled in his eyes, Jones said: "It's truly been a great night. I love everyone and thank you all for doing this for Pamlico Pals. Caring is what this was all about."

Jones came to WITN-TV as Sports Director on June 6, 1970. Eight years later, the early morning show "Almanac" debuted and ran for several years. He has also been news director, noon weatherman, and at present, he is the host of "Country Rover" on Tuesdays at 6 p.m.

Jones is also an active participant for charities and fund-raising events such as March of Dimes, Muscular Dystrophy, Children's Hospital in Greenville, and Pamlico Pals. An active figure in the community, he is involved with Little Tar Heel League and Babe Ruth baseball. (The Dick Jones Babe Ruth Field is named after him.)

Pamlico Pals, Inc., a private non-profit organization, is one of 32 One-on-One Volunteer programs in this state. Beaufort County's Pamlico Pals began operation February 1, 1984.

Pamlico Pals matches troubled youths, ages 6-15, with adults who serve as role models for the youths. The overall goals of the program are to make the youth a responsible, contributing member of the community; to help them better cope with negative situations; and to give the youth a sense of belonging, self-esteem and love.