

Crime, citations soar in Hertford

The crime rate in Hertford has been on a steady upward march in the past several years, according to Hertford Police Chief Marshall Merritt.

Merritt said that the increase is in keeping with state and national trends, and that it has been more significant this year because of the economic situation.

"The crimes that have really picked up are forgery and uttering forged checks. They've just gone out of sight," Merritt said.

"Look at this. Twenty-four warrants we've got to serve," he said, waving a handful of pink and white papers. "Know your endorser," is the key to slowing the wave of forgeries, he said.

In addition, Merritt said that larcenies and breaking and enterings have picked up. "It's because of the economic situation," he repeated. "There was a lot of bad weather this winter and people who work outside were not able to get out and work," He said.

During the first quarter of 1980, 123 arrests were made by the police department. A total of 86 offenses were reported, and 172 traffic citations were issued.

The traffic citations, in particular, have soared from the 51 citations issued in the first quarter of last year. Yet Merritt said he does not feel the increase means area drivers are breaking more traffic laws.

"A little more emphasis is being placed on traffic, especially on driving under the influence," Merritt said.

He said that despite speculation to the contrary, the department does not concentrate on snagging

speeding motorists on the U.S. 17 by-pass.

"There's a wild rumor going around that we live up at the ABC Store," said Merritt. He said that other than Corporal Robert Morris, who has a free hand, his officers are told not to go up to the by-pass before 11 p.m. and not to stay there more than five minutes per hour.

In the first quarter of 1980, 58 speeding citations were issued by the department, compared to 4 in 1979, 19 in 1978, and 25 in 1977.

Other first quarter offenses over the past three years read like this:

1979-36 arrests, 65 offenses reported, 51 traffic citations; 1978-60 arrests, 63 offenses reported, 57 traffic citations; 1977-42 arrests, no record on number of offenses, 47 traffic citations.

Perquimans County Sheriff Julian Broughton said there has been no real increase in crime in the county in the past several years.

Bridge blocks escape in high speed chase

Four Polish speaking suspects dressed in gypsy attire were arrested Saturday morning on charges stemming from a break-in in Hertford after a high speed chase involving several law enforcement officers, according to Hertford Police Chief Marshall Merritt.

The four were stopped at the Chowan River Bridge in Chowan County after being clocked at speeds of up to 118 miles per hour, Merritt said.

The bizarre story began to unfold at 11 a.m. when Mrs. Broughton Dail of Edenton Road Street was alerted by her son, Broughton Dail, Jr. that she had company, and she noticed a woman ringing the doorbell on her front porch, Merritt said.

The woman then came off the porch and repeated the word apartment several times in an accented, questioning tone.

Mrs. Dail told the woman she had no apartment, and walked over to Wally White in the yard next door to ask if his father, Welly, had an apartment.

Wally said "No, but there's a woman coming out of your house," according to Merritt. The woman who had asked after the apartment and the woman who came out of the house walked briskly to a 1975 Oldsmobile Ninety Eight, which sped away.

And the chase was on. Broughton Dail, Jr., after having unsuccessfully tried to block the exit of the car with his pickup truck, sped after the automobile.

He said that there was a near collision as the car roared on to the U.S. 17 Bypass and headed in the direction of Edenton.

He was unable to catch up with the speeding vehicle and stopped at Allen's B.P. Service Station to call the police.

But Perquimans Sheriff Julian Broughton was already in hot pursuit of the vehicle, said Merritt.

Perhaps, he said, the quartet would have escaped except for the fact that Highway Patrolman Y.Z. Newberry happened to be monitoring traffic at Hillcrest Gardens and clocked the auto at 92 miles per hour as it roared past.

Newberry joined the chase. Chowan County authorities were notified, and a sheriff's deputy blocked the bridge and the bridge-tender opened it up as a backup.

Newberry arrested the driver, Elgeniusz Dolinski of Chicago, Illinois and charged him with traveling at 118 miles per hour in a 55 miles per hour zone, reckless driving, improper registration, and

failure to stop for blue light and siren while attempting to allude arrest.

Broughton returned the four to Hertford where they faced other charges in connection with the break-in.

Dolinski was charged with aiding and abetting breaking and entering and attempted larceny, as was Joseph Rybicki of Chicago, Illinois and Stefania Szendler of Brooklyn, N.Y.

Tereza Jadwolski was charged with breaking and entering and attempted larceny.

The arrests were complicated by a basic lack of communications, according to Merritt. "None of the suspects would admit they could speak English," He said.

But an interpreter, John Joseph Kubanda, an Edenton resident who speaks fluent Polish, was called in to solve the problem.

Merritt said that several interesting items were found in the trunk of the vehicle, including a dead chicken with its feet sticking up in a cooler, several loaves of hard bread, and some Polish sausages.

All of the suspects were released on bond from the Albemarle District Jail.



Hauling water

Inter-County firemen Melvin and Wilson Rountree load up with water to haul to the Holiday Island resort com-

munity on Sunday afternoon. The two spent the day hauling water to the community's crippled system, as did

Hertford firemen. (Photo by N O E L T O D D - MCLAUGHLIN)

Guard called as water supply is threatened

Holiday Island is facing a serious water shortage and a 5,000 gallon National Guard tanker truck has been called in to supply the resort community until its water pumps can be repaired.

volunteers from the Hertford, Bethel and Inter-County Fire Departments hauled water to the community from a county fire hydrant.

Three Perquimans County volunteer fire departments shuttled some 40,000 gallons of water to the community over the weekend to keep its tanks from going dry.

But fears that the water system might be down for more than a week and the pending influx of Memorial Day tourists necessitated the dispatching of the National Guard, said Talmadge Rose, Civil Preparedness Director for the town of Hertford.

The immediate threat as of Monday was a large influx of Memorial Day travelers that would swell the population of the community.

Rose said a two man crew would operate the tanker truck during a three day period of active duty.

"With Memorial Day weekend coming up, everybody and his brother will be down here," said William Jeffries, general manager of the resort community.

He said that the fire department trucks could no longer be used after Sunday because they were needed in their communities.

The trouble apparently began on Friday when first one and then another of the pumps that move water from the wells to the holding tanks went out.

An updated forecast, however, was that the water system might have been back in operation as of press time.

"Our well is pumping sand so I'm having to redo the thing," said Jeffries. The pumps are currently being repaired, and a new well will be drilled next week, he said.

Jeffries said the water shortage was "totally unexpected" and said he was appreciative of the response to the crisis.

He said he was uncertain how much the county would charge for water supplied to the community. "I'm sure they'll treat us right," Jeffries said.

On Saturday and Sunday

Schools cut request by \$81,600

The Perquimans County Board of Education agreed to trim \$81,600 from its 1980-81 fiscal year budget request of some \$950,000 in a meeting early Monday morning.

construction be stretched over two years so that only half its cost would be included in this year's budget.

Urquhart property, and \$15,000 for an activity bus.

about a 8 cent decrease in the tax rate.

four feet, so that front row views will not be blocked by passers-by.

The move came after a request from the county commissioners that the board trim their request by \$100,000.

The board agreed that an \$8,000 expenditure for a renovated science laboratory at the high school should remain in the budget, as well as a \$6,500 expenditure for expanding the kitchen-cafeteria of Perquimans Union School and \$7,000 for more energy conservation measures in the schools.

While preferring no reduction at all, Harrell said that county principals had expressed particular concern about any cuts in what has been called a "hold the line" current expense budget.

The school board's capital outlay monies will be handed over in lump sum fashion and may be utilized at the discretion of the board. For this reason, all of the reductions discussed on Monday are subject to change.

In an update on progress at the high school addition, Harrell said the contractors would fall short of a projected June 1 completion date because of delays in electrical work.

All of the areas targeted for cuts came from the capital outlay portion of the proposed budget after schools superintendent Pat Harrell met with principals of the county schools last week to determine priority items.

An alternative was being considered to the construction of a new vocational shop that would trim \$30,000 from a proposed capital outlay expenditure of \$50,000 in the coming year's budget. That alternative was locating the shop in an already existing structure near the school.

When Monday's discussion was over, board of education members felt they had devised a budget request the county commissioners could live with.

In another matter, George Baker was welcomed back to the board after an extended absence due to illness. Baker had last attended a board meeting in early March, and has since been recovering from open heart surgery. Prior to his illness, Baker had only missed one meeting in 18 years on the board.

The board set a tentative date for an open house at the project for August 24, the day before school is scheduled to open. Harrell said that the project would surely be completed and all furniture in place by that date, the day before students return to school after summer vacation.

It appeared after the meeting, that the board was inclined to go ahead with a \$75,000 field house-public restroom facility at the high school athletic complex, but board member Flutch Dail suggested that the facility's

A \$20,000 proposed expenditure for tennis courts at the high school was eliminated, as well as \$10,000 for fill and bulldozer work on the recently acquired

"I believe the commissioners will approve this," said Preston Stevenson. Board chairman Clifford Winslow said the commissioners may have been "feeling (the board) out" in requesting the \$100,000 cut.

The high school athletic program received a boost during the meeting, as the board approved the purchase of two bleacher segments to be used for football and baseball games.

A date was also set for an employee appreciation luncheon at Central Grammar School. The luncheon will begin at 1 p.m. on June 10 and will be catered to give food services workers a break from the kitchen.

Harrell said a \$100,000 cut would trim the county tax rate by 10 cents. The school board's request would amount to

Purchased at a cost of \$9,488, the bleachers will seat 380 persons and be elevated

In matters relating to

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Governor's conference is Saturday

The Governor's Conference on Leadership Development, the first such meeting of its kind to be held in Perquimans County, is set for this Saturday, May 24, at the ARPDC building on South Church Street in Hertford.

congressman, and has served as committee Clerk for the N.C. House of Representatives.

Forest University.

children and family in society.

was selected as the Outstanding Young Woman of the Year for North Carolina in 1972.

Professionals from across the state have been assembled to offer area women a slate of workshops that cover a wide range of interests.

Included in her list of awards are the 1972 Outstanding Young Democrat of North Carolina, and designation as one of the Outstanding Young Women in America both in 1971 and 1978.

Ms. Schoonmaker is founder and president of the North Carolina Center for Laws Affecting Women, Inc., a nonprofit research center concerned with the role of women,

She has also served as an arbitrator for the Better Business Bureau, was co-founder and first president of the Winston Salem National Organization of Women, and

The final morning session is the Media and Public Opinion,

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Another band day set

Perquimans County residents will be able to choose between a pig and a pole if they want to get greasy at the Band Day fund raising celebration scheduled at the Hertford Saddle Club Show Ring and Little League Ball Park on June 14.

and organizers are hoping for a large crowd this year to help pay for uniforms and equipment for the Perquimans County school bands.

a greased pole climb, a greased pig contest and other events.

A day long list of activities will get started at 10 a.m., including a horse show beginning at 11 a.m. that will feature 36 classes of competition.

"It's just a fun day," said Kay Boyce, an organizer of the event.

There will also be crafts and plant sales booths, a toy rummage sale and food for sale on the grounds all day.

Some 2,000 people attended the event last year

Part of the fun includes a fish fry from 4 to 7 p.m., performances by the school bands beginning at 7 p.m., a disco dance contest and a variety of entertainment.

"There will be a little something for everybody," promised Mrs. Boyce.

Carnival type games will include a dunking machine,

Persons wishing to drop off toys or crafts to be sold at Band Day may do so at any of the county schools, at Pitt Hardware in Hertford or at Peoples Bank in Hertford.



Starting over

Work on Site B of the waterfront park is presently under construction behind the Municipal Building in Hertford. Existing piers and

wooden boat ramp will be replaced with two, double concrete ramps, which will accommodate four trailers, and

tree piers made of treated timber. Completion of Site B of the waterfront park is expected within about six weeks.