

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

Volume 40, No. 2

USPS 428-080

Hertford, Perquimans County, N.C., Thursday, January 12, 1984

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Fire leaves family homeless

From staff reports

A Monday morning blaze gutted a home owned by Bill Cartwright on N.C. Rural Road 1329 near Woodville.

The home was being occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Keith Weatherly and their children when the fire was discovered.

Fire Department sources stated that the fire started in or around an oil heater located in the living room of the home.

The Weatherly Family lost all of their possessions in the blaze and were referred to the Open Door for assistance by the Hertford Fire Department.

Inter-County, Durants Neck and Hertford Volunteer Fire Departments answered the call.

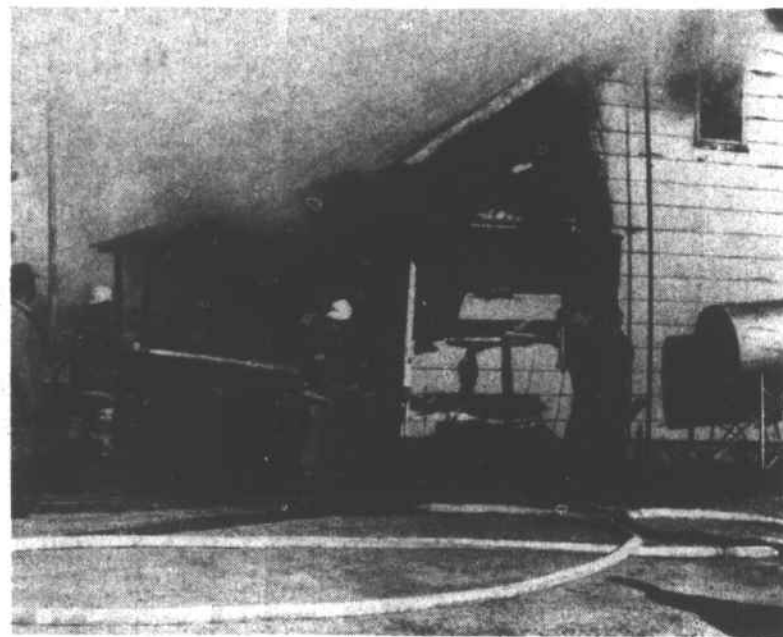
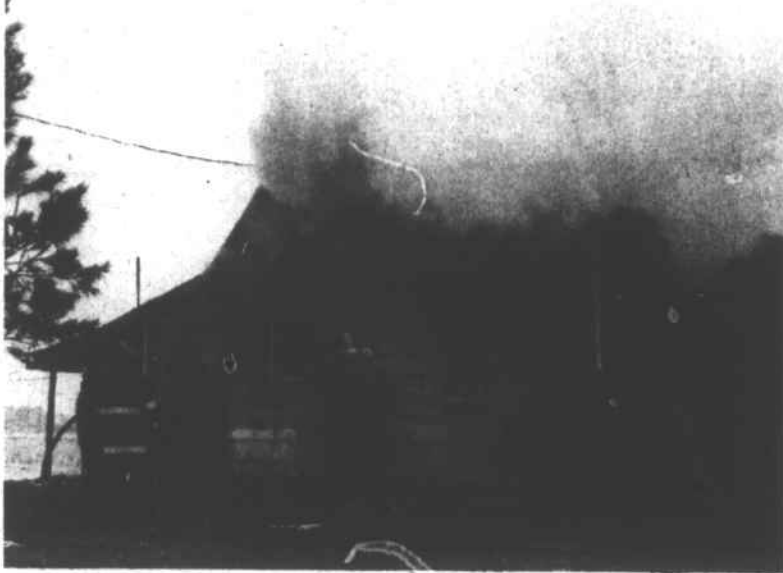
On Wednesday, January 4, fire heavily damaged the Savoy Building/American Legion Post on Market St. in Hertford.

The building, owned by Issac Lowe, housed a dance hall, barber shop and several apartments in addition to the American Legion Post.

No injuries were reported in the fire which took approximately two and one-half hours to bring under control.

Responding in addition to the Hertford Fire Departments were units from the Winfall Fire Department, Inter-County Fire Department, Bethel Fire Department and the Elizabeth City Fire Department.

The exact cause of the blaze has not been determined, but it is believed to have started in the rear of the building which housed the pool hall and American Legion.



A Monday morning fire apparently caused by an oil heater was responsible for the destruction of this Woodville home. (Photos by Ken Castelloe)

Local woman killed, five others injured, in three car collision

By KEN CASTELLOE

A local woman was killed and five others were injured in a three-car collision Monday night on U.S. 17, north of Elizabeth City.

Marie Rountree Winslow, age 53, of Route 1, Belvidere died Monday evening as a result of injuries incurred when the car she was traveling in was struck head-on by a vehicle traveling in a southwardly direction.

Those injured in the accident included:

•John Thomas Stallings, 46, of Route 1, Box 368, Belvidere, who was taken to Albemarle Hospital, where he was treated and released.

•Lona Stallings, 48, wife of John Stallings, of Belvidere, who suffered cuts and broken bones. She was admitted to Albemarle Hospital, where she was listed in satisfactory condition.

•Joseph Larry Stallings, 36, of Route 1, Box 382-B, Belvidere, who suffered broken bones. He was admitted to Albemarle Hospital where he is listed in satisfactory condition.

•Barbara Stallings, 37, wife of Joseph Stallings, of Belvidere, who was taken to Albemarle Hospital, where she was treated for minor injuries and released.

•Kenneth Purnell Floyd, 33, of 1403 Herrington Road, Elizabeth City, was taken to Albemarle Hospital, where he was treated for minor injuries.

Trooper Charles H. Mims of the North Carolina Highway Patrol investigated the accident and reported that a 1981 Cadillac driven by Floyd, which was traveling south, collided head-on with the 1980 Mercury, driven by J.T. Stallings.

The accident occurred at approximately 9:00 p.m. about one-half mile south of Jones Lumber Co. when the Floyd vehicle was apparently making an attempt to pass two other vehicles.

The Stallings vehicle was spun 180 degrees and came to a stop facing south in the northbound lane. Floyd's vehicle careened off the north side of the road and came to rest in a nearby field.

field.

In a subsequent accident, the Stallings vehicle was struck from behind by a 1976 Mercury driven by Ronald Lee Griffin, 26, of Route 5, Elizabeth City, who was unable to stop.

Winslow and the four other occupants of the Stallings car were returning from a meeting of the Gideons Bible society at the Vicki Villa Restaurant in Elizabeth City.

Trooper Mims estimated that the Floyd car, which was passing two southbound vehicles at the time of the accident, struck the Stallings automobile with a combined impact speed of about 125 miles per hour. Because there were no signs of tire marks located at the scene, Mims reported it did not appear either driver had time to react.

None of those involved in the accident were wearing seat belts at the time.

Mims reported that weather conditions were clear at the time of the accident and none of those in-

involved appeared to have been under the influence of alcohol.

The Stallings vehicle, a 1980 Mercury was estimated at a total loss of \$6,000. The 1981 Cadillac was also listed as a total loss with damages estimated at \$14,000. The 1976 Mercury owned by Griffin sustained only minor damages of an estimated \$300.

Traffic was limited to one-way passage for about two hours following the accident and charges were pending at press time.

Mrs. Winslow was the wife of the Perquimans County Board of Education chairman, Clifford Winslow. (See obituary on page two.)

Also on Monday night an accident occurred at the junction of Highway 17 and N. C. 37 approximately five miles south of Hertford involving a 1973 Buick and a 1980 Kenworth tractor-trailer truck.

According to the North Carolina Highway Patrol, the car driven by Richard Joseph McNair of Route 3,

(Continued on page 2)

Chowan Grand Jury re-indicts attorney

By JANE WILLIAMS

The Chowan County Grand Jury handed down six true bills of indictment Monday against Hertford attorney James D. Singletary.

The indictments were handed down just prior to the January session of Chowan County Superior Court where Singletary is scheduled for trial this week on charges of conspiracy to burn and burning a building.

The new indictments all stem from earlier charges which alleged that Singletary along with Douglas "Luckie" Cartwright, Larry Wayne Sanders, Mitchell Duke Ivey and Peter Rosenthal burned a building owned by Hay Makin, Inc., a British West Indies firm, located near Tyner

on Highway 32 in June of 1982.

The latest indictments charge Singletary with three counts of conspiracy and three substantive charges.

Complete details of the charges made in the indictments were unavailable at press time, however, it was confirmed that they include conspiracy to burn for fraudulent purposes and burning for fraudulent purposes.

A motion was entertained by the court on Tuesday by the defense to suppress a statement that had been made earlier by the defendant. The motion was denied.

Jury selection began on Tuesday for the trial which has already seen three postponements.

Hertford Council takes steps to enclose local cemetery

By JANE WILLIAMS

After several months of deliberation the Hertford Town Council voted Monday night to enclose Cedarwood Cemetery with a 36" high wrought iron fence and gates.

The decision to enclose the cemetery was made at an earlier council meeting when the members of the council were presented a petition signed by area residents requesting that the cemetery be closed after daylight hours to prevent vehicular traffic on the premises.

Reasons for this request were presented as littering, vandalism, and useage of the property for reasons other than a cemetery.

Council members expressed concern over a recent incident when two tombstones were broken as a result of vandals that entered the cemetery on foot, and cited that even with placing a fence on the property to prohibit vehicular traffic at night there would be no way to stop someone on foot who wanted to gain entrance to the cemetery.

Council members expressed concern over the proper way to enclose the cemetery to keep the ap-

pearance of the property appropriate.

The Council will be soliciting bids for material and placement of the new fence.

The Council heard an annual report from Marshall Merritt, Chief of the Hertford Police Department, releasing the statistics for arrests and violations for 1983.

The report outlined a 24 percent overall increase from 1982 in reported offenses with a 53 percent arrest rate for reported crimes. Chief Merritt stated that the number of arrests made for reported crimes was down due to an increase in crimes reported in 1982. The overall rate of arrests for reported crimes in 1982 was 64 percent.

There were 290 reported violations and investigations made by the Hertford Police Department in 1983 with larceny being reported more frequently than any other crime.

The Department reported 176 arrests in 1983, with the largest percentage of arrests charging assault and battery.

The Hertford Police Department recovered \$9,114.82 worth of stolen property in 1983 and issued 136 traffic citations.

In other business the Council:

•Approved an ordinance to ban parking on U.S. Highway 37 from the north end of the S-Bridge to the City Limits of the Town of Hertford on both sides of the highway.

•Agreed to seek new proposals for the purpose of finding an auditing firm to audit the town's books for fiscal year 1984.

•Agreed to set up a special meeting within the next week to review materials pertaining to a 9.7 percent increase in the wholesale power rate.

•Asked Mayor/Manager W.D. "Bill" Cox to set up a meeting with the Town Council of Winfall this month.

•Discussed the Community Development Block Grant revitalization program with Walter Edwards, Attorney for the Town.

Edwards told the Council that they might need to amend the current housing codes and adopt the model codes of the N. C. League of Municipalities. Edwards asked that

the Council for a chance to familiarize himself with the codes before presenting and/or recommending them to the town to adopt.

•Edwards also informed the Council that he had been asked to start condemnation procedures on structures within the project that have been deemed irreparable.

Area gains new bookmobile

The Pettigrew Regional Library System, serving Washington, Tyrell, Chowan and Perquimans counties, has acquired a new bookmobile. The new vehicle was purchased in a cooperative effort with funds provided by each of the four counties and the town of Plymouth supplemented by state aid. It has a capacity of approximately 2000 books.

Improved features include air conditioning, fluorescent lighting, carpet, browsing seats, counter space and easier access by means of a side door with a hand rail and retractable step.

The side door and step have already made it possible for one Perquimans patron with a heart condition to continue using the service. Elizabeth Laney, regional director, was responsible for the selection of the vehicle.

This bookmobile will enable the library to continue serving the needs of those homebound by physical handicaps, as well as those in rural areas distant from county libraries.

In its capacity as a traveling library, the services offered by bookmobile include large print books for the visually handicapped, book selection for the homebound, interlibrary loan requests for hard-to-obtain materials, and full range of adult and children's books chosen from public libraries within the region and purchased with funds allotted to the bookmobile.

Books and materials will be changed on a rotating basis to provide a collection that is fresh and responsive to reading interests. The bookmobile will also participate in the summer reading program with a traveling story hour.



Terry Bossley, county librarian and Victor Eure, bookmobile librarian,

are shown with the new Bookmobile which will be serving the Albemarle

area. (Photo by Ken Castelloe)

follows:

January 13 & 27
Library 10:00
White Hat 10:30-11:00
Myrtle Wood 11:15
Annabelle Whitley 11:25
Woodville Fire Station 11:30-12:00
Chapanoke 12:45-1:15
C. W. Gregory 2:00
Cosand House 2:15
Winnie Riddick 2:35
Ruby Raby 3:10
Winfall Supermarket 3:15

January 6 & 20
Library 10:00
Wynne Fork Court 10:30-11:30
Snug Harbor Club House 12:15-1:30
A. M. Jordan 1:45
Tracy Kirby 2:15
Gladys Warren 2:30

For more information call the Perquimans County Library at 426-5319.

Red Cross solicits aid for fire victim

Edna Freeman, a resident of the Savoy damaged last Wednesday in a fire, is still without a place to stay. This according to Geneva Sawyer, Perquimans County Red Cross Chairman.

Sawyer stated that Freeman is currently staying in the damaged structure. "She lost everything except the clothes on her back," stated Sawyer.

Donations are being sought in order to help Freeman. Clothing sizes are: blouse, 40-42; coat and dress, 24; shoes 10-10 1/2 B; and pants, 40 waist.

If you have a donation of clothing or lodging contact Geneva Sawyer at 200 Hilland Park, or call her at 426-7568.