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# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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## Five Perquimans residents named Outstanding Young Men of America

Five local men have been selected by Outstanding Young Men of America for recognition in its 1988 awards publication. Joseph Henry Elliott, William Elliott Layden, Edgar Wilbur Roberson, Jr., Richard Harold Copeland and Arthur Mitchell, Jr. were included in the publication. Joseph Henry (Joe) Elliott of Route 4, Hertford is employed by Ford Motor Company in Norfolk, Virginia. He has been a Jaycee for many years, has held many offices, and is presently a District Director. Elliott is a member of the Durants Neck Fire Department and attends Woodville Baptist

Church. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Elliott. William Elliott (Billy) Elliott is employed in his family's business, Elliott Layden Radio and Electric Shop. He is an active member of Anderson United Methodist Church. Layden is a member of the Hertford Fire Department and its special rescue unit. He is also a member of the Perquimans County Jaycees. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Elliott Layden. Edgar Wilbur Roberson, Jr. is Chief of the Hertford Fire Department. He is a deacon and Sunday School teacher at Great Hope Baptist Church. He is an agent with

Farm Bureau Insurance of Perquimans County. His wife, Gail, is a nurse at Chowan Hospital. They have three children: Kristie, Mindy and Justin. Roberson is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Roberson of Hertford. Richard Harold Copeland, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Copeland of Winfall, is employed by the Perquimans County Water Department. He is an active member of the Perquimans County Jaycees, an organization in which he has held many offices. Copeland is also a member of the Winfall Fire Department and Ducks Unlimited. He is married to the former Diane Rogerson.

Arthur Mitchell, Jr. is an insurance agent with Allstate Insurance Company in Elizabeth City. A Winfall resident, Mitchell attends Poplar Run Methodist Church where he is a choir member. He is president of the Life Underwriter's Association. Mitchell is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Mitchell, Sr. He and his wife, Thelma, have two children: Arthur III and LaKeeta Jenise. These men are to be commended for their inclusion in this prestigious society. It is people of this caliber who help to make Perquimans County a great place to live.



Susan Harris has been named editor of the PERQUIMANS WEEKLY.

## Harris is editor

Susan Harris has been named editor of THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY, announced publisher Frank Wood. Harris was formerly employed as a reporter, typist and proofreader for the newspaper in 1981 and 1985. "I am very excited about being back with THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY," Harris said of her new position. "I look forward to working with the staff, and hope that together we can give our readers a quality product." Harris plans to bring back "People in the News" and invites people to send in information for that column. "In talking with people about what they want to read, 'People in the News' has been mentioned many times," Harris commented. "Our readers like to know whose family members have visited, and who has taken trips. They also like to keep up with those in our community who have been ill. This is especially important to readers who have moved out of the county. It keeps them in touch," she added. THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

should reflect the small town flavor of the county, according to Harris. "The immense popularity of 'Charlie's Corner' and 'Eastern Echoes' is proof of that," she said. "I'd like to have 'newshounds' in each community in the county to keep me in touch with what's happening throughout Perquimans County," Harris stated. "In order for events to be covered, we need to know what's going on and when early enough to schedule coverage." All readers are encouraged to turn in this type of information, and to visit Harris in THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY office. "I'd appreciate the opportunity to get to know our readers," said Harris. "Hearing what they like and dislike about the paper will help us to print a paper they'll enjoy reading." A native of Perquimans County, Harris and her husband, Phil, reside near the Bear Swamp community with their children, Andrew and Courtney.

## Wildlife Resources collect discarded Christmas trees

The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission needs discarded Christmas trees for constructing brush shelters. Brush shelters, or fish attractors, are constructed by lashing several Christmas trees together and anchoring them in accessible areas around lakes and streams. The brush shelters will be clearly marked to allow anglers to easily identify structure locations. Brush shelters provide valuable cover for forage fish, which tend to concentrate around the shelter for food and protection from predators. Sport fish such as largemouth bass, crappie, and white perch also tend to concentrate around brush shelters because of the concentrated food supply. All decorations and tinsel should be removed from the trees. You may take your trees to the following areas by January 4, 1989. Please place the trees near the painted signs.

1. Edenton—Wildlife Depot, four miles off of Highway 32 on Airport Road.
2. Windsor—Wildlife Resources Commission Boat Ramp, off of Highway at old water plant on Cashie River.
3. Williamston—Wildlife Resources Commission Boat Ramp, off of Highway 17 at Roanoke River.
4. Elizabeth City—Farm Fresh Supermarket parking lot, between recycling center and Ray's Restaurant.
5. Hertford—Little Mint of Hertford.

The trees will be picked up on or before January 6, 1989. For further information, please contact Marc Murrell at the Edenton Wildlife Depot, 482-2915 or 482-7945. Thank you for caring enough to improve future fishing in North Carolina.

## NC DOT to retime signals in Hertford

RALEIGH—Don't be surprised if you see quite a few people counting cars in Perquimans County during the next several months. Beginning next month, the N.C. Department of Transportation's Division of Highways will begin retiming the signals there and DOT personnel are counting vehicles at intersections as part of that program. The retiming work is part of a statewide program to improve traffic signal efficiency and is sponsored by the Energy Division of the N.C. Department of Commerce. A recently-completed pilot project indicated that retiming traffic signals could save an average of 7,790 gallons of fuel and \$28,175 in fuel costs a year at each intersection because of fewer stops and delays. The estimated cost to retime each intersection is approximately \$750. At each intersection, DOT workers will count the motor vehicles that go by, enter the numbers into a computer to determine what the proper traffic signal timing should be and retime the signals. DOT officials say that while they may be unable to eliminate peak hour congestion entirely at heavily traveled intersections, motorists should see a marked improvement during the rest of the day.



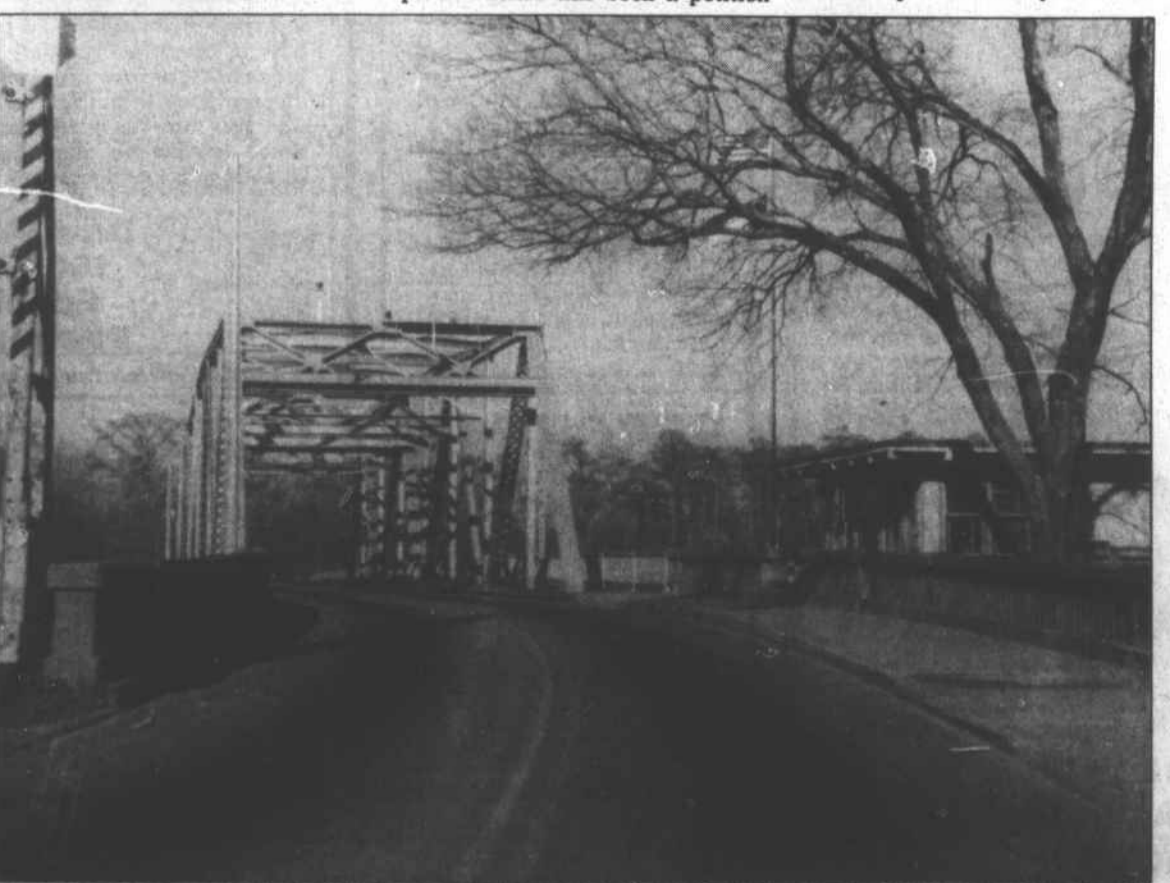
**Close call**  
Hertford firefighters inspected the heating system at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Harrell last week. The Harrells called the department when they found smoke entering their home through the heating vents. Firemen crawled under the dwelling in search of flames or damages, but found none.

## Northeastern N.C. residents reportedly plan boycott of Tidewater businesses

Washington, NC—An official of the Highway 17 Transportation Association in North Carolina disavowed any knowledge of a proposed boycott of Tidewater Virginia stores by residents along the highway in Northeastern North Carolina. Larry P. Meadows of Trenton, President of the Association, said he had received calls concerning the proposed boycott but that his Association was not involved in such a project. Meadows said he understands that the boycott is said to be in operation because of Virginia's unwillingness to four lane and improve a 14 mile section of highway 17 just north of the North Carolina-Virginia Line. The highway is four laned south of the Line.

More than 200 accidents have occurred on the stretch of highway in Virginia in less than three years and there have been three fatalities on it during 1988. "We have been working for eight years to try to encourage the Commonwealth of Virginia to four lane that section of highway," Meadows explained, "but our trips to the Virginia Governor's office, to Chesapeake, and to the Federal Department of Transportation have failed to get any action thus far." "It looks like the people are going to take matters into their own hands," he said. Senator Marc Basnight of Dare County, when contacted, said he had not heard anything about the boycott but added, "I'm not surprised. There has been a petition

circulating concerning the need for Virginia to do something about that stretch of highway," he commented. "I would assume that the boycott idea is just another step being taken by frustrated people in the area who have to drive on that piece of highway each day as they go back and forth to Virginia to work and to shop," he observed. Mayor William D. Cox of Hertford, said he had heard the boycott discussed but did not know how extensive such action was at the present time. "People down here are frustrated about the highway in Virginia," he explained. "They have acquired hundreds of names on petitions," he said. "I suppose they have now decided to take an extra step with this boycott idea."



Commuters will not see this scene much longer as workmen will begin tearing up the causeway in mid-February for extensive repairs. NC DOT officials plan to build a new foundation for the stretch of road which they say now is supported by insufficient pilings and slab. The work is being done at a cost of approximately \$285,000. The contractor anticipates a completion date of August.

## Jaycees seek nominees for Service Awards

The Perquimans County Jaycees are seeking nominations for their annual distinguished service awards. Each year the organization recognizes individuals who have provided outstanding service to the community. Awards will be given in several categories: Distinguished Service, Outstanding Educator, Outstanding Rescue Worker, Outstanding Firefighter, Outstanding Law Enforcement Officer, Outstanding Youth, Outstanding Senior Citizen, and Outstanding Family. Also given is the Joseph R. Rogerson Memorial Award. In order to qualify for the Distinguished Service Award, an individual must be between the ages of 21 and 39. Judging is based on involvement in the community, organizations, church, and on character. The Distinguished Service Award is the highest honor the Jaycees give in the community. It is a privilege to receive this coveted award.

Nominees in the educator, rescue worker, firefighter, and law enforcement categories must be between the ages of 21 and 39. The youth award is given to a high school senior. Any family in Perquimans County may receive the family award. The Rogerson Memorial Award is given by the late Joseph R. Rogerson, Sr. family to any softball player deemed to be an all around athlete, who also displays good sportsmanship. There are many deserving individuals in Perquimans County who should be recognized for their service to the community. Anyone may nominate someone in any of the categories by contacting Chairman Richard Copeland at 426-8108 (home) or 426-8199 (work). The awards will be presented at the Distinguished Service-Rogerson Memorial Awards Banquet scheduled for January 18 at Joe's Place in Hertford. The banquet is open to the public. Tickets are \$7.50.

## Governor's Task Force recommends changes

Raleigh—Allowing safe drivers to renew their licenses for six-year periods, establishing "express" driver license renewal offices at shopping centers, and other ways of making it easier for drivers with good records to renew their licenses highlight a report by the Governor's Task Force on the North Carolina Driver License System. The task force also recommended that new standards be adopted that would upgrade many of the state's driver license offices. Those standards would include improved access for handicapped citizens, requirements for adequate seating and other office amenities, and an increased emphasis on placing offices in locations that are safely and easily accessible. The report has been received by Governor James G. Martin, who has said he will support many of its recommendations. The governor said that ideas contained in the report—along with administrative changes already made by the state Division of Motor Vehicles—will do much to improve and to streamline the driver license system. "The task force and the DMV

have worked together to produce a much improved license system," Martin said. "I applaud their efforts to make improvements by cutting red tape and striving to increase highway safety. The combined efforts of the task force and the division will serve to develop a license system that provides better service to the public." The governor said the Division of Motor Vehicles will make some of the recommended changes administratively, but many of the suggestions will require action by the General Assembly before they can be implemented. Administratively, using available funds, express renewal offices have been opened in Asheville, Charlotte, Fayetteville, Research Triangle Park and Winston-Salem. Additional express offices are planned for Greensboro and Wilmington. The report suggests that eventually an express renewal office should be located in each county with 100,000 or more drivers. The offices will serve people who have safe driving records and do not have to be retested to have their licenses renewed.