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THE Northampton County TIMES-NEWS

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Covers All of Northampton's Towns and Communities

8 PAGES

-6,426 Cast Ballots-

Record Vote Supports County Incumbents

Counted All Night; Argued All Week

By JOE M. PARKER
ELECTION CENTRAL—Saturday's Democratic Primary was the most exciting — and its aftermath the most prolonged — within memory of present day staffers. And at mid-week there were still questions left hanging.

The newspaper offices in Bertie, Hertford and Newbliss began the election countdown as the polls closed at 6:30 Saturday. Staffers were still at it until after 2:00 a.m. Sunday morning. In Windsor and Ahoskie the offices were open again when the sun came up Sunday to record final results.

In Hertford County where for the first time voting machines were in use, final results were available before 7:00 p.m. Saturday. But it was after 6:00 a.m. Sunday when workers in Windsor Precinct 1 finished their count. There were over 1,800 votes cast in the precinct with 22 names on the Bertie ballot requiring counting.

Elsewhere in the area vote counters were having their prob-



RECEIVE ELECTION RETURNS—Russell Johnson receives and reveals election returns Saturday night over the telephone from precincts throughout the county as Jennings White listens intently. White was much interested in the results of balloting for Superior Court Clerk since he was a candidate. White was top man in

the voting for clerk in a four-man race. The scene was repeated many times Saturday from 7 p.m. until nearly 2 a.m. Sunday morning. Sometimes it was a precinct reporting, but most often it was a false alarm as interested persons called in for unknown results.

Creecy Close 3rd In House Race; White Wins Close Race For Clerk

By BOB FRINK
CONWAY — Incumbent Northampton County political office holders received a rousing vote of confidence from county voters in their bids for re-election via the Democratic Primary Saturday.

A record turnout of 6,426 voters re-elected John Henry Liverman, Jr., David Gay and Horace Guthrie to the county board of commissioners, Scott Bowers as a member of the county school board and Judge Ballard Y. Gay as Recorder's Court Judge.

Newcomers elected to county posts not being sought by incumbents were won by Jennings White, who was top vote getter in the race for Clerk of Superior Court, and L. H. Taylor who won a vacated spot on the county school board.

Price was a distant third with 920 votes and Bart Burgwyn followed with 918.

Liverman was high man in all but two precincts as he defeated Joseph Majeth, a Rich Square Negro, 3,970 to 2,398, for the district one commissioner seat.

In the race for the district two commissioner job, David Gay defeated his opponent in all 17 precincts to compile 3,852 votes to 2,499 for John Faison, a county Negro and civil rights leader.

Incumbent Horace Guthrie was defeated in two precincts but still managed to win handily over Negro opponent, James Jones, 3,724 to 2,560.

Scott Bowers was successful in succeeding himself as representative of the district one on the county board of elections, receiving 2,878 votes to 2,349 for Abraham Walton, a Negro minister.

Newcomer L. H. Taylor was successful in filling the district two seat on the school board vacated by Ellis Crew. He defeated Negro opponent Wilbert Tabb, 4,047 to 2,167.

Northampton County's only candidate for a district office was C. Melvin Creecy, a Negro minister from Rich Square.

Creecy managed to win the support of Northampton County voters but finished second in a four-man race for two seats in the North Carolina House of Representatives awarded the Sixth District.

Gay was a lopsided victor over challenger, Millard Lane, in the contest for Recorder's Court judge. Lane, a Woodland justice of the peace who was highly critical of the county court, received only 1,258 votes to 4,974 for Gay, who has been on the bench for 12 years.

In district races to fill State seats of House of Representatives, only one incumbent failed to win re-election.

Recount Demand Dropped

JACKSON — Two non-elected candidates in Saturday's Democratic Primary withdrew demands for a recount of votes in Northampton County after a brief hearing Tuesday morning in the county courthouse at Jackson.

C. Melvin Creecy, a Sixth District House candidate, and James Boone, who sought the job of Superior Court Clerk, presented Russell Johnson, chairman of the Northampton County Board of Elections, with the written demand on Monday morning.

Creecy and Boone cited "unusual methods of counting ballots" in Rich Square.

An explanation of the procedures followed during the hearing satisfied Creecy and Boone.

Boone said that he was "not questioning the integrity of any member of the board of elections or election officials" and that he only sought information. (See RECOUNT, Page 8)

Board Says: County Not Planning A Preschool Program High Honors

JACKSON — R. F. Lowry, superintendent of Northampton County Schools, has announced that the county will not operate a preschool program during the summer.

According to Lowry's report the county school board passed a resolution relative to the decision not to operate such a program at a recent meeting.

The resolution states in the first paragraph: "Whereas, attendance at a preschool program is not required by any law known to this board and it is possible that because of non-attendance by pupils of one race it will not be possible to comply with that part of the memorandum from Commissioner Harold Howe II dated April 26, 1966 which reads as follows: 'Your agency must make special efforts to make sure that such projects are not begun on a segregated basis, in order to avoid the possible necessity of discontinuing or reorganizing the project after it has begun.'"

Also stated as a reason for not adopting the preschool program for this summer was the problems surrounding the "moving of furniture from school to school to accommodate integrated classes" and that the boards believe that recent guidelines (See PRESCHOOL, Page 5)



Mrs. Harris

Mrs. Harris Presented N. C. Award

RALEIGH — Senaboard's author, Mrs. Bernice Kelly Harris, was presented Tuesday night the state's highest award for "outstanding achievement" in literature.

In ceremonies at the Sir Walter Hotel, Governor Moore presented the North Carolina Award to Mrs. Harris, author of seven novels. She has been the voice of Southern long neglected by the sensationalists — the independent farmer and small-town citizen. In recording the deeply-felt impressions of scenes and of people in terms of their universality, she has paid her respects to the human frame and the human spirit.

The award, a large gold medalion designed by Paul Manship, internationally known sculptor, was presented to four Tar Heels Tuesday night. The other recipients are: former Gov. Luther Hodges of Chapel Hill, architect A. G. Odell, Jr., and Professor Oscar K. Rice of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Gov. and Mrs. Moore honored the award winners at a reception at the Executive Mansion following the dinner presentation.

Tuesday night's ceremonies marked the third time the awards have been presented.

The N. C. Award program is administered by a five-member commission appointed by the Governor. Members are Richard Walsler of Raleigh, Gordon Cleveland of Chapel Hill, Henry Belk of Goldsboro, William D. Snider of Greensboro and Gilbert Stephenson of Pendleton.

Chamber To Hire Students

JACKSON — Mrs. Howard Howell, secretary of the Northampton County Chamber of Commerce, told "Your Home Newspaper" that the county chamber had voted to hire two college students under PAC to solicit new members to the chamber.

According to Mrs. Howell, the two students, who will begin work this summer, will canvass the county in hopes of increasing chamber membership and thus increasing the working capital of the group.

It was also announced by the secretary that the chamber will meet Wednesday at 7 p.m. at the Jackson Lions Club Building.

Three Scouts Receive God and Country Award

JACKSON — Three Northampton County Boy Scouts became part of a select group Sunday when they were presented the "God and Country" award at the Jackson Methodist Church Sunday.

David Eley, 12, and a Life Scout, John William Price, III, 13, and a Star Scout, and Jimmy Wheeler, 13, and a First Class Scout, all members of Jackson's Troop 196 received the awards from the Rev. Angus Cameron of the Jackson Methodist Church.

Rev. Cameron provided guidance and counseling to the three boys enabling them to receive the award at the 11 a.m. services Sunday.

It took the three boys a full year to fulfill qualifications for the award, which has been won by only two other Northampton boys in the past.

Eley is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Jasper Eley. Price is the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Price, Jr., and Wheeler is the son of Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Wheeler.

Scoutmaster of Troop 196, sponsored by the Jackson Lions Club, is T. A. Stephenson. His assistants are Jasper Eley, H. W. (Tite) Grant and A. E. Martin.

Two other members of the Jackson troop have fulfilled the requirements for the God and Country Award but have not yet (See SCOUTS, Page 8)

Choanoke Association Okays \$1 Million Plan

JACKSON — The directors of the Choanoke Area Development Association approved a \$1,178,210.50 anti-poverty proposal that would establish and staff "multi-service centers" for the four county members at a meeting in the courthouse at Jackson on Wednesday night, June 1.

The plan had been presented to a meeting of the directors on May 19th but had not been approved when it was determined that the plan had not been approved in accordance with past procedures set up by the directors. The staff and officers were instructed to see if the plan couldn't be cleared with county boards and commissioners in time to send it to Washington for funding under the 1965-66 fiscal quota for this area before the funds lapsed.

A motion was presented to the board to pass the proposal but President Virgil McBride ruled that the motion was illegal.

Director Graham Shell of Roanoke Rapids offered a motion to suspend the procedural requirements for the passage of the proposal and for the president to appoint a committee to draw up new guidelines for handling the approval of future proposals.

Director James Wallace of Ahoskie offered an amendment that all personnel hired under the proposal be subject to confirmation of the elected directors of the county boards of Choanoke.

The amendment and the motion were approved by a majority vote.

The proposal to approve the plan was resubmitted and passed by a majority vote.

The plan had been submitted to the Office of Economic Opportunity in Washington for processing subject to the approval of the board of directors.

The original procedure for processing plans had required the approval by the county economic development committee, the county commissioners and the county directors before being submitted to the area directors for approval.

Chairman Kenneth Slate of the Bertie County board objected to changes in the current method of processing proposals. He stated that it was necessary to continue to cooperate with existing agencies and the county government if their cooperation was to be added to the anti-poverty war.

President McBride pointed out that the association was a voluntary non-profit corporation and that its by-laws and constitution did not require any approval other than that of the directors unless the board so decided.

The board accepted the resignation of first vice president Aubrey Harrell of Windsor "with regret," Harrell said in a letter that business and personal reasons precluded his continued service in the post.

Industrial Development Chairman Graham Shell announced that the directors and members of his committee would meet with Governor Moore and members of the Department of Conservation and Development on Tuesday, June 7, at the Sir Walter Raleigh to discuss some of the economic needs of the area.

Multi-Service Centers
The request consolidates several prior plans with the new programs to staff the county branch offices that have already been approved and funded under a \$72,262 grant for program development. (See CHOANOKE, Page 5)

Court Rulings Are Appealed

JACKSON—An uneducated man, who apparently was led astray by a Virginia car dealer, received mercy from Northampton County Recorder's Court Judge Ballard S. Gay but five men connected with the theft of four gallons of herbicide did not fare so well.

Judge Gay handed down suspended sentences to Cerry Jacobs, Isham Jacobs, William Jacobs, John Shouder and Troy Reid after hearing testimony concerning the theft of the herbicide.

Warning Car Purchasers

JACKSON — A case aired in Northampton County Recorder's Court Wednesday should serve as a warning to all Roanoke-Chowan area residents who might have the occasion to purchase a motor vehicle in the state of Virginia.

According to the law you cannot drive the vehicle into the state of North Carolina if you are a resident of North Carolina without first acquiring proper registration and insurance.

In several instances of late, North Carolinians have crossed the state line and purchased a car or truck and received temporary registration good for 10 days.

This registration is good in Virginia but not in North Carolina.

God and Country Award

The Rev. Angus Cameron (right) of the Jackson Methodist Church presented God and Country awards to David Eley, John William Price, III, and Jimmy Wheeler during the 11 a.m. services at the church Sunday.



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Post Office Dedication Set June 12
MARGARETTSVILLE — Dedication ceremonies for the new post office at Margarettsville will be held at 4 p.m. June 12. Speakers for the program will be Second District Congressman L. H. Fountain, First District Congressman Walter B. Jones and J. W. Winbourn, postal service officer from Raleigh. The new post office will be open for inspection by Northampton County citizens and refreshments will be offered.