



TSGT WILLIAM ROBINSON, 9-20-65 — Miss Betsy Davis, 13, an eighth grader at Conway Elementary School talks excitedly with classmates about the fact that a POW bracelet which she has worn since last year bears the name of a Roanoke Rapids airman who was released this week from Hanoi after almost seven years captivity. Flanking her is Luventa Dickerson, left, and Debbie Carter. Others are,

from left, Barbara Daye, Lelia Dickerson, Jerri Lynn Askew, Jackie Britton, Kim Barrett and Bonny Davis. Sergeant Robinson, now a master sergeant, is a native of Roanoke Rapids and the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Robinson. Miss Davis is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Grover Davis Jr., of Conway. The picture was taken in Mrs. Clara Hamilton's history class.



William Robinson

Roanoke Rapids POW

Bracelet Belonged To Guy Next Door

CONWAY — When Betsy Davis, an 8th grader at Conway Elementary School, was at the State Fair last year she bought a POW-MIA bracelet with the name "TSgt. William Robinson, 9-20-65." For those who do not recognize the meaning of this the explanation is made here. Sergeant Robinson, a technical

sergeant with the U.S. Air Force serving in the Indochina war zone, was reported missing September 20, 1965. Upon buying the bracelet Miss Davis, like most other owners of that time, put it on and vowed to keep it on until their particular POW was returned to American soil.

She did not know it at the time but her POW was a local man. Sergeant Robinson is a native of Roanoke Rapids, the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Robinson of Cedar Street. It wasn't until this past weekend that she realized where he is originally from. She first saw him being

(See POW, Page 16)

More Wind Than Snow Leaves County Among The Fortunate

JACKSON — Going, going gone — that's the latest report on the snow, second of the winter and the wildest in many years, probably since The Big One of 1948.

Without a working crystal ball, it isn't known what else 1973 will bring but it has already brought a snow per inch in the first two months of the year. Northampton received only a few inches of the dry, white stuff in a big winter storm that swept up from the southern states rather than coming across the mountains in the usual manner.

While the southern coastal cities were digging out, Asheville had no new snow. Flakes began falling a

furious manner, swept about by a howling wind shortly after midnight Friday and

Rich Square May Be Eliminated From EAS

JACKSON — February 26 has been set as a deadline by the Extended Area Service (EAS) Steering Committee to decide if Rich Square will be included or dropped from the five towns being considered for the service.

EAS is a toll-free service which, when passed, will enable telephone subscribers in Woodland, Jackson, Seaboard, Conway, and Rich Square to make calls to each other without having to pay a long distance rate.

Primary objection to the service is that it could increase the basic rates of telephone subscribers, by \$2 per month.

"When the original public hearing was held in September the feeling seemed to be unanimous for the service but some people feel progress and a step forward for the county is not worth ten cents a day," a spokesman said.

"By and far, the feelings of county subscribers favor this move and many see it as the most progressive move in the county in years. A few people seem to lack any imagination of how the county can grow. If any town elects not to have this very valuable service then it may just get left behind as we continue to grow," the spokesman concluded.

County Auditor Sidney Ellen, said in an interview,

that his main communication with Rich Square subscribers has been through the weekly and daily newspaper. "Possibly it's just apathy as to why we have received such a low response to our requests for endorsement of EAS," he said.

"I feel that our county

(See EAS, Page 16)

Police Swarm In Woodland

WOODLAND — The business district of Woodland looked like the scene of a law enforcement officers convention for a few minutes shortly before 9 a.m., Wednesday morning, according to Police Chief H. F. Story. Somebody in the Woodland branch of the North Carolina National Bank accidentally tripped the hold-up alarm and Chief Story found out he would not be alone in an emergency.

Answering the alarm within minutes were Deputy Sheriff Grover Parker, Rich Square Police Chief Willie W. Conner, and Highway Patrolmen John Wood and Joe Lucas.

there was no let up for almost 24 hours. The wind piled drifts in some places while leaving the ground almost bear in others.

Grocery stores did a brisk business as everybody seemed to have the same idea — in spite of rising food prices to stock up in case it was impossible to get to the store for some time.

Most events scheduled for the weekend were cancelled.

The Sheriff's Department, Highway Patrol, local police and Rescue Squads went into action assisting needed and providing transportation for workers in essential services.

The February snow came almost a month to the day from the January 8 accumulation of four to six inches that caused schools to be closed most of that week. Make up days for this lost time had already been arranged.

Mail, bus and other services were delayed early in the week, not from the snow in this area but greater amounts of it in other sections of the state and southward.

Carolyn Wheeler In Hospital

JACKSON — Miss Carolyn Wheeler, accounting clerk in the Northampton County Auditor's Office, has been listed in fair condition at Halifax Memorial Hospital. She was rushed to the hospital Monday with chest pains.

At Garysburg Exit

Motel, Restaurant Set For N'ampton

GARYSBURG — Construction of Northampton County's first motel-restaurant complex to be built in the county in many years is getting underway this month at the Garysburg Exit of Interstate 95.

To be known as the Lemon Tree Inn of Roanoke Rapids, Inc., the 60 unit two-story motel will have an Aunt Sara's Pancake and Steak House Restaurant which will seat approximately 100 people.

The Garysburg structure is being built on land leased from Newsom Oil Company of Roanoke Rapids. According to M. C. Newsom this is a "long term lease".

"The land is being graded this week and the contracts have been let to the builders. We have one final administrative detail to attend to but this

should cause no problems," Newsom said.

"This Garysburg motel will be one of seven properties under the Lemon Tree Inn name and is one of two under construction at this time. The other is a six-story inn being built in Raleigh across Hillsboro Street from N. C. State University," a company spokesman in Wilmington said.

Other properties with the Lemon Tree Inn name include Marion, I-40 (60 units); Charlotte, I-85, (101 units); Washington, U. S. 17 (76 units); Myrtle Beach, S. C., oceanfront, (39 units) and Richmond, Va., I-95, (60 units). At present 60 additional units are being added to the Richmond property by the late summer.

Completion date for the Garysburg property is expected by early summer.

Legislators Feelings Mixed

ERA Issue Draws Varied Answers

By JOSEPH COVOLO JR. Managing Editor

RALEIGH — Although the Equal Rights Amendment dominated last week's headlines from the legislative session a lot more was done than what was printed in the newspapers reported all four representatives from the Roanoke-Chowan.

A general summation of feelings was given by Sen. Harrington who said, "Now that the initial legislation has been introduced most of the actions in the committee meetings. In time it will make its way back to the floor and then action may pick up."

Equal Rights is viewed with mixed emotions by Roanoke-Chowan's four in that Senator Harrington and Gates' Sen. Robert Jernigan are pretty much against the bill as they now see it and Rep. J. Guy Revelle of Northampton County and Roberts Jernigan of Hertford County are undecided but favoring it.

"Actually we all have our feelings on the matter but public hearings are still being held and we learn something new with each speaker. To say that I would vote definitely one way or the other would be unfair because it implies my mind is already made up and that the public hearings are unnecessary," said Representative Jernigan.

Both Senators Godwin and Harrington have studied the bill closely and report they feel in the long run it will hurt womanhood and be a step backwards for them. Senator Godwin said, "The actions of some of those favoring this legislation are making a bad impression with the General Assembly as they seem a bit hostile and negative in promoting their cause. Those for ERA are mostly with organizations but the opposition is made up of individuals who are appearing on their own."

Other Areas Senator Godwin reported that he had been appointed by Sen. Julian Allsbrook, chairman of Judiciary Committee I, to serve as chairman of a sub-committee to deal with all of the drug bills which have been introduced this session, about eight.

"My hope is to get all eight together and make up one single package if possible and understand and not conflict with other laws on the subject," the senator said.

Representative Jernigan reported that appropriations are "coming along fine and departmental hearings should end by Wednesday. I hope to have sub-committees appointed and working on it by Thursday."

When questioned about an annual sessions Representative Jernigan said that there was one issue being questioned, that of an annual budget or a bi-annual budget with a review of the second year when the next session of the legislator meets. "This

should not prove to be a real stumbling block," he reported.

Local Roads

Representative Revelle said that he was looking with "much concern" at the road construction picture in the western area of the Roanoke-Chowan. Of primary interest to the freshman representative is a by-pass of the road from Conway to Interstate 95. The by-pass question came up last spring in a Murfreesboro Town Council meeting when Mayor W. W. (Billy) Hill suggested the town start to make plans for a by-pass then because if they wait until the State Highway Department comes in with one they will have very little say-so in where it goes. No other local action on this matter has been reported since.

"Northampton County will be affected greatly by the main road crossing the county to connect with the interstate and I hope to get some action going on studying the situation very soon."

5th County Casualty Reported

RICH SQUARE — Following the signing of the peace treaty which concluded much of the United States' involvement in the Indochina War the Times-News ran a story in its next issue (February 1) stating that by unofficial count four county men had been killed in action there. The term "unofficial" was used because no official record of county casualties was kept.

Since the announcement of from Northampton was a casualty in that war.

He was David Cherry Jr., the son of Mr. and Mrs. David Cherry of Route 1, Woodland. A marine, he was killed May 12, 1969 at Quang Nam Province, RVN. His family was notified 14 days later.

Among his survivors, besides his parents, were two brothers Donald and Lois Thomas, both away in the service, a sister Patricia Cherry of Woodland, maternal grandfather Cleveland Earley of Potocasi and a paternal grandmother, Mrs. Laura Cherry of Woodland.

Higher Classes Asked For R-C Area Waters

RALEIGH — Streams in Bertie, Gates and Hertford Counties (Chowan River Basin) and Northampton County (Chowan and Roanoke River Basins) are among those to be considered for reclassification in a public hearing March 1.

The N. C. Board of Water and Air Resources will consider the reclassification of waters in the Chowan, Neuse, Pasquotank, Roanoke,

Tar-Pamlico and White Oak River Basins at a hearing at Lenoir Community College, Kinston, beginning at 1 p.m.

The following fresh water classifications are used for existing and proposed uses in the Roanoke-Chowan area: Class A-1 — Suitable as a source of water supply for drinking, culinary, or food processing purposes after approved treatment equal to coagulation, sedimentation, filtration and disinfection and any other usage requiring waters of lower quality.

Class A-2 — Suitable as a source of water supply for drinking, culinary, or food processing purposes after approved treatment by approved disinfection only, and any other usage requiring waters of lower quality.

Class B — Suitable for outdoor bathing and any other

(See WATERS, Page 16)

February Is Heart Month

JACKSON — "February is Heart Month and, as chairman of the Jackson Heart Fund drive, I would like to urge everyone to open up their hearts and give generously to the young people who will be knocking on your doors for a contribution," said Mrs. Douglas Eason this week.

"The Heart Association is grateful for the support of the Jackson community in its part of the Heart Fund campaign," she continued.

Mrs. Eason started Heart Fund dollars work 12 months a year to help with heart attacks, heart defects, strokes and high blood pressure. "The Heart Fund money helps Northampton County hearts, as well as hearts everywhere, through heart research, community services and education. So, please give generously," said Mrs. Eason.

Four Named To Planning Group

ROCKY MOUNT — Four Northampton County officials are among 20 from Region L named to serve on the executive committee of the Central Region Planning Commission.

According to County Accountant Tim Ellen this program is concerned with the Law Enforcement Assistant Association Planning Commission and has, from each county, one law officer, one public official, one county government administrative official, and one member at large.

Representing Northampton are Mayor Firman Myrick of Gaston, Northampton County Sheriff E. Frank Outland, Rich Square Police Chief Willie Wayne Conner, and Ellen. The group meets twice annually.



DOWNTOWN JACKSON IS taking on a new look as an old derelict is taken down to make way for a new building for the Northampton County Farm Bureau. The new structure will be of Colonial design and plans call for completion by the fall.