

# THE Northampton County TIMES-NEWS

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## Gaston May Annex By Ordinance

GASTON — The Town of Gaston may seek an alternate route to accomplish an annexation it had originally planned to complete with a special local bill in the General Assembly.

Mayor Firman Myrick stated Wednesday that the North Carolina League of Municipalities has offered legal assistance to the town in the annexation attempt.

Mayor Myrick stated that the annexation, since it does not involve a large number of property owners, may be realized through a petitioning effort. He cited the tremendous amount of legal work involved in a special act of the legislature as a sore spot in the town board's original plans.

Myrick stated that the board would discuss annexation with the parties involved and

determine if there is enough interest on behalf of the property owners to petition the town for inclusion in the corporate limits.

Myrick stated that the annexation idea originated with property owners along N. C. 48 North. The annexation would merely "straighten out" municipal boundaries in that area, the mayor said.

Myrick said water and sewer lines would have to be extended, but, he added, at no great expense to the town. Engineering drawings for the extension are already complete.

Mayor Myrick noted that 100 per cent of the property owners in the petitioning area would have to sign a petition seeking annexation before the town could annex by ordinance.



WORKMEN FROM Connell Construction Co. in Warrenton are busy planting water mains along U. S. 301 in Garysburg. The project is being undertaken by the Progressive Garysburg Water Association at a cost of \$129,000.

## 1,000 Attend 34th Annual REA Meet

RICH SQUARE — One thousand persons attended the 34th annual meeting of the Roanoke Electric Membership Cooperative in Rich Square Saturday.

Re-elected to the board of directors of REA were H. C. Martin of Creeksville, E. W. Evans of Como and A. S. White of Windsor.

They will continue to serve with existing board members C. V. Cobb of Windsor, Thurman Morris of Gates, E. L. Trotman of Gates, Roscoe Gillman of Bertie, H. A. Bennett of Rich Square, Matthew Grant of Tillery, Grover Burgess of Conway and Frank Warren of Littleton.

Music in the form of banjo plucking and singing was provided by "The Executives," a quartet composed of Raleigh businessmen.

Following the entertainment and luncheon on the grounds of the REA headquarters, A. S. White reported on the financial condition of the REA.

"I am proud to say that we are meeting our payment to the Rural Electrification Administration each quarter and all other obligations made

by the Cooperative. To me, this speaks well for the administration of your Cooperative.

The question has been asked several times that since the Cooperative has a margin each year where is it located and what is done with it.

The answer to this question is that some years ago when funds were difficult to receive from the Rural Electrification Administration they informed the Cooperative not to make any cash refunds until they had acquired 40 per cent equity or ownership in the Cooperative, but to use these margins to help rebuild the Cooperative's electrical system, that is building new lines, rebuilding those in existence, payment to contractors for trimming trees and for new construction, White stated.

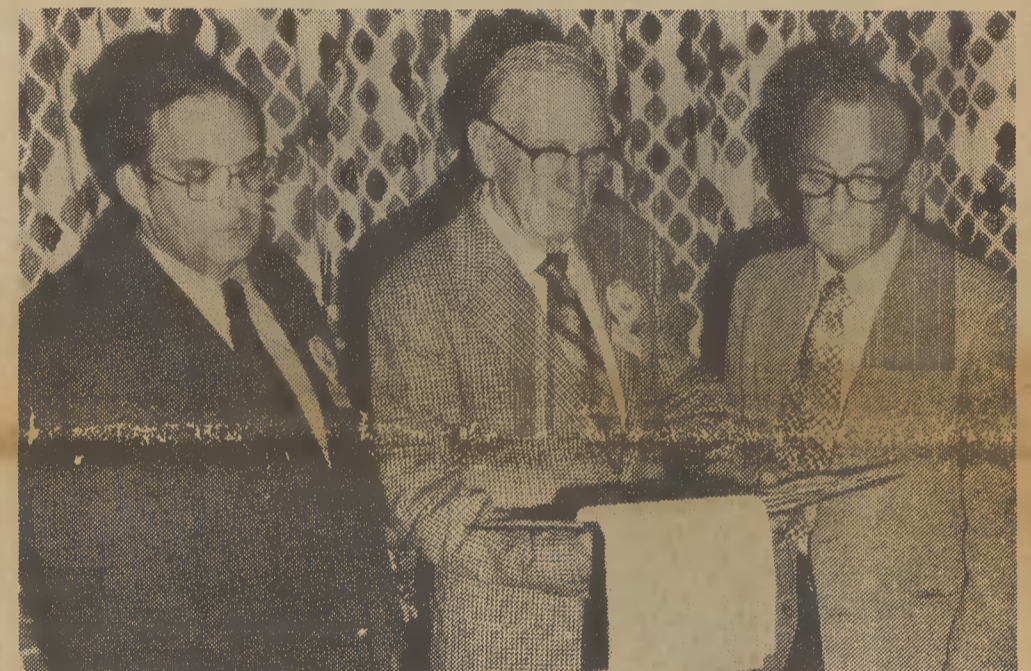
"However, each year you receive a capital credit card informing you of the amount of your capital credit. This amount is credited to your ledger each year and whenever the Cooperative reaches the 40 per cent equity required by REA, cash refunds will be made. As of the close of business for the year 1972, equity per member

or ownership was 25.3, that is each member owns 25 per cent of the Cooperative which

today's value is over six million dollars. Some of these margins are set up as a renewal and replacement account. This will give us money to replace rotten poles, broken wires, to repair

hurricane and sleet damages and for additional equipment needed in the years to come. I would like to point out that effective just a few months ago the Cooperative money that we will borrow will not come from the United States Government, but from the open market as any other private organization or any individual that would borrow money," stated White.

"The interest rate is no longer 2 per cent but 5 per cent. Therefore, the operation, of your Cooperative is becoming more difficult each year in its operation, difficult in that money is hard to borrow and money borrowed cost more interest, but I am confident with the well trained staff that we have and the directions of the directors, we will continue to serve you with the very best in electrical service and at the very cheapest rate possible.



ROANOKE ELECTRIC Membership Co-op officials attorney Tom Bolch of Raleigh, REA President E. W. Evans of Como and REA Manager V. E. Taylor of Rich Square look over the annual report of the rural electric cooperative.

## County Sales And Use Taxes Tops Half-Million Mark

RALEIGH — Northampton County sales and use tax collections for the 1972-73 fiscal year amounted to \$505,878, the state Department of Revenue reports.

The collections are based on total retail sales of \$20,171,371 for the period.

Tax on food brought the greatest revenue return in Northampton at \$210,070 with sales totaling \$8.9 million.

Revenue from the sale of automobiles netted \$77,767 based on total sales of over \$4.9 million.

A total of \$65,944 was collected on general

merchandise taken from a gross sales figure in excess of \$3.5 million.

The two per cent tax on autos, planes and boats generated \$61,067 in taxes, based on sales of \$3.1 million, and a category of goods labeled unclassified netted \$42,190, based on sales of \$4.6 million.

Other taxes collected were as follows: one per cent retail sales tax, \$19,820; apparel, \$3,209; furniture, \$10,938; building materials, \$4,615; one and three per cent use taxes, \$9,944; and licenses revenue, \$310.

## Bloodmobile To Visit Woodland Sept. 5

WOODLAND — The bloodmobile will make one visit to Woodland this year. It will be at the National Guard Armory Wednesday, September 5, from 12-5 p.m.

In order to help meet the needs of the hospitals, the

sponsoring club will conduct a "Balanced Recruiting Program" for donors, which means having a desired percentage of different blood types.

The goal for Woodland is 100 pints.

## Conway Industrial Group Selling Stock

CONWAY — Stock in the Conway Industrial Corporation are being sold in an effort to attract more business and industry to the town.

Thirty-six shares at \$25 per share have been sold to 21 individuals, Johnny Martin, secretary-treasurer of the corporation, reported at the regular monthly meeting of board of directors Tuesday night.

The profit making corporation's goal is 1,000 shares or \$25,000.

The purpose of the corporation is to attempt to attract new business and

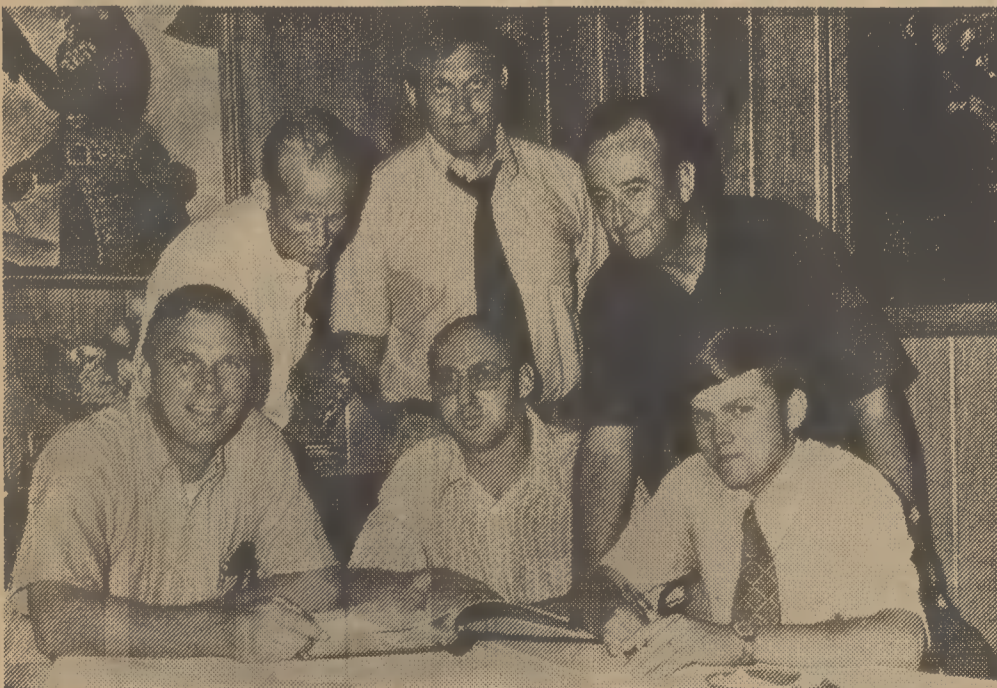
industry by offering assistance in financing and in acquiring land and other facilities if necessary.

The corporation was formed in April and meets every third Tuesday in the month.

According to President Lynmore Gay of Georgia-Pacific, the goal of the corporation is to sell all the \$25,000 in stock by Jan. 1.

The first annual stockholders meeting is set for January.

George Harris, county economic developer and planner, is assisting the corporation in its infant stages.



CONWAY INDUSTRIAL Corporation heads are (from left, seated) Lynmore Gay, president; Aubrey Whitley, vice president; and Johnny Martin, secretary-treasurer. Standing are Billy Joyner, director; George Harris, county economic developer; and Conway Mayor Grady Martin, director.

## Water Project To Be Complete Oct. 1

GARYSBURG — Oct. 1 is the deadline for completion of a water extension project now underway in Garysburg.

Workers from Connell Construction Company of Warrenton are in the process of installing three miles of water main along U. S. 301 from N. C. 46 to the Roanoke River bridge at Weldon.

A Farmer's Home Administration grant-loan totaling \$129,000 made the expansion possible. The loan

portion is \$99,000 and the grant is \$30,000.

The extension of water service to 125 additional customers is being carried out by the Progressive Garysburg Water Association, an organization separate from the municipality.

The association created a water district outside the Garysburg corporate limits and got into the water business three years ago. The current expansion project

represents the association's first efforts to provide water to the Town of Garysburg.

The project will be self-liquidating in that the loan will be paid back through water receipts obtained from the sale of water.

No sewage service is provided by the water association.

Residents of Garysburg proper petitioned the independent association for the extended water service.

## New County Health Administrator Named

JACKSON — A fulltime administrator for the Northampton County Health Department reported to work this week.

John Ahearn, who comes here from Fayetteville, assumes the post of health boss, a position that has not been filled since 1969 when Dr. Raleigh Parker of Woodland retired.

Dr. John Stanley, a Woodland physician and

mayor of that town, has served as acting health director in the absence of a fulltime director.

Ahearn, 30, served four years in preventive medicine attached to Womack Army Hospital at Ft. Bragg. He received direct commission as a captain and spent a year in Southeast Asia.

The young administrator is a native of Union, N. J. He earned his undergraduate degree in biology at Upsala College in E. Orange, N. J., and completed his masters in public health at the University of Kentucky.

Ahearn, who was hired by the Northampton County Board of Health, was on the job Monday for the first day. He will be responsible for administering the health

program in the county as well as formulating new programs. The administrator will also be in charge of the department's budget in addition to supervising the 16 employees of the health division.

Programs under Ahearn's direct supervision are the family planning clinic, immunization clinics, the child health program, TB program and the county sanitation program.

The administrator is answerable directly to the health board.

In addition to his work as a medical entomologist in the Army, Ahearn's work experience includes one year as a program representative with the U. S. Public Health Service in Newark, N. J.

He resides with his wife and child in Severn.

## Attorney Opens Law Office In Woodland

WOODLAND — Attorney Charlie Vaughan this week opened a law office in Woodland.

Vaughan, who immediately prior to now was a law partner with state Rep. C. Kitchin Josey in Scotland Neck, is in the process of remodeling a building in Woodland that will house his office.

Vaughan is a native of Woodland. He graduated from the then Woodland Olney High School in 1958. Four years later he earned a

batchelor's degree in business administration at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill. He completed the requirements for a law degree in 1965 at UNC.

Vaughan served three years as a lieutenant in the U. S. Naval Reserve's Judge Advocate Corps.

He was an assistant solicitor of Mecklenburg County District Court in Charlotte for two years prior to joining the Scotland Neck law firm in July 1970.

## Minimum Wage Goes Up Sun.

RALEIGH — The North Carolina minimum wage will advance to \$1.80 per hour for all covered employees Sunday.

The increase from the previous \$1.60 hourly state minimum comes as the result of action completed by the N. C. General Assembly in May. Some 50,000 of the State's lowest paid citizens will benefit from the 12.5 per cent hike in the Tar Heel wage floor.

Who Is Covered  
The North Carolina minimum applies to most nonfarm and nongovernmental full-time employees in establishments employing four or more employees.

Virtually all of the State's 775,000 factory workers will be covered by the \$1.80 State minimum.

Normally, the chief wage protection of workers in manufacturing is the Federal Wage and Hour Law; but until final action is taken in Washington to raise the present \$1.60 federal minimum to higher levels, most Tar Heel factory workers in establishments employing four or more employees will be covered by the \$1.80 state minimum.

The higher state minimum also will apply to most of the 900,000 North Carolina workers employed in mining, construction, transportation, communications, public utilities, finance, insurance, real estate and services.

However, most of the 50,000 Tar Heels who will benefit directly from the new \$1.80 minimum are employed in relatively small retail and wholesale trade establishments, service-industry businesses, food service establishments and lower-wage type manufacturing plants.

## Over 6,000 In County Schools

JACKSON — Enrollment in county schools is constant with last year's figures, according to a report issued by public and private school administrators in the county. A total of 5,791 students reported to county schools Tuesday for the first full day of classes. Of that total 4,023 are elementary age and 1,768 are in high school.

Northeast Academy at Lasker, a private Christian school, has an enrollment of 375 in grades one through 12. That is five or six less than last year, the school's headmaster reports.

Northampton County's public school enrollment is basically unchanged with no great losses or gains noted.

Northampton High at Creeksville boasts the largest enrollment of the four public high schools. It has 791 students, compared to 462 at Gumberry, 298 at Gaston and 217 at Creecy.

Garysburg Elementary School is the largest elementary unit in the county system with 666 pupils. Squire School in Gaston is second in size with 544 pupils registered.

Other elementary enrollments are Coates, 187; Conway, 436; Eastside, 204; Gaston Elementary, 292; Jackson, 200; Rich Square, 277; Seaboard, 178; Willis Hare, 391; Creecy Elementary, 256; and Woodland Olney, 392.

## Calendar Deadline Sept. 10

RICH SQUARE — The Rich Square Lions Club is sponsoring a community birthday calendar sale for 1974. The deadline for inclusion on the calendar is Sept. 10.

The listings will include birthdays, anniversaries and community events.

Three hundred families were represented on last year's calendar. George Davis and Linwood C. Bryant are co-chairmen of the calendar project.

Proceeds from calendar sales will go to meet the quota for the Boys Home at Lake Wacamac, Camp Dogwood for the blind, CARE, Youth Exchange and community projects for Rich Square.

## No School

JACKSON — Students will have a holiday from school Monday in county public and private schools.

Schools will be closed in observance of Labor Day. Classes resume on a normal schedule Tuesday.