

## Two Issues Remain Unresolved

# Gaston Residents Air Zoning Complaints

GASTON — Twenty town residents jammed into Gaston Town Hall in a special Monday night session to air gripes concerning businesses operating in nonconforming zones.

Ms. Annette Claiborne, unsuccessful candidate for Gaston commissioner earlier this month, charged Edward Clements with operating a trucking company next door to her in a residential section on the east side of town.

Clements argued that he merely operates a mechanics shop there "as a hobby shop" and he has no privilege license to operate a business. Clements contends he is not in business.

Ms. Claiborne said she was annoyed by the trucks leaving so early in the mornings and arriving so late at nights.

Town Attorney Nick Long refused to respond to questions about whether or not Clements is in business until he can further investigate the matter.

Long stated that if the noise is annoying to anyone that person has the right to file a warrant. Long noted it is not the responsibility of the town to take out warrants for violators of the noise ordinance.

Mayor Firman Myrick observed that the primary

complaint concerned the noise caused by the transfer trucks. Ms. Claiborne argued that the point she was trying to make is the Clements is operating illegally in a residential zone.

The matter was not resolved.

Still another complaint concerning a garage operated by Jim Redwine was reviewed by the commissioners and the board agreed to limit Redwine's hours of operation until the matter is studied further.

Redwine's shop is located in a residential neighborhood. He purchased a privilege license from the town and it was issued without contest.

It was pointed out Redwine's permit was issued by a temporary town employee who was unfamiliar with zoning restrictions.

Redwine agreed to the limited hours of operation.

In other matters the board:

— Entered into a cooperation agreement with the Roanoke-Chowan Housing Authority concerning the proposed 50-unit housing project to be built just outside the corporate limits north of town.

Al Vickery, architect with Tomberlin Associates of Atlanta, appeared before the board with the contract in which the town agreed not to

tax the property in the project.

Though the dwellings will not be in Gaston-proper, a three-acre tract on which a sewage holding pond will be located, is inside the city limits. Vickery explained that the cooperation agreement will be good if the town annexes the project when complete.

The board has agreed to pave Broughton Street to the housing authority property line and it has also approved extension of water service to the project.

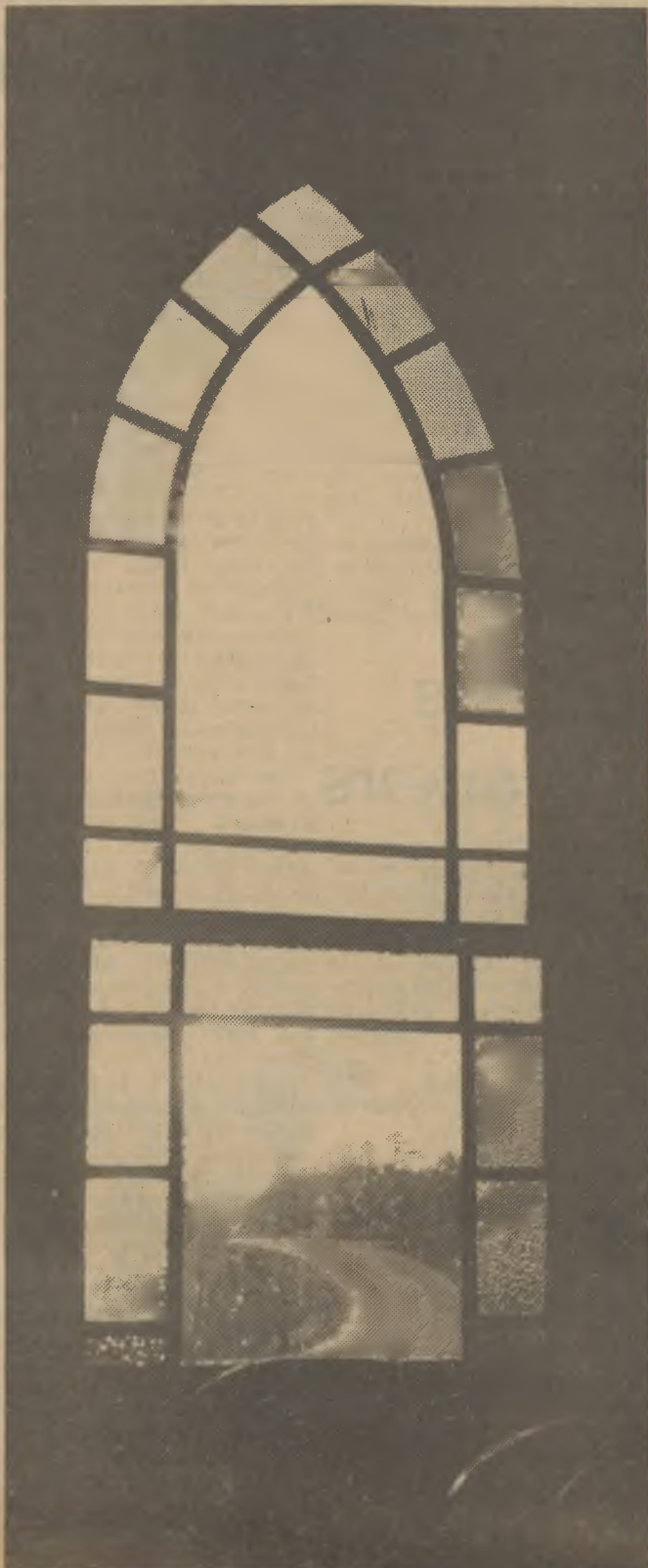
— Approved payment of \$14,222.95 to Rufus B. Hux & Son of Roanoke Rapids, general contractor for the new Town Hall project. The payment represents final payment for the \$26,222 building.

— Heard a report from Mayor Myrick that the deed for the parkland the town is purchasing from Joe Baird off Davie Street has been delivered.

The 12.37 acre park will be used for recreational purposes and will cost the town \$15,000. Initial payment is for \$4,000.

— Accepted the resignation of Mabel Coker from the town elections board. No replacement was named.

— Voted to pay members of the elections board \$1.80 per hour for meetings attended plus mileage.



Thanksgiving in the hearts of individuals should be as a winding road that continues on and on with only one beginning and no end.

## Three More To Be Named

# Northhampton Rec Committee Named

JACKSON — Eight of the 11 prospective members of the county recreation advisory committee were appointed Monday by Northhampton commissioners.

The appointees will serve in an advisory capacity on recreational matters to the planning board. It is the first recreation committee ever formed by the commissioners to develop a countywide recreational program.

Appointed to date are Ellen Johnson and John Brady, both of Jackson, Senora Broadnax of Seaboard, Lawrence Barham of Gaston, Joseph Cotton of Garysburg, John Wood of Pendleton, Shirley Gay of Seaboard and John G. Outland of Woodland.

Commissioners Jack Faison of Seaboard and John Henry Liverman of Woodland still have one appointment each to make.

Don Johnson, coach at Northampton High School, was mentioned as a possible chairperson for the committee; however, no decision was made due to the absence of Commissioner Liverman. The chairperson will be appointed by the commissioners.

The planning board will be responsible for notifying the new advisory committee members about an organizational meeting.

Commissioners have appropriated \$50,000 in revenue sharing funds in the area of recreation. Though the new committee will not expend funds, it will advise the planning board on expenditures to recommend to the county board.

In other business, the board:

— Appropriated by request of Sheriff Frank Outland \$2,200 in additional funds for his department's fiscal budget.

A total of \$2,500 is for

maintenance, equipment and cars, \$500 for office supplies, postage and box rent and \$200 for darkroom supplies.

—Set the salary of the new night jailer at \$350 per month.

—Heard a presentation by a representative of Carolina Office Equipment Co. of Rocky Mount on furnishings for a proposed new employee lounge on the second floor of the courthouse.

Suggested furnishings for the coffee break and lunch area \$2,295 not including the cost of installing a rest room.

—Okayed plans for internal courthouse expansion that call for additional space in the Clerk of Court's office.

A rest room and what is now the Veteran's Service Office will be renovated to add vault space to the office.

The plan accepted Monday is an alternate proposal. Originally, commissioners had proposed the clerk and register of deeds offices exchanging space, allowing

for expansion of what is now the register of deeds.

The plan was scratched since the clerk's office man need further expansion in the future to the rear of the courthouse, which it now occupies.

No hall space will be sacrificed in the internal renovation.

Clerk of Court Jennings White appeared before the board seeking approval of the plans. White said the move now would be good for seven to 10 years.

Funds have already been appropriated from revenue sharing to cover cost of the expansion.

—Approved payment of \$9,413 to the bonding company handling the county home renovation project.

—Heard reports from two state Social Services officials who praised the county's conversion of the old county home to the Social Services Building.

## Board Orders ABC Chief To Give Up Duties

RALEIGH — Northhampton County Alcoholic Beverage Control Chairman Bart Burgwyn this week was ordered to cease carrying out duties of ABC supervisor and the county board was ordered to lower Burgwyn's salary.

The orders were handed down Monday by the state ABC board which has charged Burgwyn with double office holding in a lengthy controversy that is yet to be resolved.

Burgwyn, who is now making \$6,000 annually as ABC Board chairman, is the highest paid chairman in the state. The Mecklenburg system's chairman, the state's largest ABC system,

draws \$3,600 per year.

The state board is seeking a salary comparable to that of a chairman of an ABC system the size of Northampton's.

Burgwyn was first called on the carpet by the state board several months ago when it charged him with carrying out the dual responsibilities of chairman and supervisor.

Burgwyn contends he is not supervisor but merely carries out the normal duties of a supervisor as the board's chairman.

Dr. Leslie Holshouser, chairman of the state board, said he expects Burgwyn to continue resistance in the matter. He did not know how the state would enforce its orders to the local board.

Last month the state board called for Burgwyn's resignation and he refused to resign, charging the state board with no authority to order his resignation.

Burgwyn is represented in the matter by a Raleigh attorney.

## Open House

JACKSON — A dedication service is planned Dec. 2 for the Social Services Building north of here.

Dr. Renee Wescott, head of the state Division of Social Services, will be featured speaker.

## Fire Danger Increasing

JACKSON — The danger of forest fires in Northampton is increasing daily, according to Leroy Wheeler of the North Carolina Forest Service.

Wheeler, who supervises firefighting in county woodlands, said Wednesday 19 forest fires have occurred in the county since Oct. 18. He noted that five were caused by hunters smoking and three were caused by electrified fences. The remainder were caused by unauthorized burning of debris.

Wheeler announced that all burning permits have been cancelled and will remain cancelled until after the first general rain. He said the county needs 1.5 to 3 inches of rain to appreciably lessen the danger of forest fires.

Wheeler stated this is the driest fall in his 18 years with the service. He said county swamps are without moisture.

Wheeler cautioned hunters and motorists about discharging cigarettes in wooded areas and further warned persons with electric

fences near woodlands to keep the fences off until after the dryness passes.

Absolutely no outdoor burning is being allowed, Wheeler said, including the burning of refuse or leaves.

Wheeler said Forest Service personnel here have a back operating under Readiness 5 plan for the past month, a plan requiring fulltime forest fire watch and alerts to firefighting units.

"The danger of wildfires occurring in the county increases each day that passes without rain. The forest in this area are extremely dry," he said.

"The drop in the relative humidity and the gusting winds of the past few days add

to the possibility to severe wildfires." Wheeler stated that dry weather conditions have encouraged more outdoor activity by county residents which, too, increases the chance of forest fire.

Hunters, campers, picnickers and anyone else in the forests are urged by the county forest ranger to "be extremely careful" and he also encouraged farmers anticipating burning off fields to postpone all burning until after the danger period.

Wheeler said a fire last week destroyed 140 acres in the Rehoboth section. The majority of the 19 fires reported have been small, said Wheeler.

## Postmaster General To Visit Severn

SEVERN — U. S. Postmaster General E. Ted Klassen will make an unprecedented visit at the Severn Post Office Friday morning.

According to Postmaster Mildred Vaughan, postal information officer for the northeastern counties, the top

official of the U. S. Postal Service will arrive at 1 p.m. tomorrow.

The visit is part of an unannounced tour of the postal facilities in North Carolina. The stop at Severn is the only stop with advanced public notice and it is the postmaster general's only visit to a third class office.

Ms. Vaughan attributed the visit to her position in public relations with the postal service. She also noted that she has met with Klassen on three occasions for the purpose of an interview for her

column, Postal Chatter, which appears in newspapers across the state and throughout the Southeast.

Postmaster Gen. Klassen is touring post offices to determine the service's readiness in view of the recent energy shortage. He is expected to enumerate on the effects of the fuel shortage on holiday mail service.

The public is invited to the reception planned for Klassen at the small post office here. Six television stations are to be represented at the reception.

## Ballots Out For ASCS Election

JACKSON — Ballots have been mailed to 2,800 farm owners, operators and producers in the county for

selection of ASCS community committeemen.

According to Ben Mann, ASCS director, ballots must be

postmarked no later than Dec. 3 for the Dec. 6 tabulation of votes.

Community nominees in the 12 sections of the county are as follows:

Conway — Rodney B. Barrett, Sam Boone, Harold Britt, J. H. Draper Jr., W. E. Lassiter and Lawrence W. Ricks.

Creeksville — Frank R. Deloatch Jr., Robert C. Deloatch, Edward M. Laier, Harbie C. Martin, Elliott L. Ricks, John Sykes and Charlie W. Taylor.

Galatia-Margarettsville — Leroy Barrett, H. G. Britton Jr., John J. (Dan) Dickerson, Henry C. Edwards, Randolph Galloway, Dewitt Gay and Harold Taylor.

Garysburg — Stanley Davis, William R. Johnston, M. Read Stephenson, William L. Stephenson, G. N. Taylor and Albert Ray Tudor.

Gaston-Pleasant Hill Vulture — D. R. Allen Jr., M. C. Dunlop, Thomas W. Grant, J. T. Hargrave, James H. Jones, Henry L. Jordan, James N. Massey and R. L. Shaw.

Jackson — Paul R. Barrett, Kenneth Barrow Jr., Raymond Jones, Marcus G. Little, John A. Mitchell, Charles J. Stephenson and J. F. (Buck) Turner.

Lasker-Rehoboth — W. W. Boone, J. R. Bristow, Glaston Martin, David F. Odom, J. R. Vaughan and Jesse Wheeler.

Milwaukee-Newton — Randolph Askew, M. S. Bridgers, Eston Futrell, Clifton Manley, Kelly Martin and Robert Revelle.

Pendleton-Severn — Hugh Pete Britton, G. E. Fisher, Joe Alex Horne, J. C. Long Jr., Cecil Maddrey and Richard McGee.

Potecasi-Woodland — Maxie Britt, J. P. Brown Jr., Norman Bryant, James L. Grant, Clyde Jenkins and J. S. Vaughan Jr.

Rich Square — S. G. Baugham, McCoy Drew, Julian J. Edwards, Clayton Moore, Rudolph Pope and Wilson Robbins.

Seaboard — Anderson Davis, Joseph B. Long, W. E. Mumford, Paul Parker, Henry R. Ricks and Bill Turner.

Spaces are provided on the ballots for write-in candidates.

Ms. Vaughan attributed the visit to her position in public relations with the postal service. She also noted that she has met with Klassen on three occasions for the purpose of an interview for her

## northampton chaff

Thanksgiving day was served two days early at the Migrant and Seasonal Farm Workers Association in Rich Square. The meal, served Tuesday for program participants, was made possible by food and money contributed by MSFA supporters.

The food was planned and arranged by the Family Development Association and was prepared by the center's food and nutrition class.

According to Joan Culbreth, project chief, everyone was fed and had a Thanksgiving good time.

Twenty-seven area businesses made the dinner possible.

Rich Square contributions came from The Times-News, Planters National Bank, Draper Brothers Supermarket, New York Bargain Store, Peebles Department Store, Modern Cleaners, Bolton's Drug Store, Redi's Exxon Service Station, Boone's Sunoco Station, Taylor's Service Station & Grocery, Chappell's Red & White, Perry's Shoe Repair, Farm & Home Gas, Gordon-Hunter Funeral Home, Hall Oil Co., Myers' Mill Outlet and the Patlo Drive-In.

Contributions came from the following Ahoskie firms: Stylistics Club, Hunter Funeral Home, Anthony Tractor Repair, Robinson's Septic Tank Co., Theodore R. Watson Contractor, Everett Enterprises, and Twelve Sportsmen Club.

Other gifts were reported from the Red & White Market in Woodland and from Alexander's Market and A & P Supermarket in Scotland Neck.

The court news is a constant complaint source in most newspaper offices which insist on reporting the local judicial action.

The Times-News, which attempts to handle court proceedings fairly, treating defendants equally, is no exception.

Frank Barnes of Rt. 1, Seaboard call office manager Mabel Branch this week to let her know he is not the "Frank Barnes, address unknown," etc. whose assault on a female charge was not prosessed in court last week.

It seems this is not the first time Frank Barnes of Rt. 1, Seaboard has been confused with Frank Barnes Address Unknown.

Readers may now brace themselves for a

critical response from Mr. Unknown.

It had to happen.

Yes, Virginia, there are UFO's in Seaboard.

A so-called UFO, unlikely as well as being unidentified, was reported in Seaboard this week seen by Jennie Bell Smith and her son, Anthony, a Coates student. The object was sighted near the Wilkins Buffaloe property.

Ms. Smith said the UFO was green and "the men were riding something like a rocket ship."

"It was amazing to my son and I as well as to Beatrice Smith and Hazel Garris," Mr. Smith noted, and, no doubt, they should be amazed.

A task force has been formed at Northhampton County High from the student body to appear before organizations in the county promoting the educational concept of the county's largest high school.

The group is composed of a dozen juniors and seniors and they are available to present programs on activity at the school to civic and religious groups.

Serving on the task force are Reven Deloatch, Gregory Bowser, Jody Edwards, John Buffaloe, Vickie Eason, Carson Howard, Deborah Lambertson, Marty Martin, Robin Ward, Billy Tyler, Mary Lewis Price and Gregory Lane.

There appears to be quite a public demand on the Lynmore Gay family of Seaboard of late.

Just last month, the head of the household was named to fill a vacancy on the county education board and this week the wife was named to the recreation advisory committee.

The family was named family of the year by Conway Ruritans Monday night.

There is a bit of irony surrounding the observance of thanksgiving this year. Amidst the threats of cold houses this winter and gasless cars in addition to electrical power cutbacks, the nation pauses to give thanks in the old tradition for a bountiful harvest, which appears to be all that's in good supply today.

## Trainee Becomes Citizen

RICH SQUARE — Ruben Alvarez Martinez is the first Mexican trainee at the Migrant and Seasonal Farm Workers' Association here to gain American citizenship.

Martinez, 40, and the father of five, was sworn in by a U. S. district court judge at the Federal Building in Raleigh last week.

The ceremony represented more to Martinez than just citizenship in the U. S. He is looking forward to speaking his convictions and casting his ballot in elections.

Martinez, who ended up in Rich Square at the MSFA training center via temporary jobs in Texas, Oregon, California and Florida, is in his second year of training at Roanoke-Chowan Technical Institute in electronics.

He looks forward to the day he can complete the course and be placed in year round employment that will pay substantially more than the seasonal wages he was earning prior to his training here.

The area's newest citizen has been a legal resident of the States five years and, by virtue of that, became naturalized. Actually, he has been in the country since 1946 but he was not legally registered with the Bureau of Immigrations.

He is a native of Oclan, Mex., and underwent no formal schooling in his native country.

Martinez learned to speak English by conversation when he left Texas where he worked

in oil fields and moved more inland where he heard less and less of his native tongue.

His jobs carried him from one migrant camp to another and he criss-crossed the country picking strawberries, combining wheat and harvesting potatoes and oranges.

It was when Martinez was headed to New York that he heard about the MSFA program in Rich Square. He spoke with field

representatives in Sampson County and as a result enrolled in the program here.

Martinez has nothing but praise for the MSFA training opportunity.

He is looking forward with great anxiety to the day he officially gets off the migrant merry-go-round and will be able to settle down with his family on a stable job.

Martinez lives with his five children, four girls and a boy, at the center in one of the

trailers provided by MSFA. He is paid a small stipend for attending school at RCTI and his tuition and fees at the institute are covered by the program.

Martinez, who was making less than \$3,000 annually, will qualify for jobs paying as much as \$7,000 a year to start when he graduates in July.

When he completes the course, Martinez says he'll be able to "fix anything from coffee pots to computers."



NEW CITIZEN Ruben Martinez is congratulated on becoming a U. S. citizen by Bob Vaughan (left), counselor, at the Rich Square migrant project and Joan Culbreth, project chief.