



The Bricklaying Department of John Graham High School [above] left Warrenton Sunday afternoon for an educational tour to Nassau and Freeport. The seven-day excursion will take the students by boat to Nassau and then to Freeport. Funds for

the trip were made possible through doughnut sales and dances that the bricklayers and brickettes held during a ten-month period. They will return home on Saturday. [Staff Photo]

Duck Species Placed In Jeopardy By Frigid Weather; Turkey Season Begins

The heavy snows and extreme temperatures of this past winter were rough on wildlife throughout much of the East, but particularly so on Atlantic brant wintering in Northeastern States. Waterfowl specialists estimate that as many as 20,000 brant died of starvation in New Jersey, possibly placing the future of the species in jeopardy.

According to Jack Donnelly, supervising wild life biologist and waterfowl specialist with the N. C. Wildlife Resources Commission, the loss may have an unusually severe impact on the total brant population. "Due to adverse weather conditions on the arctic breeding grounds, brant have had unsuccessful nesting seasons for the past two years," said Donnelly. "As a result, very few young have been brought into the population."

"Since most of the 20,000 birds lost in New Jersey were adult breeders, their deaths could cause the population to plummet, particularly if those left are unsuccessful at nesting again this summer."

Atlantic brant wintered on the North Carolina coast in sizable numbers in the past, as did Canada geese, but in recent years they have been stopping over in New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland and Virginia. According to Donnelly, only 200 to 300 have been wintering in North Carolina in recent years; but this winter's severe weather forced an estimated 20,000 of the birds South to the Roanoke Island area. No serious losses to starvation or other elements have occurred in North Carolina.

No open hunting season on Atlantic brant has been allowed in the United States for several years.

species, is being conducted by the Wildlife Resources Commission's Division of Inland Fisheries.

According to Fisheries Biologist Tony Mullis of Elizabeth City, the creel census is part of a larger study being conducted jointly with the Division of Marine Fisheries of the N. C. Department of Natural and Economic Resources and the Department of Zoology of N. C. State University.

The study is being undertaken to determine the fishing effort and harvest of striped bass, known locally as "rock," by commercial and recreational fishermen; the effects of environment and biological factors on the survival of juvenile striped bass in nursery areas; the validity of present fishing regulation; and estimates of the spawning population of striped bass in Albemarle Sound and the Roanoke River.

"The creel census is an important part of the study," said Mullis, "because information from it will be used to estimate the fishing effort and harvest of striped bass and other major sport fish by recreational fishermen."

"Creel clerks will visit boating ramps around the Sound on a statistically designed sampling schedule. They will briefly interview fishermen, examine their catches, and gather the information on the amount of time spent fishing by each boatload of fishermen."

According to Mullis, the study will last three years and information obtained will be used to formulate a fisheries management program which will protect and maintain the striped bass fishery in Albemarle Sound for commercial and recreational fishermen in future years.

Striper Census Underway In Albemarle Sound

A creel census of the Albemarle Sound and its major tributaries, to determine the recreational harvest of striped bass and other major fish

Spring Gobbler Season Coming Up

Many sportsmen consider the wild turkey the most challenging and fascinating of all species to hunt. Maybe this is the year you ought to find out for

yourself. If so, here are a few bits of information which may be useful.

First, keep in mind that the wild turkey is considered a game species in North Carolina, and you'll need a valid hunting license and a big game license (if you hunt on Game Lands, you'll also need a Game Lands Use Permit). Also, since the turkey is a big game species, your kill must be tagged and taken to a Wildlife Cooperator Agent the same as a deer.

Turkey hunting is a spring sport, and only gobblers (bearded turkeys) are legal. No dogs may be used to hunt turkeys. The daily bag limit is one gobbler with two in possession and two for the season.

North Carolina has a split spring season. In and east of Rockingham, Forsyth, Yadkin, Iredell, Catawba, Lincoln and Gaston counties, the season is April 9-30. Gates County is closed by local law.

In and west of Stokes, Surry, Wilkes, Alexander, Caldwell, Burke and Cleveland counties, the season is April 16-May 7.

For some basic information, you ought to try to find an experienced turkey hunter, although that may not always be an easy task. Lacking that, you may want to check the April issue of *Wildlife In North Carolina* magazine (25 cents a copy from 325 N. Salisbury Street, Raleigh, N. C. 27611) which has three turkey hunting articles.

An excellent book "Modern Turkey Hunting" by James F. Brady has been published by Crown Publishers, Inc., 419 Park Avenue South, New York, N. Y. 10016.

This book covers all facets of turkey hunting and management (Wayne Bailey who has been in charge of North Carolina's turkey program assisted Brady). You may be able to order it through your local book store or by writing Crown Publishers.

Fountain Will Speak At VGCC Groundbreaking

L. H. Fountain, North Carolina Representative from the Second District, will be the main speaker at the groundbreaking ceremonies for VGCC's fifth building. The ceremonies will take place on Sunday, April 17, at 2 p. m. on the campus.

Fountain, who supported the Local Public Works Act of 1976 that is financing the building, will be among several dignitaries present at the event. These include J. D. Everette, Executive Director of the Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Governments, Benjamin Finch, Economic Development Director of the Council of Governments, and Dale Jones, State Economic Development Administrator. Representing VGCC will be President Dr.

Donald Mohorn, Board of Trustee's Building Committee Chairman John T. Church, Dr. Ben Fountain, State President of the Department of Community Colleges, and other administrators and faculty members.

The building project is being financed by a \$1,480,000 grant from the Economic Development Administration. Work began on the new building on April 6, 1977. When completed in December, 1977, the building will house vocational and technical programs and a continuing education crafts center.

At the age of 22, Ludwig van Beethoven paid 19 cents to take his first music lesson from Franz Joseph Haydn in Vienna.

Norlina Cager Named To First Team All-Metro

The Raleigh Times has named James Green to its All-Metro basketball first team. Last season the Blue Wave basketball standout was named on the second team. He captured first team honors as he averaged 20.6 assists.

Louisburg's Steve Brown and Drubber Morton were named on the All-Metro second team. No other players from the Tar River Conference were named.

The selection of the All-Metro teams is made possible through the voting of coaches in the Raleigh area.

Jackets Divide Pair With Bunn

John Graham split a girls' softball doubleheader at Bunn Friday afternoon, easily winning the first game, 21-13. An early scoring rally by the Lady Bulldogs put them ahead for keeps as they handed the visitors a 14-10 defeat in the second game.

Coach Ben Howard said that fielders Michele Carroll and Shirley Robinson had excellent defensive games but "Bunn's five runs in the first inning were too much for us."

Monday the Lady Jackets travel to Norlina for a softball game beginning at 3:30 p. m. Warrenton's record stands at 3-2.

Culture Of Indians Theme Of Meeting

By TYRONE CARTER

The Haliwa 4-H Club met last week to view a film on Indian culture. The five-part series dealt with "The Indian Child Between Two Worlds," "Child Rearing Practices," "Traditional Values," "Parents as Teachers," and "Going to School."

About 20 4-H'ers and parents attended the meeting. The 4-H leaders, Mrs. Kathy Wilson, Mr. Herbert Richardson, and Junior Leader Archie Lynch gave comments following the showing of the film.

Business discussed at the meeting included plans for collecting Easter Seals donations and upcoming Pow-Wow activities.

Delicious refreshments including soft drinks, potato chips, cookies, corn cheese, marshmallow treats, and candy were served to the group.

The next meeting of the club will be May 2 at the Haliwa School.

Opportunities For Marine Science Study Available To 4-H Members

Rising high school juniors and seniors will have an opportunity to learn about marine science, ecology of the coastal region and career opportunities at three summer workshops.

The dates of the workshops are: June 19-25, June 26-July 2, and July 31-Aug. 6.

The workshops will be held at the Harbor House Marine Science Center at Wrightsville Beach, according to Glenn Woolard, assistant extension agent, 4-H.


The programs include lectures, films, discussion, and field trips to coastal areas and marine science laboratories, Woolard said.

The workshops are sponsored by the 4-H organization, but attendance is not limited to 4-H members. However, students must have the endorsement of their science teacher, principal or county extension agent. Persons who have attended previous marine science work-

shops are not eligible. Each workshop is limited to 25 students. The cost for the workshops, including meals, lodging and field trips, is \$115. Participants must arrange their own transportation.

Applications can be obtained from Glenn Woolard, assistant extension agent, 4-H, 101 South Main Street, Warrenton, N. C. 27589. Telephone 257-3640 or 257-3997.

The deadline for applications is June 1.



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