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State Legislation Being Sought On Hunting Issue

By FRANCINE SAWYER
News Editor

HERTFORD — County commissioners will seek state legislation with recommendations that to hunt or discharge with any rifle larger than a .22 caliber not be permitted in Perquimans County. Some 30 to 40 Perquimans County farmers and hunters appeared before the county commissioner Monday to express concern of hunters using high powered rifles in open field areas. Persons, expressing both pro and con reasons of the high powered rifles stated their cause.

One man wanted to outlaw rifles from the .32 caliber on down. Discussion followed with more comments. "Somebody is going to get killed while tending crops on his own land," a gentleman said. Jack Hoffer, a professional hunter in the Albemarle who has hunted up and down the east coast, and led hunting parties in the area said he felt the county commissioners had no right to tell a man where he could hunt and could not hunt. Hoffer further related to the board of a safety zone idea being implemented in some northern states as well as

western Virginia. "Signs are posted where livestock is at a safety zone and no one can hunt in these areas," Hoffer said. Lester Simpson, chairman of the board said if that was done in Perquimans County, the entire county would be a safety zone, because the county has livestock all over. Another farmer expressed the concern of hunters running all over the property, up and down the fields, without permission. "No matter what the hunter is using as a weapon, we are against people running in the fields," he said.

It was the general feeling of the board and group which gathered to exert an effort to enforce the already existing laws of hunting on private property. The law on the back of the hunting license requires a hunter to seek permission on any land he is about to hunt no matter if the land is posted or not. A final statement by a person attending the meeting was "it seems like we have enough laws already if we just enforce them." W.W. Bundy, a Perquimans County resident wrote a letter to the board requesting the board to prohibit the use of high

powered rifles for hunting. Mrs. Beecher Chappell appeared before the board with a petition drawn up with 232 names on it for the taxing purpose of fire department protection. The petition stated: We, the undersigned taxpayers of Belvidere Township, Perquimans County petition and request that the board of county commissioners of Perquimans County levy a tax on the tax valuation of the properties of Belvidere Township for the benefit of the voluntary fire department of the Chappell Hill Belvidere Fire Department. Commissioners will study the matter, considering the possibility of another township desiring such a vote. A request by a citizen to restrict water skiing in the Yeopim Creek area was made by Mrs. Elaine Phillips. Mrs. Phillips cited safety as the reason. The board passed the resolution to ask the Wildlife Commission to look into the situation. Ray White, rable inspector for the county appeared before the board requesting the possibility of the county setting up a dog warden system. At present the county has no dog program. There is no dog warden or dog pound for stray animals. White has been destroying dogs for county residents, however, it is not a duty he has to perform. He expressed interest in being the county dog warden partime "if the money and hours are right." White will look into the matter along with county commissioners who meet again March 19. William A. Russell appeared before the board, requesting the county commissioners to advise the North Carolina Highway Commission to take up the maintenance of Russell Drive. Russell Drive is an unpaved road, serving several houses. It is less than a half mile long. The board approved the request and will advise the highway commission. J.L. Williams and Associates of Mathews, N.C. appeared before the board and discussed the upcoming plans of a tax office complex which is to be built on the site of the old jail which is now being torn down. He was accompanied by Doug Gardner, an Elizabeth City contractor. Williams plans to have blueprints drawn up and bid requests. It was announced that Perquimans County received \$18,134 in sales tax money for the month of February.



STEERING COMMITTEE CONVERSES — Four of the steering committee members Thursday night decided what some of the town's messy problems are. From left, Billy Winslow, Mayor Bill Cox, Louise Privott and Mrs. M.B. Taylor. Not

pictured, but members of the steering committee are Eric Haste, Jr., Rev. John London, Mrs. Louise Reid, and Frank Roberts. (Staff Photo By Francine Sawyer)

HUD Approves \$800,000 Grant

The Department of Housing and Urban Development has approved \$800,000 for the construction of 44 additional low income housing units to be constructed in Hertford and on U.S. 17. Ten units will be constructed on Church Street, downtown Hertford, opposite the public housing site already occupied.

These units consist of six one-bedroom units and four two-bedroom units. The 34 units on 17-bypass will consist of four one-bedroom units; 14 two-bedroom units; 12 three-bedroom units; and four four-bedroom units. An added extra on the U.S. 17 project will be a 40 x 90 feet community building. The community building will house an office and maintenance shop. The building will be available for any Perquimans County organization, such as civic groups, church groups, etc. Also on the 17 site will be a garden space for families to raise vegetables; a combination tennis court-basketball court; a baseball diamond and a space for a business concern. It is hoped and speculated a quick service market will open on the space available. The three and two bedroom units on the by-pass site will offer the townhouse apartment style. Construction begins April 15 with projected completion date set for Jan. 1, 1974. Planning is being done by Developer Housing, Inc. of Greenville. John Sullivan, of the Hertford Housing Authority said applications to rent these apartments can be made at 104 White St., at the housing office. To be eligible for living in public housing ones income is considered.



TELLING PROBLEMS — County commission chairman, Lester Simpson, right, talks with State Senator Phil Godwin, D-Gates Co., Friday night at a special meeting of the eight-county official board with house and state representatives. Simpson told Godwin of the pressing needs of the county. He also talked with state senator J.J. (Monk) Harrington, state representatives Vernon James and Stanford White. (Staff Photo By Francine Sawyer)

COA Offers Leadership Training

"We intend to develop a leadership program here at the College of The Albemarle because we believe in the importance of local government," COA president Dr. S. Bruce Petteway told a group of area residents attending a COA "Government and Civil Affairs" seminar. "I think after your experiences in this class," he continued, "you certainly believe in the importance of local government, too." The course, consisting of six two-hour classes at COA, was presented by the college in cooperation with the Institute of Government at Chapel Hill. The last of the series of classes was held last week. In the future COA plans call for more seminars in local government which would include residents from throughout the college's seven-county service area. Commenting to those in the class, Petteway said that a citizen cannot expect to have a good state or national government without a strong local government. And a strong local government, he noted, depends on its citizens. "We feel that this opportunity to involve some of the leaders in our community, in an effort to help them understand and know more about local government, is extremely important," Petteway said. "This is our government. If democracy is to function successfully, we must be informed citizens." During the six sessions of the course, the subjects discussed were: "Legal Relationships of State, County, and City Government to the North Carolina Constitution"; "Tax Sources and Financial Management"; "Health and Social Services"; "Public Education"; "Human Relationships - Police and Law Enforcement"; and "Quasi and Independent Authorities, Boards, and Commissions." Local attorney John Morrison served as discussion leader for the seminar. In addition several guest speakers also visited the class. They were Elizabeth City city manager Dempsey Benton; Mrs. Emma Edwards of the State Department of Social Services; H. Davenport, principal of Northeastern High School; Trooper Charles Hines of the State Highway Patrol; and Elizabeth City Police Chief Clarence Owens.

Trout Season Opens Mar. 31. The traditional opening of the mountain trout season in North Carolina has been moved one day forward from Sunday, April 1, 1973, to Saturday, March 31, by the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission. The action came after complaints were received that opening the season Sunday would cause some sportsmen to miss the traditional opening day festivities. Some also complained that the Sunday opening left only one day of fishing in the weekend. "Opening day of the trout season is an important observance to some 70,000 trout fishermen, and we certainly had no intention of creating problems for anyone," said a Commission spokesman. "We're happy to be able to make the change." The Wildlife Commission, in a regular monthly meeting here February 23, also approved the 1973 trout stocking plan and set boating safety regulations for several localities. Under the stocking plan, trout will be stocked in some 1,800 miles of designated public mountain trout waters where bait fishing is permitted. The Commission also established seven "no wake" speed zones on the intracoastal Waterway, Shilohs River and Calabash River in Brunswick County to slow down the swift and often dangerous traffic of large boats passing through the area.

REA Rates Up; Hike Set April

On April 1 Roanoke Electric Membership Corporation will raise its rate schedules by approximately 23 per cent. The new rates come as a direct result of a wholesale rate increase imposed by Roanoke EMC's major power supplier—Virginia Electric and Power Company (VEPCO). This wholesale rate increase, amounting to 30.13 per cent, plus a monthly fossil fuel adjustment, became effective Jan. 11. Based upon Roanoke EMC's 1972 billing, the total percentage, including fuel adjustment, runs to 31.83 per cent. Projections through March show that the fossil fuel adjustment alone will

increase the Cooperative's monthly wholesale billing by a substantial amount. VEPCO furnishes 73 per cent of the Cooperative's power. Thus its 31.83 per cent hike in power charges amounts to a net wholesale power cost increase of 23.24 per cent. This net increase alone is the amount by which your Cooperative is revising its own rate schedules. This decision was based upon the following factors: (1) an agreement by VEPCO that it will not place a subsequent wholesale rate increase into effect prior to January 1, 1975, (2) an assumption that wholesale rates from the Cooperative's other power supplier (Southeastern Power Administration) will not be increased during the next two years, (3) an assumption that the fossil fuel factor will not get out of hand, (4) an assumption that all other operating costs will remain relatively constant during the next two years, and (5) a felt need to maintain the present level of operating margin. "Future operating cost increases which might invalidate some or all these assumptions will have to be dealt with as they arise," state Vernon E. Taylor, Co-op General Manager.

Farmers Get Small Profit

The average Class I farm in this country - one with farm-product sales of \$40,000 per year - represents a capital investment in land, buildings and equipment of \$300,000. All of which probably sounds very impressive until you realize that the farmer owning all this nets a very small percentage from this sizable investment. Now consider this: By investing the same \$300,000 in government bonds, he could realize a greater income every year without so much as setting foot outside his front door. Then why does a man continue to farm? Mostly because farming, for all its change and modernization, is still a way of life. A way of life some men enjoy and want to stick with. And because of this, they measure part of the return from farming in something other than money. We're fortunate they do because our farmers have wrought minor miracles in the production of food and fiber. Item: In 1945, one American farmer fed 15 people; today, he feeds 47. Item: An hour of farm labor produces seven times as much as it did in 1930.

Coming Events

NEED TALENT Jane Cherry will be at the Perquimans County auditorium tonight from 7:30 p.m. until talent arrives to take part in the upcoming Heart Fund Talent Show set for March 31 at 8 p.m. Anyone with the slightest talent is urged to try-out. Your help in Perquimans County is needed.

MERCHANTS TO COLLECT

Charles Woodard announced today that merchants will be visiting all downtown stores Saturday to get donations for the Heart Fund. Support the cause.

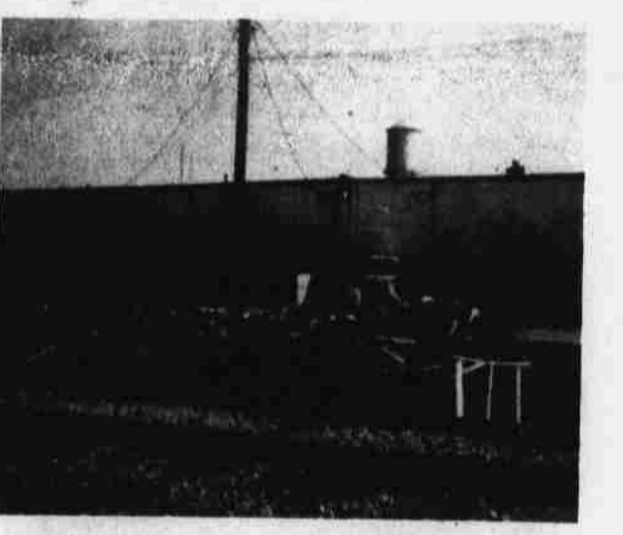
Hertford Clean-Up Is Urged

By FRANCINE SAWYER
News Editor

Hertford residents showed concern last Thursday night in a public meeting held at the town office building expressing interest in ridding the town of clutter, junk cars, abandoned houses and general filth. Some 30 persons showed up to get the ball rolling, after members of the newly organized Young Homemakers Organization requested the meeting. The majority of those attending the meeting were black. Those attending decided to set Friday as the kickoff date for Beautification Campaign. The meeting was officially called, "Special Planning Meeting on Removing Ugliness." Persons attending decided the reason for the unsightly litter in the town was due to apathy of property owners. "Property owners are just not interested," said Bill Cox, Hertford Mayor. "We must get them interested and concerned," the mayor said. "It's a lack of pride, that's why the town isn't clean," he said. "We must start by cleaning our own backyard," Cox said. A steering committee consisting of Billy Winslow, Eric Haste, Rev. John London, Mrs. Louise Reid, Mrs. M.B. Taylor, and Mrs. Louise Privott was formed. These people will work with all residents to get the beautification campaign underway and continuing. The campaign starts tomorrow. Civic groups will be invited along with church groups to stage clean-up operations in various sections of town. Labor Day will be "judgement day," with awards going to civic and church groups which showed the most progress. The meeting was the brain child of Mrs. Louise Privott, president of the Young Homemakers Organization. Although there are only five active members in the club, work and planning for a general clean-up is the clubs first project. Incentive measurers for young people were suggested by Eric Haste. Haste suggested to the group that young people get involved. Haste said, "young people have the courage to go up to a property owner and say, 'sir, you have a messy place here.'"



THE MESS FACED



Chowan Academy Registration March

Chowan Academy is in its fifth year of operation. Each year enrollment has increased. The foremost purpose of the Academy is to provide quality education within a Christian atmosphere. Chowan joins with other independent schools in stressing prayer, patriotism, discipline, and quality education. The school is located in the heart of Chowan County approximately 10 miles from Edenton. The building, which was formerly a school, has been completely renovated, providing an auditorium, library, office and a new wing, housing classrooms that are completely modern in every respect. Situated on two acres of wooded land with a large play area and ball field, the Academy provides a well planned and supervised athletic program as part of its complete educational program. The rural location of the school and accessibility of stream and woods provide opportunity for intensive nature study. This year, 1973-74, the school added a tenth grade and a science lab. The school organized a student government last year. Grades five, seven, and eight boasted winners in the D.A.R. Essay Contest this year. The Chief Rockahock History Club continues to win honors on the state level. By limiting the enrollment, each student has an opportunity to excel in some program. All grades have a

planned physical education program. This year scheduled games were played with other schools in football and basketball (boys and girls). The scheduled baseball and softball games will start this month. The Board of Directors recently adopted a long range plan which will extend the program offered at Chowan Academy to include grades K-12. For next year the addition will be the eleventh grade. This will be a continuation of the excellent program provided in Kindergarten, primary grades, elementary grades, junior high grades, and now a senior high. The Academy, recognizing the importance of well-trained and highly skilled teachers, has provided such a faculty. These experienced teachers are excellent disciplinarians. Their qualifications are also enriched as a result of their broad travels, and each is skilled in the direction of art in her field. Chowan Academy continues to offer one of the best Jr.-High programs in this area. In grades seven and eight the subjects taught are English, Mathematics, Social Studies, Science, Latin, Health and Physical Education. In the ninth grade the subjects are English, Sciences, Government, Algebra I, Latin, Health and Physical Education. Now the plans for the Senior-High are equally as good. In the tenth grade the subjects are English, Biology, U.S. History, Geometry, Latin, and Physical Education.