

# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

Volume 29 No. 16

Hertford, Perquimans County, North Carolina, Thursday, April 19, 1973

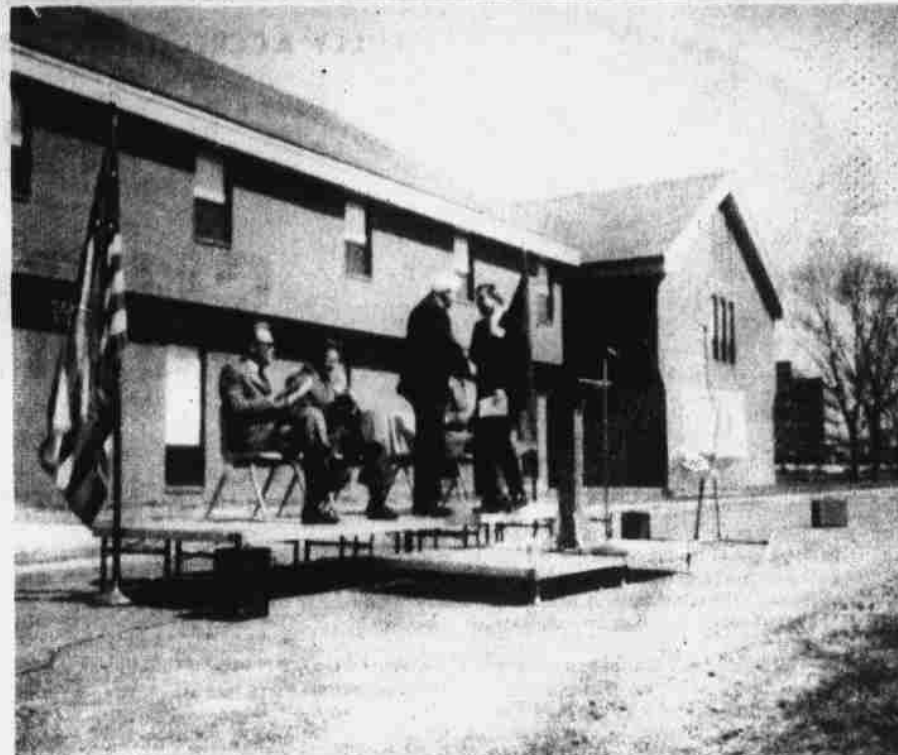
10 Cents Per Copy



Jesse P. Perry Jr., Hertford Native Delivers Dedication Address



PLAQUE UNCOVERED — Dignitaries gather around the plaque to be added to the COA addition. From left, Jesse P. Perry, Jr., Dr. Bruce S. Petteway, Rep. Vernon James, Perquimans County commissioner chairman, Lester Simpson and COA board member Bill Ainsley. (Staff Photos By Francine Sawyer)



Dr. Bruce Petteway, COA President, Right, Introduces Perry

## Child Abuse Low In Perquimans

By FRANCINE SAWYER  
News Editor

HERTFORD — "Child abuse and neglect cases come to our attention quickly since we live in such a rural and sparsely populated area," said Mrs. Jo Ann Morris, child welfare worker, Perquimans County Social Services department. "It is fortunate that it is this way," she said. "It makes it easier for the abused child to be neglected," she added.

Last year, Perquimans County had only one child abuse case. The child was an 18-month-old, who required hospital attention. Headlines in local papers carried the story and trial and conviction of the man who abused the child.

Many persons, however hesitate to call the social services department or sheriff's department due to fear of being sued. A North Carolina law protects the informer from any suit resulting from information given on abuse or neglect. When such an abuse or neglect complaint is filed at the social services office, several steps are taken.

The local office calls a report in to the state office. All information on the family of the alleged abuse or neglect situation is acquired. Neglect and abuse cases are different and procedures vary on how each one is handled.

Neglect is when a child is deemed filthy, lacking supervision, tardy, or having low attendance at school, and not fed properly.

Abuse comes under two headings. The first is physical. This entails visible signs, usually beating,

broken bones, fractured skull, and intentional burns. The other form of abuse is emotional. This is when a child is deprived of "mothering." Babies and children which are not mothered are deprived and do not thrive.

In neglect cases, Mrs. Morris visits the home herself, to find out what the conditions are and works with the family to make conditions better. In some instances, working with the family of neglected children goes on for several years.

If after much consultation, the condition does not improve, the children are removed from the home.

In the case of alleged abuse, the social worker goes to the clerk of court, gets an order and the child is removed from the home for five days. Usually the sheriff accompanies the social worker to the home to pick up the child. The parents are charged with child abuse and placed under bond. At the end of five days the parents must appear in court to show cause why custody should be placed in the social services department.

An eyewitness to the physical abuse is the best court evidence, according to Mrs. Morris. Color photographs of physical abuse are entered into court as evidence.

No cases of abuse have been reported in Perquimans County thus far this year. At present four children are in foster homes due to abuse. Fifteen children are being consulted due to neglect.

Persons who report child neglect or abuse are protected.

## From Dream To Reality

# COA Tech Center Dedicated Sunday

College of The Albemarle closed the book Sunday on a five-year building project with dedication of its new technical center on U.S. 17 north of Elizabeth City. The facility which cost in excess of \$1.2 million is the completion of Phase I of a master plan which calls for the eventual relocation of the

entire campus to the new 42-acre site adjacent to Albemarle Hospital.

Phase II plans call for construction of 80,000 square feet of additional facilities on the new campus. A library, administrative offices, liberal arts classrooms, laboratories and student center will be included in

Phase II which will cost approximately \$2 million.

The institution anticipates carrying out Phase III, health and physical education facilities and an auditorium, through the sale of the former hospital facilities where the school originated and still maintains part of its operations.

Jesse P. Perry Jr., associate director for agricultural sciences, Rockefeller Foundation, New York, was dedication speaker.

Perry, a native of Hertford, said the completion of the new technical center was a confirmation of the power of community action.

## The Story Of

# Jimmy 'Catfish' Hunter

By PAUL "SNOOKS" WHITE

(Continued From Last Week)

"Jimmy is missing. I have looked and called him, I have looked everywhere" said Mrs. Hunter.

Mr. Hunter said, "I think I know about where he is. I'll go and find him."

There was a big lead ditch that ran through the Hunter farm. A lead ditch is a community ditch that drains all the farm land in the community. All of these farms has small ditches that leads into the lead ditch. The lead ditch drains into a big swamp, creek, river or canal. This ditch drains into the Bear Swamp canal. Once and awhile the farmers all get together and clean this ditch out because it clogged up often. Most of the time there was pretty good sized fish that swam in this ditch looking for bugs and worms. Most of this kind of fish that follows these ditches are jack and catfish. I have seen some pretty good sized catfish caught in ditches of this kind. So Mr. Hunter figured that Jimmy might have gone there because Jimmy always loved to fish. He had been wanting to fish since he began to walk. Mr. Hunter told Mrs. Hunter to "go back into the house and not to worry because everything would be alright. If he falls into that ditch he is big enough to get out alright." So Mr. Hunter started towards the ditch. On his way he met Jimmy with a fishing pole in one hand and a little catfish in the other. Jimmy was

stepping it off. Mr. Hunter said "Jimmy you've got a pretty catfish there." Jimmy said, "Daddy, I caught him all by myself." Mr. Hunter said "There wasn't anybody else there with you was there?" "No sir" said Jimmy "and that's the first fish I have ever caught." Mr. Hunter said, "That's great, but you shouldn't have slipped away from your mother. She was worried a lot about you. Next time you go with someone because alone anymore." "I won't do this any more daddy I was just lonesome and wanted someone to play with. Are you going to punish me daddy?" "No, not this time" said Mr. Hunter. "How about mama?" said Jimmy. "I don't think so" said Mr. Hunter. "Not this time. But I will promise you one thing right now. We will both punish you next time. Do you understand that Jimmy?" "Yes sir" said Jimmy. "I'll promise you and mama that I will not do that any more. But can I eat this fish tonight?" said Jimmy. "Yes you can" said Mr. Hunter. "That is a pretty fish. Then Jimmy gave a great big smile just like he does now especially when he hits a homerun, makes a hit or strikes out a batter. Jimmy explained to his mother just like his father about why he slipped away. So he promised his mother that he would never do it again. Mrs. Hunter smiled and hugged and kissed Jimmy and said "I was worried badly about my baby boy. Jimmy smiled and said "I'm not

a baby anymore". Mr. Hunter spoke up "Oh yes Jimmy. You are the baby of our family. Of course you aren't a baby. That's what your mama meant, but you're not too old to get a spanking and you will certainly get one if you run away anymore." "I'll promise you both I will not do that anymore," said Jimmy. Mr. Hunter took the catfish and a pair of pliers from his pick-up truck and pulled the hide off the catfish, that's the best way to clean a catfish. Mrs. Hunter cooked the fish for Jimmy but it wasn't enough so Jimmy ate the fish and supper with the others just like he always did. That night some of the bigger boys went to a baseball game over to Edenton. Jimmy was a little to small to go over to Edenton at night and at bedtime Mr. and Mrs. Hunter warned Jimmy to never run away from home again. They told him that he was a smart boy to catch a pretty catfish like that but they didn't want him to go alone again. He could go with his brothers again sometime because they wanted him to catch some more fish so they told him he could go by himself when he was bigger but not now. They had to frightened him a little. They said that they certainly didn't want him to be eaten up by an old ugly lazy, mean, fat bear because bears love to eat little children and there has been bears seen around Bears Swamp. Yes, Mr. and Mrs. Hunter has a long talk with Jimmy. They both kissed him and told him good-night. Jimmy said he

prayers and went to sleep.

Mrs. Hunter said "Albert, nobody but the Good Lord knew how much I worried about him when I learned he was gone. I had left the garden and had gone into the house to clean up a little. I looked out the window several times and he looked like he was enjoying himself throwing that baseball onto the barn and throwing it back, but the last time I saw him he had his little hoe digging a little hole. I didn't know he was digging worms. I thought he was just playing." Mr. Hunter said "I was worried some too but I didn't want you to know it because I was afraid it might have worried you more." Mr. Hunter said "He really wasn't lost he was on his way home cause I'm glad he came home when he did because there are a lot of snakes in the field. Something could have happened to him. Far as the bears eating him up, we had to tell him that to warn him."

Little did the Hunter family realize that that little catfish someday would be mentioned all over the baseball world like it has done, but I can't say anything now about the fame behind it, but I will a little bit later in this true story."

Now Mr. Charley O. Finley was the one that named Jim "catfish" after hearing about the catfish incident, but I will tell you all about it when Jimmy becomes 18 years old and signs the contract for the Athletics.

(Continued Next Week)



Mrs. Jones And Visual Aids



Students Gather Around Her Desk

## Perquimans Personality

Mrs. Myrtle Jones

TEXT & PHOTOS  
By Francine Sawyer  
News Editor

WINFALL — Teaching the three R's as it was once taught is Mrs. Myrtle Jones' speciality.

She was selected in 1972 as an outstanding elementary teacher of America, and she teaches right here in Perquimans County at Central Grammar School.

She is good in her profession. She has had 37 years of experience and looks forward to retiring. (She hopes to retire in November. Mrs. Jones says she will be old enough then.)

Her second grade class seem to enjoy Mrs. Jones and the daily routine of school. Mrs. Jones is like the kind of teacher "they had back then."

Each day is started out with the Lord's Prayer, pledge to the American flag, and the singing of "America." Old-fashion, and nice.

The atmosphere of the entire school is one of relaxed orderly and respectfulness. "The entire school seems to be a smooth operation and Mrs. Jones likes it that way.

Mrs. Jones was the first

Negro teacher, before total integration to teach in the then all-white school. She was singled out among all of the teachers in the county to "try the new way."

"The entire thing was a challenge," Mrs. Jones said. "The parents were wonderful to me during that time and I haven't regretted a minute of it," Mrs. Jones said.

Mrs. Jones said she liked to teach because she loves children and enjoys the community involvement.

"It is nice to be part of molding the children's lives and future," she said.

Tommy Maston, the principal at Mrs. Jones' school had this to say about Mrs. Jones: "She is a good teacher and an asset to the school and community."

Mrs. Jones said she doesn't think children have changed since the first time she took book in hand to teach. Teaching has changed, she said. In a sense it isn't harder with visual aids and better equipment.

"It's still a challenge and a rewarding career," she said.

## Chamber Movie Slated Tonight

The monthly movie presentation of the Perquimans County Chamber of Commerce will be seen tonight at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building.

The earlier starting time is due to the length of the feature film presentation - the outstanding British color

dance film, "Red Shoes" based on a Hans Christian Anderson story and starring Moira Shearer, Marius Goring and Robert Helpmann.

Also on the bill is a short subject "Begone Dull Care" with jazz by the Oscar Peterson Trio.

## MOA County Tour

HERTFORD — The Museum of the Albemarle annual tour will feature Perquimans County, April 28.

Plans have been made for the tour to include Holy Trinity Episcopal Church. The historic Newbold-White House, The Emmett Winslow home, The Walter Edwards home, the Charles Whedbee

home, the Eric Haste home and the Julian Winslow home.

Perquimans County members of MOA and The Perquimans County Historical Society met last week at Mrs. Jean Winslow's home to discuss and finalize plans for the April 28 event.

Plans call for the tours to begin at 11 a.m., concluding at 5 p.m.