

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

Volume 32, No. 2

Hertford, Perquimans County, N.C., Thursday, January 8, 1976

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Application Is Approved

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Congressman Walter B. Jones recently announced the approval of an application submitted by the Albemarle Resources Conservation Council. The approval of this application will result in making available by the Department of Agriculture technical and financial assistance with which to develop and improve natural resources, increase agriculture production, and develop, improve and expand cultural, economic and recreational opportunities for rural citizens living in the counties of Perquimans, Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Hyde, Pasquotank, Tyrrell and Washington.

Congressman Jones had high praise for members of the RC&D Council who have given so much of their time and energy toward making this project a reality.

"During the past three years only thirty RC&D projects have been authorized by the Congress, and I am happy that I have been successful in securing the approval of two of these projects for the First Congressional District," Jones commented.

Benefits To Terminate

The Employment Security Commission announced this week that federal supplemental unemployment benefits in North Carolina will terminate April 3, 1976.

The program was "triggered off" because the State's average insured unemployment rate for 13 weeks has fallen below five percent.

Local ESC manager Mrs. Alice W. Bond said she was informed Friday by the central office that all FSB payments stop in April and claims filed between January 3rd and April 3rd may entitle workers to only half their FSB claim.

She said January 3rd is the official trigger-off date of the federal program which has provided up to an additional 26 unemployment checks to workers who have exhausted their regular and extended state benefits.

Workers who have FSB claims established prior to January 3rd may receive one half their entitlement or the balance of their claims, whichever is lesser, according to the ESC.

FSB was established by Congress December 31, 1974. There are currently 25,400 workers in North Carolina filing claims under the special program and payments last month exceeded \$5 million.

In Hertford about 5 workers are filing FSB claims. Mrs. Bond says she cannot determine how many workers will establish new FSB claims in the next three months or how many will be effected by the April 3 cut off date.

License Office Looking For Owner Of DB9436

If you have a private truck plate for 1976 purchased from the Perquimans County Chamber of Commerce License Bureau, please check your number and if it is DB 9436, please check to see if I gave you both pieces of the renewal card, if so return the one to Jean Harrison that has the dark green on it. It is not registered with Raleigh. This plate would have been purchased Saturday, January 3.

Civic Calendar

FRIDAY, JAN. 9

Bethel Homemakers Club will meet.

SATURDAY, JAN. 10

The United Methodist Women of Hertford First United Methodist Church will sponsor a yard sale at the church from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Items on sale will include baked goods, arts and crafts, used clothing and miscellaneous. In case of rain or bad weather, the sale will be held on Jan. 17.

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The Elizabeth City Shrine Club will have a dance from 9:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. for Shriners and guests. Admission is \$5 a couple. Music will be furnished by Vince Chory and the Squires.

MONDAY, JAN. 12

A Parents Workshop on How Parents Can Help Their Child With Reading will be held at 1 p.m. at Hertford Grammar School. The workshop is being coordinated by ESEA Title I.

TUESDAY, JAN. 13

The Hertford Rotary Club meets.

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The Perquimans Lodge No. 106 will meet at 8 p.m. at the courthouse in Hertford.

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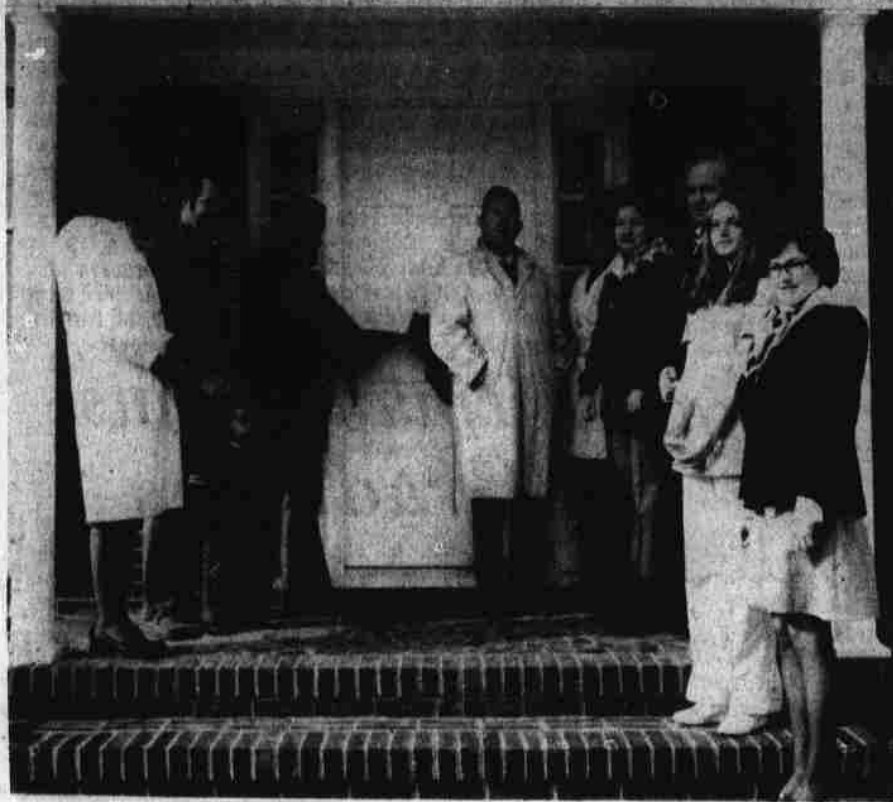
The Perquimans County Horse and Pony Club meets.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 14

Citizens United for the Improvement of Reading will meet at the Agriculture Extension Office Building on Edenton Rd. St. at 2:45 p.m.

THURSDAY, JAN. 15

A Parents Workshop on How Parents Can Help Their Child With Reading will be held at 1 p.m. at Perquimans Central Grammar School. The workshop is being coordinated by ESEA Title I.



RIBBON CUTTING — A ribbon cutting ceremony was held Tuesday morning marking the opening of the office of Dr. Jack Boone's newest dentist. Pictured above (l. to r.) are Dr. and Mrs. Jack Boone and their son; Wayne Ashley, president of the Perquimans County Chamber of Commerce; Hertford Mayor Bill Cox; Chamber Secretary Jean Harrison; Joe Meads, building contractor and his wife Irene; Dawn King, dental technician; and Nancy Gallop, receptionist. A featured article on Dr. Boone and his family will appear in next week's edition of the paper. (Ray Ward photo)

Exclusion From HSA Meet

William Byrd, Director of Community Health Services — East Carolina University was one of two persons excluded from most of a meeting of Governor Holshouser newly appointed convenors for the Eastern Area Health Systems Agency at a noon meeting in Greenville on Saturday, December 20. On a vote of seven (7) for and six (6) against, the convenors called themselves into "Executive Session" thereby excluding Byrd and Ms. Bonnie Ray from the executive session. Ms. Ray of North Carolina Heart Association says the association has tried to monitor such convenor meetings across the state. Both Byrd and Ms. Ray expressed their opinion that the closed session was illegal in as much as the convenor group is a creature of the governor and is thereby a "public body".

Byrd pointed out that no meetings of the area Steering Committee or the previous convenors group has been closed to the public. After about an hour and a half, Byrd and Ms. Ray were allowed to attend the brief remaining portion of the meeting. Byrd says he will request written assurance from Dr. Clem Lucas of Edenton — Chairman of Holshouser's new group, to assure adequate public notice via the news media well in advance of future convenors meetings and assurance that they will be open to the public.

When asked why the group called for executive session Byrd said the only reason stated was that there may be some discussion of personalities, Byrd said in his own opinion "there has been too much discussion of personalities and too little

attention to the particulars of the law."

Contrary to earlier statements from the Department of Human Resources a State Representative said at the meeting that there were no particular objections on the part of the Department of Human Resources relative to the specific number of members on an HSA governing body.

It was stated that the 66 member body proposed by the group which Holshouser fired a few weeks ago is not the major objection. The major desire of state government is stated to be sure that the new convenor group have the power to accept or reject representatives named by the County Commissioners and the LRO's. Byrd points out the discrepancies of news releases from Raleigh and the actual facts as represented by state governments — staff persons at this meeting. A story in the News and Observer written by Gary Pearce on the basis of an interview with Dr. Archie Johnson — Department of Human Resources attributed to Johnson a statement that the Governor thought that the 66 member board was unwieldy and that it was for this reason that the governor dismissed the old convenor group. "Obviously, two different messages are being presented to the public from the Department of Human Resources," said Byrd. Apparently state government is not yet willing to trust the local elected officials to have the final say in the appointments of their own representatives to the governing body of an HSA to serve their 29 counties.

No explanation was provided from Dr. Lucas, Chairman of the Convenors Group as to why he allowed Mr. Tom Surratt to attend the closed session of the meeting; except that Mr. Surratt had been invited by the Chairman. Mr. Surratt is not a member of the New Convenors Group but was a member of the old group which had been dismissed by Holshouser.

More Children Are Eligible

All public schools in North Carolina must offer free and reduced-price lunches to eligible school children under a recent law passed by Congress, according to Ralph W. Eaton, director of the State's School Food Services Program for the Department of Public Instruction.

Approximately 92 per cent of North Carolina's schools are presently offering free and reduced-price meals, Eaton noted, but under the new law the service is mandatory.

"The intent of the legislation," explained Eaton, "is to reach more eligible children. Children of unemployed parents," for example, "whose income level has fallen within the criteria set up for eligibility can now be included in the program."

Guidelines have also been revised to require that children from families with incomes between family size income level of the State's standard for free

meals and 195 per cent of the Secretary of Agriculture's income poverty guidelines be served free and reduced-price meals. This is a technical change in eligibility, according to Eaton, that will have to be determined by local school officials.

Although changes in the law have broadened eligibility requirements, Congress has given school officials the right to verify income information they receive on applications for free and reduced-price meals if they have cause to believe it may be incorrect. During the time the information is being verified, however, the child must be served free and reduced-price meals based on the information on the application.

Income level charts and guidelines for the free and reduced-price lunch program are available from school principals in Perquimans County and from the Board of Education of the State.

Great N.C. Bike Race

RALEIGH, N.C. — Bob Wills, former sports writer, promoter and Raleigh businessman, has been named Executive Director of the Great North Carolina Bicycle Race.

The race, scheduled for June, will be the longest and richest bicycle race ever attempted in the USA, beginning in the Great Smoky Mountains and ending on the Outer Banks, 900 miles away.

Wills, president of a Raleigh promotion firm and

publicity director of the North Carolina State Fair, has been associated with the Russian-American Track Meet, the L&M Open, U.S. Professional Match Play Championship Golf Tournament, and several ladies professional golf tournaments.

"Mr. Wills' background will help us establish a solid foundation for this event in its initial year," said William A.V. Cecil of Asheville, chairman of the Board of Directors for the Race.

Cecil is first vice president of the Travel Council of North Carolina, which is co-sponsoring the race with the Travel Development Section of the State's Department of Natural and Economic Resources.

The race is to be a 10-day sanctioned international event, with a purse of \$50,000, and is expected to attract amateur teams from the United States, Canada, Europe, Mexico and South America.

Head-On Collision Occurs Saturday

A head-on collision occurred in Belvidere Saturday, Jan. 3 at 6:30 p.m. resulting in the hospitalization of one driver and one passenger in the two vehicles involved.

Involved in the accident was the driver of an early model passenger car, Fentress Merrill Lane, 57, of Rt. 1, Tyner and the occupant in his car, Robbie

Wayne Twiddy, age 7, also of Rt. 1, Tyner. The driver of the other vehicle, a pick-up truck was Ward Grant Blanchard, age 47, of Rt. 1, Sunbury. Gerald W. Blanchard, age 48, of Belvidere was a passenger in the truck driven by Blanchard. At press time, Twiddy and Ward Grant Blanchard were still in Albemarle Hospital.

The accident occurred on N.C. 37 in Belvidere, 7.3 miles north of Hertford in the vicinity of Charles Layden's Store.

According to an accident report by investigating trooper Y.Z. Newberry, Lane was heading south on N.C. 37 behind another south-bound vehicle. Ward Grant Blanchard was traveling north on N.C. 37 meeting the two vehicles. Lane attempted to overtake the other vehicle in the north-bound lane. Blanchard pulled to the east shoulder of the road to avoid the car driven by Lane but the two vehicles collided. Lane was charged with improper passing. All drivers and passengers involved were taken to the hospital. Both Lane and Twiddy received incapacitating injuries. Ward Grant Blanchard received nonincapacitating injuries.

Damage to both vehicles was estimated at \$1500 each.

Red Cross Asking For Items For Fire Victims

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Willie Webb was completely destroyed by fire on Saturday, Dec. 27. The Perquimans County Red Cross is seeking aid for this family due to the loss of all their possessions in the fire.

Items needed are clothing and appliances such as a stove, refrigerator, etc.

Women's clothing is needed for Mrs. Webb who weighs between 90 and 100 pounds.

Men's clothing in the following sizes are needed, pants - size 44; shirt - size 17; and shoes - size 12.

Items can be brought to or those with items to give should call John Deere at 426-7492 or 426-5536 for items to be picked up.

FCX Sends Refunds

RALEIGH — Farmers of North and South Carolina have just received a record-breaking patronage refund of \$5,730,857 from FCX, Inc., a two-state agricultural cooperative.

The rebates went to 35,232 producers of farm products, according to Marvin McClam, president and general manager of the organization.

Largest in the history of FCX, the refund was computed at the rate of 6.8914 per cent on members' purchases in the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1974 and ending June 30, 1975.

In addition to this refund, McClam said, FCX had paid earlier a marketing refund of \$439,201 on eggs, soybeans, corn and other grains, bringing the combined refund total for the year to \$6,170,058.

FCX is a farmer-owned farm supply and marketing cooperative with facilities and services scattered throughout North and South Carolina.

Founded in 1934, it now has an active membership of almost 50,000 farmers, McClam said.

Complaints Concerning New Stickers

RALEIGH — Edward L. Powell, Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, recently announced that there have been problems with the new 1976 validation stickers for renewal of automobile license plates. Powell said that complaints coming to his attention have revealed instances where the stickers have torn and citizens are unable to use them.

Powell urged all citizens who have received faulty stickers to return them to their local license plate agent or to the Division of

Motor Vehicles Headquarters in Raleigh and he assured them that new stickers would be issued to them at no cost. Powell encouraged motorists to inspect the stickers before applying them to determine if they are damaged.

Powell said "We don't know the extent of the numbers of damaged stickers, but I have instructed the Registration Officials to begin an immediate investigation into this matter."



THREE DEPARTMENTS ANSWER FIRE CALL — Tuesday morning was a busy one for volunteer fire departments in Perquimans County. Pictured above firefighters from Belvidere-Chappell Hill, Hertford and Winfall Fire Departments extinguish a blaze at a Winfall home belonging to Ms. Hattie Harrell who was not at home when the fire started. All three departments responded to the call but the house was a total loss. Fire officials said the probable cause of the fire was faulty wiring. At approximately the same time, another fire broke out in a home on Beech Springs Road in Perquimans County and was answered by the Hertford Department. (Ward photo)