

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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Hertford, Perquimans County, N.C., Thursday, May 20, 1976

15 CENTS

Candidates File

FOR BOARD OF EDUCATION

Emmett B. Long has filed for reelection to the Perquimans County Board of Education. He represents the Bethel Township and has completed two terms of office. Long is self-employed as a farmer and is a member of the Bethel Baptist Church. He also holds membership in the Bethel Ruritan Club and the Masonic Lodge. In making his announcement, Long said, "I still feel that every child in Perquimans County should have the best education possible. If reelected, I shall continue to strive to improve our school system and work for the betterment of the schools."

FOR BOARD OF EDUCATION

Preston Stevenson of Hertford has filed for a seat on the Perquimans County Board of Education. Stevenson is self-employed as a farmer and attends the Bagley Swamp Wesleyan Church. There he is a member of the church board and a teacher of the Youth Sunday School class. He is a past president of the Perquimans Central Grammar School PTA and has served as treasurer for the Perquimans County Heart Fund. He is a 1952 graduate of Perquimans High School and served in the U.S. Army. Stevenson is married to the former Evangeline Saunders also of Perquimans County. They have six children: Darrell, age 16; Mark, age 13; Kenneth, age 12; Gina, age 10; Lisa, age 8; and Marisa, age 8.

In making his announcement, Stevenson said, "I'm interested in the school system and I feel that by working in this capacity I'll be able to help the county." This is Stevenson's first attempt at an elected office.



WAGON TRAIN VISIT — Shown above are some of the scenes of the Texas-Bar-Six Wagon Train visit to Hertford as the group enters the town, stops to chat with



residents, and leaves on U.S. 17. The group was welcomed by Hertford Mayor Bill Cox and was escorted by Sheriff Julian Broughton. Wagon Master

(shown in the middle photo at center) is Lawrence E. Watson. The group left Texas on Sept. 12 and are scheduled to end their journey on July 4 at Valley



Forge, Pa. The group camped at the U.S. 17 Park Site and their visit was enjoyed by young and old alike. (Staff photos by Freda Nelson)

History Relived With Wagon Train Visit

By FRED A NELSON

Pioneer life converged on the Town of Hertford last weekend. It was much like the reliving of an era from the pages of a history book or a movie reel of covered-wagon days or T.V.'s GUN SMOKE. And it all began early Saturday afternoon as the unofficial "Spirit of '76"—Texas-Bar-Six wagon train of covered wagons drawn by horses and mules and a two-wheeled cart rumbled into town.

Hardly anyone was aware that the people of Hertford and Perquimans County would be hosting this unique and interesting display of people, vehicles, apparatuses and animals until the welcome mat was out to the 16 people, 25 animals, and 7 wagons.

Mayor Bill Cox and Sheriff Julian Broughton upon receiving word that the caravan would be passing on Route 17 sometime Saturday went away to meet the Wagon Master and extend an invitation to visit Hertford. They obliged and were officially welcomed by town officials at the Court House Square while their animals paused for a brief refreshing. The wagon train was then escorted to the U.S. 17 park site where they were invited to camp over night.

The wagon train which was organized by Lawrence E. Watson of Lexington, Texas, with a personal investment of over \$16,000 started rolling in his home state Sept. 12 and toured Texas for four months. Leaving Texas Jan. 14, it has traveled through Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia and South Carolina. Arriving at Hertford, they had traveled 3,024 miles over a period of 204 days. The trek is scheduled to end at Valley Forge, Pa. July 4.

Forty-nine-year-old Watson readily admits that his wagon train is in no way connected with the Bicentennial Wagon Train Pilgrimage which is government sponsored at a cost of five million dollars. The official train he says is little more than horse-drawn mobile homes with catered

meals and communication system. Whereas his train is a near replica of the frontier days of America and they are living much as the pioneers did. Ninety-five percent of their cooking is done on an open fire and they sleep on the ground, no beds. They have no communication system and see no television.

Watson owned and operated an air-conditioning business up until four years ago when his doctor advised him to get out of it for health reasons. He sold the business and began organizing the wagon train. His wife and three children remained at home on their small ranch in Lee County because of the children's schooling. They plan to join him after school is out and his wife recovers from a leg injury.

The group is making the trip for the purpose of recreating for themselves and the people they meet a bit of what our forefathers the early pioneers of America went through 200 years ago in order to make our country what it is today. And as Cricket Harmon said, "we're doing it on 'lots of guts' and small donations." Cricket, a sun-tanned and brawn young woman of the group also said, "we're enjoying every minute of it."

Of the original group some have dropped out and new ones have joined up along the way. Several members gave up top-paying jobs ranging from \$13,000 to \$25,000 a year to go with the train. Ages range from 18-year-old Sid Tonneiges from Macon, Ga. to 49-year-old Wagon Master Watson.

Watson said that members must be self-sustaining to the extent of paying \$7.00 a day for eats. If this and the money received from donations is not enough, he pays the extra expense. Fresh groceries are bought daily and feed for the animals must be purchased every day. He says the animals are cared for first, then the people. Thus far, even with rainy and cold weather, they have not experienced any illnesses. The wagon train travels an average of 15 to 20 miles a day.

Certificates are exchanged along the way for donations to help finance the trip. It proclaims that "the old west still lives" and entitles the holder "to his share of pride in this historic accomplishment, happiness in seeing our heritage preserved, and knowledge that the pioneer spirit of our ancestors has been carried through to our children."

From all indications this small band from Texas was received favorably and did quite well with the time spent in Perquimans County. They were escorted by our Sheriff Broughton from Chowan County to Hertford and then to their over-night accommodations. (This was the first escort service they'd received in North Carolina, although they'd had both front and back escorts through other states.) Later in the day, the group was furnished chicken barbeque suppers under the auspices of Mayor Cox and Sheriff Broughton. Also, certificates were purchased by some patrons.

At twilight with the campfire burning brightly the spirit of the pioneer days really took over. There was harmonizing and singing of old familiar tunes to the accompaniment of a mandolin, and later someone stopping by with a guitar became a part of the tranquility almost unnoticed as the restful music continued uninterrupted.

Children of all ages sat, some wide-eyed, some sleepily, around the flickering logs and adults sat or stood quietly by sometimes joining in the singing as the night wore on. And no one seemed to be in a hurry to bid their newfound friends of the wagon train goodnight.

A solidarity of warmth and hospitality permeated the gathering. It would be difficult, indeed, to determine which of the two segments (the hosts or those being hosted) actually benefited the most from The Texas-Bar-Six Wagon Train visit to Hertford.



BETH WINSLOW

Ms. Winslow Attends Scholarship Weekend

Beth Winslow, a junior at Perquimans County High School, was one of the 111 juniors selected from over 600 nominees to spend May 1st through May 3rd, at ECU in Greenville, N.C. to attend the Scholarship Weekend. The Scholarship Weekend is an annual program at ECU open to students across the state nominated by their principals or guidance counselors and then selected by the Scholarship Weekend Committee. During her stay there, Beth lived on campus, attended lectures and meetings given by the Scholarship Weekend Committee, and the League of Scholars in order to give a general idea of life on a university campus. On Monday, May 3, the participants were allowed to attend the classes that were of major interest to them. Beth is one of the top juniors at PCHS and is involved in many things. She is a member of the Perquimans County Marching Unit, the Annual Staff, the Bios Club and the Health Careers Club. Also, Beth plays the piano for Sunday School at Up River Friends Meeting where she has been an active member for the 17 years of her life. For the past four years she has participated in the 4-H Division of the Craftsman Fair demonstrating the knot tying art of Macrame. Since the age of nine, Beth has attended camp at Quaker Lake in Guilford County, N.C. Last summer she was a Councilor's Assistant and plans to volunteer her services again this summer.

Beth is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. Clinton Winslow, Jr. of Belvidere.



AWARD RECIPIENT — Dr. Gary Richardson, left, ECU math faculty member and director of the local competition for the Putnam Award, presents the 1976 Putnam Award to

James Mackey Lewis of Hertford. Professor Mildred Derrick, right, initiated this scholarship in connection with the ECU Mathematics Honors Program. (ECU News Bureau Photo)

Lewis Receives Putnam Award

GREENVILLE — James Mackey Lewis of Hertford, senior student in the East Carolina University Department of Mathematics, is a recipient of the 1976 Putnam Award.

Lewis is among outstanding students of mathematics throughout the United States selected to receive the \$250 scholarship award. Entering the Putnam award competition were students at more than 350 U.S. colleges and universities.

Lewis has also been recognized as ECU's outstanding senior by the

campus chapter of Phi Kappa Phi honor society. He received a \$100 scholarship and is eligible for a national Phi Kappa Phi scholarship. He was initiated into Phi Kappa Phi as a junior, having maintained an academic grade point average of better than 3.8 out of a possible 4.0.

In addition, Lewis is this year's outstanding senior in the ECU mathematics department and was selected for honorary membership in the American Mathematical Association.

He has been chapter

president of Phi Mu Epsilon and Gamma Beta Phi honors societies and was cited in "Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges."

Earlier this spring he reported results of his studies of continuous convergence to a southeastern gathering of the Mathematical Association of America in Charlotte.

Lewis is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl W. Lewis of Rt. 2, Hertford and is a graduate of Perquimans County High School.

Bicentennial Plans To Be Made

A meeting of the Perquimans County Bicentennial Committee is scheduled for Thursday night, May 20 at 7:30 p.m. at the county courthouse. At this meeting plans will be made for the upcoming Bicentennial celebration. At

present, a play is scheduled for June 11 and 12, a Flag Day ceremony for June 14 and the Independence Day celebration will take place. The public is invited to attend this meeting and bring their suggestions for the Bicentennial celebration in Perquimans County. You

do not have to be a member of the committee to attend. All interested citizens are invited. Committee members at present are Tom Applegate, Jean Brown, and Joe Nowell. These people can be contacted for further information.

Civic Calendar Sr. Citizens Bazaar

THURSDAY: May 20

Bicentennial Committee of the Chamber of Commerce will meet at 7:30 p.m. at the courthouse in Hertford. All interested people are invited to attend.

Hertford BPW Club will meet.

Hertford Fire Department will meet.

Hertford Lions Club will meet.

SATURDAY: May 22

The Elizabeth City Shrine Club will have a dance at the Elizabeth City Shrine Club from 9:30 p.m. to 12:30 p.m. Admission is \$5.00 a couple. Music will be by Vince Chory and the Squires.

SUNDAY: May 23

Hertford United Methodist Church Choirs will present "I Love America," a Bicentennial Musical at the Hertford United Methodist Church at 7:30 p.m. The public is invited.

MONDAY: May 24

Perquimans County Rescue Squad will meet.

The Perquimans County Council on the Status of Women will meet at the Council office upstairs at Courthouse at 7:30 p.m. All interested people are invited.

Perquimans County Historical Society will meet at 8 p.m. at the Perquimans County Library. All members are urged to be present.

TUESDAY: May 25

Hertford Rotary Club will meet.

Perquimans Masonic Lodge No. 106 will meet at 8 p.m. at the Lodge Hall in Hertford.

Belvidere Homemaker's Club will meet.

Perquimans County Historical Society will meet at 8 p.m. at the Perquimans County Library. All members are urged to be present.

TUESDAY: May 25

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Southgate Mall Association has set aside the week of May 24 for a Senior Citizens Bazaar. During the week senior citizens will display and sell arts and crafts that they have made.

Senior citizens from the 10 county Albemarle area will be participating in this bazaar. Gift certificates will be presented to some of the senior citizens by various merchants and business men of the Albemarle area.

Arts and crafts for exhibit and sale will be displayed in the main mall from approximately 11 a.m. each day until late afternoon. A wide variety of items including needle work, knitting, dried flower displays and paintings are expected to be on display. Three of the most popular items displayed last year were quilts, crocheted jewelry and wood carvings.

Individual senior citizens may participate on any day and as often as they wish. However, senior citizens clubs will participate on the following dates for their particular county: Gates and Currituck, Monday, May 24; Tyrell and Chowan, Tuesday, May 25; Washington and Perquimans, Wednesday, May 26; Dare and Hyde, Thursday, May 27; Camden and Pasquotank, Friday, May 28; and, all counties Saturday, May 29. All beginning at 11 a.m. daily.

On Friday, at 7 p.m., a program will be presented by and for the senior citizens. Joe Lamb, from Radio Station, WCNC will emcee this program. During the program award and gift certificates will be presented.



YOUNG FARMERS & RANCHERS MEET — At the Monday night meeting of the Perquimans County Young Farmers and Ranchers Committee, Highway Patrolman Charles Mims talked with the group about laws pertaining to farm equipment on the highway. Also, Elbert Phelps, N.C. Farm Bureau Field Representative (at left) visited with the group. Pictured in the center is William Winslow, president of the committee. Several prospective members were also present. (Hertford photo)