

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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FOR LOYAL SERVICE — During the Monday morning meeting of the Perquimans County Board of Commissioners, chairman Lester Simpson presented a plaque recognizing 31 years of service at the Perquimans County Library to Mrs. Lucy M. Whedbee, retired librarian. The presentation was made on behalf of the Board. (Newbern photo)

Board Of Education Votes:

School Bond? Yes! Reorganization? No!

By KATHY M. NEWBERN

Although they were not the first orders of business, the decisions on reorganization of Perquimans County Schools and calling for a bond referendum were the biggest decisions facing the Perquimans County Board of Education when they met in regular session Monday night.

After lengthy discussion on the question of reorganization, Board members voted unanimously against reorganizing the county's school system. Members pointed out that the move last year to place all of the county's seventh and eighth grade students at Perquimans Union School had worked out advantageously and that the current set-up in the schools is "working out." All members agreed that they felt the decision was in the best interest of the school district.

On the matter of calling for a bond referendum for renovation and construction at Perquimans High School, once again the vote was unanimous, this time, all favored the action. The motion was made that the Board of Education request the Perquimans County Board of Commissioners to call for a bond referendum in the amount of \$1.85 million. Members felt this amount, plus the \$1 million on hand would give a total necessary to complete the planned work. The question of a bond referendum for Perquimans High School has been under consideration for some time. The first action taken on the matter by the Board of Education was to appear before the local Commissioners and request their endorsement of a bond referendum. That endorsement was, however, denied. The Commissioners then informed the Board of Education that if they requested a bond referendum, the Commissioners had to carry out that request by law. In the discussions that have gone on since that time, the Commissioners added that they would not in any way actively oppose the efforts of the Board of Education if they did decide to request the referendum to be called. In taking action on the issue Monday night, members of the Board of Education expressed the opinion that they felt an obligation to let the people of the county share in the decision. It will now go to the voters.

Prior to the business session of the Monday night meeting, Board of Education members viewed a presentation by Sheila Perry, Lynn Stallings and Spencer Weiner, all elementary students enrolled in the gifted/talented program conducted by Mrs. Brenda Terranova. The students shared an original project with the Board members in which they illustrated original stories with filmstrips and reading.

During the business session, policy matters were the first items discussed. Board members discussed the need for a local policy on staff reduction with no action being taken. Members were given guidelines from the State Department of Public Instruction on the matter and sample policies

from other school districts for their consideration.

Also under policy matters, the Board approved a motion concerning local supplements. Teachers in Perquimans County currently receive \$150 annually as local supplement. The motion as passed would have local supplements paid only to those who are employed a minimum of six months with the school system.

In the last policy matter discussed, members of the Board voted to send a letter of assurance to the Department of Housing, Education and Welfare that it will not discriminate against any person on the basis of handicap(s).

Several budget amendments were approved Monday night as follows: In the area of occupation education — \$2,185 for handicapped program, \$2,526 for work study, \$3,855 for equipment, and \$331 for materials; in the area of testing — \$1,000.

In personnel matters, the Board of Education accepted the resignations of Gaye Mann and Roy Forehand. Retirement notices were also accepted from Miss Johnnie White and Mrs. Theresa Ebron. The Board of Education also granted career status to Ken Stalls, Occupational Education Director for Perquimans, Chowan and Gates schools.

In the area of programs, promotion and retention in the local schools was discussed with no action being taken. Superintendent Pat Harrell pointed out to the Board members that some policy is needed in this area with the possibility of focusing on retention at an early age rather than in later grades. Information on how Perquimans County compares to other counties in this area was shared.

Several items were discussed in the area of administrative operations in addition to the issues of reorganization and the bond referendum. The Board voted to approve a contract with Pittman Pest Control of Elizabeth City for termite treatment and pest control at local schools. A motion was also passed to approve the calendar for Title I aides as nine and one-quarter months.

Superintendent Harrell then informed Board members that notice has been received from VEPCO that a meter at Perquimans Union School has gone unnoticed for the last five years and no reading was taken by the electric company during that time. Due to the oversight, an undercharge did occur and VEPCO is now requesting some back payment. By law, only 12 months back payment is required, however, VEPCO has requested the Board to cover 50 per cent of the total back costs with the company absorbing the over 50 per cent. The Board went on record approving the 50-50 request.

Before adjourning, the Board was informed that an appreciation luncheon for Perquimans County School employees will be held June 10 at Perquimans High School. Members were also invited to attend graduation ceremonies at Perquimans High School at 8 p.m. June 10.

Variety Flavors Meeting

By KATHY M. NEWBERN

A variety of topics was discussed when the Perquimans Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting Monday morning.

The first item of business was the presentation of a plaque from the Board to Mrs. Lucy M. Whedbee for 31 years of "loyal service" to the Perquimans County Library as librarian. Present to witness the recognition were Mrs. Addie Keegan, assistant librarian; and Mrs. J.T. Biggers of the library Board of Directors.

In other business, Arlene Evans with the Albemarle Regional Planning and Development Commission (ARPDC) appeared and discussed the Perquimans County Manpower Council and proposed summer programs. No action was taken by the board.

Roy Perkins and representatives of the Albemarle Babe Ruth Baseball League discussed the need for financial assistance for the eight-week season play which will involve 78 boys between the ages of 13 and 18. They in-

formed the Commissioners that the league is nationally recognized and extended an invitation for the Commissioners to attend opening ceremonies of the season Monday night at 7:30 p.m. Although no action was taken by the Board, members did indicate support of this organization.

Also appearing at the Monday morning meeting were Albert Moore and Warren Mincey who presented a report on the county soil survey.

Melvin Howell with Farmer's Home Administration reminded the Board that a computer for tax billing and the water system is needed. This is already under consideration by the Board.

Mrs. Grace Dixon with the Economic Improvement Council, Inc. was present to tell the Board of expanding programs for senior citizens including consumer education, adult education, friendly visitations, outreach information, referral, and transportation. She requested support from the Commissioners in these program areas. The motion passed supporting these programs and to continue providing office facilities while no additional financial support was approved.

Recreation in Perquimans County was also discussed with Mayor Bill Cox present. No action was taken.

Jud Little with the Planning Commission discussed the implementation and enforcement of the local land use plan in conjunction with the Coastal Resources Commission.

Also present at the meeting was School Superintendent Pat Harrell who presented a monthly status report on the schools.

Commissioners informed Sheriff Julian Broughton that permission has been granted for construction of a cement building at the site of the recently completed radio tower for use by the dispatch system.

Announcement was then made that the Board will be advertising for bids for fuel oil for county buildings and bids for rental of the county home property.

Two appointments closed out the Monday morning meeting. R.L. Spivey was reappointed to the Tri-County Jail Commission and Thomas D. Nixon was named the Commissioners' appointee to the Perquimans County Board of Social Services to serve a three-year term.

Library Receives \$18,000

The Perquimans County Library will be branching out into a new program area as the result of an \$18,000 grant just received.

The funds, which are to be used for Library Outreach, were made possible through the Library Services and Construction Act with the North Carolina State Library as administrator.

Library Outreach is a program aimed at providing library services to citizens who cannot take advantage of the library or the regular bookmobile services. Citizens in the category would include those who lack transportation to the library or have difficulty obtaining library services due to their geographical location. Library Outreach also provides services to citizens that are elderly and homebound or in nursing homes, preschool age children, and school children during the summer months.

Wayne Henritze, Perquimans County Librarian and director of the new project, explained that the grant provides for the purchase of a compact station wagon to be used in the program. Other items to be purchased include film and filmstrip projectors, cassette players, a typewriter, desk and chair, a number of filmstrips, records, tapes, and about 1,000 new books.

In addition to providing books to participants in the Library Outreach program, plans are also to include film programs and story hours at various community centers and churches throughout Perquimans County.

The new program will be handled by the existing staff at the local library with additional community volunteers being recruited to serve as readers, storytellers, and projectionists. Henritze said, "Diane Hurdle and Myra Felton, Library Assistants, will work closely with the project while the Regional Library staff in Plymouth will provide managerial advice and technical expertise."

Henritze is also encouraging participation in the program and said, "Anyone homebound due to illness, age or lack of transportation and or who cannot take advantage of the library in Hertford or cannot travel to a bookmobile stop is encouraged to call the library and ask that materials be delivered on either a one-time or continual basis."

Henritze added the following comment on the grant and new program, "Library Outreach services are one of the most effective and important ways to serve everyone in a rural community and we're looking forward to the opportunity to serve not just the people in Hertford itself, but the entire county which has supported the library so well in the past. This grant will make it possible for the library to undertake programs and projects that would have been impossible in the past. In the near future, we'll be contacting churches and community leaders for permission to use facilities for the Outreach Program."

Registration Is Announced

In a report from the Perquimans County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, Bobby Heath, County Executive Director, has pointed out several items of interest to local farmers.

According to Heath, the peanut and cotton acreage must be filed by July 15. The acreage reports must be filed by the farm operator or his authorized agent. Producers must report the acreage of peanuts and cotton on a field-by-field basis. It is important, Heath stressed, that the acreage reports are correct. It is considered an error, Heath pointed out, if the reported acreage is more or less than the measured acreage. Field checks will be made to determine certification accuracy.

Heath explained that instructions have been received that require farm operators to report the planted acreage of corn, wheat, barley, and grain sorghum. This also must be reported on a field-by-field basis. Again, Heath stressed the importance of every farm operator making this crop report. This report, too, must be accurate. Farms will be spot checked for accuracy. Producers who certified early and did not certify to the farm's corn, wheat, barley, and grain sorghum acreage will have to return and make this certification. Farmers who fail to report planted acreage will be considered to have no planted acreage and may be ineligible for program benefits in 1978.

Also of interest to local

farmers is the fact that the Perquimans County ASCS office will register beef producers until June 17 to vote on the beef research and information order. This registration opened on June 6 and is continuing until the deadline. Beef Producers who fail to register cannot vote in the July referendum.

If over half of the registered producers vote in the referendum and two-thirds of those voting approve the order, the Secretary of Agriculture will appoint a beef board, composed of not more than 68 beef producers, from names submitted by producer organizations. The board would collect assessments on sales of cattle and use of funds for beef research and information programs.

Registration can be done in person or by mail. Those who wish to register by mail may request the ASCS county office to mail registration cards.

All persons who produced beef during the 1976 calendar year are eligible to register. This includes feedlot operators as well as dairymen. Each production entity — such as a family, partnership, or corporation — is entitled to one vote. A 4-H or FFA member may register, provided he or she produced beef independent of the family operation.

Daily, the ASCS office will be posting a list of producers registered to vote. A final list will be posted June 22. Anyone may challenge the eligibility of any producer listed.

Two persons were killed and one seriously injured when an accident involving two vehicles occurred around 12:30 a.m. Saturday.

Killed were Miss Amber L. Lane, 18; and driver of the car in which she was a passenger, David Preston Godfrey, 17. Injured was Melvin L. Chappell, 23, of Rt. 1, Belvidere, driver of the truck involved.

Both fatalities were students at Albemarle Academy. Godfrey was a junior and the son of David Preston and Mrs. Katherine Ownley Godfrey of Rt. 2, Elizabeth City. He was a member of the school's Monogram Club, French Club, Glee Club and on the annual staff. He was named an all-conference football player in 1976 and had participated in basketball and baseball.

Miss Lane had graduated from Albemarle Academy the night of the accident. During graduation exercises, she was named recipient of the Faculty Spirit Award, Language Excellence Award and had been recognized as an honor student and Beta Club member. She was the daughter of Herbert Ray and Mrs. Thelma Hare Lane and a member of Ballard's Baptist Church.

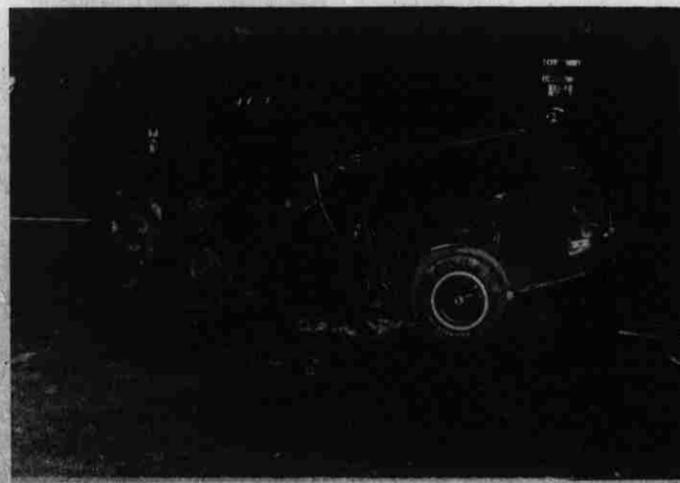
According to a report by investigating Trooper C.H. Mims, the Chappell vehicle was traveling north on Rural Rd. 1002 and the Godfrey vehicle was traveling east on Rural Rd. 1118 when Godfrey allegedly ran the stop sign at the intersection and hit the Chappell truck in the right side.

All involved were taken to Albemarle Hospital where the two students were pronounced dead. Chappell was transferred to Norfolk General Hospital where he was listed in serious condition.

Two Dead; One Injured In Late Night Accident



TRAGIC ACCIDENT — Shown above is the body of the Chappell truck which was knocked off the frame during the accident and landed upside down. The accident occurred at the intersection of Rural Roads 1002 and 1118 nine-tenths of a mile west of Belvidere at 12:30 a.m. on Saturday.



TRAGIC ACCIDENT — Shown above is the vehicle driven by David Preston Godfrey which also contained passenger Amber Lane. The accident resulted in the death of both of the young people who were students at Albemarle Academy.

The driver of the truck was seriously injured. According to investigating Trooper C.H. Mims, the impact was so great when the vehicles collided that no braking tracks were left by either. (Photos courtesy of Bud Amburn)

SELECTED — Gary Winslow was recently named Chowan Academy's Senior Athlete of the Year, an award presented in memory of Adrian Smith. The recipient participated in soccer, basketball, baseball and football during his high school years. He plans to attend Chowan College in the fall where he will continue participation in basketball and baseball. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Allen Winslow of Hertford.