

# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

Volume 34, No. 40

Hertford, Perquimans County, N.C., Thursday, October 5, 1978

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## Board approves regulation changes

By KATHY M. NEWBERN

The Perquimans County Board of Commissioners authorized Keith Painter, planner with the Department of Natural Resources and Community Development, to revise the Perquimans County sub-division regulations when no one appeared at a public hearing for that purpose Monday morning.

The regulations will remain the same except for three areas discussed and approved at the meeting. A section will be added whereby a family may make a gift of a single lot of land to another member in the immediate family without it falling in the sub-division regulation. A second section was approved pertaining to flood damage whereby the local Planning Board will use their

own discretion in determining areas of possible flood damage. And a third section will be added, as required by the Coastal Area Management Act, that a sub-division not occur in an area of environmental concern. The Board approved the sub-division regulations with Painter responsible for making these changes.

In other business, Paul Gregory, Director of the local Department of Social Services, gave an update on department activities with lengthy discussion on a funding request for a four-county transportation project. He also explained a new bonus coupon set-up for the food stamp program, passed by Congress to go in effect at the beginning of 1979. He added that a meeting to present building renovation plans will be held with the commissioners in

November and attended by representatives from his department and ASCS, the two agencies sharing the building.

In other business, Chairman Lester Simpson shared a letter from William Alden Russell requesting action to hold down air pollution and dust damaging his personal property at rural roads 1308 and 1300. The board approved sending a letter requesting the State Highway Division to look into the matter, but pointed out that many other similar cases could also be involved.

A letter from property owners requesting paving a road five-tenths of a mile from SR 1100 was read. The board approved a motion to make this request also.

The board then heard from Dr. Les Picker, Director of the Marine

Resources Center, serving the 10-county area. He outlined the center's offerings and encouraged input from the county on ways the center could serve the local people.

In financial matters, Durwood Reed Jr., county accountant, explained the current status of the CETA program pointing out that present contracts are running through Oct. 13 with a decision of Congress pending. He also explained needed action by the board to approve changing the fiscal period for the nutrition program. This approval was granted with a letter stating such to be drawn up. Reed also explained that the county's share of payments to the Town of Hertford for the fire station and recreation will be made when revenue sharing funds are received.

Pat Harrell, School Superintendent, appeared before the board with several updates. He explained that bids for the high school project will be taken again on Oct. 10 and explained that a delay until the beginning of the year might be necessary if the bids are high. He said, "The picture's not very bright." Bids will also be received that same date, Harrell said, on the high school field house project which is also at a standstill. He explained that attempts have been made, without success, to secure a local supervisor for that project. Harrell then explained the current state of the proposed tri-county career center saying that the one year feasibility study is getting underway through receipt of a \$50,000 grant from two sources. The schools' central office's need for storage space was also

discussed with a possibility mentioned, but no action taken.

Chairman Simpson then shared a letter from William Nixon informing the board that an additional 10 feet of driveway has been obtained at the site of the Newbold-White House. That letter also thanked the board for its interest in getting county water at the site and upgrading of the roadway.

In other water department discussion, one commissioner explained that some citizens have questioned the absence of the county's name on the system's water tanks. Chairman Simpson explained that no funds had been allocated in the budget for this purpose.

Before adjourning, the board appropriated \$25 for a newspaper advertisement saluting the local rescue squad.

## Policy is adopted regarding report cards

By KATHY M. NEWBERN

A policy on reporting student progress in the county's schools was adopted in Monday night's regular meeting of the Perquimans County Board of Education.

The policy, recommended by Superintendent Pat Harrell, revamps the method by which student grades are reported and calls for more responsibility on the part of teachers in reporting progress or the lack of it to both students and parents.

The four-page policy outlines specific expectations on the part of teachers and students with special provisions made for reporting pro-

gress of students involved in exceptional programs.

The biggest change comes for students at Perquimans High, grades 9-12, where numerical grades will be recorded instead of the former A, B, C, D, F system.

For students in grades 1-8, letter grades will still be reported for certain subject areas such as reading, math, language arts, social studies, band, etc. Reports of satisfactory, unsatisfactory, and needs to improve (S, U, N) will be recorded in other areas such as physical education, handwriting, health, and social development indicators.

The adopted policy also calls for the use of stanine scores on standardized achievement tests to determine grade level placement in

reading and math for students in grades 1-8. Harrell added that work is underway to develop a local policy on promotion and retention.

In other action, the board approved the 1978-79 budget, originally presented in July but now in completed form and ready to be sent to the State Department. The budget resolution, required by the Fiscal Control Act, was also approved and will be a permanent record.

In personnel matters, the board accepted the resignation of Jacky Smith as eighth grade language arts teacher at Perquimans Union and approved Elsie Thomas as her replacement. Also approved for employment were Anthony Downing, physical education aide at Hert-

ford Grammar; Sandra White and Beverly Carter, CETA aides at Hertford Grammar.

The board also approved charging a \$1.50 instructional fee, to be used for weekly instructional newspapers, for students in grades 1-8.

In matters of discussion, the board heard a staff report from Jeannie Umphlett, Coordinator for exceptional children, in which she explained the county's program and her duties. The board also heard status reports in several program areas including kindergarten, band, and total instruction. The word from Superintendent Harrell was that all programs are operating well with many positive things happening.

Status reports were then heard on the board's attempt to obtain property adjacent to the high school the tri-county career center, and progress on the renovation and construction at the high school. Harrell explained that bids for that project have been readvertised with opening scheduled for Oct. 10.

Updates were given on several capital outlay projects including replacing the gym floor at Union School, a new broiler for the high school, and window replacement at Central School. The board briefly discussed the relationship between the schools and the Perquimans County Marching Unit with no action being taken.

Several announcements were made prior to adjournment. Harrell

explained that a price increase of .0116 was necessary due to an increase by the N.C. Milk Commission.

The board was informed of a meeting Oct. 16 with Brooks Whitehurst to discuss the relationship of business and industry to education.

And, plans were finalized for local attendance at the North Carolina School Boards Association Convention Nov. 2-4 in Winston-Salem.

Before adjourning, the board authorized Harrell to send in requested information so rates information could be received for board liability insurance which will terminate in November.



**HONORED** — N.C. Speaker of the House of Representatives, Carl Stewart, was recently honored by Democrats from the northeastern section of the state at a breakfast gathering. In his comments, Stewart heralded achievements of the party and called for additional unity.



**CANDIDATE'S WIFE** — In what was jokingly called a "non-political gathering," Mrs. John Ingram was among those present. She made brief comments urging support of her husband's campaign for the U.S. Senate. (Staff photos by Kathy M. Newbern)

## Carl Stewart is honored at gathering

**ELIZABETH CITY** — Elected officials and prominent citizens from throughout the Albemarle area were present Friday morning to honor a man described by Rep. Vernon James as "one of the greatest leaders we've had in a long time." That man is Speaker of the N.C. House of Representatives, Carl Stewart.

The breakfast gathering included brief comments from special guest, Mrs. John Ingram, as well as an address from the honoree.

In his comments, Stewart heralded the work being done in state legislature by Rep. James, particularly his chairmanship of the agriculture committee.

But most of his thoughts were addressed to political leadership exhibited by the Democratic party. He pointed out that on the state level, 6 of 120 members of the house are Republican and 3 of the 50 senators are members of that party. He laughingly described Republicans as an "almost endangered species." In a serious light, he added, "It's easy to jest about it and it's easy to

become a little overconfident."

He cited specific examples of achievement accomplished by Democratic presidents and governors and got a plug in for the John Ingram for U.S. Senate campaign.

He then wrapped up his comments, keeping to the same theme, by encouraging northeastern North Carolina Democrats to contribute to the unity and success of the party.

## More local 'bellringers' named

Mrs. Maude Ellis and Mrs. Harold Copeland have been named Mental Health Bellringer chairpersons for the cities of Belvidere and Pineywoods for the October 1978 campaign, according to Ludie H. White, President of the Mental Health Association in North Carolina.

"The Mental Health Association is the largest citizens' voluntary advocacy organization in the United States fighting mental illness and

promoting mental health," said Mrs. White.

Since the organization is non-profit and non-governmental, its entire support must come from contributions such as those to be collected in October.

The original and continuing purpose of the Association are to:

Improve attitudes toward mental illness and the mentally ill through public education;

## EMC plans annual meeting

**HERTFORD** — The 31st Annual Meeting of the members of Albemarle Electric Membership Corporation will be held Saturday, Oct. 7 at the Perquimans County High School Auditorium here, according to James A. Whitehurst of South Mills, president of the electric cooperative.

Items of business at the meeting will include the election of directors and report of the year's 1977 operations.

A Nominating Committee of member-consumers has nominated a slate of directors to be elected at the meeting. The Committee was composed of J.C. Rountree and Roy Griffin of Camden County, Albert Everson and Walter Moore of Chowan County, Douglas Banks and Allen Rogerson of Pasquotank County and Joe Tunnell and Latham Felton of Perquimans County.

The Nominating Committee has made the following nominations: for District No. 2 (Chowan County) Joseph A. Wiggins of Tyner and Lloyd T. Parrish, Rt. 3, Edenton; District No. 3 (Pasquotank County) L.A. Harris, Jr. of Rt. 4, Elizabeth City and Thomas M. Harris, Rt. 5, Elizabeth City; and District No. 4 (Perquimans County) A.T. Lane, Sr. of Rt. 1, Hertford and Paul Smith, Jr., Rt. 2, Hertford.

A demonstration energy mobile display will be at the High School for members and the public to visit both prior to the meeting and afterwards. The exhibit will open at 11 a.m.,

close for the meeting, and remain open until 6 p.m.

In addition, the Cooperative's manager and staff personnel will be available to members in the High School cafeteria from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Registration will begin at 1 p.m.

The state Social Services Commission, appointed by Gov. Jim Hunt, recently named John H. London of Hertford to serve on the Perquimans County Social Services Board.

London is the minister of the First Baptist Church. He is chairman of the Hertford County Chapter of the NAACP, president of the Perquimans County Fellowship Union, a board member of the Economic Improvement Council and a volunteer for the Regional R Office for the Aging. He is a reappointee to the Board.

The members of the Commission are charged by law to name two members to the county Social Services Board.

The county Board is composed of five members. In addition to the two appointed by the state Social Services Commission, two are appointed by the county commissioners, and those four select the

and the annual meeting will begin at 2 p.m. Each member who registers will receive a silver dollar and over 30 attendance prizes will be awarded lucky winners.

President Whitehurst urges all members of the cooperative to attend the annual membership

meeting. "Members can exercise their ownership and interest in their own business by attending," Whitehurst added.

Albemarle EMC serves some 5,700 member-consumer families in parts of Chowan, Perquimans, Pasquotank, Camden and Currituck counties.

## London reappointed to board

fifth member of the Board. All members serve terms of three years.

The county Board has the authority to appoint and dismiss the county Social Services Director, according to the merit system rules of the State

Personnel Commission.

The Board consults with and advises the director on any problems relating to his office. The members also help the director plan the budget for the department and present it to the county commissioner.



**AMONG THE GUESTS** — Governor Jim Hunt was among special guests from the state level attending the Northeast, an annual Democratic gathering, held this past weekend at Nags Head. A story on the event and picture highlights appear on page 9. (Staff photo by Kathy M. Newbern)