

# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

Volume 35, No.2

Hertford, Perquimans County, N.C., Thursday, January 11, 1979

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## Three Perquimans County Men Arrested

# "Murder for Hire" Occurs in Va. Beach

By TONY JORDAN

As the "made for television" plot plays what appears to be its last card, it was pointed out by Ted Hanson, Assistant Attorney for the Commonwealth of Virginia, that the job of apprehending the suspects would not have been as easy if it hadn't been for the cooperation of the Hertford Police Department. Hanson has been involved with the case since its strange beginnings that can be traced back to November of 1978.

Hanson stated Tuesday, "We were able to do more in Hertford in three hours than we could do in three days in a lot of places." It was in Hertford that Hanson and two Virginia detectives came, after tracing calls from Wilmer Rowe's business phone to the small and once isolated from crime town.

The incident began Dec. 18 in what appeared to be a typical shooting and armed robbery at Heritage Paint & Decorating in Virginia Beach. Rowe's wife, Kathy, was in

the store at the time and was shot twice in the lower back and abdomen.

According to Moody E. Stallings, Jr., Assistant Commonwealth's Atty., in Monday's hearing in Virginia Beach that "a black man forced her to lie on the floor facedown. While she lay there helpless on the floor, she was shot in the back near her spine. Then the back door was rattled and Mr. Rowe let another man enter."

Judge Frederick P. Aucamp

denied bond to two of the five arrested in the "murder for hire" plot. Rowe was refused bond "for the protection of the public from danger." James Lewis Riddick, 35, Route 2, Box 138, Hertford, was not given bond, also. Bail was set for Walter Daniel White, 36, Covent Garden Street, Hertford, and Luther Hayes, Jr., 33, of Winfall at \$45,000. A fifth man arrested, Angelo Burke, 23, of Portsmouth, but originally of Perquimans County, was released under a \$25,000 recognizance bond.

The three Perquimans County residents face charges of armed

robbery and malicious assault in the "murder for hire" case. Burke faces one count to commit a capital felony, to wit "murder to hire".

Rowe faces two counts of "murder to hire". Stallings stated Monday that this was not the first time the attempt to kill his wife was made. On Nov. 15 an attempt failed when the gun would not fire, according to Stallings.

Rumors that Riddick, the Hertford garbage man, had been taken at least once and maybe more than that to New York as a government witness in bank robberies and narcotics cases, were said to be

untrue by FBI supervisor J.G. Whittington.

The fact remains that the key to breaking the case occurred in Hertford. Through Chief Marshall Merritt, who was able to get a search warrant in an Hertford apartment, and Officer Robert Logan, whose knowledge of the suspects and area, made it possible for the authorities to acquire some important evidence from the residence of Alice Felton. Felton lived at 307 Stokes Street with one of the suspects.

Hanson stated, "The people in Hertford were so helpful to us."



MORGAN LUNCH — Active Democrats were present Monday at the luncheon in which Sen. Morgan spoke. Over 100 people were present representing the Northeastern North Carolina area. Morgan spoke

on a wide variety of subjects. His stand on a strong national defense seemed most significant. Many of the area people agreed with the senator. In the photo above, Hert-

ford Mayor Bill Cox, center, is seen talking to Ray Rivers, left, and Melvin Daniels, right, State Senator for Northeastern North Carolina. (Staff photo by Tony Jordan)

## Northeastern Rural Health Development Association

# Construction Announced

In one of the most important undertakings in health care in Northeastern North Carolina many years, it was announced today by Dr. Richard Hines and Dr. Clement Lucas that construction of a 37,000 square foot Major Comprehensive Ambulatory Health Care Center will begin in the next few weeks. Over two years in planning and development by Dr. Hines, an Edenton Dentist, and Dr. Lucas, an Edenton Family Physician, the project is expected to cost over two million dollars when completed and fully equipped.

The facility will bring to the Albemarle Area for the first time ever a Comprehensive Array of health services under one roof including Family Dentistry, Oral Surgery, Pharmacy, Family Medicine, Pediatrics, Internal Medicine, Pulmonary Medicine, Cardiology, Dermatology, Gastroenterology, Abdominal and Thoracic Surgery, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Urology, Orthopedics, Otorhinolaryngology, and Ophthalmology, as well as Psychiatry.

Also offered will be unique patient support areas such as optical Shop, a Patient and Health Education Center, Physical Therapy, Respiratory Therapy and a Com-

prehensive Blood Laboratory and an Extensive X-ray Unit.

The administration will be based upon a sophisticated cost accounting mechanism utilizing an In-House Computer for billing and patient appointments. Dr. Hines and Dr. Lucas indicated that every possible modern aspect of Medical Technology had been incorporated in the design. For instance, there will be a separate waiting area for well and ill children, and a separate entrance for ill newborns, as well as a playground for children.

In a continuing relationship with the Northeastern Rural Health Development Association, linkages to the three main satellite clinics will be maintained and strengthened. health professionals in each specialty area will schedule rotations at each site. This will enable non ambulatory patients and those lacking transportation to be able to receive the very best of health care in their own rural area. It is anticipated other agencies will be contracted with for the provision of services.

Dr. Hines and Dr. Lucas indicated that staffing for the new facility is rapidly nearing completion and will total over 30 health professionals when completed including over fifteen Physicians and two Dentists. It was indicated that while some of the

new Staff has already been announced, others will be announced in the next few weeks. All Physicians and Dental staff will serve on the staff of Chowan Hospital. Patients will be hospitalized primarily at Chowan Hospital, or at the hospital of the patient's choice.

Dr. Lucas indicated there will be several innovative diagnostic Centers in the facility: A major Cardiology Diagnostic Center has been planned and will be supervised by a board certified Cardiologist who will be announced in a few days. The Center will include Bromometer Stress Testing, Exercise Stress Testing, Vectorcardiography, Echocardiography, Phonocardiography, Electrocardiography, tolter Monitoring, Blood Gas Analysis, and Ultrasound Imaging, including future Nuclear Capabilities. This Center will be affiliated with a Major University Medical Center.

A Major Diagnostic and Treatment Pulmonary Laboratory has been designed and will be directed by a Physician already recruited. There will be analysis of Drugs in blood as well as a computerized Interpretation of a patient's Pulmonary disorder. Patients will also be able to receive outpatient treatment for asthma and Emphysema.

## Forgery Spotted at Woodard's Pharmacy

Spotting an obvious forgery, a Hertford pharmacist made two quick phone calls Jan. 3 that led to the arrest of a Virginia man on a charge of uttering and forging a prescription for a controlled substance.

Police Chief Marshall Merritt said he and Tropper Y.Z. Newberry caught the suspect at 5:20 p.m. at Newbolds Curve on U.S. 17 North as the man and a companion drove

toward Elizabeth City. Merritt said the man identified himself as John Edward Woodard, 30, 5701 Atlantic Ave., Virginia Beach, and gave his occupation as maitre d'hotel of the Sandpiper Restaurant there. He was being held in Tri-County Jail under \$10,000 bond.

No charges were lodged against the other man who was driving the car.

Charles Woodard of Woodard's Pharmacy here (no relation to the accused) said he knew as soon as the prescription form from a Camden physician's office was presented that the doctor's signature was a forgery. He phoned the doctor to confirm this.

Aware that he had aroused the pharmacist's suspicions, the man left. The pharmacist then phoned police.

## ASCS Elects Members for 1979 Term

Thomas Riddick, County Executive Director for the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service in Perquimans County, released recently results of the December

election of committee members. Three members were selected from each area of the county.

The members are: from Belvidere, Clinton Winslow Savage Jolliff and George E. Nowell, Jr.; from Bethel, Johnny Corpew, Donald Madre and Dewey Perry, Jr.; from Hertford, Oras Winslow, Wayne Winslow and Weldon Byrum; from New Hope, Belvin Eure, William Wray Chappell and Claude W. Russell; from Nicanor, Donald Ray Stallings, Douglas Baker and Linwood Twine; from Parksville, Billy Pierce, Paul Smith, Sr. and Floyd Long.

These committeemen met on December 18 for the County Convention to elect a member to the County Committee, two alternates, a Chairman and Vice Chairman. The County ASC Committee for 1979 will be Lester Baker, Chairman; Preston Nixon, Vice-Chairman; Marvin Caddy, Regular Member; Wayne Howell, First Alternate; and William Wray Chappell, Second Alternate.

Requests for new grower allotments on peanuts must be filed by February 15. There are several eligibility requirements relating to interest in other farms, availability of equipment, income, experience,

ownership, etc. Anyone interested in filling an application should contact the ASCS office.

Although the 1979 peanut farm quota will take a five percent reduction over past year, there will be no reduction in the farm allotment. Allotment notices will be mailed as soon as possible after 1978 marketings are reconciled. The ASCS office can then begin accepting applications to lease and transfer quotas from one farm to another within the county.

Farmers buying, selling or changing their farm operation for 1979 are requested to come by the county office so that our records may be updated for current program operations.

Payment statements of all payments made to farmers under ASCS programs should be received before the end of January. These statements are mailed directly from the Data Processing Center to the farmer. Any farmer having questions concerning these statements should contact Director Riddick.

Measurement services will be available for all 1979 crops and land uses. Rates will be unchanged from 1978, \$1 per acre plus a \$4 service charge with a \$10 farm minimum.

## Perquimans School Buses

# Big Yellow Chugs Along

During 1977-78 all the North Carolina school buses combined traveled 535,000 miles each day, enough to drive around the world 21 times.

According to Louis Alexander, Director of the of the Division of Transportation for the Department of Public Education, the 11,910 buses that operated during 1977-78 traveled 53,500,000 miles. The average bus traveled 44.9 miles each day carrying an average of 61 students.

Perquimans County school buses ranked 85th out of the 100 counties in the state in the average number of children on each bus with approximately 41 students. But the county was on the other end of the scale

when it came to how many miles traveled per vehicle each day. Only nine counties were ahead of the county. Perquimans was nine miles per bus above the state average with 53 miles.

Annual audit figures released by the State Board of Education indicate that the cost of transporting the public school \$5 million over the previous year. A total of \$43,197,880 was spent to transport some 744,813 students in 76-78. The figure for 1977-78 is \$51,072,903.

The cost of transporting a pupil during the 77-78 school year came to \$96.81 compared to \$68.72 in the previous year. This represents an

increase of \$8.09 per pupil. Perquimans County spent \$91,262 transporting students to school during 77-78.

