

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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15 CENTS

Representative James Visits Commissioners

By Tony Jordan

A surprise visitor highlighted the County Commissioners meeting Monday. Representative Vernon James met for less than a half hour to inform the commissioners that any local legislation must be brought up during this week of state legislation.

In addition, James expressed a desire to be informed of any problems in the county that he could help with. James mentioned he would be talking with the governor Wednesday.

Commissioner Marshall Caddy asked for a better understanding about subdivisions and access to the roads that lead to them. Caddy said he did not want to see regulations "stifling growth" in the county.

Since 1973 the State Board of Transportation has not taken into consideration any private road becoming a public road unless it is paved. A subdivision, containing four or more lots, should have a public road leading to them. James stated that he would look into the problem.

James said he did not support the road bond because he didn't "feel that the bond would do the job." He pointed out that the additional money would only improve a mile of road each year in the county. Perquimans has approximately 80 to 90 miles of road that is being considered or should be considered for improvement, according to James.

The representative pointed out

that the money on the state and federal level was not going to appropriate areas. James expressed this feeling in two examples;

North Carolina receives only about 60 percent of federal money it sends to Washington, D.C. for road improvements. James said much of the money goes to the larger, unpopulated states in the west.

Approximately 31 percent of states road funds are being used in Wake County, home of the chairman of North Carolina Board of Transportation. Only 10 percent of North Carolina's population is in Wake.

James said, "It's a darn shame we pay in the money and don't get it back." Of the eight counties James represents, he feels Washington, Perquimans, Pasquotank and Tyrell need more help in road improvements.

COUNTY BEGINS TO BUDGET FOR YEAR

Durwood Reed, County Financial Officer, announced that he would have a 'skelton' budget for the next meeting. This would give the commissioners a chance to see how funds would be allotted and what changes need to be made.

Reed remarked, that it would be good to "hold the tax rate as is; but it's doubtful we can do that." County increases in county employees' salaries.

Paul Gregory, director of Perquimans County Social Services,

was present to determine the support he can expect from the county in budgeting for his year. Gregory must prepare his budget for the State before the county.

Gregory was concerned with the county endorsing Caswell Center (misprinted in an earlier edition as Casual Center). Caswell cares for mentally handicapped people from northeastern North Carolina. The county has eight people in the facility.

Caswell was asking for support from the counties it represents last month, while the center began its move to make it a ICF (Intermediate Care Facility). Caswell Director of Administrative Services, Gordon Williams, said this would improve the care of seven of the eight Perquimans citizens. Gregory said, "They receive good care at the present time."

15-DAY DEADLINE FOR WATER BILLING

The commissioners changed a 10-day water billing deadline to 15 days. This means a person has 15 days after the bill is sent out to pay without a penalty.

Commissioner Welly White pointed out that the "consistency of the billing" should be stressed. He noted complaints from citizens on this issue.

Wayne Floyd stated that complaints about the water are diminishing. Floyd feels that water usage will soon be increasing. Com-

missioner Lester Simpson indicated that operation expenses should be trimmed.

OTHER BUSINESS

Billy Wooten, Perquimans County Parks and Recreation Director, invited the commissioners to a March 12 meeting of the art council, which is in the planning stage.

Representative Charles Evans sent the commissioners a letter concerning the proposed wildlife laws. Evans asked that if they had any

complaints, it should be pointed out to him.

The board agreed to budget for four regular sessions and two special sessions, if needed. It cost the county \$160 for each week that court hearings are held in Hertford. Court fees pay for the service.

CETA Programs, Title VI and II, are closer to being solved by the county and Board of Education. Applications by both parties that have utilized the program have been made.

Lane Hurt in Accident

Jimmy Lane will probably never step across the grain auger again, according to his wife, after being injured in an accident Friday. Lane was loading corn from the bins to the truck when his overalls became entangled in the auger's turning bolt near the PTO shaft.

"He's stepped across the auger many times," Mrs. Lane said Monday. His clothes were ripped off by the turning auger and Lane sub-

tained deep cuts on the leg as the object bored into him.

Lane was carried to the Hertford Medical Center and transferred to Chowan Hospital where the leg was stitched from the inside and outside, according to Mrs. Lane. Lane will be out of work for approximately three weeks.

"He was very lucky. I hope it will teach him and others to be careful," Lane's wife stated.

Company Hopes Busy Signal is Deleted

HERTFORD — Norfolk Carolina is trying to eliminate the busy signal in long distance calling in this area.

The telephone company is spending a large portion of its \$12.3 million construction budget for 1979 to improve toll service for its subscribers.

Plans call for an expenditure of \$702,000 for major cable development between Hertford, Edenton, Elizabeth City, Piney Woods, Sunbury, Welch and Woodville. A total of \$170,000 will be spent for cable between Hertford and Edenton alone.

By increasing the number of toll lines in the area, and adding new

switching equipment and other toll facilities, Norfolk Carolina will be spending in excess of \$2 million in 1979 to improve long distance service.

"Subscribers in this area will find that they will be able to place a long distance calls with less chance of receiving a busy signal, which happens when all of the circuits are being used as a customer attempts to place a call," according to Terry Daniels, commercial and marketing manager.

Norfolk Carolina is a wholly owned subsidiary of United Telecommunications Inc. and member of the United Telephone System.

Road Report Due Back

In the secondary road report sent to Raleigh in the past week, Creevy Road has been added to the list of roads to be considered for improvements in Perquimans County. Also, Colson Road was dropped

from the list because of information needed.

According to County Commissioner Chairman, Joe Nowell, the report is expected back from Raleigh in the following week.



HARRELL AT WORK — Tommy Harrell, vegetable farmer, was very happy about being voted as one of five Outstanding Farmers in the

Harrell and Stallings Are Outstanding

Perquimans County was the only county in the state recognized twice at the Jaycees Awards Ceremony held recently. Tommy Harrell and Billy Stallings were one of five Outstanding Young Farmers and Educators respectively.

Harrell, who operates an 800-acre vegetable farm with his father, said, "It's a great honor for me, especially since Billy (Stallings) was honored, too. It's a credit to the Per-

quimans County Jaycees."

Stallings, a Physical Education teacher in Perquimans County School System, agreed that it was a honor. "I was glad that the Jaycees nominated me," Stallings continued, "and I think it was a tribute to the county as well as to me."

Stallings and Harrell were first selected as the Perquimans County Outstanding Young Educator and Farmer in January.



STALLINGS EXCITED — Billy Stallings, teacher in the Perquimans County Schools, was not only excited about the award, but consider it a

tribute to the county. Perquimans County was the only county in the state that had two winners. (Staff photo by Tony Jordan)

COA Grant Is Received

A grant for \$131,117 for construction at College of Albemarle was received Monday, according to Dr. Parker Chesson, Dean. The funds will be an addition to the \$2.48 million that had already been received from the General Assembly.

The funds will enable the college to move 95 percent of its operation to the Technical Campus on U.S. 17, north of Elizabeth City. "With some luck, the work should be completed for the start of 1980 school year," Chesson said.

The college's problems began Jan. 10 when bids were opened and it was found that they needed \$386,000 more than allotted Alternatives for the project were dropped.

Man Shot

Perquimans County Sheriff Julian Broughton arrested Clarence Chesnut, 39, of Edenton Road, on charges of intent to kill and assault with a deadly weapon. Chesnut has been released on bond.

Broughton said Raymond Mason, about 40, of Winfall, was shot in the leg with a .22 caliber rifle shortly after noon Sunday during an apparent argument with Chesnut.

Mason was admitted to Albemarle Hospital in Elizabeth City.

Jaycee & Jaycette Happenings

Perquimans County Jaycees will present a dinner-theatre in Hertford on Saturday, March 10. "The Love Knot" will be performed by Acting and Play Productions at the Hertford Grammar School. Dinner, which is \$5.00 per person, will be

served at 7:00. For further information, call 426-7986.

The Perquimans County Jaycettes are sponsoring a Little Miss and Mister Perquimans Pageant in April. Applications may be picked

up at Betty's Boutique, March 5-17.

Ages for the contestants are four years to prior to entering school for Little Miss and Mister Sweetheart. To enter the Little Miss and Mister Perquimans, the tot must be in the first or second grade.



WORKING ON THE RAILROAD — worker was not singing, he was pounding the tracks with his hammer in Hertford this week. (Staff photo by Tony Jordan)

Social Services to Hold Public Hearing March 15

The Perquimans County Department of Social Services will hold a Public Hearing pertaining to services needed in the county. The hearing will be at 7:30 p.m. March 15 in the Perquimans Courthouse.

The department urges more citizen participation in the planning

process which determines the services offered by the department. Any individual or group of citizens in the county who see a need for a particular service should contact the office. Hours are 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. An appointment may be set up for citizens if preferred.