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15 CENTS

Solar Energy Arrives in Perquimans County

By TONY JORDAN

In a recent national survey, 70 percent of the American population does not believe there is an energy shortage. Matthew Kahl of Snug Harbor is not one of the majority.

Kahl owns the first house in Perquimans County that has been equipped for solar energy. "You're not kidding we have an energy shortage," Kahl said Friday. The house is in Holiday Island.

The Maryland native built the house a little more than a year ago. He did all the work to the solar unit, studying books

and plans on solar heating. After reading expert opinions, Kahl constructed what best suited his needs.

"I have less invested (in the solar unit) than what people think," he said. Kahl estimates a total of \$2,500 has been spent on the copper pipes, fiber-glass and the water pump. To have had someone build the unit, Kahl estimates the cost would have been near \$10,000.

The water is pumped through 2000 feet of pipe located on the top of his roof. As the water is heated it returns to the house and is used for heating and hot



TYPICAL HOUSE — As seen in the picture, the appearance of the solar-heated house is not much different than any house in the county. (Staff photo by Tony Jordan)

water use. Since last fall, the unit has served the needs of Kahl.

According to Kahl, the water will reach a high of 205° F. on a hot summer day. Even in the winter's coldest and most cloudy days, the water will heat up to 105 degrees. Fiberglass covers the pipes on the roof. Experts feel it conducts heat better than ordinary glass.

Electricity is still needed, but Kahl hopes to cut his electricity bill considerably. The water pump runs on electricity. As the water returning to the roof

reaches the temperature of the water entering the house, the system automatically turns off.

Although the solar energy will help him, Kahl said that solar heat is not for everyone. Being able to construct the unit is one of the factors to be considered.

Even at the contractor's price of \$10,000, figures show that it will pay for itself in 10 years. What's not considered," Kahl points out, "is the cost of replacing materials."



NOWELL AND AINSLEY AT GROUNDBREAKING — Joe Nowell, right, takes his turn at the shovel during College of The Albemarle's groundbreaking

ceremony March 21. Willie Ainsley, Board of Trustee member, gives instruction to Nowell. Both men are from Perquimans County. (Staff photo by Tony Jordan)

Local People Helped

Cancer Crusade Begins with Interest

Local volunteers are preparing for the annual American Cancer Society Crusade, reported Mrs. Joe Towe White, Sr., president of Perquimans County Unit, Monday. "Some people think that ACS is concerned only with research, but helping today's patients is a major responsibility of the local unit," White stated.

As April, designated as fundraising campaign month, begins, Mrs. Charles Murray, Community

Service Chairman, explains that ACS wants to help both the patient and the family cope with cancer.

At the present time, the Society is assisting eight cancer patients in Perquimans County to purchase prescription medicines, as well as providing transportation to doctor's offices and clinics.

According to Murray, patients must apply for aid and be certified

by the attending physician. The sum of \$50 per year is allocated to specified patients and repeated if funds remain available.

"Increased interest is being shown in this program," Memorial Fund Chairman Mrs. H.C. Sullivan said. In a three month period, approximately \$500 was contributed.

In other programs, "Reach to Recovery", a rehabilitation pro-

gram for breast cancer, is continuing its work in the county. "It helps women to regain self-confidence as well as physical well-being," Mrs. Henry C. Stokes, Jr. said. She is the volunteer chairman for the project.

White closed in saying, "Give generously to the Crusade, not only to promote research, but to make it possible to continue aid to our local citizens who are cancer patients."

Winners Announced in Seed Contest

Edgar Roberson, Claud Russell, and Fred Worthington of Albemarle Chemical Company, Inc., Hertford, North Carolina, recently completed Pfizer Genetics' Basic School of Seedsmanship in Lancaster. The week-long school provides participants with the most up-to-date agricultural and technological knowledge in the seed industry.

Among the subjects Edgar, Claud and Fred covered in the course were the history development and breeding of seed varieties, crop management practices, fertility, and problems with diseases, weeds and insects in corn, soybeans and sorghum. They learned about farm

financing, the role of the United States in world food production and hedging of commodities. They also received updated information about

Pfizer Genetics products and results of company research.

Since 1977, more than 900 dealers have graduated from the school of

Edgar Roberson



Claud Russell



Fred Worthington



Seedsmanship. Both schools are designed to help make Pfizer Genetics dealers the best informed seed experts in the industry.

Change In Vehicle Registration Announced

RALEIGH — North Carolina Secretary of Transportation Tom Bradshaw said his department is looking forward to implementing legislation passed Monday by the General Assembly that will stagger motor vehicle registration over 12 months.

"We believe this new system will provide better service for the state's motor vehicle owners," Bradshaw said. "The number of motor vehicles in our state has grown to the point that the former system is no longer practical.

In addition, the new system will mean greater productivity in the department's vehicle services operation. This reflects Governor Jim Hunt's commitment to greater efficiency in serving the people of our state."

Bradshaw thanked two legislators, Representative Bertha Holt and Senator Robert B. Jordan III, for their leadership efforts in passage of the legislation creating the new system.

This year approximately 3.2 million vehicle registrations were

renewed. There has been an increase of about 210,000 new registrations per year in North Carolina during the past several years.

Bradshaw noted that, "The present system typically results in long lines of vehicle owners near the end of the six-week renewal period."

Earlier this year the legislature extended the deadline for display of tags and stickers at Bradshaw's request due to a large number of vehicles which had not been registered as the original deadline neared. Two major statewide snow storms struck North Carolina during the peak purchasing period in February, limiting vehicle owners access to license plate offices.

The Secretary noted that details of the new system will be mailed with registration renewal notices in plenty of time to acquaint the public with the procedure.

Nan Reynolds, who handles the Perquimans County registration said, "I like it. It will cut out this waiting in line in January." She added though, "It's going to be a mess the first year."

Civic Calendar

SUNDAY, APRIL 1
Perquimans County Horse & Pony Show 1:30.

Holiday Island Civic League Meets 10 a.m. at Club House.

MONDAY, APRIL 2
Perquimans County Board of Education.

Hertford Town Council.

Perquimans County Board of Commissioners a.m.

Winfall Town Council 7 p.m.

Bethel Fire Department.

TUESDAY, APRIL 3
Meridian Lodge #18 meets at 8 p.m. at Lodge Hall.

Parkville Ruritan Club.

Hertford Rotary Club 6:30 p.m.

Perquimans Masonic Lodge #106.

Whitston Homemakers meet.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4
Perquimans County Jaycettes meet.

Countless Services Recalled

Hertford Baptist Plans For 125th Anniversary Celebration

A countless number of services have been held in Hertford Baptist Church since the first was conducted by George Bradford in 1854. The church will celebrate its 125th anniversary this Sunday.

"A simple ceremony, more like a birthday party," present Pastor Charles Bullard said concerning the anniversary. The program will be an informal celebration of old hymn singing, pictures of historical memorabilia, a presentation of the anniversary certificate from the Southern Baptist Historical Com-

mission, and a puppet show produced by the children of the congregation.

Mrs. C.R. Holmes, historian for the church, will read a synopsis of the church's changes during the years. Later in the day, the celebration will move to the Fellowship Hall of the church.

Among others, two prominent planters, Charles W. Skinner and Richard Felton, began the work of building the structure, according to Holmes. The two men lived in the Harvey Neck section of Perquimans County.

Bethel Baptist, the mother church, authorized a presbytery for the purpose of organizing Hertford Baptist in the county's seat. On Thursday, April 6, 1854, a constitution, rules of order, church covenant and a dedication of faith were approved and adopted. The following day, April 7, the church was formally constituted.

Former members and friends of the church are invited to join the present congregation for the anniversary observance. It will begin at 3 p.m.

Poultry Month Begins

Governor James B. Hunt, Jr. has issued an official proclamation declaring the month of April "Poultry and Egg Month" in North Carolina. The Governor noted in his proclamation that "poultry is North Carolina's largest food industry...is very important to the economic welfare of the state...and provides a basic human need...food."

The Governor also noted that "poultry provides thousands of jobs for North Carolinians...generates millions of dollars in farm income for the state...and provides, in fact, the second highest commodity income for the state, exceeded only by tobacco"

Quantities of each poultry item produced have also increased at a phenomenal rate. The number of turkeys produced in North Carolina increased from 8.3 million head in 1968 to over 19 million head in 1978. The number of broilers produced in North Carolina increased from 263 million in 1968 to an estimated 352 million head in 1978. Egg production in North Carolina increased from 3.0 billion eggs in 1968 to an estimated 3.4 billion in 1978. Further growth for the industry is anticipated in 1979 and production may exceed the record high of 1978.

trees in hopes of publishing a book. Perry said the book should be released in two years.

For the most part, Central American pines are five-needle pines; our pines are three-needle. The five needle pines hold a much deeper meaning to the forester.

(Continued on page 10)

Perry Returns from Guatemala

To most Guatemala would be a bit too far to go to photograph pine trees; but that is exactly what J.P. Perry of Hertford has been doing for the past month.

Perry, trained in forestry, is in the process of writing a book on Mexico's and Central America's pines.

Perry and his wife, Sara, left Feb. 10 from Perquimans County on a 1,100-mile-journey which would lead

them into isolated regions of the mountainous country. The couple drove their pickup the entire distance, stopping at motels along the way.

The pines found in this region are quite different from our southern neighbor's breeds, although it cannot be noticed by the untrained eye. For this reason Perry along with W.L. Mittak are researching the



THE CHURCH IN EARLIER TIMES — The picture, taken in 1893, shows the changes not only in the church, but in Hertford as well. Since there were no stock laws, it was necessary to keep a fence around the church to keep cattle from roaming in the yard.