

# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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## Cox works for improved 17

The new Highway 17 Transportation Association in North Carolina made its first pitch to the North Carolina Department of Transportation last week during public hearings in the region relative to the annual updating of the department's seven-year transportation plan.

Three spokesmen for the organization appeared at three divisional hearings this week. Mayor Bill Cox of Hertford, made a statement at the First Division hearing conducted Tuesday, May 22 in Plymouth. Presentations were also made at the Second Division hearing in Morehead City and the Third Division hearing in Clinton.

Cox's statement said in part, "Highway 17 has been North Carolina's most neglected major North-South highway.

I think every governor, both Republican and Democrat, since Melville Broughton, has promised to do something about it in his campaign. Nothing ever happened after the election was over.

We now have hope. Governor Jim Hunt has indicated an interest in

Eastern North Carolina and its roads. The Board of Transportation has moved to include several sections of Highway 17 in its Seven Year Plan.

But, is this what is needed? We think not. Unfortunately, the planning on Highway 17 has taken place in between the communities along the route. If we develop 17 in that manner, we are going to have a highway with door to door business along its entire length from South Mills to Wilmington. Fortunately, new roadbed is contained in the plan, for the most part, from Wilmington to the South Carolina line.

What is needed most along Highway 17, is an overall plan. A plan stretching from the Virginia border to the South Carolina line.

We seek to make the tideland area of Eastern North Carolina a tri-economy region by adding a productive tourist economy to agriculture and industry. We cannot do it without adequate linkage to the Norfolk port nor can we do it with an inadequate Highway 17.

Eastern North Carolina, the eastern Tideland, yes, North Carolina itself, badly needs a four lane, controlled access freeway from the Virginia border to the South Carolina line. We must have it to grow and prosper. It's time the Board of Transportation got its sights set in the right direction."

In a move directly related to the town of Hertford, Cox wrote a letter to the North Carolina Department of Transportation asking four-laning of Highway 17 for the Hertford By-Pass.

The letter requests that 17 be four-laned from Woodville by-pass to the south end of the Hertford by-pass. In it Cox said, "This section of Highway 17 has a high traffic count and it is growing fast. It increased from 4,100 per day in 1965 to 5,800 in 1976. If north-eastern North Carolina is to improve its economy it has to be opened to the rest of the state and to industrial Tidewater, Virginia." The letter ended, "We ask you to consider this a top priority."

## Tour is termed a success

By LUCILLE S. WINSLOW

The Perquimans House Tour evoked fond memories for many who participated in the Museum of the Albemarle House Tour on Wednesday, May 23.

Joshua Sutton came all the way from Renton, Washington to help with the interpretation of the Whedbee-Small-Chappell House in Durant's Neck.

Another far-away visitor was Ms. Virginia Anderson of Santa Monica, Calif. Other visitors included Mrs. Brooks Whedbee and daughter, Penelope of Old Town, Alexandria, Va., Mr. and Mrs. Glen A. Coan, Charlotte, and Mrs. John Graham Webb, Hillsborough, Ms. Rita Dutton, Saipan, Marshall Islands, Mr. and Mrs. John Hennekes, Norfolk, Va., Ms. Celia Driver, and Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Dalton, Raleigh, N.C.

Visitors were enthusiastic in their praise for the people who opened their homes for the tour. "The homeowners were so warm in their welcome to all of the guests that I felt that I was really paying a call on a friend," said Mrs. Tony Hornthal of Elizabeth City. "And the variety of homes shown was outstanding, something from every period in our history. I had no idea that Perquimans had so many lovely old and new homes," Mrs. Hornthal concluded.

An estimated 250 guests took part in the tour.



NEW FACE — Workmen begin a face-lift to the front of the Hertford Savings and Loan Association on

Church St. The second story windows disappeared behind light tan steel facing on the building.

## Nursing, rest homes are defined by Aging Sec'y

There are over 17,000 North Carolinians in the 193 licensed nursing homes in the state, according to Nathan H. Yelton, Assistant Secretary of Aging. Of that number the majority are women who are over 70 years of age. Women outnumber men three to one in nursing homes, he said.

"Most people know little or nothing about the types of nursing homes, the care provided, and the matter of payment until they are faced with the problem personally," said Yelton. "Some people think that their insurance will cover nursing home care, but most private insurance policies do not."

There are two types of nursing homes in the state. The Skilled Nursing Facility provides 24-hour-a-day skilled nursing services. The Intermediate Care Facility provides supportive care and nursing services but not at the continuous high skilled level of the Skilled Nursing Facility. A home may be licensed for both skilled and intermediate care beds, or they may choose to have only one of these levels.

"Approximately 80 percent of all nursing home residents in the state are Medicaid recipients, which means that Medicaid pays some part of the bill for 80 percent of nursing home residents," Yelton pointed out. "Eligibility for Medicaid is based on income and resources, and application is made through county Departments of Social Services."

On the other hand, Medicare, the insurance program through Social Security, will pay only for care in a Skilled Nursing facility and then only on a very limited basis. "This is surprising to most people," Yelton said. "Medicaid pays for approximately only four percent of nursing home care in this country."

People also become confused about rest homes — which we call residential care facilities. These are often mistakenly referred to as nursing homes, which they are not. These residents do not need nursing care, but they have physical and mental infirmities that prevent them from maintaining

homes of their own," Yelton explained.

Residential care facilities (rest homes) are in three categories: (1) the Family Care Home, which has from two to five adults, and provides meaningful activities to enable individuals to function to the maximum of their abilities in a family setting; (2) the Home for the Aged and Infirm, which provides sheltered care for six or more adults, with activities structured to the needs of the individual within a group setting; and (3) the Group Home for Developmentally Disabled Adults, which is a small residence that provides care for two to nine adults who have been diagnosed as having a developmental disability. Only persons who are able to participate in employment and/or social activities in the community are admitted to the home.

"Neither Medicaid nor Medicare will pay for rest home care," said Yelton. Persons needing assistance in paying for care in a rest home should contact their county Department of Social Services.

## Men held in thefts

Arrests have been made in connection with two recent house break-ins in Hertford, Police Chief Marshall Merritt has reported. Goods stolen from the homes of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Brantham of 212 Dobbs St. and Mr. and Mrs. John A. Gillikin of 221 Dobbs have been recovered according to Merritt.

Merritt said "a break in the case came on the evening of May 23." At that time a search warrant was obtained for the residence at 305 King St. At 2:11 a.m. on May 24, a search was conducted and a diamond ring valued at \$2,000 was recovered. Quinton L. Brickhouse, age 23, was arrested and charged with possession of stolen property.

At 11 a.m. on May 24, a juvenile was arrested and charged with breaking and entering and larceny at the 212 Dobbs St. address. He was subsequently charged with the 221 Dobbs St. break-in.

Another search warrant was obtained for the residence at 308 S. Church St., the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Wilkins. Jewelry, including a \$700 ring, a camera and a radio, stolen from the two break-ins, were

recovered. Ronald D. Wilkins, age 17, was arrested and charged with two felony counts of breaking and entering.

Working on the case were Chief Merritt, patrolman Robert K. Morris and patrolman J.C. Boyce. Sr. Merritt said, "the investigation is continuing and we expect to make more arrests."

The juvenile charged in the case has been released in the custody of his parents. Brickhouse and Wilkins are in Albemarle District Jail.

Merritt said that both he and patrolman Morris had worked 30 straight hours on the case.

Officer Morris said that the Hertford Police Department is planning a Community Watch program. He said that all interested citizens are invited to attend the first meeting which is tentatively scheduled for June 18 and 19. Jay Trivett of the North Carolina Department of Crime Control and Public Safety will be in Hertford to help set up the program.

"We believe the program can deter activities, such as occurred recently on Dobbs St. and in other areas of town," Morris said. Morris is designated as the Crime Control Officer for the Hertford Police Department.



DISPLAY EVIDENCE — Chief Merritt and patrolman Morris show some of the stolen items recovered as arrests were made in recent break-in cases.

## Council directors begin work

The Board of Directors of the newly formed Perquimans County Arts Council has been announced by Billy Wooten, Chairman of the Perquimans County Arts Council Steering Committee.

The Board, which consists of twelve people, will guide and direct the operations of the Perquimans County Arts Council. The arts council idea is not new to Perquimans County, as two previous attempts to organize a council have faltered. But, according to Wooten, if the efforts of the Steering Committee is an example, the third time should be different. At a public meeting in January, a Steering Committee, with Wooten as Chairman, was formed to take a look at the Arts Council concept, the previous attempts in the county, laws and rules governing arts council activities, and in general, make some decisions on behalf of the citizens in Perquimans County who are interested in the arts. This committee consisted of Mrs. Carroll Harrell, Mrs. Estelle Felton, Mrs. Betty Jean Beers, Mrs. Brenda Hollowell, and Mrs. Gladys Hall.

Steering Committee members Harrell, Felton, Beers, and Hollowell all agreed to serve one-year terms on the Board of Directors in an effort to establish continuity between the new board members and the work of the Steering Committee. Wooten, who is Perquimans County Parks and Recreation Director, and Mrs. Hall, Community Schools Coordinator in Perquimans County, will serve multi-year terms, as their agencies will be vital elements of the Arts Council. The remaining six members are: Billy White, Mrs. Vivian Trent, Mrs. Chris Kornegay, James Angletary, John Cadby, and Mrs. Paige Underwood.

## Commercial fishermen advised to make reports

Commercial fishermen are urged to certify their current and future gasoline and diesel fuel requirements to insure sufficient fuel supplies in the future, according to Howard N. Lee, Secretary of the N.C. Department of Natural Resources and Community Development.

Agriculture requirements and the Department of Defense are not subject to fuel reductions. Commercial fishermen are included in the agriculture category.

The proper forms, however, have to be certified to insure this protection, Lee said. According to the N.C. Energy Division of the Department of Commerce, the following is necessary:

Fishermen need to

complete a priority certification NCED-101 and give it to their suppliers or jobbers. The jobber uses this information to complete form FEA-25 which he forwards to his prime supplier (Gulf or Texaco for example) who then adjusts the jobbers allocation.

NCED-101 forms are available from an energy liaison officer located in each county. These officers can also give information about the forms. State agricultural stabilization and conservation service offices located in each county can also provide information.

Someone new in commercial fishing with no supplier or allocation will have to first find a will-

ing supplier. He will then have to complete form FEO-17 or ERA-99 and forward it to the U.S. Department of Energy, 1655 Peachtree St., NE, Atlanta, Ga. 30309 to receive an allocation. If there is a problem obtaining fuel while the forms are being processed, he can contact Ann Hitchcock or Carol Simon or Lila Rash or Paul Hitchcock of the N.C. Energy Division, P.O. Box 25249, Raleigh, N.C. 27611, phone (919) 733-2230 for hardship assistance.

Charter boat fishermen fall under the recreation category and are not assured protection from a reduction. They can seek hardship assistance from the N.C. Energy Division if necessary.

## Horse show is set

The Perquimans County Horse and Pony Club will hold a show on Sunday, June 3, beginning at 1:30 p.m. The show ring is located four miles west of Hertford on Joe Perry's farm.

The show will consist of a variety of classes including halter, pleasure,

trail, pole bending, barrel racing, ring spearing, mail train, and fastest horse around the ring.

The concession stand will be open, featuring homemade goodies, hot dogs, hamburgers, and drinks. The public is invited. Admission is free.

## Festival features food and music

Over 12,000 tickets have been sold for the fifth annual Virginia Pork Festival to be held Wednesday, June 13, at the Greenville County Ruritan Club Grounds near Emporia, Va. Those

attending will have an opportunity to sample at least twenty different pork food items and side dishes. All total, over seventeen tons of food will be served.