

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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Local man wounded in shooting

A Hertford man was shot and seriously wounded during a domestic argument last Sunday, Hertford police reported.

Aaron Wilson of Stokes Drive suffered gunshot wounds in his back and left side after his sister, Bertha Elizabeth Foster, apparently fired at him with a shotgun. Wilson is in satisfactory condition at Chowan Hospital.

Police charged Foster with assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious bodily injury.

According to Hertford Police Chief Marshall Merritt, Wilson was playing cards with a group at Foster's residence at 107 White Street in Hertford when the incident occurred.

Sometime around 2:30 Sunday morning, Merritt said that Wilson and Foster began to argue. Wilson calling his sister "dumb" and "stupid." Then, according to police evidence, Foster went to another room and came back with a 12-gauge shotgun, pointing it at her brother.

Merritt said that Wilson attempted to push the gun away, and as he did the gun went off, hitting Wilson on the left side.

Though seriously wounded and losing a good deal of blood, Wilson nevertheless managed to leave the White Street house and stumble along from there to Stokes Drive, where Officers Michael Jasielum and Dean Cartwright, as well as the Perquimans County Rescue Squad, found him. Merritt added that it was Foster who had notified the police of the shooting.

Foster was released on \$1,000 bond, with a probable cause hearing set for December 1.

Holiday hours

Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, the Perquimans Weekly will be published a day early, on Monday, November 22, and received by subscribers in the mail the following day.

BECAUSE OF THE EARLIER PUBLICATION DATE, DEADLINES FOR NEWS ARTICLES AND ADVERTISING FOR THAT ISSUE ONLY WILL BE FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20, AT 5 P.M.

The Perquimans Weekly offices will be closed on Thanksgiving Day.



N.C. Attorney General Rufus Edmisten speaks during the Annual Democratic Fund Raising

Dinner last Monday. At the table with him are, from left, Geri Layden and her husband, party Second

Chairman Douglas Layden, Treasurer Anne Young, Chairwomen Estelle Felton, Tim Brinn,

who introduced Edmisten, Secretary Gloria Thomas, and First Chairman Rev. John London.

At Democratic dinner

Attorney General hits Helms

By TOM OSTROSKY

State Attorney General Rufus Edmisten highlighted a festive occasion for county Democrats with his attack of state and national Republican leaders during last Monday night's Perquimans County Annual Democratic Fund Raising Dinner at Anglers Cove Restaurant.

Congratulating the turnout of about 150 persons — he noted his secretary had asked "How do you expect to get five people together this soon after Election Day?" — Edmisten then took aim at a favorite target for state Democrats, N.C. Senator Jesse Helms.

In his only, though oblique, reference to Helms, Edmisten — sometimes mentioned as a contender for Helms' seat in the 1984 — cautioned the group to avoid political organizations that "package people, as the Congressional Club (a political

action committee that finances the campaigns of Helms and his supporters) does, and sell them like a box of soap."

Reading into the recent election results, Edmisten said that voters "will not continue to go for this extremism," and that voters rejected the position that "if you don't believe as I do, then you're an enemy of the state, an enemy of the nation."

Uttering the name of North Carolina's most honored Democrat, the attorney general said, "I've got too much Sam Ervin in me not to believe that freedom is the most precious possession we have."

"I don't believe government should exist for the rich," he added, again alluding to the Republicans, "and the people voted against that sort of government."

But in his attack of

Republicans, Edmisten also warned the group that Democrats should not return to the philosophy he called "making a law for everything in society."

"I hope we never go back to the belief that their must be a law for everything that happens," he said, adding, "Our local senators and representatives have fought excessive rule-giving."

Again reading into election results, Edmisten interpreted a voters' desire for better education, tougher laws against legal appeals, and increased development of clean industry in the state.

On education, he noted that 80 percent of all criminals came from families in which the parents had less than a sixth grade education. "The voters believe," he said, "that every child should have an education. Education is the number one priority."

On criminal appeals, he said, "I

will fight to the death for the rights of the accused, but this has gone too far." He cited criminal cases that he was aware of that have been in appeal for as long as six years, yet victims of crime are treated as "fourth class citizens."

Calling North Carolina's environment a "national treasure in this state," he warned against encouraging new industries that might pollute it. "We are stewards of this state," he said.

"I'm a great believer in government," he said. "I don't believe there is anything evil or sinful about politics. We built roads, we built hospitals, we educated our children through politics."

"It's to your advantage to get involved in government," Edmisten concluded. "We have to bring in young people. In every human being there is a spark of illumination that just needs to be touched off."

County proposes restricting hunting

By VALSHORT

A petition from the people of the Harvey Point area calling for deer hunting restrictions in that area was submitted to the Perquimans County Board of Commissioners at their meeting Monday night.

The petition, given to Commissioner Charles Ward by Winston Lane Jr. of Harvey Point, was signed by approximately 95 percent of the property owners in the area, according to Ward.

The signers of the petition would like the county commissioners to request the state legislature to pass an ordinance that would restrict deer hunting with trucks and dogs from Burgess to Harvey Point. Still hunting in the area would not be restricted.

"We will have to recommend to the legislature to pass this ordinance," said Ward. Since the next session of the legislature convenes in January, "the ordinance probably wouldn't affect this year," he continued.

"This has been a problem here for years," Ward commented.

The petition requests to "prohibit hunting of deer with dogs and trucks due to damages to crops, private driveways, roadways and other property."

The board directed county attorney John Matthews to investigate the matter and to find out how Chowan County has handled a similar problem.

"I don't think isolating a small spot is going to work," commented board member Lester Simpson. "I'd like to see the whole side fixed."

In other business, the board:

• Heard the results of the recent recreation referendum from county attorney John Matthews. The board decided to publish a notice that the referendum was held and approved by a majority.

• Discussed painters for the sheriff and dispatcher offices in the courthouse and decided to award the job to Henry Jenkins, who had presented the lowest hourly rate of \$6.

• Decided to purchase a state seal for the wall behind the judges bench in the courtroom for \$25 from the Department of Corrections.

School Board sets new policy on discipline, class rank, diplomas

By VALSHORT

Policies on discipline, class rank determination and the high school diploma program were approved during the Monday night meeting of the Perquimans County Board of Education.

The policy on discipline includes statements regarding corporal punishment, suspension, expulsion, and student conduct codes.

According to the policy, corporal punishment, suspension and ex-

pulsion will be used in the schools if necessary, but certain steps must first be taken.

Before corporal punishment can be used, less severe forms of punishment must have been tried and the student has to be informed of his offense. A second school official must be present and informed of the reason of the punishment in the presence of the student.

The policy also states that school

officials must never administer corporal punishment while angry. "As long as the force used is reasonable, school officials are free to employ corporal punishment for disciplinary purposes in order to maintain order and discipline in the Perquimans County Public Schools," states the policy.

Before a student can be suspended, he must be advised so by the principal, given an oral or written notice

of the charges against him and given an opportunity to defend these charges.

Upon suspension, according to the new policy, the parents are notified immediately and parents and students have 24 hours to appeal.

Regarding student conduct, conduct problems will be handled on an individual basis at the two county elementary schools. A demerit system was developed for

Perquimans Union and Perquimans High School.

With the high school diploma program policy, the board granted approval for students to enroll in the diploma program at a community college. The student must have been withdrawn from Perquimans High for at least 12 months, must be 18 years of age or older or a student whose class has already graduated.

The diploma issued will have the

name Perquimans County Schools and will indicate that the diploma was issued through a community college.

Also approved was a class rank policy which states that students can receive .2 point for completing any of the following courses: algebra II, geometry, advanced math, calculus, foreign language, gifted and talented English, chemistry, physics and advanced biology.

Benefit supper scheduled for local house fire victims

By TOM OSTROSKY

A group of local residents have organized a benefit supper this Sunday to help a Hertford family left homeless when their house burned down early last Sunday morning.

"The Ed Nixon Benefit Supper" will be held from noon until 7 p.m. this Sunday at Jimmy Hunter's garage, five miles west of Hertford. The \$5 supper charge will include a raffle ticket for \$100 worth of gas.

Tickets will be available at Woodard's Pharmacy, Larry's Drive-in, Jimmy's Barbecue, Layden's Grocery, One Stop Auto Parts, Bob Turner's Store, Wink's Grocery, M&R Service Center and Doug's Grill.

Proceeds from the supper,

along with any other donations residents wish to make, will go to the family of Ed and Barbara Nixon, whose Balahack Road home burned down last Sunday while the family was away. Both Nixons are very active in community organizations.

The benefit was organized during an ad hoc meeting of about 50 local residents and civic group members last Monday night. At least 16 pigs have been donated to the affair, as well as potato salad, cole slaw and corn bread. Organizers expect as many as 3,000 persons to attend.

The fire, for which this is all being done, occurred at about 12:45 a.m. Sunday. No one was at home at the time.

The Hertford Volunteer Fire Department received a call from a passerby, but by the time they reached the scene, "the fire had already busted out the top," according to Chief Pete Riddick.

The house was completely destroyed, with even the brick walls in the rear caving in, though some clothing stored in chests was recovered.

From the fire department's investigation, Riddick listed the probable cause as a malfunction in the baseboard heating.

The Nixons are now staying with relatives. Donations to the Ed Nixon Benefit Supper, in care of Nancy Madre, Route 1, Box 398, Hertford.



Local residents help clean up following the fire at Ed Nixon's house.