

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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Back to school

Students in Pam Lothian's kindergarten class at Hertford Grammar School have settled back into the routine

of school after several weeks of holiday vacation. Eyes intent and alert, they are

concentrating on one of their favorite things about school — Sesame Street!

Val Short named to editorial post

Val Short has assumed the duties of editor of the Perquimans Weekly.

A native of Swansboro, she has lived in Hertford for the past three years. In addition to reporting for the Perquimans Weekly, Short has served as news correspondent for the Big Wednesday TMC and has taught photography classes through College of the Albemarle and the Perquimans County Schools.

"I have enjoyed living and working in Perquimans County



Val Short

It's that time of year again...

It's tax listing time again and County Tax Collector Keith Haskett urges residents not to delay.

According to Haskett, everyone is required by law to list what you own as of January 1. Listers are available in each township throughout the month for tax listing.

In New Hope Township residents may list taxes in two locations — Durants Neck Post Office and the Inter-County Fire Department. List taker there is Melvin Eure.

Belvidere's list taker is Mrs. Paul

and look forward to my association with the paper and the people it serves," she commented.

A 1975 graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Short received a BA degree in Journalism. She has worked with several North Carolina newspapers, including the Kinston Daily Free Press and the Waynesville Mountaineer.

She has also worked for the North Carolina Extension Service as a 4-H agent and with the North Carolina Arts Council as a photographer.

As editor Short hopes to remain active in community activities as well as provide news coverage for county events. "I'm really going to take a positive approach in this position. I want to continue the same accurate reporting the people of Perquimans are used to, but I also want to present Perquimans as the really great place it is!" said Short.

Short is married to Tony Short, local District Soil Conservationist. They live in Hertford with their daughter, Anna.

Byrum and she will be located at the Belvidere Community Building. Mrs. Charles Ward is the list taker in the Bethel Township at C.R. Ward's Store.

Listing in the Hertford Township at the Courthouse will be Oras Winslow. Parkville Township's list taker is Mrs. Anna Newton and residents should list at the Winfall Community Building.

An exemption of up to \$8,500 is available to senior citizens over the age of 65.

This week

Son of local resident dean at ORU. See story on Page 3.

Weather

Clear and warmer with temperatures around 60.



Phase II county water project now underway

By VAL SHORT

Phase II of the Perquimans County water project got underway this week and representatives of Farmers Home Administration appeared before the Perquimans Board of Commissioners congratulating them on the \$1.3 million project.

"Perquimans County is one of the last applicants to receive a 5 percent loan," said Donald Norman, district FHA director. "Grant money is becoming harder to get... we were lucky to get in when we did," he continued.

Of the \$1,275,000 the county received for the water project, \$480,000 was a FmHA loan and \$790,000 was in grant funds. The county's contribution is \$4,600.

"Next time around the grant funds will be harder to get and the percentage rate will be higher," said Norman, who attended the meeting with FmHA supervisor Melvin Howell.

Ron Sessoms of Rivers and Associates presented bills and estimates from Hendrix-Barnhill Company and Craven Well Drilling Service, two companies working on the project.

Sessoms explained that the companies submit the bills to him so that his company can check the

materials.

"This will complete the last leg of expansion of the water system," said Sessoms, who reported that work had begun Monday.

The Board of Commissioners decided to hold a hearing at their next regular meeting on the issue of banning deer hunting with dogs and trucks. The meeting will be held at 7 p.m. Monday, January 17 at the Perquimans County Courthouse.

Approximately 95 percent of the landowners from the Burgess, Harvey Point and Bethel areas of the county have petitioned the County Commissioners to ban deer hunting with dogs and trucks. If the commissioners agree, they will send a proposal to the North Carolina General Assembly with a request that it be enacted into law.

The commissioners directed county attorney John Matthews to draw up a draft proposal on the ban which will be presented at the hearing.

"I really think we need to have a public hearing on this to get the other side," commented commissioners Charles Ward.

Durwood Reed, county accountant announced to the Board that "taxes are coming in real well." Over 50 percent of the tax levy had been

collected through the end of December, according to Reed, and \$300,000 was collected for the month of December alone.

"People are really tax-conscious right now," Reed commented.

Superintendent of Schools Pat Harrell thanked the Board for its help in securing the state appropriation of \$30,000 for the Winfall intersection project.

"This will give us a much better situation and a safer situation. Without your help we wouldn't have been able to do that," said Harrell.

Also appearing before the Board was County Tax Collector Keith Haskett who presented the schedule of personal property values for 1983. The schedule was adopted by the commissioners. Also approved was a \$100 per month raise for county tax listers.

In other business, the Board:

- considered a request by Stephanie Mills to use the window of the Blanchard Building to display antiques. The Board directed John Matthews to write a policy on the use of the Blanchard Building windows.

- heard a letter from local resident Roy Reed, protesting the tax evaluation of his Front Street property.

Board tours Union

By VAL SHORT

A grand tour of the Perquimans Union School highlighted the meeting this week of the county Board of Education.

Particularly interested in windows marked for the Window Replacement Project, Board members were pleased with the improvements they saw in the school.

"I think they have done a tremendous job over here," commented Board chairman Clifford Winslow. "Those of us who know the difference can appreciate it," he continued.

"Windows and grounds are the two major things we are trying to improve," said school Superintendent Pat Harrell. Board member Clifton Towe commented that lunchroom expansion would be the next thing the Board would have to consider.

The Window Replacement Project received a unanimous "go-ahead" by Board members who decided to award the project to Davidson Sash and Door Company with their bid of around \$43,000.

The company will install single-hung windows with a 30 inch moveable sash. The top four feet of the existing windows will be installed

with a colored mapes panel, according to Harrell.

The Board also approved the revised policy on differentiation of diplomas. The policy provides for two types of diplomas for Perquimans High School, beginning with the graduating class of 1984. Students will have the choice of receiving an academic diploma, which requires 4 units of English, three units of science, math and social studies, two units of foreign language, one each of health and physical education and typing and five electives.

Also available will be the general diploma, which requires four units of English, three units of math and social studies, two units of science, one unit of health and physical education and nine electives.

According to Perquimans High School principal William Byrum, about 20 percent of the students are already taking these courses. Currently all students receive the same type of diploma.

The Board agreed to take a look at the policy after the 1984 school year to re-evaluate its effectiveness.

Superintendent Pat Harrell announced to the Board that a string

quartet from the North Carolina Symphony will present three performances and workshop sessions in the county January 24 and 25.

He said this program was designed for elementary age students and would be provided at no cost to the county.

Harrell also announced to the Board that the state had appropriated \$30,000 for the Winfall Intersection Project, which includes the purchase of right of ways.

Harrell also asked the Board to consider using funds, previously budgeted for a new fieldhouse, for restrooms, concession area and press box on the home side of the football field.

Harrell told board members the county may be asked to revert 2 percent of state funds next year, instead of the usual one percent. He said of the \$2.3 million in funds received from the state, 98 per cent is already earmarked.

In an update on the Perquimans Union Drainage and Flood Control project, Harrell told board members that the county was "in line" for grant funds. He said all of the paperwork had been done and "we are just waiting to be funded."



The Perquimans County Schools recently received their long-awaited accreditation from the Southern Association of Colleges at Schools at the annual meeting held recently in Atlanta.

Accepting the certificate from Tryon Lancaster, left, chairman of the elementary commission for SACS in North Carolina, and Madeline Tripp, special consultant for elementary accreditation in

North Carolina, are the delegates from Perquimans County. They include, front row center, Pat Harrell, Perquimans superintendent; and Susan Winslow, accreditation coordinator; back

row, left to right, Shelton Davis, Central Elementary principal; Gary Stubbins, Union School principal; and Bill Tice, Hertford Elementary principal.