

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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Hertford, Perquimans County, N.C., Thursday, April 14, 1983

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Citizens show interest in proposed project

By VALSHORT

Approximately twenty Hertford residents attended the public meeting on the proposed phase II of the Street Revitalization Project. The hearing was held prior to the regular Hertford Town Council meeting Monday night.

The public hearing was the second held to obtain public response to the community block grant proposal. The grant requests over \$500,000 to rehabilitate and revitalize the residential areas around King Street, from Hyde and Gum Streets to Church Street.

The proposal must be submitted by

May 1, according to Cox, to the N.C. Department of Natural Resources (NCDNR).

Although the groups expressed no opposition to the proposed project, residents were concerned about having their homes destroyed and being displaced.

Cox told the group that if the project is funded, two appraisals of each property will have to be made to determine its actual condition and whether it can be rehabilitated. Cox said the grant will include funds for relocation.

"There is no way you can lose," he

assured the group. He also asked for letters of support to be sent in with the project application. He said the Town should be notified about the grant in September.

During the regular session, the Town Council approved an amendment change to the ABC ordinance, which will be submitted to the General Assembly.

The resolution would make distribution of the revenue from the ABC store to the county Board of Education as optional rather than mandatory.

The amendment also states, "after due notice in writing to the

Perquimans County Board of Education and the Perquimans County Board of Commissioners, the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Hertford, may, by majority vote at its annual budget meeting, decrease or eliminate the 50 percent portion of the Perquimans County Board of Education, and distribute said portion so decreased or eliminated to the General Fund of the Town of Hertford.

The Perquimans County Board of Education and Perquimans County Board of Commissioners shall be given at least 6 months prior to the beginning of the next fiscal year of

any action by the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Hertford to decrease or eliminate any A.B.C. funds received by the Perquimans County Board of Education.

Hertford Chief of Police, Marshall Merritt, presented the March police report which included 17 arrests, 31 reported violations and investigations, and 12 citations.

In response to a question about complaints of unleashed dogs, Merritt said quite a few people had been given written and verbal warnings concerning the local leash law. He said citations will be issued

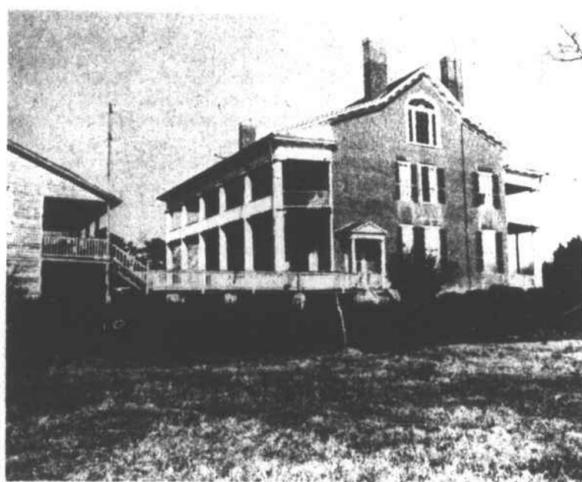
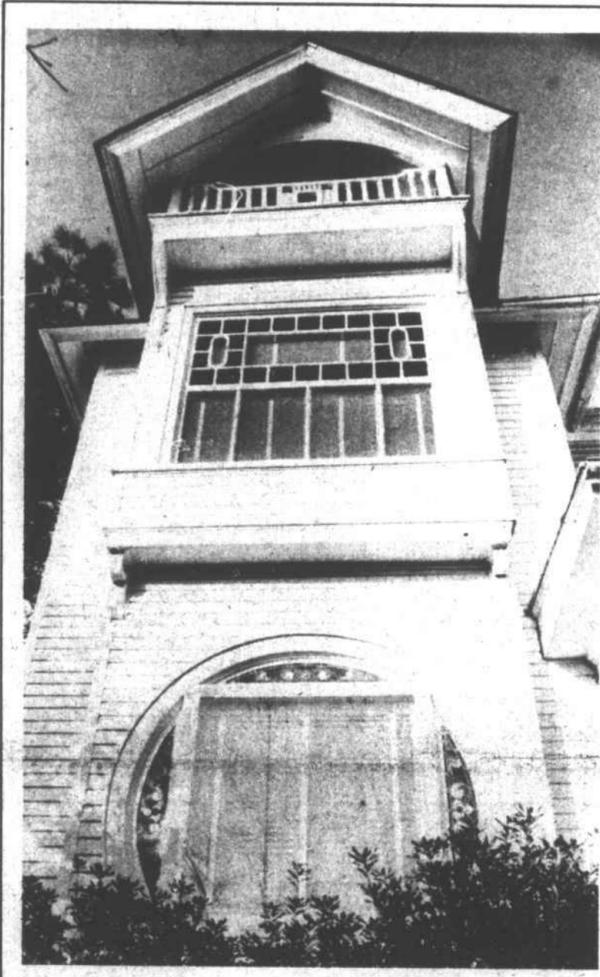
in the next seven days. "I think we will see a difference," he said.

In other business, the Hertford Town Council:

*approved an ordinance prohibiting parking on both sides of U.S. 17 from 400 feet south of State road 1336 and 350 feet north of State road 1336.

*approved the \$100 donation to the Jaycees for the July 4th fireworks celebration.

*heard Mayor Cox announce that the Town electrical system will be scanned for possible problems at a cost of \$300.



Winning photos

Elizabeth Towe, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Town of Winfall, and senior at Perquimans County High School, was a recent winner in the Junior Tar Heel Historian Association's photography contest. Towe placed first with her photograph of Land's End and second, with her unusual view of the Mathew H. White House in Hertford. She was also a winner in the contest last year.

Lothian warns residents of scam

Winfall Chief of Police Joe Lothian has issued a warning to area residents to look out for anyone who is posing as a representative of a federal agency or an insurance company, and is soliciting employees.

Lothian urges anyone who has been approached by such a person or anyone who knows someone who has been contacted, to report it to the Winfall Police Department.

Lothian said he had received reports involving Winfall residents in which several people had been contacted and offered federal jobs by a man using federal identification.

He said there may be one or more people involved in the apparent scam.

Two breaking and entering cases were reported in Winfall last week, according to Lothian. Towe Motor Company was reportedly broken into last week end — late Friday night or early Saturday morning, said Lothian.

No arrests have been made, according to Lothian, but the investigation is continuing.

Although nothing was reported missing, a glass window at the back of the building was broken, through

which the suspect gained entry.

Several items at the county water system site on N.C. 37 were reported missing, following a breaking and entering and larceny on two occasions, between March 31 and April 4, Lothian said.

According to the police chief, storage units at the site were broken in to and an emergency saw, a marine battery and gas were reported missing.

Lothian said the investigation is continuing.

The Winfall Police Department has added a new part-time employee. Robert Morris will assume part time duties at the Winfall PD. He is captain of the Hertford Police Department and will continue his full time position there.

Lothian expressed his appreciation for the cooperation of Winfall residents with enforcement of the dog and parking ordinances.

"I appreciate the cooperation of the people. The serious problems have been taken care of," said Lothian.

"If this is any indication of the cooperation of the people and the police department, we'll get along fine," he added.

Tommy Bouch pulls Snug Harbor man from burning trailer

By VALSHORT

When Tommy Bouch pulled Lee Pridgen from his burning trailer in Snug Harbor Saturday afternoon, he didn't stop to think — he didn't stop at all.

"I didn't have time to think — I didn't even know what I was doing," said the 18 year old graduate of Perquimans County High School. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Gene Bouch of Snug Harbor.

Bouch said he heard an explosion around 4 p.m. Saturday as he was getting out of the shower. He said after discovering the trailer across the street was burning, he ran to the scene.

The entire back wall of Pridgen's small trailer was blown off, according to Bouch, who went around to the front screen porch and called for Pridgen, but there was no answer.

Bouch then spotted Pridgen about five feet away and he proceeded to burst open the locked screen door.

"I called him but he was moving too slow for me, so I went in and pulled him out by the arm," said Bouch.

Bouch described the 83 year old

man as being "in a daze." He said although his hair was singed and his face and hands were red, he was all right. Pridgen is now in Chowan Hospital where he is listed in stable condition. A hospital spokesman said he received first and second degree burns.

"I didn't even get scared until after the fire was out," said Bouch, adding, "If I had thought about it, I would have gotten scared."

Bouch said he has known Pridgen since he was three years old. When he visited him in the hospital, he thanked everyone for helping him.

Both the Bethel and Hertford Fire Departments responded to the call Saturday.

The fire was thought to have originated in the kitchen around a gas oven which was thought to be leaking, according to reports of neighbors. Neither fire department could be reached at press time.

Pridgen's trailer was totally destroyed. Gene Bouch said the trailer was not insured and the Snug Harbor Property Owners Association is handling collections for Pridgen.

Telephone rate hike affects Perquimans

Carolina Telephone has announced that a \$13.9 million local service rate increase authorized last week by the Utilities Commission was put into effect beginning April 7.

All Carolina Telephone customers will be affected by the rate change, which will be reflected in their bills dated after April 6. In addition to the new basic monthly rate on the customer's bill, which is billed 30 days in advance, some customers will receive a one-time adjustment under the heading "Other Charges and Credits" to reflect the new rate from April 7 to the date of their bill.

The Commission's order also included an increase in Extended Area Services (EAS) rates, an increase in certain miscellaneous equipment and service rates, and an adjustment in service connection charges.

The existing and new rates for local one-party residential and business telephone service, including EAS where applicable, for customers

in Perquimans are as follows:

Residential

•Hertford — 11.95, Existing Rate — 14.05, New Rate.

•Piney Woods — 11.95, Existing Rate — 14.05, New Rate.

•Woodville — 11.95, Existing Rate — 14.05, New Rate.

Business

•Hertford — 30.00, Existing Rate — 33.75, New Rate.

•Piney Woods — 30.00, Existing Rate — 33.75, New Rate.

•Woodville — 30.00, Existing Rate — 33.75, New Rate.

Rates for two-party and four-party service increased proportionately to the one-party rates.

If the customer rents his telephone set from the company, rather than owns it, a telephone rental charge is included in the bill in addition to the monthly rate for basic service. This charge did not change.

T.P. Williamson, vice president-

administration, said, "I believe by now, through the extensive news media publicity of recent months and years, recognizes that FCC and court decisions have made 'deregulation' a household word in the telephone industry. Deregulation is bringing higher rates to local services as competition increases in long-distance service and equipment sales, which traditionally have subsidized local service.

"In this rate case, I think the Utilities Commission has tried to consider the fast pace of change as well as current economic conditions and the interests of all concerned. These new rates will increase the cost of an average residential customer who does not have EAS by 3 cents per day, and will increase the cost of an average residential customer with EAS by 5 cents per day.

"We believe telephone service remains an excellent buy considering

the benefits it provides homes and businesses. We will continue to provide good service, and make every effort to achieve reasonable earnings for reinvestment and for shareholders under the rates approved in this case."

The company plans to spend approximately \$88 million during 1983 for construction due to growth, changes in technology, and the need to replace depleted equipment and cable facilities.

Carolina Telephone, the state's second largest telephone company, services about 583,000 customers in 50 counties.

The Tarboro-based company is a subsidiary of United Telecommunications Inc. (UTI) of Kansas City, Mo. UTI's United Telephone System, of which Carolina Telephone is a member, is the third largest telephone system in the United States and comprises 22 operating companies serving 3,000 communities in 20 states.

Harrell elected Chamber VP

Pat Harrell, of Hertford, has been elected vice-president of the Perquimans County Chamber of Commerce.

Harrell, Superintendent of Perquimans County Schools, was elected at a recent Chamber Meeting to the seat vacated by Alan Asbell, who recently moved to Kinston. Harrell will also serve of the Board of Directors as the representative of Hertford Township.

Clyde Merritt will represent Holiday Island as an ex-officio board member and Bill Bates was named ex-officio board member from Snug Harbor.

Dates have been set for the second-annual Indian Summer Festival —

September 15, 16, and 17.

"We are in the planning stage," said Chamber president, Mary Harrell. She said all committee chairmen have not been selected and she has not yet named an overall chairman.

Plans are also underway for a three-county map which will include recreational areas, medical facilities, historic sites and other points of interest in Perquimans, Pasquotank and Chowan Counties. The Perquimans Chamber is joining the Elizabeth City Area Chamber of Commerce and the Edenton-Chowan Chamber in the project.

Harrell said she hopes the maps will be available by the end of June.

The Chamber has changed its regular Board of Directors meeting date to the fourth Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

Harrell said the directors meetings will now be open to Chamber members. Harrell said if anyone has an item of business to be brought up at the meeting, they must notify her on the Friday before the Monday meeting.

The Chamber will begin preparations for a Community Calendar. Harrell said a calendar of community activities will be kept at the Chamber office and will be published in THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY.

School board looks at plan

By VALSHORT

Raleigh architect Sam Ashford appeared before the Perquimans County Board of Education Monday night to discuss long range plans for the Perquimans High School facilities.

Ashford reviewed the master plan which he helped develop in 1975 and discussed trends in construction and design for energy efficiency.

Ashford will meet with the

Board again in May to discuss in depth the needs of the county, the trends in population and programs as well as an overall review of the master plan.

The Board approved April 25 as make-up day for the day school closed as a result of the recent snowstorm. The last day of school for students will remain June 3.

Harrell announced the annual Public Education Day, to be held in Raleigh on May 25. Sponsored

by the Alliance for Public Education, the day gives local educators, board members and interested citizens a chance to visit legislators and state officials.

Harrell made an announcement that the General Assembly may provide increased funding for math and science programs, providing the opportunity for competitive grants.