

# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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## Perquimans resident gets two life sentences

A Perquimans County man received two life sentences plus 10 years after he pled guilty to three counts of extortion and two first degree sexual offenses in Perquimans County Superior Court Monday.

Michael Allen Walker, 29, of Durants Neck, was arraigned

Monday, with the honorable Henry L. Stevens III presiding.

According to State Bureau of Investigations special agent Walter House, who testified during the hearing, Walker had threatened to kill his former wife, Lisa Walker, her attorney, John Morrison, and District Court Judge Grafton

Beamon, if a civil court decision did not result in his favor.

House said Walker had instructed his attorney at that time, Walter Edwards, Jr., to tell his intentions to his wife's attorney.

According to House, Walker planned to accomplish the killings through the use of explosive devices.

He said at the time of Walker's arrest on February 3, a number of weapons were confiscated, including a home made steel pipe bomb, a 45 caliber pistol and a machete.

A subsequent search of Walker's residence in Durants Neck revealed two more steel pipe bombs and other bomb construction items, said

House.

House said the sexual offense charges resulted from his investigation of the Department of Social Services reports in which Walker had sexually abused two children.

Among cases to be heard during

Superior Court this week include: Douglas Luckie Cartwright, charged with trafficking in cocaine and selling and delivering cocaine; Wallace Hinton, charged with two counts of incest and first degree rape; Dennis J. Stallings, charged with 17 counts of embezzlement; and others.

## Fire depts. receive funds

Over 100 volunteer fire departments in North Carolina will be receiving matching fund grants this spring as part of the Rural Community Fire Protection Program. Joe Grimsley, secretary of the state Department of Natural Resources and Community Development announced this week. North Carolina received \$73,000 in federal grant funds for the program this fiscal year.

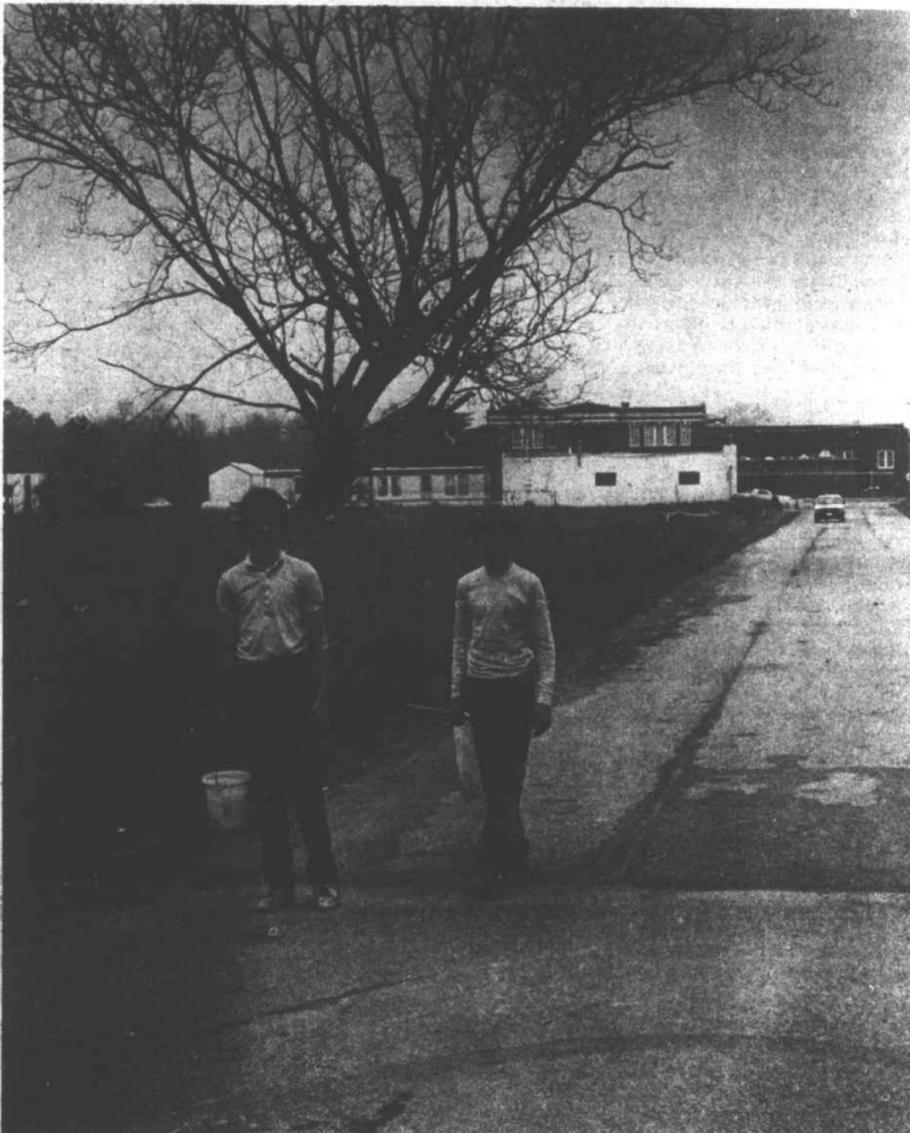
In Perquimans County, Durant's Neck and Bethel Fire Departments will receive \$450.

The money can be used to purchase a variety of firefighting equipment ranging from "turn-out gear" (helmets, coats and boots) and hoses, to pumps and pumper trucks.

"The fire departments send their applications to us, and the applications are then scored using a formula developed by the U.S. Forest Service," stated H.J. "Boe" Green, Director of Forest Resources which administers the program in North Carolina.

"The basic requirements are to show the need for the funds and be able to match the grant, dollar for dollar. The maximum amount a department can receive is \$2,000. This upper limit allows the grant monies to be spread out among more departments, therefore helping more communities," Green said.

"This is the sixth year that we and the U.S. Forest Service have administered this program," Grimsley added. "But it may be coming to an end since this item has been eliminated from the current federal budget proposals. We all hope that the President and Congress will be able to find some way to restore the funds and enable the program to continue." Grimsley concluded.



## Fishing weather

Warm weather means it's fishing time in Perquimans County, especially for Ricky

Trueblood and Matt Tice, both of Hertford, who took in some after school fishing

recently. (Photo by Val Short)

## Hertford, Winfall apply for grants

Thirty-four million dollars is a lot of money, but it will fall far short of covering the \$119 million in Community Development Block Grant requests submitted May 2 by 202 community, including Perquimans County.

In applications received by the Department of Natural Resources and Community Development, the 164 cities and 38 counties have requested funding for community revitalization projects ranging from housing rehabilitation to street paving.

Development planning projects were designed to identify critical community needs and formulate plans to meet those needs.

The request from Hertford totalled \$575,945 for community revitalization activities.

The Town of Winfall also requested \$748,668 for community revitalization and development planning.

The Town of Hertford submitted its second application for Phase II of the King Street Revitalization project.

Hertford Mayor and Town Manager Bill Cox is positive about the funding of the project. "I feel the need is there, the application has been properly presented and I hope we will be funded," Cox stated.

This is the third such application presented by the Town of Winfall, according to Winfall Mayor Lloyd Ray Morgan.

The Winfall project will bring lower grade housing up to standard in the town's King Street area, according to Morgan.

"I feel like we have a better chance this time. I hope we'll get it," Morgan said.

Eligible applicants include the state's 100 counties and, except for the 15 largest cities, all

municipalities. The 15 cities, who continue to receive Community Development Block Grant funds directly from the federal government include Jacksonville, Wilmington and Fayetteville.

The 202 application, signals the beginning of an intense period of review by state staff, according to NRCDC Secretary Joseph W. Grimsley.

"With requests totaling over three times the available money, it is imperative that each project be reviewed very closely on the basis of the established scoring system to ensure that the limited allocation will be utilized in the most effective manner possible," said Grimsley.

Each community revitalization application will receive scores in the areas of community needs, project design, benefit to low and moderate income persons, other public and private funds to be used for project activities and a project's consistency with state policies and

programs.

Development planning projects are reviewed on the basis of need, feasibility and local commitment.

Grimsley feels the scoring system, first used in 1982, is a sound one and credits input from local officials as being a key factor in the overall program success.

"The cooperation and assistance we received from local officials, those persons directly involved with community improvements efforts, have provided us with a perspective on program design and administration which minimizes the local impact of each dollar awarded," he stated.

Last year 90 communities were awarded a total of \$45 million for community revitalization, development planning and economic development projects, which resulted in the rehabilitation of over 1800 houses, the creation of 700 jobs and the leveraging of an additional \$7 million in other public and private

## Summer youth program set

Ten area counties including Perquimans, will receive approximately \$348,513 for a 1983 Summer Youth Program requested by the Albemarle Commission from federal funds, according to Alice Bond, manager of the Edenton Employment Security Commission office.

The ten counties which make up Region "E" will receive the grant through the State Division of Employment and Training. The funds are provided by the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA).

The Summer Youth Program is designed to provide job training and employment opportunities for the unemployed and economically disadvantaged.

The Employment Security Commission with offices in Edenton has successfully bid for contracting the program for the past five years. The Edenton office serves the four counties of Chowan, Gates, Perquimans and Tyrrell.

CETA employees are allowed up to thirty hours of work each week and are paid the minimum wage of \$3.35 an hour.

## Town Council hears complaints of dog ordinance

By VAL SHORT

The town dog ordinance was the topic of concern expressed by several Hertford residents at the Hertford Town Council meeting Monday night.

Calling for changes in the current ordinance, which prohibits dog owners from allowing their canines to run at large, the citizens included Claude Brinn, who suggested the councilmen "use your heads and come up with a law everyone can live with."

Earl Willis suggested "a little more common sensical approach."

Billy Nixon, who received a citation and carried his case to court, agreed a law was needed to keep vicious dogs out of town, but the current law was too harsh.

Councilman Jesse Harris said the ordinance is "to strong a law." "This is not a matter to go to the courthouse, it should be a minor penalty," he said.

Hertford Mayor and Town Manager Bill Cox suggested the Town Council study the ordinance to see if any changes could be made.

Hertford Chief of Police Marshall Merritt presented the April police report which included seven arrests,

including three for shoplifting.

Merritt also reported 30 citations, including 16 dog ordinance violations, four speeding and three DUI tickets. The report also included 13 violations and investigations.

Cox presented the town ABC store report for April, which included \$38,889 in revenue with 6,551 bottles being sold. This compared with the April 1982 report of \$35,682 in revenue and 6,048 bottles sold, according to Cox.

Cox announced the public hearing for revenue sharing for the Town of Hertford is scheduled May 16 at 7 p.m. at the Municipal Building.

Cox also presented prices on 378 feet of fencing and gates for the town cemetery between the athletic field at Perquimans High School and the swamp.

He also read a letter to the Council from the Perquimans County Board of Education requesting a gate be included on the fence to allow traffic to exit from ball games.

The Council tabled the discussion on the fence until after the new budget is adopted.

The Council set May 24 as the date for a budget work session.

## Volunteer award deadline extended

The deadline for nominations for the Governor's Volunteer Awards has been extended to May 20, according to Hertford Mayor Bill Cox, who is chairing the selection committee.

Cox said no nominations had been received for the 11 categories of awards, and he has agreed to extend the deadline.

"I'm real disappointed that we haven't had any response," said Cox. "We have so many volunteers in this county who deserve to be recognized."

The annual awards are presented to volunteers across the state at the annual ceremony in Raleigh in the fall.

Individuals, businesses, civic and church organizations can be

recognized for the 11 Perquimans County awards.

The categories include: individual human service, individual community leader, coordinator of volunteers, youth, senior citizens, disabled person, school, and one-on-one volunteers.

Group categories include: community organizations, church-religious groups, and business-industry volunteers.

Applications for nominations are available at the mayor's office in the Municipal Building in Hertford. Cox urged county groups and individuals to recognize their volunteers.

"Someone needs to take the time to make these deserving nominations," Cox said.



## Employees recognized

Four employees at the U.S. Post Office in Hertford have accumulated a total of 9,239 hours of sick leave, representing over four years of work. They are, from left to

right, Billy White, Ray Haskett, Dan Berry and Postmaster Henry Stokes. Berry and White recently became members of the 1,000 hour sick leave club. Haskett

is now a member of the 2,000 hour sick leave club and Stokes is a member of the 3,000 hour sick leave club. (Photo by Val Short)