

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

Volume 39, No. 20

USPS 428-080

Hertford, Perquimans County, N.C., Thursday, May 19, 1983

20 CENTS

Hertford attorney indicted on arson charges

By VAL SHORT

Hertford attorney James D. Singletary, 33, was indicted last Thursday by a Chowan County Superior Court grand jury of allegedly conspiring to burn a building in Tyner last June.

Singletary, of 102 Kenyon Drive, and four others were indicted in the special session in Edenton on charges of conspiracy to burn a building and burning a building in the June 2, 1982 fire which destroyed the Eliza Elliott farmhouse, 15 miles north of Edenton on N.C. 32.

Singletary was arrested Thursday

by the State Bureau of Investigation after he turned himself in to the Chowan County Sheriff's Department, according to Chowan Sheriff Troy Toppin. He was released on his own recognizance.

Toppin said the house was uninhabited at the time, and was being renovated to be used as a hunting lodge.

According to Toppin, Haymakin International Inc., a British West Indies corporation, was listed as the owner of the building. He said he did not know who the president of the corporation was.

Singletary, a native of Whiteville and a graduate of the North Carolina Central University School of Law, has been practicing law in Hertford for about five years.

If convicted, Singletary could receive a 30-year maximum prison sentence for the felony burning charges, and a three-year maximum term for the felony conspiracy charges, according to District Attorney H.P. Williams.

Williams said disbarment of Singletary would be up to the N.C. Bar Association.

Toppin said he and special SBI

agent W.L. House began their investigation following the fire last summer. "We sort of suspected something at that time," he said.

Toppin said a \$200,000 insurance payment was received by owners of the Elliott house following the fire. Toppin added that nothing had been rebuilt on the site.

Also indicted on the same charges were:

•Douglas Luckie Cartwright, 35, of Route 3, Box 823, Hertford. Cartwright turned himself in to the Chowan County Sheriff's Department and was released on his own

recognizance.

Cartwright was also indicted last week by a Perquimans County grand jury on the same charges in relation to the August 12, 1982 burning of the Rennie Dail house on state road 1110 in Perquimans County. The house was owned by Bonnie Dail White of Hertford.

Cartwright was also indicted last week in Perquimans on charges of conspiracy to traffic cocaine and trafficking in cocaine.

•Mitchell Duke Ivey, 35, of Route 5, Box 776, Hertford. Ivey also turned himself in to the Chowan County

Sheriff's Department and was released on his own recognizance.

•Larry Wayne Sanders, 35, of Route 5, Box 210, Morgan's Corner, also indicted in the burning of the Dail house in Perquimans. Sanders was arrested two weeks ago by the Chowan County Sheriff's Department and released on \$80,000 bond.

•Peter Rosenthal of Virginia Beach. Toppin said he did not know his age or address, but he expects Rosenthal to turn himself in this week.

Williams said he expects the trials will be held sometime after July 1.



Cheese line

Volunteers distributed 13,000 pounds of cheese and over 5,000 pounds of butter to Perquimans people in the distribution of surplus commodities by the Department of Social Services last Friday. Over 1,300 households received the dairy products and supplies were depleted by 2 p.m. The long line had disappeared by 10 a.m. DSS director Paul Gregory said the distribution was orderly, thanks to the help of many volunteers. (Photos by Val Short)

Perquimans County residents receive free cheese, butter

By VAL SHORT

Cheese sandwiches and casseroles were hot items on the menus of 1,329 households in Perquimans County after they received cheese and butter last Friday.

According to Paul Gregory, director of the Perquimans County Department of Social Services, 13,000 pounds of cheese and 5,300 pounds of butter were distributed to county residents from 9 a.m. until 1:30 p.m., when the products ran out.

Gregory said volunteers continued to accept applications for cheese and butter throughout the day. For those 266 who applied and didn't get cheese, additional cheese and butter will be ordered, and should arrive by mid-June, said Gregory.

The cheese and butter, which Gregory describes as "good and fresh and not over a few months old," is being distributed to the senior citizens, food stamp recipients, low income families, and the disabled, through the U. S. Department of Agriculture, by the Department of Social Services.

Gregory said the surplus commodities will probably be distributed in Perquimans quarterly, and he feels the supply will continue from 3 to 5 years.

Rice, cornmeal, powdered milk, peanut butter and honey may also be added to the give-away program in the future, said Gregory.

Distribution of the dairy products was held at the Hertford Ice Plant, beginning at 9 a.m., but the line began to form as early as 6 a.m., said Gregory. The line of people, which extended from the ice plant to the Little Mint at one time, had disappeared by 10 a.m., said Gregory. He added that no one had to wait over 20 minutes.

•Gregory gave volunteers the credit for the ease and order of the distribution. "We had people coming out of our ears to volunteer," he said.

"If other agencies had not come in, there would have been no way we could have done it," Gregory added.

In addition to volunteers from area churches and civic groups and Snug Harbor and Holiday Island, volunteers from Open Door, EIC, Extension, the Health Department, and Catholic Social Services assisted in the distribution.

Gregory said the distribution was "as good as any other time," and with a few minor changes, he anticipates an orderly distribution next time, which will probably be held in September.

County receives federal rebate funds of \$4,572

By SUSAN HARRIS

The Perquimans County Board of Commissioners at their regular meeting Monday night were advised of the county's receipt of a federal rebate check for \$4,572.45.

The funds represent the county's share of a three percent rebate resulting from a federal miscalculation of Medicaid funds, according to Durwood Reed, county finance officer.

Reed told the board that these funds will help to alleviate the budget deficit due to reduced revenue sharing funds received by the county.

Four sealed bids for the county's insurance were opened, with Business Insurance Management, Inc. of Raleigh, by whom the county is presently insured, submitting the low bid of \$11,042.

Other bids included Lambeth, Pitt Co., \$11,844; Twiddy Insurance, \$17,802; and John T. Dowd Insurance Agency, \$17,194.

The bids and specifications were turned over to county attorney John Matthews and finance officer Durwood Reed for review. Action will be taken on the bids at the next meeting for insurance coverage to begin July 1.

A letter from the District Board of Health requesting support to defeat three bills under consideration in the

N.C. General Assembly was heard.

The proposed legislation deals with migrant health services, the dispensing of drugs at local health departments, and a plan to segregate hospice services now being offered by the health departments into a separate program.

There was a unanimous decision to support the District Health Department, as the board felt that all three bills would be detrimental to the county.

Paul Gregory, Social Services Director, apprised the board of the success of last Friday's cheese and butter distribution.

Gregory said that 1,329 households were serviced, 75 percent of those households by 9:40 a.m. Sixty percent or more of the applicants were Senior citizens, Gregory added.

He also told the board that the commodity excess is expected to last for five years, with rice, powdered milk, corn meal, peanut butter and honey, in addition to the butter and cheese, to be available in the fall.

Commissioner Charles Ward told the board that the Industrial Development Commission terms of Jimmy Hunter and Fenton Eure, Jr. had expired, and that Ward was looking for replacements.

With no further business, the board adjourned to reconvene on Tuesday night for a budget work session.

School board accepts new textbooks

By VAL SHORT

Students in Perquimans County's fourth and eighth grades will study North Carolina, beginning next year, following action made Monday night by the Perquimans County Board of Education.

Seven new history and geography textbooks which follow the state curriculum recommendations for social studies, were accepted by the board at its regular meeting.

Elementary supervisor Susan Winslow presented the social studies curriculum revisions as well as the seven new texts, two of which deal exclusively with North Carolina.

Maps, globe, and vocabulary skills are heavily emphasized in the new texts, explained Winslow, which also encompasses all aspects of social studies.

The new social studies curriculum recommendations, approved by the state Board of Education in May 1982, suggest N. C. cultural geography for fourth graders and N. C. history for eighth grade students,

according to Winslow.

Winslow told the board the curriculum changes also recommend interdisciplinary studies for grades kindergarten through three and geography for grades five through seven.

Winslow told the board the seven textbooks follow the state recommendations.

County superintendent Pat Harrell said the state provides textbooks for students in the elementary levels, but pays \$6.75 per book at the high school level.

Board chairman Clifford Winslow said, "I'm really pleased that we are looking more at the history of our own state." He commented on the newly approved textbooks: "They look much more comprehensive than the old."

The Board voted unanimously to oppose any action by the Hertford Town Council to retain all profits from the local ABC store, as legislation introduced by Rep. Charles Evans would authorize.

Harrell told the board the Evans bill, if passed, will repeal the existing law in which 50 percent of the ABC profits are given to the county schools. New legislation would give the Hertford Town Council the authority to determine the amount, if any, to be given to the schools.

The Board voted to voice its opposition at a future Town Council meeting and in writing.

In other action, the Board of Education:

•awarded the school audit contract to R.E. Alken Company at a rate of \$300 per day during the audit

•approved the student insurance policy from Pilot Life for \$5.50 per student. Football coverage will be \$65 for varsity players and \$42 for junior varsity. Twenty-four hour coverage is \$30.00.

•tabled the contract for water-proofing the Perquimans High School auditorium, until more information

could be obtained.

•discussed current legislation, including possible sales tax legislation, which has been amended to allow a percentage of funds to go to school boards; and duty free lunch periods for teachers and aides.

This week

Soccer has come to Perquimans. See page 3.

Weather

Temperatures will range from the low 50s to the upper 60s with a chance of showers on Thursday.

