

# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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## Albemarle Commission awards food contract

By SUSAN HARRIS

Following tense discussion concerning the 1984 food service contract awarded to Servomation of Rocky Mount, two Washington County delegates hastily left the May 19 meeting of the Albemarle Commission.

The contract has for the past five years been awarded to the Washington County Department of Social Services, whose per meal bid was one cent above Servomation's \$1.95 price.

Jack Disarno, County Manager of Washington County and a member of the Commission, queried the decision, with the question, "Have

we poisoned some people...or were we doing it wrong for the last five years?"

Protest over the contract erupted in April when the Commission rejected all initial bids. Washington County DSS's first bid was \$2.20 per meal for three counties and \$2.35 per meal including transportation from Columbia to Dare County.

Firstly, Servomation bid \$1.97 per meal, or \$2.05 including tax. Washington County is tax exempt.

The Commission voted, upon its rejection of the first bids, to request a rebid. This package included an option for prospective food service entities to serve all ten counties, two

counties and/or eight counties.

On May 12, Don Flowers, executive director of the Albemarle Commission, received a formal letter of protest from Servomation's attorneys citing five N.C. statutes that were violated when the Commission rejected the low bidder.

Washington County DSS's second price was again higher than that of Servomation, although Servomation had neglected to add tax of eight cents per meal in their bid package, which was required.

Said Don Flowers, "We will pay \$1.95 and that's it." The tax would

have added \$37,000 to the price over the contract period.

At press time, no word from Servomation had been received by the Albemarle Commission regarding the tax issue, according to Darlene Harrell, Nutrition Director.

The 1984 Albemarle Commission budget, was approved with no discussion.

The largest appropriation was to the Aging Program Congregate Nutrition Fund, which was awarded \$234,230, \$19,688 of which will come from local funds. The Aging Program Social Services Fund will receive \$17,573 locally, with a total budget of \$175,729.

The General Fund has an override of \$86,552, which accounts for a large portion of the \$101,730 operating costs for the next fiscal year.

Other expenditures will include: Emergency Medical Services Fund - \$33,942, Job Training Planning Fund - \$29,449, Regional Program Fund - \$29,949, Albemarle Development Authority Fund - \$6,001.

Also, Aging Program Planning and Administration Fund - \$42,286, Aging Program Home-Delivered Nutrition Fund - \$39,041, and Economic Development Administration Fund - \$51,212.

Albemarle Commission personnel

were given a five percent across the board raise as recommended by the Personnel Committee. A recommendation by the Finance Committee to give a three percent board raise and to reserve two percent for merit raises was defeated.

Salaries account for \$149,678 over a nine-month period.

A motion to include legal fees for the Commission's attorney was approved.

In other business, the Commission approved the appointment of Captain Johnny Hawkins of the Gates County Rescue Squad to the EMS Council.



Pickin' time

It's that time of year again when strawberries ripen and families flock to the patches to pick. Sharon Kock of Suffolk, daughter of Mrs.

Julia Koch, recently visited T.R. Harrell's strawberry patch at Bear Swamp and found some ripe juicy berries. Sharon examined each berry

closely and somehow resisted the urge to taste. For more on strawberries, please see page three. (Photos by Val Short)



## Chamber of Commerce sets priorities for plan of action

By VAL SHORT

A merchant directory and a county wide survey are the priorities this year of the Perquimans County Chamber of Commerce.

County merchants and members of the Chamber met last Wednesday night at Angler's Cove and established priorities for a plan of action for the coming year.

"Our purpose is to come up with something to benefit Perquimans County — it's people and merchants," President Mary Harrell told the 40 who attended the meeting.

"I'm stressing the merchants, because if the merchants make it, it shows all over the county," she said. "The time of letting the other man do it is gone. If you want to see Perquimans County grow, you are going to have to work," she continued.

Development of assets, merchant cooperation, and establishing a "funny money" or coupon-like campaign, were also established as this year's priorities for the Chamber.

The group discussed as its top priority having a directory of merchants in Perquimans County, outlining the services and products of each. Directories would be delivered to every home in the county.

Second on the list was a survey of Perquimans shoppers which would

help identify good and bad points of Perquimans businesses and would provide suggestions for improvement.

The priorities came from reports from four committees established during a January merchants meeting held to identify the needs of Perquimans County merchants.

The committees included: pride and loyalty, chaired by Louis Evans; advertising and promotion, led by Allan Winslow; coordinated efforts, chaired by Gene Boyce; and communications, headed by Emmett Landing.

Other suggestions for action made by the committees included advertising workshops, improvement of shopping areas, new grocery store, Chamber newsletter, farmers market, cooperative grocery store, townwide advertized sales and a welcome wagon.

County Extension Chairman Bill Jester presented the results of a survey on the potential of a farmers market in Perquimans County.

Insufficient demand was the general consensus of those polled, according to Jester. He said most agreed that a farmers market would be an asset to both consumers and producers. He said, however, that they would be interested in participating only on a consignment basis.

Jester said 130 surveys were sent

out to area farmers and vegetable growers and 22 were returned.

Fifty-four percent of those who responded said they would be interested in a farmers market, said Jester. He said on an enthusiasm scale of one to ten, 32 percent responded 8 to 10 and 35 percent responded 5 to 7.

Harrell asked the committees to meet again and she set a tentative date for the next merchants meeting — June 15.

Only four directors were present at the regular Chamber of Commerce meeting Monday night, according to Mrs. Harrell, so no action was taken on the purchase of a copy machine for the Chamber office.

A representative from Xerox attended the meeting to explain the copy machine which the office is now renting.

Mrs. Harrell announced that the three-county map of Perquimans, Chowan and Pasquotank counties has gone to the printer and should be ready in a few weeks.

She also announced that the Chamber will sponsor a band student for band camp at a cost of \$85.

Mrs. Harrell said plans are beginning for the 1983 Indian Summer Festival and she said publicity for the event should begin next week.

The next meeting of the Chamber Board of Directors will be held Monday, June 27 at 8 p.m.

## 'Fire' named second in state

By VAL SHORT

"Husquenaw Fire," Perquimans Union's most recent literary publication, has been named second in the state Tar Heel Junior Historian group literary contest.

Submitted by the Yeopim Esquires, Perquimans Union's chapter of the Tar Heel Junior Historians, the magazine was among 80 projects submitted statewide by elementary, middle and high school students.

Elizabeth Towe, a Winfall senior at

Perquimans High, received a first and second place award for her architectural photography entries.

The awards were presented at Peace College in Raleigh by the N.C. Literary and Historical Association. Over 500 Tar Heel Junior Historians and their advisors attended.

Twenty-three language arts students at Perquimans Union participated in the project, according to Mrs. Sue Leete, instructor.

Each student was asked to find someone in the community who could

share a remembrance of the Perquimans that was, said Mrs. Leete.

Many of the students interviewed their grandparents. "This helped them develop a respect and better understanding for those people who had so many years," said Mrs. Leete.

Mrs. Leete said sales of "Husquenaw Fire" are continuing and it can be purchased for \$3 at One Stop, Woodard's, the Orchard Shop, The Perquimans Weekly office and other locations throughout the county.

## Town of Winfall enforces ordinance

By VAL SHORT

Hogs, horses and cows kept within the city limits of the Town of Winfall will now have to find a new home.

A livestock ordinance, which went into effect this month, was recently adopted by the Winfall Town Council, making it unlawful for anyone to keep livestock within the city limits.

The ordinance replaces one already on the Winfall books, which was termed "too general" by Winfall Chief of Police Joe Lothian.

The new ordinance is "more specific and to the point," said Lothian.

The ordinance does not apply to Miller Livestock Company in Winfall

or to poultry which is confined to the owner's property, according to Lothian.

Lothian said, "There was so much livestock in town, they had to do something. A town that is growing like Winfall needs to remain as attractive as possible to attract new residents."

Warnings will be issued initially, said Lothian, but those receiving citations for violating the ordinance will have to pay a fine set by a judge, plus the cost of court, which is \$31.

"If we have the cooperation that we have had with the dog ordinance, we shouldn't have any problem," Lothian said.

Since the Winfall Police Department has purchased its own radar, Lothian said speed limits will now be enforced within the town, especially in the school zones.

Lothian said he plans to patrol the areas around Perquimans Union and Central Grammar School during school hours.

Two arrests were made in Winfall this week, according to Lothian.

James Clifton White, 30, of Mason Street in Winfall, was arrested for assault with a deadly weapon. Also cited to court for violation of the Winfall dog ordinance was Frances Kelly of Winfall, for allowing her dog to run at large.

## Carolina Moon Festival set June 4

Featured at the third annual Carolina Moon Festival this year will be band concerts, lots of food and lots of fun, according to Carolyn Fowler, chairman of publicity for the Perquimans County Band Boosters.

The festival, Perquimans County's band day, will be held Saturday, June 4 from 10 to 7 p.m. at Perquimans High School in Hertford.

A variety of activities will be scheduled throughout the day, including a yard sale, car wash, five kilometer run, bike race and fish fry.

Booths of exhibits and games will open at 10 a.m. Car smash, penny pitch, milk bottle throw, wet sponge, basketball throw, clown dunking and pie in the face will be among the games offered.

The grand finale for the day will be a concert featuring all four school bands, which include over 100 students. The concert will begin at 7 p.m. and will be held at the high school auditorium.

Proceeds from the event will be used to support band events and trips to competitions.

## Weekly adds staff members

Two new members have joined the staff of THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY, according to Val Short, editor.

Cindy Leicester of Hertford is the new typist and proofreader and Susan Harris has returned to THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY as a staff writer.

Mrs. Leicester is a native of Buffalo, New York and Edenton. She was a former typist and proofreader for The Chowan Herald and the New East magazine.

She has also worked with Albemarle Mental Health Center in Elizabeth City where she served as accounting clerk. With Don Juan Manufacturing in Hertford, Mrs. Leicester worked as a billing clerk.

She and her husband reside in Hertford with their two children.

In addition to working with THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY, Mrs. Harris has served as executive secretary and loan processor with both Peoples Bank and Dominion National Bank.

She is a native of Perquimans

County and a 1976 graduate of Perquimans County High School. She also attended East Carolina University.

Mrs. Harris and her husband live in Hertford with their two children. She will be covering county commissioners and

Albemarle Commission meetings and other community events.

"I am so pleased to welcome Susan and Cindy to our staff. I think they will be an asset to the paper and will help us give the county the quality coverage it deserves," said Mrs. Short.



Cindy Leicester



Susan Harris