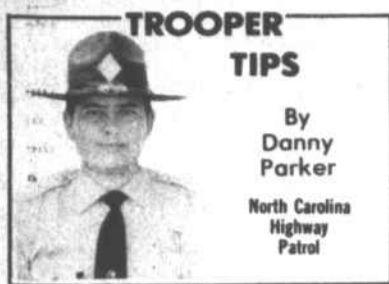


Weekly Perspective

New school bus law takes effect Oct. 1

School is back in full swing and so are the buses. I have already started receiving complaints of people passing stopped buses.

"At 7:30 in the morning it's hard not to be a little sleepy, which means that you are probably not going to be alert as usual. Our children's safety, however, depends a great deal on the alertness of the average driver on our roads.



TROOPER TIPS

By Danny Parker

North Carolina Highway Patrol

Everyone should know that they must stop on a two lane highway for a stopped school bus that has its stop sign out.

But what about four lane highways and turn lanes? If there is a dividing space or physical barrier separating the roadways, then a driver is not required to stop when traveling in the opposite direction of a school bus.

Effective October 1, 1983, center lanes for left turns on four lane highways will fall under the category of dividing spaces, which means that you will not be required to stop for a school bus if there is a turn lane between you and the bus on a four lane highway.

Remember that this law does not come into effect until October 1; until that time, you must stop for school buses regardless of turn lanes.

If a school bus is passed by a motor vehicle and a tag number and description is obtained by one or more witnesses, then our courts accept an assumption that the owner was operating the vehicle unless he or she can prove otherwise.

If you are convicted of passing a stopped school bus, which requires a mandatory appearance in court, then you can be fined up to \$200 or imprisoned up to 90 days.

In addition to this, the Division of Motor Vehicles will place five points against your driving record.

Use extra caution when approaching a school bus, because children are without a doubt our most valuable and prized resource.

Early editors faced dangerous times

Editing a newspaper is hard work, but it is no longer so dangerous as it once was. Until this century few editors made any pretense of impartiality or objectivity, and editorial bias sometimes provoked violent responses from the recipients of strong criticism.



A political editor never knew when supporters of another party might decide to tar and feather him. A crusading editor lived with the threat of pot shots from vested interests. A temperance editor could not expect genteel words from the saloon crowd. Politics stir passions, and the election of 1900 became a hard and bitter contest. The Republican and Populist parties fused in hopes of destroying the Democrats, who were campaigning for a state constitutional amendment which would deny the vote to illiterate blacks.

An anti-amendment candidate for the state legislature (whose name need not trouble us) was nominated in Perquimans.

The Hertford newspaper, the "Dispatch," opposed the man, and its editor, Clifford L. Hornaday, blasted the candidate in print.

The editor wrote that the candidate was "a man whose reputation is rotten to the core and whose character is nauseous to all decent people..."

The candidate, he charged, had been dismissed from a previous employment "on account of drinking, dishonesty in connection with

finances and ... women."

The editor specifically addressed the Republicans of Belvidere Township, many of whom were Quakers and who had "a record of which any people might be proud."

He felt "although they may not vote for the Democratic nominee, it is certain that they cannot swallow the (candidate's) pill."

(He should have said "chewing gum" instead of "pill", for the candidate manufactured "Palm Candy! A Healthful and Delightful Chewing Gum, And a Sovereign Remedy for Coughs, Colds and all Bronchial affections and A Cure of the Tobacco Habit.")

Soon after the editor's attack was published, the candidate took action. On the streets of Hertford the candidate attacked the editor, striking at him several times with a cane.

The editor was forty years the candidate's junior, and the son of a Methodist preacher to boot, so he could not fairly strike the old man.

He could, however, use a little visual persuasion, so, as a delighted fellow-editor remarked, "Mr. Hornaday showed (the candidate) a revolver and (the candidate) showed the bottom of his shoes."

The fellow-editor added a strong comment of his own when reporting Hornaday's experience, that if anyone voted for the candidate it would be because "his reason is dethroned, or that he has a fat office or expects to get one."

With their partisanship expressed in strong, personal language, it is a wonder so few editors were shot in those days when a newspaper represented one political party or one reform movement or one special interest.

Editor Hornaday had his revenge upon his assailant. The candidate lost the election.

Looking back

BEREA HOMECOMING SCHEDULED OCTOBER 6: There will be Homecoming at the Berea Church of Christ on Sunday, October 6. Bible School will begin at 10 o'clock, with the worship at 11

o'clock.

Brother James Joyner of Elizabeth City will be the guest speaker for the homecoming. Lunch will be served on the grounds at noon time.



Changing times for Weekly

Monday morning has arrived again.

As I sit here trying to think of something witty to say my mind seems to wander towards the new responsibilities that we, as a staff, have undertaken in the last few weeks. Maybe instead of trying to charm you with my very limited wit, I should take this opportunity to tell you about the changes that have taken place at the paper.

We have a new member on our staff, Ken Castellone, that you will meet as you come in and pay on your subscriptions. Ken will be handling the circulation of the paper and also will act as our Sports Editor.

Susan Harris will be doing freelance writing for the paper out of her home, as well as helping with the coverage of local board meetings.

Cindy Leicester will remain in her dual capacity as typist/proofreader along with helping out in the office.

Pat Mansfield, our former Circulation Manager, has now undertaken the position of Advertising Manager.

Pat will also act as Society Editor for the paper, handling church news, engagements, weddings, etc.

I have assumed the duties of Managing Editor. My responsibilities will include providing you with an accurate report of events and news in Perquimans County.



A Chat With Jane

By Jane Williams

We have made a few changes in the paper that we hope you will approve of. You will notice that the editorial page has taken on a new look this week. We have decided to add a new feature, "Perquimans Opinions", to our editorial page. Each week we will solicit opinions from individuals on

the street concerning questions that seem to be controversial around the county.

We invite you to submit questions to our office that you would like to see answered in this column.

Also, Trooper Danny Parker, a Perquimans County resident, will be writing an occasional editorial comment from the North Carolina Division of Highway Patrol. His column, Trooper Tips, will aid in informing you of changes in law, as well as reminding you of traffic safety.

Trooper Parker is interested in keeping the public informed and letting you know that the Highway Patrol is here to serve and protect the citizens.

We invite you to submit your editorial comments and letters to the editor for publication at any time. Any items submitted for print on the editorial page must be signed in order to be used.

Our office hours will be changing effective Friday, September 23. We will be opening at 8:00 a.m. instead of

9:00 Monday through Friday and closing at 5:00 p.m., except on Wednesday when we will be closing at 1:00 p.m. Our office will be closed for lunch from 1:00 p.m. 'till 2:00 p.m. daily.

The deadline for all news and advertising will remain at 5:00 p.m. on Monday. Any news materials received after this time will be held until the next weeks publication.

Because of limited news space, we are unable to guarantee the publication of articles submitted for a particular week. We ask that you bear with us, and we will print articles as soon as space permits.

We would like to extend an invitation to you to drop by our offices at any time to discuss your ideas and comments about the paper. Our main objective will be to carry out the slogan of THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY, "For and About Perquimans People".

Perquimans Opinions



ROSE

(Editors note: THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY is adding a new feature beginning this week, Perquimans Opinion. We will be picking a topic each week and going out into the county to ask your opinion of topics that seem to be of a controversial nature in Perquimans County.)

If you have a question that you would like to see appear in this column, please give us a call.)

The question for this week's opinion column is: What are your



COLLINS

feelings concerning the recent decision of the Hertford Town Council to close Cedarwood Cemetery at night.

Talmadge Rose of Hertford said, "I have heard and read a little bit about that issue and I am certainly in favor of closing the cemetery. I do not see any reason for anyone being out there after hours. I think that reasonable opening and closing hours should be established, a number of places do have that. I do not see any reason for anyone wanting to



NEEDHAM

be out there at eight or nine o'clock at night. I think that sunrise to sunset or something very close to that would be a very good thing, and it would probably eliminate a lot of the problems that we have out there."

"I think it would be all right to close it up because I think that's no place to be going backwards and forwards, you know transporting through. I think they should close it" Susan Collins said.

"They are closed off at certain



CHAPPELL

times in some places; but in a small town like this there might be objection to it. If there is vandalism, and evidently there is, it should not be a thoroughfare," said Linda Needham.

Terri Chappell of Hertford said, "I feel that it should be closed after hours. A cemetery is a sacred place and it should not be vandalized by anyone. I feel that this would (the cemetery closing) benefit the town and the families of the people buried there."

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Managing Editor

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Advertising Manager

Ken Castellone
Circulation Manager

Public financing of political campaigns opposed

By JOHN SLEDGE
N.C. Farm Bureau Federation

A recent nationwide public survey showed that about two-thirds of the American people oppose the idea of public financing of our congressional campaigns.

For several years, there has been a concerted effort to build public

support for public financing of congressional campaigns on the basis that it would "clean up" such campaigns and isolate members of Congress from the pressures of special interest.

It seems most people don't buy that reasoning.

A great many people think just the

opposite. Public financing can actually lead to more graft and corruption than if it is derived on a totally voluntary basis in the private sector.

The survey does show, however, that most Americans understand very well that so-called special interest groups are nothing to be

feared, since virtually every special interest group in this country is represented by one or more organizations.

And so long as people are free to join or not to join such efforts, democracy is served. There are no "special" interest groups — just interest groups.