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Sexual offense charged

Billy Wooten indicted by Grand Jury

Willie Lee "Billy" Wooten, Jr., 28 year old resident of Winfall, was indicted by the Perquimans County Grand Jury Monday on second degree sexual offense charges. The indictment was the result of an investigation held by the Winfall Police Department.

Wooten was arrested Monday

afternoon and released on \$5,000 bond.

Wooten is accused of allegedly forcing a male youth to participate in sexual relations with him in August 1978, while Wooten served as Director of the Perquimans County Parks and Recreation Department.

Wooten, who is currently employed

as District Supervisor for Green Thumb Incorporated, is schedule to appear in court on December 5, 1983. Wooten could not be reached for comment.

Other indictments handed down by the Grand Jury were Wiley Grank Wood for conspiracy to trafficking in

cocaine and Arlene Faye Chappell Lane on charges of selling and delivering counterfeit controlled substance.

In Superior Court action the following cases were continued: Luckie Douglas Cartwright, for sentencing; Andre Blanchard, probation violation; Clayton Llewellyn Godwin, obtaining property by false pretense, and Larry Wayne Sanders, conspiracy to burn a building and burning a building.

Also, Kenny Petteway, felonious larceny and possession; Michael Archie Wilson, felonious larceny and possession; Ray Whidbee, felonious larceny and possession; James David Singletary, conspiracy to felonious possession of marijuana, accessory before the fact to felonious possession of marijuana; and Henry Lewis Johnson alias Mickey, non-support.

Calvin Louis Fletcher was found guilty of speeding, 68 mph in a 55 mph zone, and received a \$15 fine plus the cost of court.

Randol Lee Mitchell, was found guilty of speeding, 65 mph in a 55 mph zone, and received a ten day sentence

in Albemarle District Jail to run concurrently with another sentence.

Charlie Rufus Spellman pled guilty to misdemeanor possession of stolen goods and received a 12 month sentence to be served in the North Carolina Department of Corrections.

David Neil Barnes pled guilty to having no operators license and was given a 60 day suspended sentence with one year of unsupervised probation, a \$65 fine plus the cost of court, was told not to operate a motor vehicle without a North Carolina License.

Wilbert Lee Jones pled guilty to assault with a deadly weapon and aggravated affray, consolidated for judgement, and was given a sentence of not less than 20 or more than 24 months, which was suspended with supervised probation for five years, a \$150 fine plus the cost of court, was told to possess no firearm, not to be in the presence or have contact with Lee White, Jackie White or Ronald Wilkins, to remain employed, and to commit no offenses.

Charles White, charged with Aggravated Affray, was remanded to District Court.

Melford Darnell Jones pled guilty to Aggravated affray and was given a 9 to 12 months sentence, suspended for five years unsupervised probation, a \$50 fine plus the cost of court, was told to committ no criminal offense, to possess no firearm, and not to be in the presence of or in any way associate with Vernon Lee White, Jackie White or Charles White.

Vernon Lee White, pled guilty to aggravated affray and was given a \$50 fine plus the cost of court, a sentence of not less than 9 or more than 12 months, suspended with unsupervised probation for five years, was told to not committ any criminal offenses, be in possession of no firearm, and not to be in the presence or associate in any way with Melford O. Jones, or Wilbert Lee Jones.

Jackie White also pled guilty to aggravated affray and was given a \$50 fine plus the cost of court, a sentence of not less than 9 or more than 12 months, suspended with unsupervised probation for five years, was told to not committ any criminal offenses, be in possession of no firearm, and not to be in the presence of associate in any way with Melford O. Jones, or Wilbert Lee Jones.

Albemarle EMC elects new directors at annual meeting

Change of Scenery

On a recent ride over to Winfall it was noticed that the turtles that generally occupy this coveted position just beyond the "S" Bridge had been replaced by a napping sea gull. (Photo by Pat Mansfield)

Candidates are limited in November municipal election

By JANE WILLIAMS

Voters in Winfall will be left with no choices to make in the November 8 municipal election, unless a write-in candidate appears.

Three seats are up for grabs, with only three candidates filing. Seymour Chappell, meat manager for S&R Supermarkets in Elizabeth City, has filed as the only newcomer to the Winfall Town Council. Incumbent Richard Bryant has decided not to seek re-election. Jesse P. (Jake) Chesson, a retired grocer who has served for three years on the council, has filed for re-election for one of the two seats available.

Winfall Mayor Lloyd Ray Morgan filed for re-election with only ten minutes to spare before the filing books closed. This will be Morgans second term as Mayor.

In Hertford the position of Mayor is the only contested seat for the upcoming election. Bill Cox will be seeking his fourth term as Mayor.

Cox states that his experience, his record, and his continued dedication for providing effective leadership for progress of the Town of Hertford will

be a positive factor in the upcoming election. "I appreciate the support that the voters have given me during the years that I have been Mayor. I need and want your support in the November election," Cox said.

Cox faces competition from W.A. "Billy" White, a rural mail carrier who also operates Pitt Hardware.

Town Council to conduct census

By JANE WILLIAMS

At their Monday night meeting, the Hertford Town Council was presented a report by Mayor Bill Cox estimating a decline of the population in Hertford since the last census.

The 1980 Census recorded the population of the town as 1,947. According to the Census Bureau as of July 1, 1982 the towns' population had decreased to 1,891.

This estimation is based on a formula used by the Bureau to update records of population during the ten year gap between each census. The formula takes into account the increases and decreases in population prior to the last census.

"The lower population record will cost the Town in revenue monies unless the record is changed," said Cox.

Council members unanimously agreed that steps should be taken to test the accuracy of the method used to determine population.

After discussion the Council decided to hold an informal census, conducted by volunteer workers to check the figures on the report. Once an informal census has been held, the Council will then have the information needed to determine whether or not this will necessitate a special census.

The Council asks that anyone that is interested in aiding the town with the volunteer census contact Mayor Bill Cox.

During their regular business

I think that the mayor and town manager should be two different people and that's my main reason for running, outside of my interest in the town and county," White said.

Two incumbent councilmen, Jesse Ray Harris and Billy Winslow, will run unopposed.

White made the following comments during the meeting on cost of power, operation and maintenance and plant investment. She made 1972-1982 comparisons on key points in operating an electric cooperative. Her first comparison was that of cost of power.

White said, "In 1972 our total cost for purchased power was less than \$298,000. In 1982 we paid over 2.7 million dollars for the power we purchased." The manager gave an example, "In July of this year (1983) our power bill was over \$345,000 for the month."

White pointed out that in the operation and maintenance, in 1972 it cost a little more than \$479,000 — in 1982 it cost just under \$587,000 to operate and maintain your system. She stated that this was a 22 percent increase.

"Taking into account what inflation has been during this period, I think your Directors and management have and are doing a good job controlling these expenses" said Mrs. White.

Another comparison was made on the total cost of plant. The Manager pointed out that in ten years the total plant investment has almost doubled. The 1972 plant investment was 3.2 million, and now it stands at six million, or an investment per consumer of \$85,000.

White went on to state that the EMC is continuously upgrading the system so that members will have adequate and reliable electric service.

The report further explained to those present some of the things taking place locally and statewide.

White stated that members will see two things affecting their bills. One is

a 7.7 percent increase in wholesale power costs from VEPICO, which will become effective October 31.

Another thing is the fact that FERC passed a ruling that allows investor owned utilities to charge their wholesale customers for part of their construction work in progress costs or (CWIP).

The CWIP will increase wholesale rates around 3.8 percent. The bottom line she noted was that Albemarle EMC will be paying an additional \$342,000 for wholesale power.

White went on to inform the members that the Cooperatives in Virginia and North Carolina are fighting these increases; however, at this time, we have not been able to reach a settlement; so the rates as filed will go into effect under bond.

So if the rates under bond are denied, the EMC would receive a refund.

"Yes, our rates are going to have to go up. Today I do not know what percent increase you will be paying" said White. She pointed out that members will be kept informed as to when any new rates will go into effect.

For now our rate consultants are preparing a new Cost of Service and Rate Study based on our new wholesale power costs.

The Manager concluded her report by encouraging members to support the EMC's new Load Management Program.

Members present were introduced to the new Load Management by means of slide program. Then a question and answer session was conducted by Larry Johnson, Manager of Energy Planning and

Member Services.

Johnson pointed out that the EMC needs members who have 40 gallon or larger water heaters, central air conditioners or heat pumps to sign up for the load management.

Members can sign up at the EMC office any day Monday-Friday, 8-4:30, or complete the coupons found in the newsletters or at collection stations.

Larry went on to say that the EMC will be installing some 2,000 switches in the Albemarle Service Area.

Johnson stated that this program has some immediate rewards as well as long range savings. Members who sign up will receive a credit of \$1.25 per switch installed per month. This adds up to, a \$30.00 savings per year for a member with two switches.

The long range part of load management is that the EMC will not have to increase the size of any of its equipment due to the new program. This alone will be worth its savings.

Load management will help protect the EMC's equipment from becoming over-loaded. The major advantage is to reduce the large demand charge the EMC pays for wholesale power.

Johnson stated that in 1982 the EMC paid \$1.6 million dollars in demand charges, or 58 percent of their total wholesale power bill.

Load management will pay for itself in roughly three years.

Johnson concluded by encouraging all members who qualify to sign up for load management.

The meeting was concluded by awarding a number of attendance prizes.



Pictured left to right — Floyd Mathews Sr., W. Earl Meiggs, and Joseph A. Byrum. (Photo by Larry Johnson)

This week

The Third Annual Festival of Skills will take place this Saturday from 9:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. at the Perquimans County High School Gym. See the special section on Pages 4 and 5.

The Perquimans High School Band of Pirates won Band of the Day last Saturday in competition at Chowan College in Murfreesboro. For story and picture see Page 8.

During their regular business