

# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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Hertford, Perquimans County, N.C., Wednesday, December 21, 1983

25 CENTS



Dear Santa,  
I want a Baby  
Skates, and a doll  
house. Skikgng

Shikara Elliott, a kindergarten student at Hertford Grammar, is the winner of the drawing for a \$25.00 U. S.

Savings Bond from Hertford Savings and Loan for her "Letter to Santa." Shikara is

a student in Mrs. Thelma Finch's class. She is the daughter of Sheila Elliott of

Stokes Drive in Hertford. (More letters to Santa may be found beginning on page 13.)

## Commissioners back Board of Education plans for high school

By JANE WILLIAMS

The Perquimans County Board of Commissioners unanimously voted to support efforts by the Perquimans County Board of Education to construct a new high school on the existing property in the immediate future during their meeting on Monday night.

Commissioner Charles H. Ward put into action a motion that "The Perquimans County Board of Commissioners go on record supporting efforts to build a new high school and make major renovations on existing properties and to obtain financing for this project through a county bond referendum in 1984." The motion was seconded by W.W. White Jr. and had complete support from the entire Board.

Board of Education Chairman Clifford Winslow stated at the meetings onset that the existing building built in 1924 had "served Perquimans County well" but that it had outlived its usefulness. "It's vitally important that the two Boards work together to succeed and provide better education in Perquimans County. We can't continue to put this project off any longer. We feel we must make an effort...this is Perquimans County's biggest priority today."

School Superintendent Pat Harrell commented that he was well-pleased at the action by the Board of Commissioners. "We're pleased at the support that was shown by the County Commissioners tonight. In 1977 when we tried a bond referendum the Board did not give complete support. Tonight the County Commissioners voted unanimously to go along with a bond referendum in 1984. We will proceed with our plans

to develop a model and plan to present this to the Commissioners upon completion."

Cost estimates for the proposed new high school and renovations are estimated to be between 1.5 million but not to exceed 2 million dollars.

In other action, the Commissioners:

•Heard a report from Keith Haskett, Perquimans County Tax Supervisor, regarding tax listings in January. Haskett pointed out that this year residents in the townships of Belvidere, Parksville and Hertford will list their taxes in the Hertford office for the first three weeks of listing and in the individual townships during the last week.

•Granted a bid of \$1,500.00 for a 1979 Luv Truck to high bidder, William Stallings.

•Heard a report from H.R. Christensen, Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Committee of 100, on a proposal to possibly employ a combination County Manager-Economic Developer. This resolution has gained the backing of both The Hertford Town Council and the Winfall Town Council along with the Perquimans County Chamber of Commerce and the Perquimans County Industrial Development Commission.

The Board said they would consider this proposal after careful study and report back to the Committee of 100.

•Heard a presentation from Alvis Jordan representing the Perquimans County Homemakers on renovating and building a new kitchen at the Perquimans County Extension Office. Paige Underwood, Juanita Bailey, and Ann White also participated in this proposal.

## Hunt to speak at NNCT Banquet

Gov. James B. Hunt, Jr. will be the guest speaker at Northeastern North Carolina Tomorrow's annual meeting banquet planned for March 9, 1984, here according to Joe Parker, NNCT chairman.

NNCT will conduct its annual board meeting from 2-5:30 p.m. with the banquet following from 6-8 p.m. Both the meeting and banquet will be held in the K. E. White Graduate and Continuing Education Center at Elizabeth City State University.

While plans have not been finalized, Don Hessenflow, NNCT executive director, pointed out that both the annual meeting and banquet are open to the general public. Cost of registration and the banquet is \$15.00 and attendance will be limited to the capacity of the center.

NNCT was established from the results of Governor Hunt's Northeastern North Carolina Task Force which recommended that the region come together and form a central organization which could collectively speak for the region.

In May 1981, approximately 60 citizens from the 16 most northeastern counties came together. This groups of volunteer citizens,

concerned with the region's quality of life and its lack of growth and economic development agreed that a regional organization be formed.

In early 1982, the efforts of these citizens resulted in the formation of Northeastern North Carolina Tomorrow. This regional council would seek maximum citizen participation and address the problems of the region.

This group spelled out the purpose of NNCT:

"...to further the development of a broadly constituted, informed leadership base which can effectively address the issues facing Northeastern North Carolina;"

"...to encourage greater citizen participation in the development of policies and programs to meet the challenges of the region; and"

"...to develop a sense of pride in the region and thereby create a unified effort to enhance the future of Northeastern North Carolina."

"Today, it is the means which individuals and organizations work together to examine the problems, share the concerns, and insure the orderly growth and promote the development of the region," Parker stated.

## National Peanut Federation suggests more careful look at 1984 contracting

James E. Mobley, Chairman of the National Peanut Growers Group Steering Committee, said that organization has advised peanut growers to carefully weigh the possibilities prior to executing a contract on 1984 crop "additional" peanuts. He said it now appears that some growers may have acted too hastily in signing contracts pushed aggressively by some peanut handlers last January.

In a dramatic departure from previous contracting patterns, peanut handlers in the Southeastern U.S. contracted huge quantities of peanuts for export in January of 1983. During the five previous years of contracting "additional" peanuts contracting had occurred for the most part just prior to a spring deadline set by law. Unfortunately most of the peanuts contracted early in January

of this year were committed at prices lower than the levels of previous years and in many cases below the cost of production.

Under the peanut section of the Agriculture and Food Act of 1981 peanuts may be forward contracted to help satisfy demands of the export market for U.S. peanuts. The law sets a deadline of April 14 for the completion and filing of such contracts.

As 1983 progressed, peanut export prices showed slow but steady increases. By November some U.S. handlers were offering growers up to 95 per cent of the quota price or \$522.50 per ton for "additional" peanuts contracted prior to April 15, under contracts permitting price negotiations at harvest time. Contracts with the so called "price later" provision have generally not worked

to the grower's benefit, but the situation in 1983 worked in reverse to prior years.

Considering the various options and based on contracting history growers are advised not to rush into contracts at prices which when considered separately are less than the cost of production, Mobley said.

The National Peanut Growers Group has in prior years advised that growers enter contracts with handlers on "additional" peanuts only when the price will assure the growers a satisfactory net return. Growers should be aware that the world market level for edible peanuts is reported to be much higher now than in early 1983.

The grower leader said his organization also suggested that growers consider the possible consequences of committing their quota

peanuts at quota price to handlers as a consideration for the handler's contracting the growers "additional" peanuts.

It is estimated in 1983 that about 80 per cent of the quota peanuts in the Southeast and up to 60 per cent of the quota peanuts in the Southwest were committed under such a provision. The NPGG spokesman said some growers believe that development effectively stifled the farmers stock market last fall. Although premiums ranging up to .5 per cent above the quota support rate were paid by handlers in the Southeast and Southwest, for uncommitted quota peanuts, many observers believe the premiums would have gone much higher under the short crop conditions existing in 1983, had growers not agreed to the price "cap" at contracting time.



# MERRY



# CHRISTMAS