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Burn Seminar held

Approximately 125 area residents turned out for a burn seminar sponsored by the Perquimans County Jaycees and co-sponsored by the Hertford Volunteer Fire Department last Thursday night. Dr. Hugh Peterson, Director in charge of the Jaycee Burn Center in Chapel Hill,

conducted the seminar which was held at the Hertford Fire Department. Dr. Peterson (pictured at left) reviewed the procedures of operation for the burn center, and stressed the importance of planned escape routes, especially

for children, in the event of a fire. The seminar gave invaluable information to participants concerning action to be taken in the event of a fire or burns. (Photo by Edgar Roberson, Captain, Hertford Volunteer Fire Department)

Hertford Council members divide on annexation issues

By JANE B. WILLIAMS

Hertford Town Council members played to a stale-mate on Monday night in their attempt to settle the question of boundary lines for a proposed annexation of property surrounding the town.

The Council's original proposal to annex 2000 acres of land had been cut by approximately 60 percent prior to the Monday night meeting of the Board. The new proposal met with hardy opposition from property owners, primarily farm owners, that will be directly affected if the annexation is approved by the North Carolina General Assembly.

The landowners contend that the area to the north of Hertford is prime farm land, and that the town's plans to enhance that area for industrial and residential development is not feasible.

Dr. William P. (Bill) Nixon of Wilmington told the council that he felt that the people wishing to purchase land for homes would be more interested in the vast waterfront property that is available in the county, while industrial concerns would be enticed by locations available on or near U.S. 17 By-pass.

Dr. Nixon told the council that the city tax on the property was an issue, but that it was not the problem. He stated that the problem was strip annexation that would give the town control

of valuable farmland.

Nixon questioned the council's motives in deleting the Don Juan Manufacturing Co. site from the new proposal. The site was omitted after a public hearing revealed that former council members had promised the owners of the corporation that they would not be brought into the city limits.

Phillip Lane, a contractor who owns land and plans to develop a residential area on the "Nine-Foot" Road, addressed the Council asking that his property be annexed into the city limits. Lane stated that many people could not afford waterfront property, and his intent was to develop the area with small lots and houses for those people.

Lane stated that it would be advantageous for this type of community to be annexed because of the services that would be available through the city.

The question of reasoning behind the planned annexation was brought up frequently by the landowners, who suggested that the primary reason for annexation was to enlarge the corporate city limits to help secure a potential future grant to up-date the town's sewerage system.

The Council members agreed that the annexation would be advantageous in applying for the grant money in 1987, but stood firm that the primary purpose of annexation was to provide an area for growth within the corporate city limits.

Councilman Jesse Harris said: "The purpose of this (the annexation) is to put something in place -- keep your fingers crossed -- and hope for growth. You can't sit back and wait for growth, it won't happen. History has proven this."

Harris told the landowners that the minor costs (property tax) involved should not outweigh the potential growth for this community.

Dr. Nixon stated that he felt the council was making a mistake by allowing individual developers to come in and develop land without a town planning committee. "I think we can expect nothing good to come of it," Nixon said.

"You already have the right to zone within a one mile radius of Hertford, but you won't exercise that right to control improper development," Nixon added.

Hertford Mayor W.D. (Bill) Cox stated that a planning board would not be able to function until the council acted on annexation and town boundaries were set in place.

After property owners left the meeting council members again broached the subject of annexation. A lengthy discussion by the board resulted in a motion by Councilman Billy Winslow to present a bill to the General Assembly with slight modifications along the Ed Nixon-Don Juan property line, the "Nine-Foot" Road and land on the southeast side of Hertford.

Harris stated that he was not interested in a compromise at this point, but would agree to the motion if it was in agreement with the other members of the council.

Councilmen John Beers and Joe T. White, Jr. would not agree to the modified motion, and contested the annexation of property along the "Nine-Foot" Road.

The motion died for lack of a second.

The council adjourned with plans to meet with Senator Marc Basnight and Representatives Vernon James and Charles Evans in Raleigh later this week before submitting a bill to the General Assembly.

This week...

Featured in this week's edition of The Perquimans Weekly are photographs of the entries in the 1985 School Science Fair.

The fair was held last week in the local schools and a list of winners can be found on page 5 of this edition.

County schools to administer state mandated achievement tests to students

By SUSAN HARRIS

Students in all the county schools take a menagerie of tests mandated by the state. Pupils and teachers spend hours preparing for and taking the many standard tests.

What do the tests accomplish? What do the scores mean? How can my child do well on the tests?

During the next few weeks we'll be looking at the testing program in an effort to inform parents and answer any questions they might have about state tests.

Since March is the month for the annual achievement tests in the schools, following is some helpful information excerpted from a booklet prepared by Carolyn Modlin for use in her parent workshop "Testing Tips for Improved Performance."

A WORD TO STUDENTS

Getting ready...physically and mentally.

- Get plenty of sleep the night before the test. "Cramming" won't help.
- Don't take a test hungry. Eat your breakfast or lunch.

- Be on time and alert.
- Put everything else out of your mind and think only of doing your best.
- Dress comfortably.
- If you wear glasses, be sure you have them and wear them!

Making the best use of your time.

- If the test is timed, don't rush but don't dally, either.
- Answer the easy questions first.

If you're stumped by a question, go on with the test and come back to it later.

•Make a note on scratch paper of the questions you want to go back to so you can find them easily.

•If you finish early, check over your answers.

Making fewer mistakes.

- Read all directions. Understand what you're supposed to do.
- Ask the person giving the test for help if you don't understand the directions.
- Read questions carefully and ALL of the answer choices.
- BE SURE the question

number in the test is the same as where you mark your answer on the answer sheet.

Guessing
•You should guess if you don't know the answer.

•Try to eliminate some of the answer choices as wrong; this increases your chances of guessing the correct answer.

•Don't make wild guesses; your choice should at least be reasonable.

Miscellaneous tips

- Don't panic! Tackle each question one at a time rather than thinking about the whole test at once.
- Use relevant content information from other test questions where possible.
- Don't score yourself as you take the test.
- Change your answer if, on second thought, you think another response is better.
- Remember, there will be no pattern of correct answer choices.

PARENT HINTS

- Try not to be overly anxious about test scores.
- Give your child encouragement. Praise him/her for the things he/she does well.
- Don't judge your child on the basis of a test score. Test scores are not perfect measures of what your child can do.
- Meet with your child's teacher as often as possible to discuss your child's progress. Parents and teachers must work together to help the child.
- Ask the teacher to suggest activities for you to do with your child at home that will help your child prepare for tests and improve his/her understanding of school work.
- Make sure your child attends school regularly.
- Make sure your child completes his/her assigned homework.
- Make sure your child is well rested on school days and especially on the day of a test.
- See that your child has a well-rounded diet. A healthy body leads to a healthy, active mind.
- Provide a variety of books and magazines (newspapers, also) for your child to read at home. Through reading new materials, your child will learn

new words he/she might see on a test.

By talking with your child about the tests, you can help eliminate his/her fear, and enable him to do better on the examinations.

Next week, we'll continue this testing series with an interview with Paul Ward, county testing coordinator.

We think it's important for parents to know what standard tests the students in our county schools are taking, and what the results mean.



Conservation Contest

Winners for the 32nd Annual Soil Conservation Poster Contest were announced at a luncheon which was held at Angler's Cove on Wednesday March 6th.

Fourth grade winners were: — 1st place — Phillip Morris of Pasquotank Elementary School, and 2nd place —

Chad Jordan of White Oak Elementary School.

Fifth grade winners were: 1st place — Andre Mallory of Perquimans Union School, and 2nd place — Sean Ray of Weeksville School.

Sixth grade winners were: 1st place — Steven Crozier of Griggs Elementary, and 2nd

place — Drew Sawyer of Pasquotank County Elementary School.

The event was sponsored by Albemarle Electric Membership Corporation. Winners will go to further competition in Greenville. (Photo by Monica Roach)

NC Power gives fuel assistance

North Carolina Power announced today that over \$5,000 has been distributed through EnergyShare to provide fuel assistance to people in need in the Albemarle area.

Sponsored jointly by North Carolina Power, Virginia Power, West Virginia Power, Virginia Natural Gas and more than 60 human service agencies, EnergyShare was developed to help people in need to pay their winter fuel bills.

As of March 4, \$5,222.74 had been distributed by the Albemarle Food Bank, Inc., which administers the EnergyShare program in this area.

The program is funded by contributions from employees and customers of the sponsoring utilities, and from businesses in the utilities' service areas. Local

businesses that have become EnergyShare Partners include:

Astro, Inc., Camden, N. C.; Crystal Enterprises, Inc., Elizabeth & Suburban Gas Service, The Miller Company South, W. E. Ingram Distributor, Inc., Etna, City of Elizabeth City, WGAI Radio Station, and North Carolina Power Employees-Elizabeth City District, all of Elizabeth City; and Community Gas, Inc., Reed Oil Company and Albemarle Electric Membership Corp., all of Hertford.

With nearly two months left to receive contributions, the 1984-85 EnergyShare program has surpassed last year's total, raising more than \$394,000 by March 1. In 1983-84 the program raised \$363,085.