

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

Volume 52, No. 23

USPS 428-080

Hertford, Perquimans County, N.C., Thursday, June 13, 1985

25 CENTS

Former commissioner questions proposed budget figures

By JANE B. WILLIAMS
Proposed increases in the 1985-86 budget for Perquimans County met with the disappro-

val of several county residents Monday night during a public hearing when the proposed budget was presented by the Per-

quimans County Commissioners.

Charles H. Ward, a former county commissioner who was

defeated last May in the primary election, questioned increases proposed in the new budget for the library, recre-

ation department and the school system.

Ward questioned Wallace McLendon, director of the Pettigrew Regional Library, about a 10 percent increase in that department's budget for the upcoming year, stating that he didn't know of anything else that had increased 10 percent during the past year.

McLendon stated that the increase was put in to keep them in line to receive matching funds from the state, adding that the library had been behind schedule for quite a while. He added that to be on target the county would have to pay \$4.95 per capita, and that they were only requesting \$4.25 per capita. McLendon said that inflation has stayed with libraries, sending costs up by 13 to 16 percent.

Ward questioned the logistics of purchasing a new bookmobile during the past year with costs on the increase for the department, stating "buying that bookmobile doesn't look like cutting back."

McLendon countered, stating that the brakes were gone on the old bookmobile, and that he had to insure the safety of his employees.

In regards to the Recreation Department budget, Ward asked the board if the department had stayed within budget during the past year, and then questioned an increase for a department that had not exceeded previous budgets. Ward stated that it was his understanding that the department should become more and more self-sustaining, and that after having the same budget for four years he didn't understand the need for an increase.

Durwood Reed, county finance officer, stated that the increase was primarily for salary changes and expenses incurred in transportation. He also cited the increasing program demands being placed on the department by county residents.

After voicing complaints

about the increases in those departments Ward began questioning the recent decision by the Board of Education to purchase on a lease-option plan an



CHARLES H. WARD

IBM computer system.

Pat Harrell, who was called in by the board to answer the questions, told Ward that the computer was a necessary item at this point due to the General Assembly's decision to initiate a centralized payroll and automatic payroll deposit plan. Harrell stated that the act was mandatory and that plans were for the county's school system to go on the new system by March. He stated that the present system used by the schools were inadequate to handle the new payroll.

Milton Dail, captain of the Perquimans County Rescue Squad, questioned the board's decision to drop the plans for a new garage for that department from the budget for this year.

Board members expressed their concern at not being able to fund the project due to an anticipated cut in the Federal Revenue Sharing Program, but agreed to try to work on a solution to the problem at next week's regular board meeting.

Additional insurance available for Hertford

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) announced today that effective 7-3-85, The Town of Hertford, NC, has been converted to the regu-

lar phase of the National Flood Insurance Program.

The full limits of flood insurance coverage are now available at any property owner located within the town of Hertford. Coverage available on a single family residential structure, for example, has now been increased from a maximum of \$35,000 under the Emergency Program to a maximum of \$185,000 under Regular Program status.

Similar increases for other types of structures are also available. Tenants may also obtain additional coverage for their personal property against flood loss.

According to Glenn C. Woodward Jr., Chief, Natural and Technological Hazards Division of FEMA's Atlanta Regional Office, flood coverage may be written by a licensed property and casualty insurance agent in the state of North Carolina.

The National Flood Insurance Program, created by Congress in 1968, provides owners of residential and small business properties with the only means of obtaining insurance against flood risk.

Flood damages are not included in a general homeowners policy, Woodward advises. The premiums are based upon the location and or elevation of a particular property in accordance with the Flood Insurance Rate Map, a copy of which is available for public inspection from your local community officials.

The acceptance of the Town of Hertford into the regular phase of the National Flood Insurance Program is a result of a recent completed Flood Insurance Study by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.



Threats of rain brought this year's graduation exercises at Perquimans County High School inside, but the prospects of bad weather didn't dampen the spirit of the event for the 128 graduates who bid farewell to the familiar surroundings of their youth. The ceremony was highlighted with a speech made by Charles Woodard, owner of Woodards Pharmacy and a 1964 graduate of the school. (Photos by Monica Roach)



C.O.A. develops new approach for teaching adults

Assisted by a \$10,000 grant from First Union National Bank of North Carolina, College of The Albemarle will try a new approach this fall in combating the problem of adult illiteracy in the seven Albemarle area counties it serves.

COA is one of five community colleges in the state to receive the "challenge" grant from the bank.

Known as Adult Basic

Literacy Education (ABLE), the new program will employ the use of computers and other audio-visual equipment to teach adults the basics of reading and mathematics.

J. McN. Duff, First Union city executive in Elizabeth City, said his bank has awarded \$10,000 as a challenge to each of five community college's in the state's 58-institution system to dupli-

cate the Central Piedmont ABLE project.

"We are aware that a more literate population promotes a better business climate," he said. "When you have workers without basic skills in reading, writing, and math, the health

and vitality of our business climate is understandably impaired."

The First Union grant will be matched by Department of Community Colleges and other college funds to implement the project.



NEW APPROACH — Martha Newbold, learning lab director at College of The Albemarle, explains the simplicity of using computer

terminals to teach basic reading for Doug Sawyer, basic education director, COA president Dr. Parker Ches-

son Jr. and First Union National Bank of North Carolina city executive J. McN. Duff. (COA Photo)

Public meet held to discuss DOT project

By TIM BRYANT AND JANE B. WILLIAMS
HERTFORD—Plans to construct a four-lane highway from Woodville to Winfall on U.S. 17 met with mixed emotions from property owners along the 5.7-mile stretch last Tuesday during an informal public meeting sponsored by the North Carolina Department of Transportation.

The state proposes to add two lanes to the existing highway to make a four-lane road with a 44-foot grass median that will join the four-lane road that begins in Woodville and runs north into Elizabeth City.

Actual work on the project is not scheduled to begin until fiscal year 86-87.

The purpose of the meeting

was to gain insight into the public's feelings toward the project in an open question and answer forum.

A map of the proposed project area was on display to give local citizens the opportunity to comment on areas that might be affected.

Several property owners expressed their concern over the loss of land they could possibly incur when right of way acquisition begins, however Department of Transportation officials informed the property owners that the final plans were not drawn up as yet, but would be available at a formal hearing that will be held later in the summer.