

Art club helps with 4-H project

Perquimans County High School Art Club members, Darby Ward and Joseph White share their artistic talents as they paint a backdrop which will be part of a State 4-H Fair Booth. According to the club's advisor Mrs. Joan Wood, club members partici-

pate in a number of community service projects such as the State 4-H Fair Exhibit, Special Olympics, and taking artwork to area nursing homes. Club members also do art projects for school faculty and will soon be displaying some of their work

around the community.

4-H leaders, 4-H members and other community volunteers are also helping to construct the exhibit that will be on display at the N.C. State Fair, Oct. 16-25, 1987.



Art club members Darby Ward and Joseph White are seen painting a back drop for the 4-H club booth at the North Carolina State Fair.

Nature conservancy receives grant

Nags Head, NC—The Nature Conservancy today accepted a \$20,000 Challenge Grant for Powerline Research from North Carolina Power.

The grant will help fund a potentially far-reaching five-year project at North Carolina Power's Transmission right-of-way through the Conservancy's Nags Head Woods Preserve. The project aims to develop environmentally sound management methods and a more attractive natural appearance for the company's powerline corridors in both urban and rural areas.

"Development of plantings along our transmission rights-of-way that do not require maintenance will not only help to preserve the environment, it will save money for North Carolina Power and its customers. The methods developed could be equally valuable to other utilities," said North Carolina Power Jack H. Ferguson.

The 780-acre Nags Head Woods preserve is bisected by a 50-foot wide powerline right-of-way that traditionally was clear-cut by the company

with heavy machinery that often denuded the sandy habitat. In 1982 Preserve Staff and Volunteers took over management using hand tools and volunteer manpower to maintain the line in accordance with company safety standards.

Using the funds provided by North Carolina Power and others, researchers will experiment with a number of techniques aimed at managing "danger" plant species (those that grow to heights that threaten the safety of lines and poles) with less effort and without major damage to the integrity of the natural habitat. The Conservancy will work towards using native plants to establish a self-maintaining U-shaped corridor where taller trees on the right-of-way edge taper down to shrubs and grasses in the center where maintenance vehicles must pass.

"The preserve shelters a number of rare and endangered plants and animals," Henrietta List, Nags Head Woods Preserve Steward, added, "including 13 birds that are threatened or of special concern in North

Carolina. By working to enhance the right-of-way habitat, we give these creatures a better chance of survival and our visitors a better environment for recreation and education. If we can make natural management work here, it will work in suburban and other wildlife areas as well."

The Nags Head Woods is one of 1,060 nature preserves owned and managed by the Nature Conservancy, an international membership organization committed to the global preservation of natural diversity. To date, the conservancy and its members, 5,000 of whom reside in North Carolina, have been responsible for the protection of nearly three million acres of natural land in all 50 states, Canada, Latin America, and the Caribbean.

From North Carolina Headquarters based in Chapel Hill, the Conservancy manages 22 nature preserves across the state, including Nags Head Woods, and has helped to protect more than 290,186 acres since 1974.

Commission sets waterfowl season

Raleigh—The N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission on Monday requested federal 1987-88 waterfowl regulations which would include a three-segment duck season and allow Canada goose hunting east of Interstate 95 only.

The following waterfowl seasons were selected from the options made available by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service:

DUCKS: Oct. 1-3, Nov. 26-28 and Dec. 14 through Jan. 16; bag limit of four daily. The Canvasback season will be closed this year.

SEA DUCKS: Oct. 2 through Jan. 16; bag limit of seven daily.

SNOW GEESE: Nov. 2 through Jan. 30; bag limit of four daily.

CANADA GEESE: Dec. 31 through Jan. 16; bag limit of one daily. The Canada goose season will be closed west of Interstate 95.

BRANT: Dec. 18 through Jan. 16; bag limit of two daily.

TUNDRA SWANS: Nov. 2 through Jan. 30 for permit holders only. Six thousand permits will be issued by a random drawing authorizing each person holding a permit to harvest one tundra swan.

Persons who wish to be included in the swan permit drawing should mail a 3x5 index card or post card with

complete name, address, hunting license number and social security number to SWAN PERMITS, N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission, 512 N. Salisbury St., Raleigh, N.C. 27611.

The Commission's recommended duck season includes a Thanksgiving hunt and an early October season which will allow better wood duck hunting.

"An early October season will allow utilization of the state-produced wood ducks that normally leave the state before the later waterfowl seasons are open," said Hal Atkinson, chief of the Division of Wildlife Management. "The Thanksgiving segment opens when North Carolina's duck population is low. During that time, the early migrants have moved through the state and many late migrants have not arrived. But Thanksgiving is a time when many sportsmen like to take their children hunting, since the weather is pleasant and schools are closed.

"Blue-winged teal move through the state during late September and early October, and offer the best sporting opportunities in early October," Atkinson said.

Snow geese are not abundant until after mid-November and the long 90 day season option allows hunting op-

portunities during the population peak. The late January period probably offers the greatest opportunity for success for snow goose hunters.

Commissioners approved a recommendation by the Wildlife Management staff to close the Canada goose season west of Interstate 95.

"The western flock in North Carolina is at a critically low stage," Atkinson told the Commission. "Most Canada geese wintering west of I-95 are associated with the Tennessee Valley population of the Mississippi Flyway."

Banding data on these birds indicate a decline in the flocks migrating to western North Carolina. Northern and southern states in the Atlantic Flyway Council are taking steps to rebuild those populations. The Commission's participation in that re-population effort is to close the season west of I-95.

Revival planned

Revival will begin at Poole's Grove Baptist Church, Monday night, September 21st through 25th and will begin each night at 7:30 p.m.

Music will be rendered by area choirs. The public is invited.

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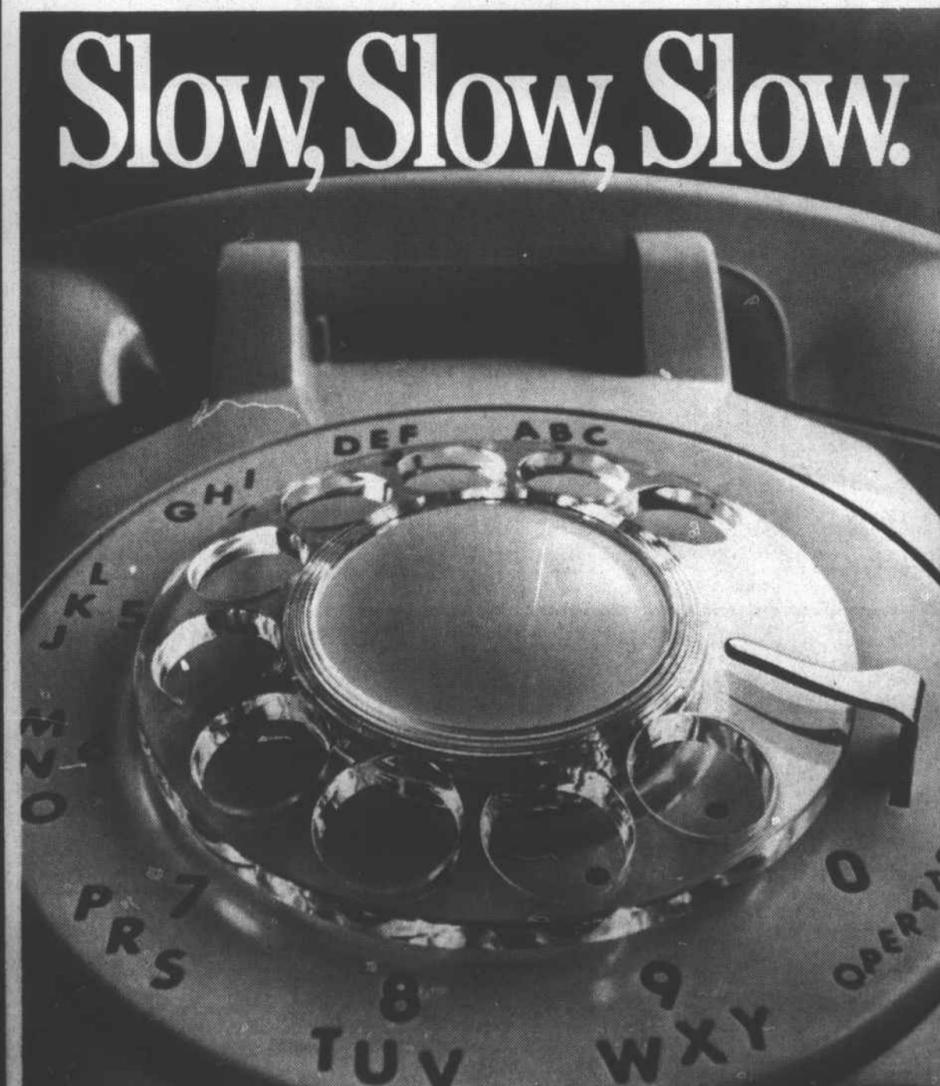
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