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# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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Hertford, Perquimans County, N.C., Thursday, August 4, 1988

30 CENTS

## Sewer plant nears its completion

Construction of the new sewer plant in Hertford is approximately 80 percent complete, and town officials hope to have the plant in operation sometime this month.

During a meeting last Tuesday, members of the town council finalized the sale of bonds totaling \$200,000 with an interest rate not to exceed 5.75 percent for the construction, Mayor Bill Cox stated that deadline for the project's completion is August 16, 1988.

Cox stated that although the contractor may not have all the work at the new sewer plant complete by the August 16th deadline, the construction is going well, and should be complete this month.

Construction of a new sewer plant became necessary, because the Town of Hertford outgrew the old system. The old plant operated continually exceeding its capacity, and operating under a special order of consent. While operating under this special order of consent, the town had to gain state approval before anyone could be hooked into the system, thus preventing town growth.

The new sewer system, when completed, will increase the Town of Hertford's sewer system capacity from 300,000 gallons to 400,000 gallons daily, and will allow the town to hook up new customers.

Sewer bills are expected to go up slightly, increase in user rates is necessary to help finance the project. Mayor Cox stated on Tuesday that the town expects the average user's bill will go from \$4.00 monthly to \$5.00 monthly.

Also, the Mayor stated that the Town of Hertford may be able to save some money by refinancing the bonds issued by the Farmers Home Administration. This year, FmHA paid part of the principal amount of bonds financed with them as an incentive for municipalities and counties to refinance bonds.

According to Mayor Cox, if FmHA offers this incentive next year to counties and municipalities, the town will pursue the opportunity to refinance the bonds.

## Two men sentenced in robbery

Two men were tried and convicted of the November 17th robbery of Rob Turner's Store during the July 25th, session of Perquimans County Superior Court.

Francis Patrick Jones, 26, a resident of Perquimans County, was tried on two counts of armed robbery and found guilty. Daryl Alexander Gibbs, age 22, and a resident of Perquimans County, was originally arraigned on two counts of armed robbery, but in return for testimony and as part of a plea bargaining arrangement, he plead guilty to common law robbery.

For his part in the robbery and in exchange for his testimony, Gibbs received only six years to be served with the North Carolina Department of Correction, while Jones received 28 years.

Both men began serving time with the NCDOC immediately.

## Roberson joins Farm Bureau Insurance

N.C. Farm Bureau Insurance of Perquimans County is proud to announce the appointment of Edgar W. Roberson, Jr. of Hertford, N.C. as an agent for North Carolina Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company and the Southern Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company in Perquimans County. He will also represent North Carolina Blue Cross and Blue Shield, Inc. to the Farm Bureau Members.

Edgar is a life long native of Perquimans County and is married to the former Gail Chappell of Hertford, N.C. They have three children, Kristie 10, Mindy 6, and Justin 4.

Roberson's wife, Gail, is a R.N. at Chowan Hospital in Edenton, N.C.

Roberson is a graduate of Perquimans County High School and a 1974 graduate of North Carolina State University majoring in soil and crop technology.

Roberson holds many outstanding community positions and has received many distinguished

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photo by Gina Jepson

## Thornburg visits county!

Attorney General Lacy Thornburg stopped briefly in Hertford Friday for a campaign visit. Thornburg addressed a small gathering at the courthouse before going on to Elizabeth City.

## Attorney general makes campaign stop at courthouse on Friday

Several county officials, area attorneys, and concerned citizens turned out Friday to greet and meet North Carolina's Attorney General, Lacy Thornburg, as he made a brief campaign stop at the Perquimans County Courthouse.

Thornburg, who has served as attorney general for the past three and one-half years is being challenged in November's general elec-

tion by Republican candidate Sam Wilson.

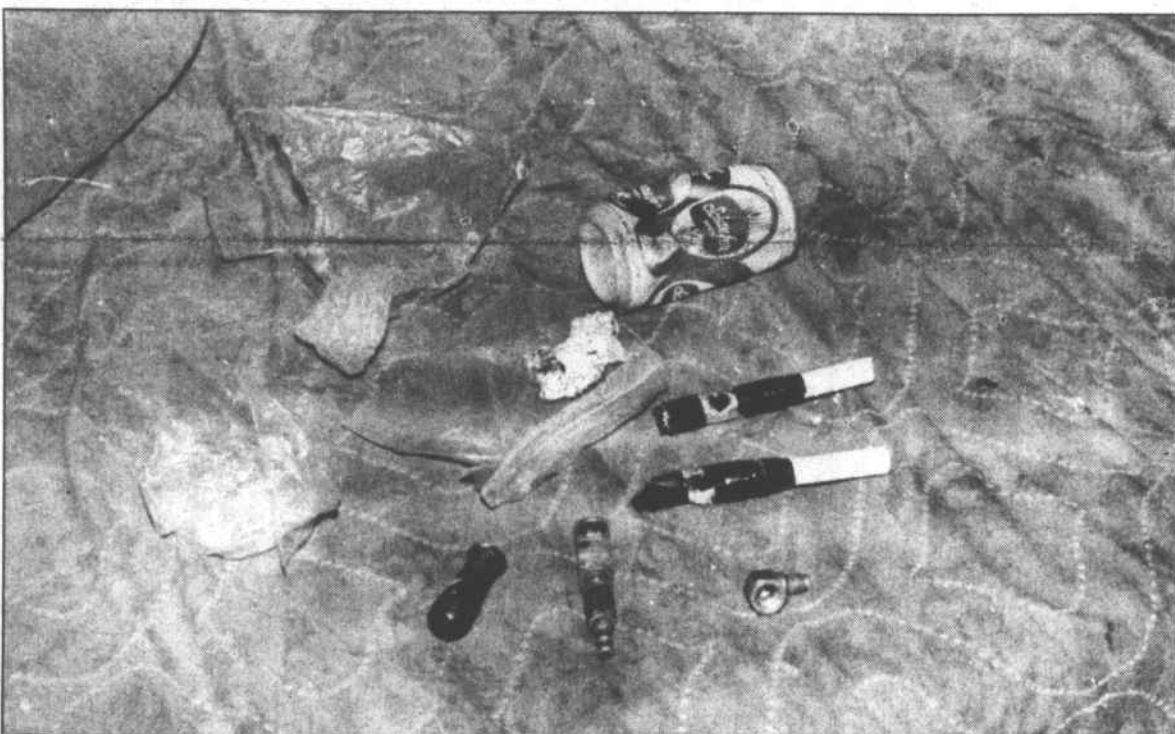
On Friday, Thornburg visited throughout Northeastern North Carolina, making stops in Chowan, Gates, Perquimans, and Pasquotank Counties.

During his visit to the courthouse on Friday, Thornburg thanked everyone for their continued support. Thornburg also asked for questions

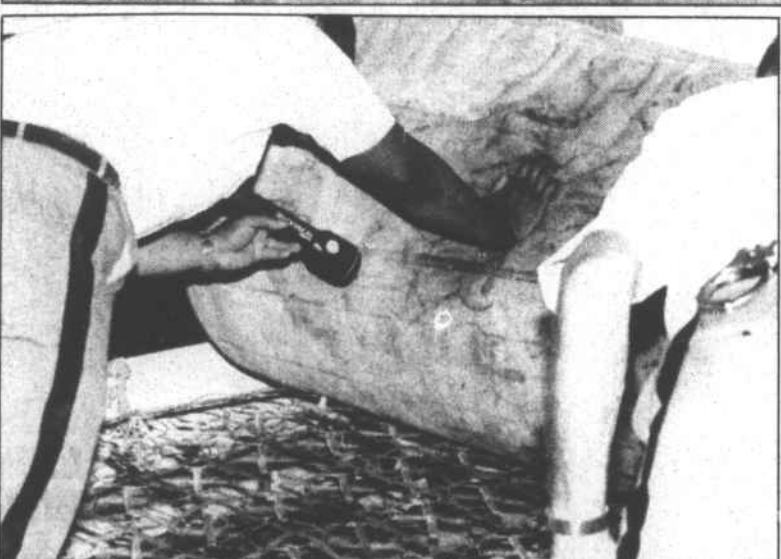
and comments concerning the attorney general's office.

In a brief comment made by John Matthews, county attorney, Matthews thanked Thornburg for his office's help in the past, and additional help in the future.

Thornburg left the courthouse, after greeting county employees, to continue his campaign swing at a luncheon in Elizabeth City.



photos by Gina Jepson



## Drug raid successful!

A drug raid by the Perquimans County Sheriff's Dept. at the home of Al Robertson, Rt. 2, Hertford on Friday, netted a small amount of drugs and paraphernalia. Charges are pending including simple possession of marijuana, misdemeanor possession of cocaine, and possession of drug paraphernalia. The initial case was investigated by Sheriff's Deputy E.V. Tilley.

## Commodities distribution announced

Perquimans County will receive cheese, butter, corn meal, instant milk, flour and rice for distribution to the needy of Perquimans County in August. We hope to have good weather for the day of distribution; however, we have scheduled a rain date of August 25, 1988 if needed.

The Hertford Lion's Club will begin the distribution at 8:30 a.m. It will be conducted at the Ice Plant,

Grubb Street in Hertford and will be available to all income eligible households in Perquimans County. Households having four or members should bring a helper with them to assist in carrying the food to the car.

All households who will not be able to pick up their commodities may use a representative for this purpose. The commodities card or

application must be signed in the correct places for this to be acceptable. No household will be allowed to pick up food for more than themselves and one other household as representative.

There will be two lines at the distribution site. The second line will be for the handicapped and/or disabled WHO ARE PRESENT AT

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HOUSEHOLD GROSS INCOME MUST BE BELOW LEVEL OF APPROPRIATE SIZE HOUSEHOLD

Household Size	Per Year	Per Month	Per Week
1	\$ 7,150	\$ 596	\$138
2	9,620	802	185
3	12,090	1,008	233
4	14,560	1,214	280
5	17,030	1,420	328
6	19,500	1,625	375
7	21,970	1,831	423
8	24,440	2,037	470
Add for each additional household member:	\$ 2,470	\$ 206	\$ 48

## Perquimans rescue squad to discontinue day service

County to study possibility of establishing paid day squad

The Perquimans County Commissioners took action on Monday to set the wheels in motion for a paid rescue squad.

After many months of struggling to cover day rescue calls, and following a meeting last week with state emergency service officials, Todd Tilley, Captain of the Perquimans County Rescue Squad, told the commissioners on Monday that the squad feels they can no longer adequately provide emergency medical services Monday through Friday.

"The rescue squad has met, and despite mixed emotions among members of the squad, we feel we can no longer provide emergency medical services in Perquimans County through the week," said Tilley.

Tilley stated that the squad will continue to provide emergency medical services in the evenings from 6:00 p.m. until 6:00 a.m., and on weekends and holidays.

After much discussion concerning recruitment of new members, compensation for a paid squad, responsibilities and more, the commissioners instructed County Manager Paul Gregory to set the wheels in motion for a new system to cover the day shift.

Tilley stated that the squad was extremely disappointed that the current situation had come to this solution, but they saw no other choice than to discontinue their coverage of the day shifts.

The commissioners will explore the possibility of establishing an ambulance service separate from the rescue squad, similar to the system used in Pasquotank County. The ambulance service would handle the daytime calls and will operate from the same building as the rescue squad, using the same equipment, but will operate independently of the Perquimans County Rescue Squad with the employees working for the county.

Gregory told commissioners on Monday, and they agreed, that in order to finance such a service, a billing program for emergency services would have to be developed.

Tilley estimated on Monday that based on the number of none emergency transports and emergency calls currently being handled by the rescue squad, that two crews of two people would be needed to handle the day time hours Monday through Friday.

Gregory told the commissioners on Monday that the situation in Perquimans County is not unique. According to state officials, many counties are being forced to go to paid squads.

Following Monday's discussion about the rescue squad all of the commissioners stated their disappointment in having to go to a paid squad.

"I hate that this has to be done," said Durward Reed. "But its something that will have to be done," he added.

Requirements in the state have become so stringent, many squads just couldn't replace retiring members. At the present time, new members are required to take a 120

hour course before they can be a member of the squad.

Lester Simpson, chairman of the county commissioners, stated on Monday that the county is truly thankful to the Perquimans County Rescue Squad for its service over the years, and added that hopefully this situation can be worked out in the near future.

In their action Monday, the commissioners announced that Rivers and Associates, the county's engineering firm which has worked on the water system for many years, have been fired.

Stating their displeasure with the firm for their inability to help solve problems with the county's water system, and reported inefficiency over the years the board acted Monday.

Gregory told members of the board Monday that he was currently in the process of looking for a new engineering firm to work with the county. Gregory recommended the firm of Diehl and Phillips of Cary, N.C. Gregory stated that a representative of Diehl and Phillips had visited the county and has made several recommendations for correcting problems with the county water system.

Diehl and Phillips currently works with Gates and Chowan Counties, and according to Gregory comes highly recommended. After much discussion, the board voted to wait on hiring the firm until a presentation by them is made to the board.

Gregory stated, following Monday's meeting, that he is extremely pleased with what he has seen from the company representative so far, and feels they will be able to correct the current problems, which exist with the water system.

Commissioners also listened on Monday as Mrs. Edna Trueblood, a resident of the New Hope area came before the board to ask that the county's animal control ordinance be stiffened.

Trueblood, who was bitten earlier this year by a neighborhood dog, and who states she is currently being terrorized by the dog asked the commissioners to increase the fines for violating the county's ordinance.

After much discussion, the commissioners told Mrs. Trueblood that they felt her only recourse was through the court system.

The commissioners stated they felt the animal control officer had done his job in the situation, and that the only other alternative would be to take her neighbor to court.

In other business, the commissioners were given a brief report on the current census being done for the electoral study committee.

According to Paul Gregory, things are going well with the census. Gregory reported that Charlie Skinner has completed the Hertford township, and is currently working on the Bethel township. According to Skinner everyone is cooperating, and he has been well received. The NAACP is working with the county on the project.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

## Search for new county superintendent continues

The search for a new school superintendent in Perquimans County is still on.

Following a board of education meeting on Monday evening, Clifford Winslow, chairman of the board, stated that the search for a new superintendent is moving along nicely.

According to Winslow, the board received 13 applicants for the position.

Winslow reported that the board met three times last week in executive session interviewing five ap-

plicants, and was to meet on Tuesday of this week to begin a second round of interviews.

"We have been very pleased with the caliber of applicants," said Winslow, adding that he sees no reason why search will not be complete soon.

The board stated at the onset of the search that they hoped to make an announcement concerning the position by August 15th, Winslow stated Monday that he sees no reason why this will not be done.

## WEATHER

Weather forecasters are calling for continued hot muggy weather the remainder of this week and weekend. Temperatures will feature highs in the 80s and 90s with lows in the 70s.