

# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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## Commissioners vow to use land transfer tax for schools

### Briefs

#### Modlin to be in biographical edition

Carolyn Modlin recently received notification of the inclusion of her Personal-Professional Biography in the 21st Anniversary Edition of the Dictionary of International Biography.

This biographic work will be published throughout the world and housed in leading national, public, and institutional reference libraries.

The Dictionary of International Biography was founded in 1960 and first appeared in 1963. It has honored in excess of 165,000 individuals from almost every nation and is a highly respected reference source. It is published by the International Biographical Centre of Cambridge, England, the research and publishing organization which publishes a leading range of international who's who titles, some dating back more than half a century.

This inclusion is the result of Mrs. Modlin's recent induction in the 1989-90 edition of "Who's Who of Women Executives." Less than two percent of professionals are selected to submit a biography for this publication.

Mrs. Modlin is a Learning Disabilities Teacher at the Perquimans Middle School.

#### Head Start accepting new applications

Perquimans County Head Start is now accepting applications for admission for the 1990-91 school year. Children must be 3-or 4 years old by Oct. 15, 1990. Birth certificates, verifications of income and immunization records must accompany applications. For more information contact Mollie Coston at the Perquimans Head Start Center at 426-7070.

#### Cole will file for judgeship

Janice McKenzie Cole, an attorney in Perquimans County with the law firm of Cole & Cole announces her intention to file in January 1990 to run for District Court Judge for the First Judicial District in the May 1990 primary and seek election to one of three Judicial seats in the First Judicial District. The First Judicial District is comprised of the counties of Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Pasquotank and Perquimans. Janice has been in private practice in Perquimans County for the past six years handling both civil and criminal matters.

Janice serves on the Board of Directors of Albemarle Hopeline, Albemarle Mental Health Center, Elizabeth City Girls Club, NCNB National Bank - Edenton City Office and is a past President and member of the Hertford Business and Professional Women's Organization. She attends Steven's Chapel A.M.E. Zion Church in Weeksville, North Carolina.

#### Cancer Society has cookbooks

The Perquimans County Chapter of the American Cancer Society is selling cookbooks again this year. The books, which sell for \$6, contain recipes from all 100 of North Carolina's counties. They make nice gifts for those special cooks on your Christmas list. To get your copy, visit Hertford Savings & Loan, Woodard's Pharmacy of BJ's Unisex Hairstyling, or call 426-7850.

The land transfer tax referendum passed by a 669-580 margin last month, but the county commissioners are still receiving a lot of comments from residents, they reported at their Dec. 4 meeting.

What is foremost on the minds of most county citizens is exactly how the commissioners will spend the one percent tax. The referendum stated that the funds would be used for capital projects, but did not earmark the funds for the schools.

"As long as I sit in this seat, it's going for schools," said Chairman Lester Simpson. Simpson said the tax was sold to the voters as a means to raise much-needed capital outlay monies for the school system, and he intended to see to it that the monies will be used accordingly.

"That's (school capital outlay needs) what we sold it on," agreed Thomas Nixon, "and as long as I sit here that's what it's going for."

The commissioners authorized a capital projects reserve ordinance for the accumulation of the tax revenues to be effective Jan. 1 which states, "These funds will be used by the Perquimans County Board of Commissioners, as a funding source, to make capital improvements for the Perquimans

County Schools."

The ordinance included a budget amendment which projected that between Jan. 1 and June 30, 1990, \$40,000 will be collected in land transfer taxes and \$1,000 will be earned in interest on the collections. County manager Paul Gregory said that he feels that more than \$40,000 will be collected, but that he felt it would be better to be conservative in a budget ordinance.

**Electoral changes**  
 No word has been received from the U. S. Justice Department on the county's proposed electoral changes, according to Gregory. The deadline for action is Dec. 18.

The changes would put two representatives of the black community on the board of commissioners and the board of education. One of the two would be required to seek re-election to his or her respective boards in May 1990, the others in May 1992.

Thomas Nixon said that the plan may run into a roadblock if the Justice Dept. fails to act soon, as the filing period for the May 1990 election opens on Jan. 2 and closes in early February. One of the areas discussed while formulating the electoral proposal was incum-

bency. The NAACP spokespersons felt that an incumbent would have a better chance to be re-elected. With the time running short, that theory may not be put to the test in the 1990 election.

The commissioners are exasperated by the situation. They and board of education members worked with a committee appointed to deal with the issue of black representation on the two boards, the NAACP and Michael Crowell, an attorney who specializes in electoral changes, to get the matter resolved in a timely manner. Now the Justice Dept. is "dragging their feet," according to Lester Simpson.

**Appointments**  
 Lester Simpson was reelected to chair the commissioners during 1990. Vice chairman will be Durwood Reed, Jr. Sharon Ward was reelected clerk to the board. John Matthews will remain county attorney. Mrs. Ward and county manager, Paul Gregory, were sworn in by clerk of court, Gail Godwin.

**Other business**  
 In other business the board: awarded the contract to Wayne Trimmer to paint the outside of the courthouse at a cost of \$8,673. Trimmer was the low bidder. adopted a resolution authorizing the recording of a notice of limitation of use on the new ball fields in Winfall.



County manager Paul Gregory and county finance officer Sharon Ward were sworn in by clerk of court Gail Godwin at last week's county commissioner's meeting.

## Hundreds enjoy annual Christmas Ramble

By JOE SOUTHERN AND SUSAN HARRIS

Four Perquimans residents opened their homes to an estimated 300 visitors last Thursday night as the Perquimans County Extension Homemakers held their annual Christmas Ramble.

The tour of homes included stops at the home of Mrs. Timothy Brinn, Mrs. Jes Taylor Hendley, Dr. and Mrs. Robert Earl Lane and Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Lane. Also included on the tour was a stop at the Newbold-White House Visitor Center where crafts were on display and refreshments were available.

"The purpose of this is to give people ideas for Christmas decorations and foods," Home Economics Extension Agent Paige Underwood said.

The Christmas Ramble is in its 12th year, however, the extension homemakers have been holding open houses for 29 years. There are nine clubs which operate through the extension agency, and each helped to make craft items and decorations displayed in the ramble. This year the Burgess club was the host unit for the open house.

"The ladies make items in workshops or find ideas in magazines and work on them from time to time throughout the year," extension agent Juanita T. Bailey said.

Mrs. Brinn's home featured a recent addition and remodeling which she enjoyed decorating for the first time.

"Every year I try to do a little something different than I did the year before," she said. "I just enjoy decorating."

The item that captured the most attention in her home was "Julia," a statue Mrs. Brinn purchased in France. "Julia"

was stationed in the foyer where Mrs. Brinn usually puts her Christmas tree.

Why did Mrs. Brinn decide to share her home for the holidays? "I promised her (Paige Underwood) 12 years ago that it (the Brinn house) could be used as a Christmas house," she said.

One of the most striking features of Dr. and Mrs. Lane's home was the tropical floral arrangements in shades of pink which blended with the Victorian decor in the living room and dining room. A Victorian Christmas tree also added to the feeling of stepping back into time.

"We really enjoyed it," said

Mrs. Lane of the Christmas Ramble. "We were surprised at how many men came. Everybody was just so nice."

When asked why she opened her doors to the hoard of visitors, Mrs. Hendley replied, "They asked me. Actually, this is my first Christmas without my children. I thought it might give me the spirit of Christmas."

Candles set in Christmas red bags led visitors into Mrs. Hendley's front door. The Christmas flag that she flies daily is a highlight of her holiday decorations.

Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Lane's waterfront home features accessories from their travels. The

deck overlooks the beautiful Perquimans River. A former basement shop has been turned into a delightful kitchen/living area for informal use. This home is definitely for those who love to look out the window at a Carolina Moon on the Perquimans.

The homes could have been featured in any decorating magazine. Each room looked as though preserved in a museum, but with a warm, comfortable, "lived-in" feeling.

Members of the homemakers clubs acted as guides in the homes, sharing special points of interest with visitors.



Mary Alice Brinn says that setting her table is one of the things she most enjoys about decorating for the holidays. Her dining room was very festive during the Christmas Ramble.

## Band, chorus plan concert at PCHS

The band and chorus of Perquimans County High School will present an afternoon of music for the season Sunday, Dec. 17 at 3:30 p.m. in the high school auditorium. In the first half of the concert, the P.C.H.S. chorus will perform holiday music, old and new, with the theme "Sleighride!-A Journey Through Winter." Familiar favorites such as "Silver Bells" and "White Christmas" will team up with classics by J. S. Bach, and works by contemporary composers which are sure to please. A highlight of this segment will be a performance by the chorus ensemble. Following intermission, the award winning P.C.H.S. band will present a variety of works including numbers from their recent appearance in the Hertford Christmas Parade.

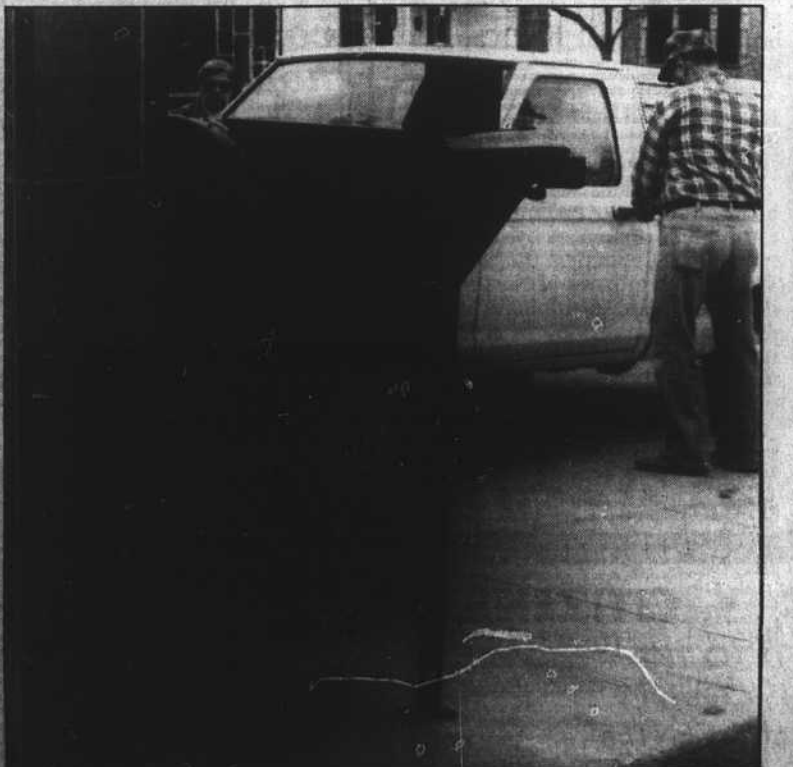
Members of the band and chorus, and directors Lynwood Winslow and David Ziemba invite the public to come and enjoy this program of music.

## Jones appointed to study group

House Speaker J. L. (Joe) Mavretic has announced the appointment of State Representative Walter B. Jones, Jr. (D-9th District) as a member of the Legislative Research Commission's Study Committee on Capital Assets.

Representative Jones, a fourth term legislator, presently serves on the House Appropriations Committee, Capital Outlay and Special Programs. He chairs the Election Laws and Constitutional Amendments section of the House Judiciary Committee and also serves on the Rules, Appointments and The Calendar Committee in the House.

HOLIDAY DEADLINE SCHEDULE  
 SEE PAGE 4 FOR DATES/TIMES



The Hertford post office has installed a drive-through mail box. Located on the east side of the building, the new box allows postal service customers to drop mail in the slot but not have to leave the comfort of their automobiles. Postmaster Dan Burch said he is happy to provide this service, which began Dec. 4, but he does ask those using the service to exercise caution and courtesy.



**Swindell wins coveted award**  
 Larry Swindell received the Charles H. Harrell Business Person of the Year Award at the Chamber of Commerce banquet Monday night. A native of Hertford, Swindell owns and operates Swindell Funeral Home, formerly owned by his parents, along with his wife, Suzy. Swindell is a strong community supporter. Here, John Christensen, the 1988 recipient, presents the 1989 plaque to Swindell.