

'Heated' characterizes Hertford public hearing

Briefs **Senior Center** plans Spring Bahamas trip

The Perquimans County Recre-ation Department/Senior Center is sponsoring a trip to the Bahamas. An extraordinary trip is planned, but spaces are limited. Please contact Patti White at the Center immediately for information on this trip. You must reserve your space this week.

By JOE SOUTHERN Daily Advance Staff Writer

Tempers flared, voices were raised and fingers were pointed during a public hearing Monday night on a proposed amendment to the town's zoning ordinance.

The Hertford Town Council, after hearing several people in a packed room oppose the amendment, voted to refer the issue back to committee for further consideration. Over 20 people crowded into the municipal building to protest the amendment that would allow councilman Jesse Harris to continue to oper-ate his mobile home park in a zone that does not allow mobile homes.

The problem began several weeks ago when town and county building inspector Au-brey Onley refused a permit allowing Harris to put a mobile home in a vacant slot in his mobile home park on Pennsylvania Avenue. The park is in an R-8 zone which prohibits mobile homes. When the zoning ordinance was approved in 1980, the park and all mobile homes in the zone were allowed to stay under a grandfather clause. The clause states that once individual mobile homes are removed, they cannot be replaced. It also said that Harris's mobile home park could continue to operate until it was vacated or abandoned.

Harris's park, which has been operating for over 30 years, has five slots, one of which was vacated two years ago. Harris was about to rent the slot to a tenant a month ago when he was denied the permit. He said he can do it because he is still operating a mobile home park there. Onley said the trailer was illegal since the space was abandoned.

Speaking at the meeting was William B. Dunn, the community development planner from the Department of Economic and Community Development who helped Hertford develop its zoning ordinance. He sidestepped the question of who was wrong or right, and only commented on the proposed amendment.

"This proposed amendment clarifies what appears to have been town policy for a while," Dunn said. He added that similar amendments have been passed by towns facing similar problems.

"I'm the one who is on trial here," a redfaced Harris said while stating his position on the matter. "There is nothing here which stops me from putting trailers back into my park," he said, waiving a copy of the zoning ordinance in the air.

Harris said he does not hold anything against Onley for trying to do his job to the best of his ability, but he did feel that Onley went beyond his duties in not allowing the

permit. "I do hold it against you for not checking with the authorities in Raleigh for clarification," he said, directing his statements at the building inspector.

Onley responded saying he called Dunn twice to make sure he was correctly interpreting the ordinance.

From there the meeting lost direction as citizens took turns complaining about Harris, mobile homes and inconsistencies in the town ordinance which governs them. Several times Mayor W. D. "Bill" Cox had to settle the room when heated arguments broke out.

At the suggestion of citizen Bill Glover, councilman T. Eriie Haste, Jr. made the motion to send the amendment back to committee for further consideration. He said he would like to see the amendment broadened to address all non-conforming areas in the town. He also said there needs to be specific wording which defines a mobile home park.

After the meeting was adjourned, Harris privately commented that he does not make enough from the trailer park for it to be worth the fight, and that he is only pressing the issue for the principle of the matter.

Cooking fire damages town apartment

Hertford firemen responded to a cooking fire at Stokes Drive Friday. Thirteen firefighters answered the call and were on the scene in under three minutes. Chief **Edgar Roberson cited extensive** damage in the kitchen of the townhouse apartment, which is owned by the town of Hertford. He estimated replacement costs of cabinets at between \$3,000 and \$5,000.

Saturday wreck claims life

By SUSAN HARRIS

A Perquimans County woman was killed and six others injured in a three-car collision near Elizabeth City early Saturday morning.

Nellie Combs Mallory, 45, of Route 4, Box 1000, Hertford died at around 6:40 a.m. as a result of injuries sustained when her 1989 Plymouth was struck by a 1983 Ford operated by Clarence Melvin Mad-ison, 54, of Richmond, Va.

According to the report of N. C. Highway Patrol Trooper C.R. Hai-ley, the Madison vehicle was stopped at the intersection of U.S. Highway 17 and Rural Road 1144. Mrs. Mallory was traveling south on U.S. 17. Madison attempted to make a left turn west onto Road 1144, striking Mrs. Mallory, who was crossing the intersection. Mrs. Mallory had the right-of-way.

April 21 tour will showcase historic Hertford Circle Saturday, April 21 on your calendar and make plans now to attend a unique tour. For the first time, structures of historical significance will be opened to the public in Hertford,

a charming peninsula town lo-cated on the Perquimans River. A hidden jewel, Hertford was incorporated in 1758. Its many distinctions include being the home of the first woman postmaster in the United States after ratification of the Constitution.

Almost immediately following her appointment in 1792, Sarah Moore Delano DeCrow asked for and received a raise in salary. Her influence with national political leaders, such as U. S. Supreme Court associate jsutice James Iredell and his brother-inlaw U. S. Senator Samuel Johnston, may accourt for her selection.

Certainly, if this tavern keeper postmaster personified the Al-gonquian Indian interpretation of Perquimans, "the land of beauti-ful women," she turned many a gentleman's eye.

Since 1661 when settler-mariner George Durant pruchased land from Chief Kilcocanen, residents of Perquimans County es-tablished taproots of fairness and strength of character.

In 1971 this heritage restored North Carolina's oldest hours, the (ca.1685) Newbold-White House. It also refuted North Carolina author Thompas Wolfe's "You Can't Go

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enriching the quality of life in the area.

An example is Perquimans County bornand reared Wallace Reed, whose ancestor was Durant as well as N. C. Gov. William Reed (1722 - 1724).

A retired executive with South Carolina National Bank, Reed and his wife, Mary, a native of historic

buildings, Holy Trinity Episcopal Church and the 1825 Perquimans County Court House, will either show first floors, vegetable and flower gardens, host art shows on front porches and river front verandas, or all of the above.

The variety of architectural styles promises to please everyone's personal preference.

available. It concludes with a short drive to Newbold-White.

Other attractions on the site are the ca. 1820 David Newby Cottage, the Perquimans Center and an archaeological dig involved in un-earthing the site of an earlier (ca. 1670) house on the property.

The \$10 tour fee includes lunch, which will be served in the Perquimans Center from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. As stated, this is a unique tour at a bargain price.

Board funds OM team trip

By SUSAN HARRIS

The Odyssey of the Mind team that won first place in regional competition on March 3 showed the school board Monday night what their project entailed.

Team members Adrian Frierson, Matthew Byrum, Mark Swindell, Michael Clinkscales, Jaime Stone, and Kristy Roberson re-created their presentation for the board. Christopher Gregory, also a team member, was unable to attend.

The board members listened intently as spokesperson Michael Clinkscales told how the team had designed by trial and error a structure made from 15 grams of balsa wood that was able to hold 142 pounds of weight in competition.

The team will travel to Charlotte on April 6 to compete on the state level.

Perquimans has placed teams in state competition in each of its first two years of participation in the project. Last year, one team even earned the right to compete on the international level.

Later in the meeting, the board voted to give the team \$300 to help defray expenses during the stay in Charlotte.

Also requesting funding from the board was a delegation of students representing the Hunter Safety Team at the high school.

Spokesman Chad White asked that the board consider making the team a part of the athletic department since it is open to anyone in the school and there are try-outs as in other sports. White told the board that the team is supported now mainly by business donations and FFA monies. Members many times supply their own shells. Those who are on the archery team must supply their own equipment. Each year, White said, the Perquimans team has qualified to compete at the state championships. Only the top 50 teams in the state are eligible for that honor, he added. Wildlife Officer Jack Staley, who has worked with the program for the past five years, also spoke on behalf of the team. "What they're here tonight for is to seek support," Staley told the board. "I would like to see this considered as a sport. Staley said that Perquimans is 'slipping behind due to a lack of funds.' Board chairman Clifford Winslow told the team to have their advisor, Harrell Thach, submit a proposal to the board since budget preparation for next year will begin soon. "...we'll certainly give it every consideration," he told the delegation Middle School PTSA president Nancy Harrell told the board that the PTSA had raised approximately \$6,900 from their fall cookie sale. She said that the PTSA board of directors would like to put the money back into the school. The budget and finance committee recommended that two ceiling fans be purchased to be installed in each classroom, and that screens be installed in the windows to help combat the flies caused by the sep-tic problems at the school. Any leftover monies will be used to purchase blinds. The board agreed to provide the labor and supplies needed to install the fans if the PTSA general mem-bership approved of the plan at its next meeting. The board approved a resolution concerning local autonomy. The resolution grew out of the debate on whether local school systems had the right to decide to use Channel 1 in the cla In light of Senate Bill 2, which puts decisions back on the local level, the executive director of the state school board association requested that local solution. ited that local boards cons

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A third car operated by Rosa Brothers Frost, 47, of 1145 Mt. Her-mon Church Rd., Elizabeth City, was stopped at the intersection. Her 1979 Buick was struck by Mrs. Mallory's car.

Madison's vehicle struck a traffic island and two highway signs before coming to rest in the eastbound lane of Road 1144.

Madison has been charged with death by vehicle and failure to vield.

Damages to the Plymouth were estimated at \$9,000, while the Ford sustained \$1,000 in damages. The Buick received minor damages.

Sylvia Armstrong, Beryl Combs and Katasha Combs, all passengers in the Mallory vehicle, were transported to Albemarle Hospital with minor injuries.

Ms. Frost and her passengers, Sheila Frost and Regina Powell, were also taken to Albemarle Hospital with minor injuries.

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Perquimans

Weekly

119 W. Grubb St.

8 a.m.-5 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

Home Again.'

Many repatriated natives (or descendants of natives) came home. Furthermore, they brough with them the financial means to restore ancestral homes, plus a wide cultural experience that is

Beaufort, S. C., bought and renovated the river fronted Simpson-Blanchard House. The couple spend the summer months in Hertford, while maintaining a winter home in Columbia, S. C.

Twenty-two homes and two

Sponsored by the Perquimans **County Restoration Association as** a fund raiser for the Newbold-White House's maintenance, the tour begins at the Hertford Chamber of Commerce, where tickets, rest rooms, coffee and guides are

Inquiries and reservations may be made at the Chamber of Commerce office, (919) 436-5657, or at Newbold-White, (919) 426-7567. Groups welcomed.

Crime report

The Hertford Police Department reported three arrests made during the past week.

Henry Lewis Burnham, 42, of 205 Wynn Fork Ct. was arrested on March 12 and charged with failure to appear and assault with a deadly weapon.

Sharon Woods Burnham, 27, of 205 Wynn Fork Ct. was arrested on March 13 and charged with failure to appear on a show cause order and simple assault.

Connie Lilly Forehand, 20, of 108 King St. was arrested on March 13 and charged with shoplifting.

The Perquimans County Sher-iff's Department reported three arrests also:

Anthony Ray Saunders, 32, of Lowe's Drive, Hertford Beach was arrested on March 13 and charged with assault on a female.

Frank Dennis Thompson, 27, of P-Section, Holiday Island was arrested on March 14 and charged with perjury.

Leslie Michelle Moore, 19, of Rt. Box 106 was arrested on March 14 and charged with breaking and entering and larceny on a Chowan County warrant.



Grand opening

Hertford Mayor Bill Cox cut the ribbon Friday morning at the grand opening at Mickey B's Professional Cleaning Service on Edenton Road Street. Looking on are (left to right) county commissioner's chairman Lester Simpson, Chamber of Commerce vice president Nancy Newbern, Chamber president Lewis Evans, Cox, co-owner Lee Gordon, co-owner Leon Felton and employees Willie Vaughan, Elton Stepney, Michael Bonner and Larry Mallory. Not pictured is co-owner McKinley Gilliam. The Perquimans County Chamber of Commerce sponsored the ribbon cutting.

School board sets goals at annual retreat last week

By SUSAN HARRIS

At its annual retreat last week, the Perqui-nans Board of Education adopted four goals for the 1990-91 school year.

First on the list was the board's decision to be actively involved in efforts directed toward pro-viding equitable funding for all school districts in North Carolina.

To do this the board will continue to have rep-resentation on the Rural Initiative Task Force, Task Force for Excellence in Secondary Educa-tion and Financial Advisory Committee in the State Department of Public Instruction; and will also retain its membership in the Small

School Consortium and continue to write grant proposals.

The board will also support the activities re-lated to the successful implementation of Senate Bill 2. This will be accomplished through staff development, continued training for the Effec-tive Schools Team, and enrichment or expan-sion of curriculcum areas. Integrated studies, an additional pre-kindergarten class, writing across the grades, mastery learning, improved remediation efforts, changes in scope and se-quence, elementary reading series expansion and SAT preparation may be implemented.

Development of programs and activities that more fully involve the parents in the educational

progams offered is also a goal of the board. This may be accomplished by expanding the Com-munity Schools program through activities such as a printed annual report, community meet-ings with the superintendent and outreach pro-

grams. Other offerings may be the creation of family counseling and parent education classes, contin-uation of the adult literacy class sponsored jointly by COA and the school system, and ex-pansion of the volunteer efforts. The board will also work to restructure the vocational education program. Administrative staff members have already begun meeting with COA officials to determine what might be accomplished jointly in vocational areas.