

See our **Trends** section
A look at Perquimans and its people

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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Briefs School reorganization plan implemented

Staff, students to play musical schools

Two county men honored
Two Perquimans County men have been selected as Outstanding Young Men of America. Their biographies will appear in the annual awards publication, Outstanding Young Men of America.

Wayne Paul Layden and Edgar Wilbur Roberson, Jr. were recognized for their outstanding civic and professional contributions to their community and state.

Layden, a 1976 graduate of Perquimans County High School, owns and operates Beech Springs Poultry, a wholesale meat and dairy product distributorship.

He has been a Jaycee since 1978, and has held numerous offices and chaired many projects during his tenure. He has won a number of awards from the chapter for his organizational skills and dedication to community improvement.

Layden has contributed his time and resources to many community-sponsored benefits for those who were in need.

He is a member of the Perquimans County Chamber of Commerce and Anderson United Methodist Church.

Layden and his wife, the former Gail Stallings, live in Beech Springs, where they have renovated his grandparents' home. He is the son of Elliott and Evelyn Layden.

Roberson became affiliated with N.C. Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance and Southern Farm Bureau Life Insurance in August 1968, after 15 years in the agricultural chemical business.

A Jaycee for 15 years, Roberson has served as a local director for the past two years. He has also co-chaired the Red Cross Bloodmobile during that time.

Roberson is a Perquimans Youth League Director, is an assistant little league coach, and has also been an assistant T-ball coach.

A member of the Hertford Fire Department for 16 years, Roberson has served as chief for three years. He is a member and past president of the Albemarle Firefighter's Association. He was a member of the Perquimans County Rescue Squad for 15 years.

He is a member of the Perquimans County Chamber of Commerce, Northeastern Life Underwriter's Association and Great Hope Baptist Church.

Roberson and his wife, the former Gail Chappell, reside south of Hertford with their children, Kristie, 12; Mindy, 8; and Justin, 6. He is the son of Wilbur and Elizabeth Roberson.

Chamber sponsors cruise

The Perquimans County Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring a Perquimans County Dinner Cruise aboard the M-V VIKING SUN on Saturday, August 11. Sailing from Elizabeth City, the cruise will be from 6-8:30 p.m. and will feature a buffet dinner and live entertainment. The cost is \$25 per person. Reservations and payment should be made to the Chamber of Commerce by July 10. For further information call the Chamber at 426-5657.

Thinking of placing a Classified Ad; but not sure how to do it? Just call our friendly Ad-Visor, Elenora. She will be glad to help you.

426-5728

Perquimans Weekly

119 W. Grubb St.
8 a.m.-5 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

Perquimans students, teachers, and administrators will play musical schools in the 1990-91 fiscal year as a result of actions taken by the school board Monday night.

The board voted to accept the school reorganization pattern proposed in May by superintendent Mary Jo Martin. Under the plan, all students in the county on each grade level will attend the same school. The kindergarten, first, and second grade classes will be housed at Hertford Grammar School. Third, fourth and fifth graders will attend Central Grammar School. Perquimans Middle School will serve sixth, seventh and eighth graders.

"I think it's an excellent plan and

it's really overdue," said board member Clifford Towe just prior to the board's unanimous vote.

Parents and educators who attended the meeting to see what action the board would take applauded the decision.

Milton Long, the parent of two students, encouraged the board and administrators not to keep Hertford Grammar students with Hertford Grammar teachers and Central School students with Central Grammar teachers, as has been discussed. He said that the time to integrate students and teachers is at the beginning.

"I don't think we need to try to segregate them," Long said. "Let them go ahead and get it over with

the first year."

In a related move, the board approved the reassignment of administrative personnel proposed by Martin.

Bill Tice will move back to Hertford Grammar School from Central School to serve as principal. Susan Winslow will serve as part-time assistant principal at Hertford Grammar, in addition to being director of second language, health and physical education, cultural arts and language arts programs.

Gary Stubbins will relocate from the middle school to Central School. Chris Barber will serve as part-time assistant principal there, and will continue to direct the Chapter I programs.



Photo by Susan Harris

Dorothy Barbee, and 84-year-old Hertford resident, took advantage of the opportunity to give blood when the Red Cross Bloodmobile visited Perquimans County last Thursday. The Red Cross has recently relaxed its guidelines, allowing those in good health who pass all the preliminary blood donation tests to donate. Mrs. Barbee was one of 67 people who attempted to give at the Jaycee-sponsored blood drive. The Jaycees reported that 57 pints were donated, seven pints over the 50-pint goal.

Citizens rally behind reorganization plan

Parents, teachers and other interested citizens flooded the Perquimans County Schools administration building last Thursday night at the public hearing scheduled to discuss the proposed school reorganization pattern.

School board chairman Clifford Winslow asked everyone to remain honest, open and fair to the children who would be affected by the proposed reorganization plan. During the invocation preceding the meeting he reminded people to keep the needs of students above their own desires or feelings.

Winslow's concern at the beginning of the meeting may have been unwarranted by some standards, as parents and school personnel overwhelmingly offered their support for the reorganization.

Positive comments from parents and educators outnumbered negative ones by a wide margin. Many people came to the meeting to ask specific questions about what the reorganization would mean to their children.

Busing routes were a major concern of the parents, and was addressed by the superintendent. Martin explained that Tom Monti, computer coordinator for the school system, has been working along with education employees in Raleigh to complete detailed maps of the county for bus routes. Monti said bus routes could be finalized when the board reaches a decision concerning the reorganization.

Estelle Felton, school/community liaison in Perquimans County,

spoke in favor of the reorganization. She said the plan was one of the best things the school system could approve.

"It is better for students, there will be a better relationship between teachers. I think the whole program would be better," Felton said.

To an applauding audience, Ray Wittman offered positive opinions about the reorganization. He said he was concerned about the economically disadvantaged students. He added that the reorganization could draw the county together and adults would be providing positive role models.

"We're teaching children to be leaders," said Wittman.

Arrests reported in county last week

The Perquimans County Sheriff's Department reported the following arrests:

Willie Ford, 31, of King Street, Hertford, was arrested on June 20 and charged with a probation violation. He was released on a \$500 secured bond.

Timothy Edward Overton, 18, was arrested on June 19 and charged with possession of stolen goods on a Halifax County warrant. His bond was placed at \$1,000 secured. Overton was turned over to

the Roanoke Rapids Police Department.

Henry Louis Burnham, 43, Rt. 2, Box 239 Hertford, was arrested on June 22 and charged with attempt to commit second degree rape, larceny from the person, and larceny in general. He was confined to Albemarle District Jail in lieu of a \$6,000 secured bond.

Melissa Joyce Colclasure, 17, Rt. 1, Box 148, Tyner, was arrested on June 27 on a Pasquotank County warrant and charged with larceny and shoplifting concealment of

goods. She was confined to Albemarle District Jail in lieu of a \$400 secured bond.

The Hertford Police Department reported the following arrests:

Margaret Ann Foreman, 24, Rt. 5, Box 367, Hertford, was arrested on June 25 and charged with shoplifting.

Larry Eugene Gilliam, 22, 208 Edenton Road St., Hertford, was arrested on June 27 and charged with failure to appear. He was arrested again on June 29 and charged with disorderly conduct.

New district wildlife officer assigned here

Winbon James Twiford of Rocky Mount, a 21-year veteran state wildlife enforcement officer, recently has been named District Captain for Wildlife District I.

As district captain, Twiford will be responsible for all wildlife enforcement and hunting-boating education activities in the 13-county district which covers: Bertie, Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Hertford, Hyde, Martin, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Tyrrell

and Washington counties.

"We're pleased to make this appointment," said Colonel W. H. Ragland of the Wildlife Commission's Division of Enforcement. "Jim Twiford is an excellent wildlife officer, and we're sure he will do a fine job in this new role."

A native of Engelhard, N.C., Twiford graduated from Engelhard High School in 1960 and attended Chowan College where he received an associate's degree in graphic

arts. He joined the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission in 1968 and has been stationed as a wildlife protector in Cumberland and Hoke counties and a wildlife sergeant in Union County. Twiford has been assigned to Rocky Mount for the past three years where he has been serving as Safety Lieutenant then District Captain for Wildlife District 3.

Captain Twiford and his wife, Frances, will live in Columbia.

A concept new to Perquimans will be implemented at the middle school. Henry Felton and Morris Kornegay will serve as co-principals at the middle school. Felton, who served as assistant principal at Perquimans High School, will handle administrative duties. Instructional responsibilities will be performed by Kornegay, formerly Hertford Grammar principal.

Principal William Byrum will remain at Perquimans High, along with assistant principal Karen Luszc.

Also reassigned was Brenda Teranova. She moved from the assistant principal slot at the middle school to the administration building where she will serve as Director of Exceptional Children, work with middle school and high school articulation, and serve as an observer-evaluator.

Martin said that before recom-

mending the reassignments, she considered the strengths and weaknesses of administrative personnel, professional growth potential, and future opportunities for staff promotions.

Some parents and teachers expressed concern over the changes, but were assured by board members, Martin and assistant superintendent Jake Boyce that much consideration had been given to the reassignments before formal action was taken. They stressed that the moves are a result of an effort to provide the best education possible for county students, and to effectively utilize personnel and funded positions.

Under the terms of Martin's contract, she has the right to reassign personnel, but asked the board's approval to show total support for the staffing plan.

Property revaluation underway in county

The groundwork for the 1992 revaluation of real estate in Perquimans County is now being laid.

Pearson's Appraisal Service, to whom the county commissioners awarded the revaluation bid, is presently setting up computer programs to facilitate the revaluation process.

The county purchased computer software which Bob Pearson, owner of Pearson's Appraisal Service, says will not only make the present revaluation process easier, but will expedite future updates and information retrieval.

The first step in determining present property values is gathering information on recent land transfers and sales, Pearson said. The sales prices of these properties will be noted along with their location, age, condition and other pertinent information.

"We don't have any real preconceived ideas about land values here," Pearson said. He added that values are best determined by collecting a broad list of recent sales information and comparing that to similar properties.

Pete Juvelis, a Holiday Island resident who is employed full-time by Pearson's, will perform the first step in the physical evaluation process.

Juvelis will visit properties recently sold, establish a value using accepted appraisal practices, then compare the values to the actual sales prices to test his results. This process helps to establish values in different communities throughout the county.

The company personnel will also interview building contractors and subcontractors in an effort to collect the most recent costs of construction, which they will use in the cost analysis portion of the appraisals.

"We try to be as reasonable as possible," Pearson said. "The main objective is to appraise all property in the county at a fair and accurate value."

Each parcel of real estate in the county will then be visited and measurements taken. If the owner of the property is not on the premises at the time of inspection, a door hanger will be left which lists questions pertinent to establishing a value of the property. These hangers can be mailed to the tax department.

Town electric rates to rise

By NANCY ROYDEN-CLARK
Staff Writer

Residents in Hertford will soon be paying five percent more than usual for electric service.

For example, if a customer has a \$100 electric bill, they will be paying five percent more beginning with August bills.

Monday night, Town of Hertford Council members voted in favor of the tax increase. However, councilman Jesse Harris was the only councilman to vote against the increase, saying he strongly disagreed with the measure as he voted against it.

Councilman John Beers expressed his opinions to other council members saying he would rather see an increase in electric rates instead of a large tax hike later down the road.

"The cost of doing business is high," said Beers. "It's got to come from somewhere."

Beers went on to say that electric bill are something customers have the power to somewhat control.

ment.

As this information is gathered, Rebecca Cahoon, a local resident hired by Pearson to perform clerical duties associated with the revaluation, will enter it into the computer system. This will include a diagram and measurements of all buildings on the property.

At present, this information is drawn on a property card in the tax office.

After these processes have taken place and values are established for all real estate, Pearson said they will review the results.

Pearson will also prepare a revaluation manual which will contain a schedule of values and detailed procedures concerning the revaluation process.

Notices of revaluation will be mailed out to property owners around September of 1991. They will become effective January 1, 1992.

Property owners who feel that their property has been improperly assessed will then be able to speak with county representatives and Pearson at informal hearings which will be scheduled.

County Tax Supervisor Keith Haskett said he believes that waterfront property values will increase substantially from those values established at the last evaluation performed in 1984 due to the rising sales prices of those properties.

Haskett also stated that he expects the values of residences and business property to increase, while there may be a decrease in the value of farmland.

Historically, Haskett said, when real estate values increase, the ad valorem tax rate decreases. This does not mean, Haskett said, that property owners' actual tax amount will stay the same. What is does mean is that property values on the county tax books will be more in line with recent sales figures.

Pearson is familiar with properties in northeastern North Carolina. He revaluated Perquimans County in 1984, and has also performed revaluations for Chowan, Camden, Hyde, Tyrrell and Hertford counties.

The appraisal service will operate from an office at the Perquimans Extension Building and at the Perquimans Tax Office.

Harris argued that he would rather wait until a later time before imposing an increase in electric rates because he feels many small businesses in Hertford are overburdened with bills.

"I believe this is the wrong time (for the increase), people in the town of Hertford are suffering. We haven't been collecting the proper demand charges, in truth it is a terrific discrimination," Harris said.

Increases in electric rates were implemented in 1984 and 1988, prior to the newest increase.

Mayor Cox explained to council members that electric bills are generally higher in Hertford than they are in Edenton and Windsor while Elizabeth City bill are sometimes less costly. This is due to a higher tax base in the other counties, he said.

Cox mentioned that the installation of electrical saving switches by 100 customers could help reduce electric usage little by little. Hopefully, he said, about 300 customers will take advantage of the program.