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Briefs

Drug proceeds shared

United States Attorney Margaret Person Currin announced recently the sharing of \$569,248.57 in forfeited drug proceeds by the federal government with 37 local, state, and federal agencies that participated in the investigation of drug cases in the Eastern District of North Carolina.

Among those agencies receiving checks was the Hertford Police Department. The department's share of the proceeds was \$4475.99.

Hunter back on mound

Jim "Catfish" Hunter, a former major league baseball player who played with the Kansas City A's, Oakland A's and New York Yankees, will be participating in the Upper Deck Heroes of Baseball game to be played at the Oakland Alameda County Coliseum on June 9, 1991.

The Upper Deck Heroes of Baseball series, to be held at 24 major league parks throughout the summer of 1991, consists of a three-inning exhibition game held before the home team's regularly scheduled games. In Oakland, the game will feature the retirement of Jim "Catfish" Hunter's number.

AADA to meet

The Albemarle Area Development Association (AADA) will meet on Thursday, June 13 at 7 p.m. at the Columbia Fire House. The presentation will be on "Survey Results of the Solid Waste Task Force." The Dutch treat meal will be \$8.50. Anyone wishing to attend is asked to contact their County Extension office.

NNCT plans banquet

Northeastern North Carolina Tomorrow Inc. will hold its biannual board meeting and banquet on June 19 at the Elizabeth City State University's K.E. White Graduate Center.

Mr. Wayne Peterson, president of Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Co. has been selected as the keynote speaker. Peterson will speak on the topic "Partnership in Education."

The board meeting will begin at 4 p.m., with a reception at 5 p.m. and at 6 p.m. the banquet will follow.

Sports sign-ups in progress now

Three athletic camps are planned in Perquimans County this summer.

The First Annual Perquimans County Instructional Basketball Camp will be held at the high school June 17-21 for girls ages 9-13.

Also June 17-21, the second annual baseball camp will be held at the high school baseball field.

A four-week sports camp will be held at the middle school June 24-July 19. Skills in soccer, softball, basketball, racket sports, gymnastics, wrestling (boys), volleyball and track and field will be learned. The camp will be held from 8:30 a.m. until 12 noon daily.

Parents interested in signing up children for any of the camps should call Roger Morgan at 426-8468 or 426-7355.

Prisoner transportation bill endorsed by counties

Sheriffs still upset after meeting

By SUSAN HARRIS and JASON SANFORD

Perquimans, Pasquotank and Camden county commissioners voted Thursday night in a special joint session to support proposed state legislation requiring their county sheriffs to transport county prisoners between Albemarle District Jail and medical facilities.

Perquimans County Sheriff Joe Lothian and Camden County Sheriff Joe Jones were upset over the vote to support House Bill 584.

"I'm very disappointed," Lothian commented after the joint session during which he and Jones argued that the legislation will place financial and manpower stress on their departments.

The joint meeting was called after area sheriffs learned that Rep. R.M. "Pete" Thomson, D-Chowan, had introduced House Bill 584 on behalf of the Jail Commission. Both law enforcement agency heads stated that they had not been officially notified by either the Jail Commission or their respective boards of commissioners that the legislation would be submitted to the General Assembly.

Under the terms of the bill, the three sheriffs departments would be responsible for transporting their county's prisoners between the jail and medical facilities 24 hours a day.

Attorney Herbert T. Mullen Jr., jail commission legal advisor, said the jail commissioners realized the need for legislation after Lothian refused to trans-

port a prisoner.

"This unilateral policy decision (not to transport a prisoner) made by the sheriff of Perquimans County without consultation with the Jail Commission or the Perquimans County Board of Commissioners presented the Albemarle Jail Commission with potential legal ramifications. In essence, we were aware that there was a void in our procedures due to the refusal by the sheriff of Perquimans County to perform a historical duty of his office," Mullen said.

Lothian and Perquimans commissioners had discussed the transportation issue last year in an open meeting in November. Lothian said he told the commissioners at that time that he had spoken with Mike Smith at the Institute of Government and Ralph Strickland, the assistant attorney general, regarding prisoner transportation. Lothian

said that both government entities said that under state statute, transportation was a jail function, and was not the responsibility of the sheriff's departments.

The sheriff said that the commissioners disagreed with his findings.

Lothian said that after his discussion with the Perquimans commissioners, the jail commission requested a written opinion from the attorney general's office. That opinion supported Lothian's findings, he said.

"In January, I refused to take a non-emergency case to Albemarle Hospital," Lothian said. "At that point I was told that if I would help through the old fiscal year, that the jail committee was trying to put together a program where they would have a van and would hire somebody to take care of this situation for the jail. When I

was told this, I thought that this was a pretty progressive thing, so I agreed to take prisoners to the hospital through June 30 of this year. I now find that not only was there never any intention of doing this, of getting this van and trying to set this up, some of the jail committee said they never even talked about it, discussed it.

"Then we hear about the legislation," Lothian stated. "What are we supposed to think? We've been had."

Lothian said that House Bill 584 will apply only to Albemarle District Jail, not to all district jails operating in the state.

Jail Commission chairman and Perquimans commissioner Thomas Nixon told the Perquimans commissioners Monday that after speaking with elected state representatives, he expects the measure to pass.

Appraiser explains land revaluation in hearing

Appraiser Peter Juvells Jr. with Pearson Appraisal Service explained to the Perquimans County Board of Commissioners in a public hearing Monday the process used to reevaluate the property in Perquimans County.

Juvells told the commissioners that all appraisals are based on the market value of property in the county, which is determined by recent sales prices.

"Everything is based on market values," Juvells said. "The state requires market value."

Factors involved in determining a property value include location, size, quality of construction, the condition of the property and the effective age.

Juvells reviewed three properties he has appraised during the revaluation process to explain to the commis-

sioners and residents who attended the hearing how he determined their values.

"We think you're too high, period, overall," commissioner Thomas Nixon told Juvells. Nixon added that he thought all the appraisals should be dropped by 10 percent.

Juvells responded that local sales supported his values.

"I highly recommend that you do not come up with that 10 percent stuff until you look at that sales analysis," Juvells advised.

Tax supervisor Keith Haskett supported Juvells' values.

"They are very much in line with sales," Haskett said.

Nixon stated that recent sales reflect top prices, and that values should not be set



County commissioner Wayne Winslow (left) appraiser Peter Juvells during Monday's public hearing. County attorney John Matthews (center) review property revaluations with ap-

praiser Mack Nixon. "All it does is confuse the public."

Juvells reminded the commissioners that rising property values usually mean a lower ad valorem tax rate. He added that the commissioners, not the appraiser, set that rate. After the last revaluation was done eight years ago, the ad valorem rate was halved.

The public hearing was scheduled to explain the revaluation schedules, standards and rules, not to discuss specific property values. The schedule, which was adopted

at what he termed "peak" sales prices. He added that the market is not as strong as it has been and that he believes prices will begin to plummet.

Juvells countered that sales over the past two years have been reviewed, and that prices have continued to climb, especially in certain areas, such as waterfront developments.

"It's no simple thing what's been done, to go out there and try to set values," Nixon said.

"Revaluation is just a game with tax laws," added commis-

sioner Mack Nixon. "All it does is confuse the public."

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by a 4-1 vote with Mack Nixon casting the dissenting vote, will be advertised each week in June in *The Perquimans Weekly*. The last date to appeal the schedule is July 3.

Haskett said that his department expects to mail the updated real estate values to property owners in August.

Juvells will be available by appointment at least two weeks in September to answer questions and hear complaints. Land owners may appeal the values set on their properties.

4th Fest plans progressing

The annual 4th of July Fest sponsored by the Perquimans County Jaycees should be one of the best ever, according to chairman Chris Peckham.

Peckham said the day has been themed "Heroes of Today and Yesterday." The theme was submitted by fourth grader Michael Jarvis in a theme contest sponsored by the Jaycees, Town of Hertford and Chamber of Commerce. The town and Chamber are joining the Jaycees in planning this year's celebration of independence.

The day will kick off with a parade of veterans at 3 p.m. The star-spangled parade will leave Harris Shopping Center and move to Missing Mill Park for a brief ceremony honoring the county's veterans featuring U.S. Navy Admiral (ret.) Harry Train.

Entertainers will share their talents during the afternoon from the park pavillion. There will be games, including the ever-popular dunking booth, and face painting for the younger set. The concession stand will feature hot-off-the-grill hamburgers and hot dogs, as well as ice-cold beverages. Baked goods will be available to satisfy the sweet tooth.

A charity pie auction and county-wide nondenominational religious service are planned. At present, the planning committee is hoping to offer the popular street dance before and after the day's main event, the fireworks show.

Peckham said that the Jaycees welcome all county civic groups to participate in the 4th Fest. Any group wishing to be involved in the 4th Fest should contact Peckham or Susan Harris.

Apricot, Inc. employee designs new logo, wins company contest

Apricot, Inc. has a new logo, announced company president Carl Terranova last week.

The logo was designed by employee Delma Owens. Owens was one of over 35 employees to submit an emblem and slogan during the company's logo contest held in May.

Terranova said that the logo contest was the brainchild of a group of managers and employees from each section of Apricot who are meeting to revamp the employee handbook. Apricot management is actively seeking input from employees to create policies which affect the workplace.

"It seems to be working fine," Terranova said of the new program. He added that the meetings have been very informative, and both management and employees "feel really good" about their involvement in the new concept.

Apricot is a clothing manufacturer located on Don Juan Road. The Terranova family brought the company to Hertford in 1982. It has since expanded its operation.



Apricot officers Tom and Carl Terranova (left) look on as Hertford Mayor W.D. "Bill" Cox presents the grand prize to employee Delma Owens, winner of the logo contest at the company. Over 35 employees participated in the contest.

