

County leaders participate in two-day EFNEP solid waste management workshops: Page 7

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# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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30 Cents

## Briefs **Burke arrested, charged with murder**

### **Centura declares dividend**

Centura Banks Inc. (NYSE: CBC) has declared a third quarter dividend of 15 cents per share, payable on Sept. 16, 1991, to shareholders of record on Aug. 30, 1991. The dividend is equal to the dividend paid in the third quarter of 1990.

Centura Banks Inc., with its subsidiaries Centura Banks, Mid-South Bank in Sanford and Watauga Savings in Boone, had total assets on June 30, 1991, of \$2.5 billion.

### **NAACP to sponsor session**

The youth of the Perquimans County NAACP will have a "Back to School Rap Session" on Thursday, Aug. 22 at 7 p.m. at First Baptist Church.

### **Playhouse sets auditions**

A casting call has been announced by the Perquimans Playhouse for the fall production of the hit play "Suitehearts," a comedy by William Van Zandt and Jane Milmore.

Tryouts will be held at the Perquimans County Chamber of Commerce office at 7:30 p.m. on Aug. 20 and 22. The cast consists of five actors including two males, two females and one optional role.

### **Nutrition site menus**

The Nutrition Site menus for August 19-23 are as follows:

Monday-Chicken breast patie with gravy, green peas, corn, dinner roll, margarine, fresh orange and milk.

Tuesday-BBQ Beef, coleslaw, stewed potatoes, whole wheat bread, margarine, pineapple upside down cake, and milk.

Wednesday-Oven baked pork chop, steamed cabbage, corn, dinner roll, margarine, pineapple chunks and milk.

Thursday-Beef vegetable soup, 1/2 pimento cheese sandwich, carrot/raisin salad, 4 crackers, margarine and milk.

Friday-Baked turkey, mashed potatoes, seasoned green beans, whole wheat bread, margarine, fresh watermelon or melon balls and milk.

### **Seniors set picnic**

The Memory Lane Senior Citizen Club will have a picnic at Missing Mill Park, instead of their monthly meeting, on Monday, Aug. 19 at 12:30 p.m. Games will be played.

### **Shrimp Feast slated**

On September 7, the American Legion Baseball Booster Club will sponsor their first Shrimp Feast at the American Legion Post 40 Fairgrounds in Edenton. It is an all-you-can-eat meal from 5-8 p.m., including beverage, and a disc jockey for your listening or dancing pleasure. The charge is \$15 per person, eat-in only.

This is a fund raiser to help support the Post 40 baseball team. For tickets or information, call Jimmy Alston at 482-8739; Sharon Edwards at 221-4439; David Nixon at 221-4356 or any Baseball Booster Club member.

## Officials crack two-year-old Winfall case

Dogged persistence on the part of Perquimans County Sheriff's Deputy George Long and State Bureau of Investigation Special Agent Dwight Ransome resulted in the arrest of a man suspected of the September 1989 murder of a Winfall woman, according to Sheriff Joe Lothian.

Vivia Darvis Burke, 30, was arrested Monday around 10 a.m. by Long and Ransome and charged with the stabbing death of Rosa Lee Overton Newton. Burke is being held in Albemarle District Jail without bond. Lothian said.

First arrested and charged with the murder on Nov. 17, 1989, Burke was released in 1990 after witnesses changed their testimony before Burke could be tried for the crime. The state took a voluntary dismissal in the case.

Newton's bloodied body was found in the kitchen area of her home on Highway 32 in Winfall just after 7 a.m. on Sept. 6, 1989. Initial investigation revealed that a neighbor went to the Newton home after Mrs. Newton did not answer her tele-

phone. Upon finding the front door broken, the neighbor left the Newton home to get a friend to go back to the home. The friend found Mrs. Newton and immediately contacted law enforcement officials.

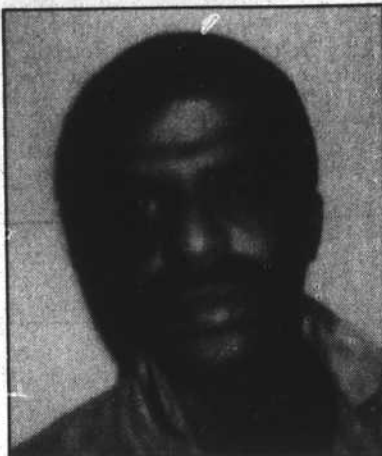
SBI crime reports indicated that Mrs. Newton was stabbed approximately 25 times. Lothian described the death as "a very violent crime."

Lothian praised the efforts of Long and Ransome in investigating the case and discovering new evidence that led to Burke's second arrest. He said informa-

tion leading to the arrest came "due to their (Long's and Ransome's) perseverance."

Friends said that Mrs. Newton, a Perquimans County native, was renovating the Winfall home and planned to retire here. She said she wanted to leave Philadelphia, Penn. due to the high crime rate there.

Burke had his first appearance in court Wednesday. A spokesperson for the Perquimans County Clerk of Superior Court said that while no definite probable cause date has been set, the next session of District Criminal Court is scheduled for Aug. 28.



**Vivia Darvis Burke**  
.... charged with murder



File photo by Susan Harris

### **Indian Summer fun**

The countdown to the Perquimans County Chamber of Commerce Indian Summer Festival has begun. Chamber officials are busy with last-minute details of the annual two-day event scheduled for Sept. 13 and 14. Entertainers, food vendors and crafters will converge on Hertford when the 10th Indian Summer gala rolls around. Pictured above are participants in last year's shag contest, one of the festival highlights.

## Waste Industries seeks town's business

Representatives of Waste Industries, Inc. spoke to the Hertford Town Council Monday night in regular session about assisting the town with solid waste management.

Regional Manager Jim Roberts and Elizabeth City Branch Manager Tom Palmer spoke on behalf of the company.

"We can do a lot of things for you," Roberts told council. "We would like to serve the town of Hertford any way we can."

Roberts said Waste Industries serves approximately 20,000 customers, and tailors their services to meet the needs of the county or municipality they serve. He said they provide any combination of residential pick-up, yard waste collection, commercial pick-up and street sweeping.

When asked by Councilman Billy Winslow about the services Waste Industries performs for the county, Roberts said that the company empties the dumpsters located around the county. The firm will man the convenience centers when they are constructed, he said.

"Some people think garbage collection is free. It's not," Roberts stated. "With landfill charged at \$25 a ton, it's costing somebody."

Mayor and City Manager W.D. "Bill" Cox said that those most impacted by solid waste management costs are small businesses. He added that with

spiraling costs, the town will struggle with the problem of providing services while containing costs.

"It's getting to be an expensive proposition," Cox said. "We need to look at every possibility that there is out there."

Council requested a bid on services from Cox Waste Industries. Councilman Eric Haste said he would like to see the cost of providing single services as well as a proposal on performing all waste services for the town.

Elliott Layden, owner of Elliott Layden Radio & Electric Shop, told the council that he felt that the \$20 per month charge the town had imposed to pick up refuse at his business was too high.

"A small business like mine doesn't have much trash," Layden said.

Cox told council that while letters stating a monthly charge for commercial collection had been mailed, he had tried to visit all the Hertford businesses to tell them that the charge would be postponed until further study could be conducted. He added that another letter will go out to businesses.

Councilman Jesse Harris said he doesn't think the town

should charge commercial customers at this time.

"Regardless of each one of ya'lls' opinions," Harris said pointing at his fellow councilmen, "we can get by for at least another year...We can pay this thing with no problems at all at this time (from the town's reserves)."

"This council is trying to find a fair and equitable fee for the merchants, if we charge a fee," Cox said. "All this came about because the county imposed a tipping fee."

Cox said that the county will begin charging a waste management fee to all residences in the county this year. Commercial customers are not being charged the \$25 county fee. Cox said that if the town chooses to absorb the cost of tipping fees at the Tri-County Landfill from the general fund, it would mean that all Hertford residents would be forced to pay the price of commercial dumping.

He added that new waste management regulations and rising costs are a problem the town must consider carefully so that the right decisions on handling the new problem can be made.

"We're not charging the people to pick their garbage up, we're charging them to get rid of it," Councilman Eric Haste stated.

## Cox pleased with business renovations

Business renovation in downtown Hertford is making Mayor Bill Cox happy.

"I'm real pleased with what is going on down there," Cox told the town council Monday night.

Cox said that with the renovation of three buildings on Market Street completed, the Blanchard building renovation

nearing completion and two Church Street storefronts being spruced up, the downtown area looks much better.

The mayor also announced that Lester Keel, who owns the building on the corner of Grubb and Edenton Road streets which is presently under condemnation proceedings, told Cox that he will renovate the building. Keel

told Cox that he has contacted a structural engineer who will evaluate the building and make recommendations. Cox added that Keel had requested that the town assist him with removal of the materials in and around the building.

## Hertford waterfront plan comes under fire

A plan to improve the waterfront area behind the town offices came under fire from a citizen during a Hertford Town Council meeting Monday night.

Sara Winslow, a Biologist Supervisor with the N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries, told council that two applications for waterfront grants had been submitted to her. The first, she said, was a request for funds to construct a parking lot, boardwalk and park along the waterfront behind the town offices. The second called for expansion of the Missing Mill Park parking lot and the construction of a 70-foot pier with handicap access.

Winslow said the design of the proposed improvements to the boat parking area on Punch Alley would result in the loss of half of the present parking spaces. She said that the lot is already congested on weekends, and that the loss of more parking spaces would only add to the congestion. She added that residents complain now about inadequate parking facilities and that the improvements would only make the situation worse.

Mayor W.D. "Bill" Cox and councilmen said that the plan was supposed to increase the number of parking spaces. Cox added that if the plan is funded by state or federal agencies, the town may have to consider altering the design.

"I still think that if we're lucky enough to get the grant, then we can change the plan," Cox said. "We're flexible."

Councilman Billy Winslow asked Sara Winslow how she feels about the construction of a

boardwalk and park area.

"Unfortunately, I see it as something else to be torn up (constructed) by county, federal and state monies," Winslow replied.

Town attorney Walter Edwards interjected that there was a public hearing on the proposed waterfront improvements.

Sara Winslow also suggested that the town check with the Division of Environmental Management regarding the recently-paved parking lot just behind the town offices. Winslow said she believes the town may be in violation of Storm Water Management codes. She said while the parking lot is not adjacent to the riverfront, the run-off may affect the river. Money to pay for the lot paving came from the Power Bill Fund set aside for street improvements.

In other discussion related to the waterfront, Phelps Street resident Eldon Winslow asked if the town could have the boat ramps declared a public nuisance. He said the early morning noise and speeding boats are a nuisance to residents along the waterfront. He also cited environmental concerns.

"I love this river more than I love myself," Winslow commented.

"I hate to be so negative," Winslow declared, after stating that if the boat ramp area continues to be abused it should be shut down. Cox reminded those present that town residents had requested a boat ramp years ago.



File photo by Susan Harris

### **Horizon funds at work**

Mayor W. D. "Bill" Cox told Hertford Town Council members Monday night that he is very pleased with renovations to the downtown area. Funds set aside for Hertford Horizons, a move to improve the looks of the town, are available to businesses who spruce up storefronts.