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# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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35 Cents

## Board acts on audit findings

By SUSAN R. HARRIS  
Editor

Schools superintendent Dr. Randall L. Henion and the board of education made a commitment to implement the recommendations of the state auditor's report performed this spring, and took a step in that direction Monday night.

The reorganization chart recommended by the auditors was implemented and endorsed unanimously by the board.

"We're moving quickly to implement the recommendations of the audit," Henion told the board.

Henion added that he is developing formal job descriptions for all those employees who answer directly to him, and is also developing performance evaluation standards based on the job descriptions. He said that all supervisors will be required to do the same, possibly using his work as a guideline.

The lack of job descriptions and performance appraisals was cited in the auditor's report. State funds awarded

The tax revaluation was not well-received by county residents as a whole, but its impact on state funding for the local school system was positive.

The county received no low wealth funding last year, but as a result of the revaluation, can expect to bank \$46,757 in 1992-93. The system will also realize an 80.7 percent increase in small school supplemental funding. The 1992-93 allotment is \$267,925, up from \$148,288 last fiscal year.

"We were in a financial crisis," said school superintendent Dr. Randall L. Henion. "This is a blessing."

Henion said he would like to be able to put all the monies from the two allotments into additional teachers and capital improvements. The funds will be used to make up for the cuts made in local funding.

Henion credited state senator Marc Basnight (D-Dare) with fighting to obtain additional state funding for small school systems, and also going against larger systems who wanted a piece of the funding pie.

"There were a lot of people after the small schools money," Henion commented.

Board member Clifford Winslow praised Basnight's efforts.

"Marc is really in our corner," Winslow said. "He really does work for the small schools."

D.A.R.E. or no D.A.R.E.?

Henion shared a letter from Perquimans County Sheriff Joseph Lothian indicating that his department cannot provide an officer for the D.A.R.E. program at Perquimans Middle School for the 1992-93 school year. Lothian suggested in his letter to Henion that the system contact other law enforcement agencies for personnel to run the program.

Henion said he has spoken with county manager N. Paul Gregory Jr. about the situation, and together the two are looking at options to retain D.A.R.E., including searching for grant monies. He said the program took about 80 man-hours to operate last year.

Henion added that deputy Ralph Robinson, who has been the D.A.R.E. officer for the past few years, had done a tremendous job with the students.

"Officer Robinson is an outstanding D.A.R.E. officer," Henion said. "It has been a very positive program."

## Beating the heat



Brandon Winslow (left) and Robbie Reed beat the heat of the sweltering July blast furnace with a dip in Robbie's backyard pool. Robbie's mother, Debbie, said the Reed family enjoys this cool oasis for a quick dip or just to lounge on the surrounding deck.

## U.S. 17 construction is underway

By SUSAN R. HARRIS  
Editor

Construction is well underway on the N.C. Department of Transportation project which calls for widening the U.S. Highway 17 Hertford Bypass to four lanes and building a second two-lane bridge over the Perquimans River.

The contract for the 3.2-mile stretch of U.S. 17 under construction from Winfall to just south of the Hertford city limits was awarded to Barnhill Construction Company of Tarboro. The job carries a \$3.5 million price tag.

J.R. Pope, resident engineer in DOT's Ahsoskie office, said last week that the construction, scheduled for completion next May, is slightly ahead of schedule.

"They're coming along, making good progress," Pope said. While there have been some delays in traffic flow recently, Pope said motorists shouldn't be slowed down too much during the project.

"Hopefully, we're about through with the major traffic delays," Pope said.

Pope did indicate that decreased speed limits through the construction area were possible during the road work.

The two new lanes will be used at completion, and some work will be done on the old section of roadway before opening all four lanes to traffic, Pope said.

T.A. Loving, Inc. of Goldsboro is building the \$5.1 million bridge. That project is not set for completion until late 1994.

Meanwhile, DOT is in the planning stages of the four-laning of U.S. Highway 17 from the end of the section presently under construction to Edenton.

John McDonald, DOT Division Construction Engineer in Ahsoskie, said design work and preliminary right of way



Traffic detours and slight delays are the price of progress along U.S. Highway 17 Bypass from Winfall to just south of Hertford. DOT officials said last week the four-laning project is ahead of schedule. The new bridge, however, will not open until late 1994.

acquisition plans are underway.

"Generally, we've had public meetings and looking at the design to get the people's input on design," McDonald said. "We're in the early phases of designing that roadway."

The 8-mile project calls for the relocation of 14 families and eight businesses, McDonald said. It will cross the present roadway five times from end to end.

Right of way acquisition is set to begin in late fall. DOT's schedule calls for the contract to be let in June 1994.

The total cost estimate for planning, right of way acquisition and construction from Winfall to Edenton, including the bridge, is \$29.3 million. Monies for the project will come from the North Carolina Highway Trust Fund.

## Hertford Police reports numerous arrests

The Hertford Police Department reported the following arrests:

On June 30, Meredith Ruddwood, 52, of Rt. 2, Box 553, Hertford, was issued a citation for speeding.

On July 2, Willie Louis Ford, 33, of 324 Market St., Hertford, was arrested and charged with driving while license revoked. Bond was set at \$200 unsecured.

On July 3, Shelma Clay Miller, 36, of 329 Market St., Hertford, was arrested and charged with harassing communication. Bond was set at \$500 secured.

On July 8, Henry Russell Mallory, 41, of Rt. 4, Box 239, Hertford, was arrested and charged with larceny. Bond was set at \$3,000 secured.

On July 8, Charles Donell White, 38, of Rt. 4, Box 44 Meads Trailer Park, Hertford, was arrested and charged with larceny. Bond was set at \$200 unsecured.

On July 7, Collin Sean Francis Pantin, 25, of Lot 35 Dogwood Mobile Home Park, Hertford, was arrested and charged with second degree trespass. He was released on a written promise to appear.

On July 7, Luke Elijah Burke, 42, of Rt. 2, Box 52-B, Hertford, was arrested and charged with injury to personal property. He was released on a written promise to appear.

On July 5, Maurica Onella Willis,

27, of Chowan Court Apt. 38, Edenton, was arrested and charged with speeding and driving while license revoked. Bond was set at \$100 secured.

On July 2, William Earl Elliott, 30, of 204 S. Church St., Hertford, was arrested and charged with larceny. Bond was set at \$500 secured.

On July 1, James Nathan Roberts, 25, of Albemarle District Jail, was arrested and charged with unauthorized use of a conveyance. Bond was set at \$1,000 secured.

On July 2, Linwood Clifton White, 33, of 154 Okisco Rd., Elizabeth City, was arrested and charged with assault on a female. He was released on a custodial bond.

On July 2, Shelma Clay Miller, 36, of 329 Market St., Hertford, was arrested and charged with assault by pointing a gun. Bond was set at \$200 secured.

On July 13, Marshall Dwight Davenport, 35, of 609 Church St., Hertford, was issued a citation for exceeding a safe speed.

On July 13, Morris Stanly Biggers, 22, HOCO 6th Marines, Jacksonville, was issued a citation for speeding.

On July 13, Jeffrey Rickard, 23, of 308 S. Church St., Hertford, was arrested and charged with second degree trespass. Bond was set at \$200 secured.

On July 9, Donald Brandon Yohn,

18, of Rt. 1, Box 626, Tyner, was issued a citation for speeding.

On July 9, Aubrey Carroll James, 45, of Rt. 4, Box 368, Edenton, was issued a citation for speeding.

On July 8, Charlie Rufus Spelman, 27, of 218 Wynn Fork Ct., Hertford, was arrested and charged with manufacture/create a counterfeit controlled substance. Bond was set at \$2,000 secured.

On July 8, Timothy Earl Duke, 30, of 4829 Windemere Ave. B, Norfolk, Va., was issued a citation for speeding.

On July 16, Reese Devon Johnson, 23, of Rt. 2, Box 878, Edenton, was arrested and charged with resist, obstruct and delay a law enforcement officer, engaging in a fray and second degree trespass. Bond was set at \$900 secured.

On July 6, Jason Ames, 19, of 855 E. 178th St., New York, N.Y., was arrested and charged with engaging in a fray and second degree trespass. He was released on a written promise to appear.

On July 14, Jermaine Travis Farrow, 19, of 318 Stokes Dr., Hertford, was arrested and charged with injury to real property, communicating threats and second degree trespass. Bond was set at \$1,400 secured.

## Videotapes: Bus riders to be filmed

By SUSAN R. HARRIS  
Editor

Students who ride Perquimans County School buses may become film stars next year.

The board of education took steps Monday night to help eliminate behavior problems on the county's school buses.

On the recommendation of schools superintendent Dr. Randall L. Henion, the board voted to purchase video camera mounting boxes for each school bus in the system and to begin purchasing video cameras to rotate among the boxes. The boxes will cost less than \$100 each. The total cost of purchasing and installing the boxes and enough cameras to implement the project will cost less than the cost of hiring one human monitor full-time to ride buses on a rotating schedule, Henion told the board.

Information obtained from other systems who have implemented the program has been overwhelmingly positive, Henion said. Superintendents report fewer behavior problems and said the tapes provide feedback to drivers on handling troublesome situations.

One other small school system in North Carolina has installed the cameras and boxes, Henion said. He added that both state school bus officials and the attorney general's office have given the program the nod of approval.

School bus riders will not know when they are being taped and when they are not, Henion said. A system will be put in place to review the 8 millimeter tapes and look for behavior problems and/or to call the drivers' attention to specific areas where he or she may need to make a change. Tapes which reveal a situation that could require administrative or board action will be dated and filed. Others will be used again.

"I don't have any objection to using them (the videos)," Clifford Winslow said, but added that controls must be set on the tapes' use, storage and access.

Vice chairman Ben Hobbs said videotaping is "the coming thing." He cited teachers who videotape classes as a tool to improve performance and use on school buses as examples of the use of videotaping in education.

"It's really a super idea," Hobbs said. "I think it's just the beginning (of the use of videotapes)."

Funds for the project will come from state sources, Henion said, probably from a transportation line item.

## Lanes establish Paul Smith award

By SUSAN R. HARRIS  
Editor

A local couple is honoring a late community activist with a memorial scholarship available beginning in Spring 1993.

The Perquimans County Board of Education Monday night accepted a \$1,000 scholarship established by Dr. and Mrs. Robert Earl Lane in memory of L. Paul Smith Sr. The annual award will be presented to a Perquimans High School senior who exhibits Smith's qualities of concern for the county exemplified through community service and is of high moral character.

"We hope that the kids in the community will take advantage of it," Mrs. Lane told the board. She added that she also hopes the scholarship will promote volunteerism and community involvement among youth.

Board members were pleased with the scholarship establishment.

"I think this is very fitting because that is what Paul Smith was known for, community service," said board chairman L. Wayne Howell.

"We really are appreciative. Paul and myself were good friends and I know that he would be pleased that something like this was done in his honor," Howell added.

The Lanes expressed concern that students might not realize the scholarship was available until their senior year, a time they felt would be too late since the scholarship is based on a history of community service.

Schools superintendent Dr. Randall Henion said the high school administration and staff has discussed the development of a scholarship manual outlining scholarships, awards and other financial programs available. He said this scholarship and the criteria for judging could be added to the manual, which will be available for review by all students at the high school.

In addition to helping students with college expenses, Mrs. Lane said she and her husband hope that the establishment of the L. Paul Smith Sr. Memorial Scholarship for Community Service will stimulate other businesses to fund scholarships for local students.

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PERQUIMANS COUNTY