

The Perquimans Weekly 35¢

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Hertford, North Carolina 27944

LET IT SNOW!



PHOTO BY SUSAN HARRIS

Anthony Skinner, 5, (left) and Clinton Skinner, 7, braved the cold winds Monday to play in the snow. The duo set out to make snowballs, but both said the snow was too cold for

them to keep their hands in it for long. The Skinners were two of Perquimans County's school children who enjoyed two days out of school due to the weather.

Stubbins takes seat on county commissioners

By SUSAN R. HARRIS
Editor

Eveyn B. Stubbins was sworn in as Perquimans County's newest commissioner during the commissioners' meeting on Jan. 2.

Stubbins, who retired last year as a home economics teacher with the Perquimans County School System, was chosen to replace David Bines Jr. Bines died in October. She will fill Bines' unexpired term which runs through 1998.

The commissioners reviewed two step increases requested by county department heads at the December meeting, one for chief sheriff's deputy Dean Cartwright and one for building inspector Aubrey Onley.

Sheriff David Lane's initial request for Cartwright's increase was denied. However, commissioners readdressed the request later in the meeting when discussing an increase for Onley. Both county employees were approved for single step increases in July when the 1996-97 fiscal budget takes affect. County Manager Paul Gregory said the increases will cost the county about \$1,700.

Lane had requested the increase for Cartwright in December, Cartwright's one-year anniversary date with the sheriff's department. He told commissioners Cartwright had been told when he was hired that he would be reviewed for a step increase after 12 months.

The request for Onley came after the building inspector successfully completed state courses which moved him from a Level 1 to a Level 2 inspector.

A request by interim tax supervisor Cheryl Phillips to approve the use of a new book to determine the value of farm equipment was approved. Phillips told the board that values were being placed on equipment based on what they were worth on a dealer's lot, Gregory said. The new book assigns values on the equipment as it sits in the farmer's possession.

Farm agencies in the county are expected to present several proposals to the county at the board's February meeting concerning moving all farm-related agencies into one building. At present, the Farm Services Agency and former Farmers Home Administration offices are located at the Albemarle Commission building. The extension service and natural resources conservation service are housed in the extension building.

Gregory said he expects proposals on adding onto existing buildings to house all agencies under one roof and building a new building.

Perquimans and Pasquotank counties have both sent letters to the Intercounty Water Department indicating their willingness to talk to Intercounty officials about splitting Intercounty's customers between Pasquotank and Perquimans.

Lewis Smith was appointed to the Winfall Planning/Zoning Board per a request from Winfall Mayor Fred Yates.

Deborah Spence has returned to fill a social worker's position at the Department of Social Services vacated by Ellen Ferrell.

Winter storm hits Albemarle

Snow, icy roads close schools for two days

By SUSAN R. HARRIS
Editor

It came quietly in the night, but the storm that hit the Albemarle area Saturday evening was apparent Sunday morning when the ground was covered with a white blanket.

Although most of Saturday's snowfall had been washed away by Sunday afternoon, the storm continued to hold its firm grip on the Albemarle area, producing high winds, rain, snow and extremely cold weather.

Perquimans was one of the area school districts that announced a two-hour delay for opening school Monday. But before school buses began making their rounds,

more snowfall, coupled with low temperatures, caused school officials to close school for the day. Continued snowfall and low temperatures kept the schools closed on Tuesday also.

County and town offices closed around 2 o'clock Monday afternoon as snow continued to fall and secondary roads had icy patches.

By Tuesday at noon, much of the snow had melted. Some forecasters were calling for additional flurries before the weekend.

Both the Perquimans County Sheriff's Department and Hertford Police Department reported no accidents caused by the treacherous road conditions.

A Perquimans County ambulance, however, suffered \$2,500 in damages when it was hit by a car while transporting an accident victim to Chowan Hospital Saturday night.

Neither the ambulance driver, Melanie Hollowell of

Hertford, nor the patient attendant, Sid Eley of Hertford, were injured during the incident.

The patient, Willie Foreman, 25, of Route 4, Hertford, was charged with exceeding a safe speed for road conditions. She was also transported to Chowan Hospital for treatment.

Foreman had been involved in a weather-related car accident on U.S. Highway 17 bypass in Perquimans County. The accident was handled by the N.C. Highway Patrol.

The other vehicle's driver, Nina Litterst of 512 Dobbs Street, Hertford, was charged with exceeding a safe speed for road conditions. She was also transported to Chowan Hospital.

The accident happened around 6:45 p.m. a quarter-mile from the Virginia Road Interchange on U.S. Highway 17 Bypass.

Litterst was traveling north on the highway when the rear of her 1986 Pontiac began sliding right. The car

went into a 180-degree spin and crossed the center line, hitting the ambulance. Litterst was traveling 35 mph.

Her car sustained \$4,500 in damages. Foreman was involved in a similar accident shortly after 6 p.m. He had been traveling south on U.S. 17 bypass near Rural Paved Road 1340 when his car went into a spin and hit another vehicle.

Foreman was also charged with exceeding a safe speed for road conditions.

Neither the town of Hertford Utilities Department nor Albemarle Electric Membership Corporation reported power outages or other storm-related problems.

State Department of Transportation officials stayed busy clearing, sanding and salting roadways. There were still reports of icy spots Tuesday morning, but U.S. Highway 17 was reportedly clear with no traffic problems.

State leadership training classes offered to public

Leadership North Carolina, a six-month innovative educational leadership program designed for emerging leaders from across the state from the public, private and non-profits sectors, is currently taking applications for the third and fourth classes which begin in April 1996 and January 1997, respectively.

The program consists of a two-day orientation retreat and five one and one-half day monthly seminars held in various regions of the state. Session topics include: Government, Economic Development, Education, Health Care and Human Services, Environment, and Quality of Life. Leaders from the various topical fields participate as panelists and speakers to address with the class

the most current issues and concerns. Class members participate in case studies and discussion groups as well as visit many places of interest in the meeting locations.

The program is open to all citizens of the state. A selection committee will give special consideration to ensure geographic, occupational, race and gender diversity of the class. Successful candidates will have demonstrated leadership in their local communities and indicate a willingness to serve the state in the future. A limited number of partial scholarships will be awarded based upon financial need.

Applications forms can be obtained by contacting Marian Phillips, Executive Director, at the Leadership North Carolina office. Phone: 919-279-6655.

CLEANING UP



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The town of Hertford undertook a massive tire cleanup effort on town property at the waste treatment plant. The Gates County Correctional Facility provided inmate labor. Funds to cover the cost of transportation and disposal. Regional Landfill Director Jerry Parks assisted.

Sex offender registration law takes effect in North Carolina

Convicted sex offenders in North Carolina are now required to register with the local sheriff's department per a law that took affect Jan. 1.

Perquimans Sheriff's Deputy Anthony Spellman said Monday that no one has registered in Perquimans County.

The new law will give communities access to information about people in their neighborhoods. Residents may request and review information about any registered sex offender from the sheriff. Information includes the type of offense, personal information and a photograph of the offender.

According to Sean Walsh with the governor's office, sex offenders who fail to register may be charged with a class III misdemeanor. District Attorney Frank Parrish said the punishment for a Class II conviction could be up to 20 days in jail and a maximum fine of \$200 depending on the offender's number of prior convictions.

Some law enforcement officials are concerned that so light a penalty will not force offenders to register as required by law.

Governor Hunt proposed the new law in his campaign to make the state safer.

Outside

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
High: 40s Low: 10s CLEAR	High: 40s Low: 30s CHANCE OF RAIN	High: 40s Low: 20s PARTLY CLOUDY