## TOGETHER AGAIN



The Perquimans County High School class of 1945 celebrated its 60th reunion on June 25 at Burgess Baptist Church Fellowship Hall. Those attending were Helen Baker Domitrowski, Esther Winslow Markham, Myrtle Whedbee Copeland, Charles Hoskins, Colin Jackson and Floyd Benton. Guests were Robert Domitrowski, Sidney Copeland, Vida Hoskins, Johnnie Jackson, Betsy Benton, Janie Proctor and Peggy Winslow.

## FSA saves bobwhite quails

species.

and nutrients.

more habitat.

Wildlife

Results

In addition, the initiative

will reduce soil erosion and

protect water quality by

trapping field sediments

sportsmen's organizations

have organized studies and

launched efforts to boost

North Carolina quail popu-

lations. They all point to

one thing: the need for

Carolina has been involved

with research on field bor-

ders and early succession

birds for the past decade.

Commission cooperated

with N.C. State University

to compare bobwhite popu-

lations and ecology on

replicated study areas with

and without field borders.

research projects were used

to develop the Cooperative

Upland habitat Restoration

and Enhancement (CURE)

PROGRAM. Habitat work

CRP Northern Bobwhite

Quail Habitat Initiative

Program may provide

about \$125 million in pay-

ments to participants

through 2007 when the

overall statutory enroll-

ment limit is expected to be

reached. The U.S. Fish and

Wildlife Service and 32

state fish and wildlife agen-

cies are providing techni-

cal, monitoring and evalua-

FSA has partnered with

Quail Unlimited, the Southeast Quail Study

Group, Pheasants Forever,

Ducks Unlimited, the

National Wild Turkey

Federation and other con-

servation groups, as well as

local conservation dis-

tricts, to provide outreach,

technical expertise and

The project contact is

Conservation Initiative

Coordinator, 501-941-7994,

McKenzie,

Bobwhite

other assistance.

wmidm@ipa.net.

Donald

Northern

tion assistance.

The USDA estimates the

was initiated in 2002.

from

Carolina

Resources

North

Weatherly said North

Wildlife groups and

State wildlife enthusiasts no longer wonder where all the quail have gone, thanks to the efforts of USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) and its many partners.

"All species seem to have their dedicated devotees, but no game species seems to provoke more passion than bobwhite quail," said Keith H. Weatherly, state executive director of the

Northern bobwhite quail are a native quail species with an historic range in the Midwest and Southeast areas of the country. The birds are a valued inhabitant of farm landscapes, an important aspect of rural culture and key to the heritage of hunting. The Northern bobwhite quail population declined dramatically over the last quarter century. Their habitats are disappearing to urbanization, increased grassland cultivation and a transitioning of once-grassy fields into woods and forests — a process called succession.

To underline the bird's importance, FSA, which has the largest conservation partnership involving private land in the United States, is paying private land owners in 35 states to set aside land for quail habitat. The CRP Northern Bobwhite Quail Habitat Initiative introduced a conservation practice intended to create 250,000 acres of early successional grass buffers along agricultural field borders. To date, more than 48,000 acres have been enrolled with 2,264 of those in North Carolina. Also, 2,900 acres are pending approval.

FSA estimates this nesting and brood-rearing cover will increase bobwhite quail numbers by 750,000 birds annually. Planted buffers will also benefit reptiles, amphibians, aquatic species and upland birds, many of which are being considered for listing as endangered

**DEATHS** 

Joyce P. Sawyer Joyce Patrick Sawyer, 73, of 2744 Rocky Hock Road, died Tuesay, Aug. 30, 2005 in her home. Ms. Sawyer was the daughter of Mary Swain and Seaton Patrick and the wife of the late William "Bill" douglas Sawyer. She was a member of Faith Fellowship Baptist Church.

Surviving include her three daughters, Brenda S. Harrell and her husband Louis of Edenton, Janice S. Oden of Bath and Mary A. Sawyer of Edenton; two sons, David Sawyer and his wife Mary of Edenton and Bill Sawyer of Raleigh; and six grandchildren.

Ms. Sawyer was preceded in death by her son, Glen Sawyer, and her son-in-law, John H. Oden III.

Friends may sign the online register by visiting www.evansfuneralsandcremations.com.

A celebration of Ms. Sawyer's life was held Sept. 2 in Faith Fellowship Baptist Church with the Rev. Tom Gregory officiating. Burial followed in Scuppernong Church Cemetery.

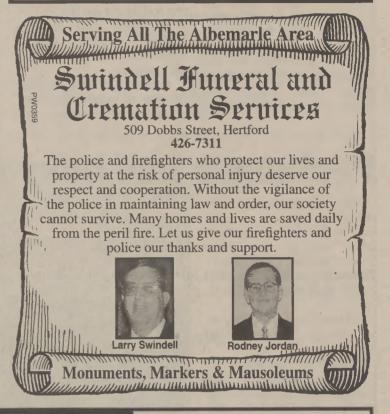
Memorials may be made to Albemarle Hospice, PO Box 189, Elizabeth City, NC 27909 or to the Shephard-

Edenton, NC 27932. Evans Sawyer family.

106 W. Water Street, of Edenton served the



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