

DOBSON COMMUNITY COUNCIL
P.O. BOX 1258
DOBSON, NORTH CAROLINA 27017

DOBSON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

presentation to the

NORTHWEST NORTH CAROLINA DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

in consideration of recognition

ALL - NORTHWEST COMMUNITY

1986

DOBSON COMMUNITY COUNCIL
P.O. BOX 1258
DOBSON, NORTH CAROLINA 27107

ORDER OF PRESENTATIONS FOR JUDGING

1. Welcome: Mayor Jimmie H. Davis
2. The Dobson Community Council: Dr. Swanson Richards, Chairman
3. Dobson Better Appearance Team: Harold Davis, Chairman
4. Business-Professional-Industrial Committee: Shirley Wright, Chairman
5. Community Affairs Committee: Slim Reynolds, Vice Chairman
6. Street Knights Auto Club: Slim Reynolds, President
7. Dobson Lions Club: Pat Guyer, President
8. Dobson Woman's Club: Minnie Hyler, Past President
9. Dobson Jaycees: Keith Stanley, President
10. Early Bird Homemakers Club: Annie Laurie McMillian, Past President
11. Dobson Senior Citizens Club: Annie Laurie McMillian, President
12. Three Rivers Shrine Club: Jay Brendle, Reporter
13. Surry Community College: Jerry Weaver, Director of Learning Resource Center
14. Surry Central High School: Gene Everette, Chairman Community Affairs Committee and SCHS Counsellor
15. Dobson Elementary School: Doug Cook, Principal
16. Youth Recreation: John Brame, Coordinator
17. Scouting: David Ayers, Senior Patrol Leader
18. Wolfpack 4H Club: David Greene, President
19. Surry County Young Farmers and Ranchers: David Haynes, President
20. Church Activities: Rev. Lonnie Kendall, Pastor, Dobson United Methodist Church
21. Local Government Services: Wayne Atkins, Dobson Town Administrator
22. Agriculture Extension Services: Christine Greene-Harris, Agent
23. Summary: Dr. Swanson Richards, Chairman

TOWN of DOBSON

107 WEST ATKINS STREET

POST OFFICE BOX 351

DOBSON, N. C. 27017

P. R O C L A M A T I O N

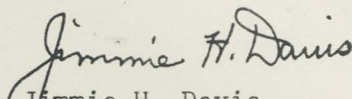
WHEREAS, Since 1953, the Northwest North Carolina Development Association has been a dynamic force for progress with an outstanding record of accomplishments in its eleven-county district, and

WHEREAS, the Association promotes friendly competition among the communities it serves, the results of which have given recognition and encouragement to communities for their improvement efforts, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Dobson Board of Commissioners has officially recognized the Dobson Community Council as the lead organization for community development activity in this area,

BE IT THEREFORE PROCLAIMED the the Town of Dobson enthusiastically welcomes representatives of the Northwest North Carolina Development Association as judges of the Dobson Community Council's outstanding efforts to make this community a better place to live, work and enjoy.

GIVEN BY MY HAND AND SEAL this First day of February, 1987.


Jimmie H. Davis
Mayor

DOBSON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Dr. Swanson Richards, Chairman

After several years of inactivity, the Dobson Community Council was reorganized in January 1986 as a coalition of Dobson area clubs, schools, churches, businesses, industries, professional offices, governmental agencies and other organizations. There are 120 members representing some 50 organizations and businesses. Membership is open to anyone interested in improving the Dobson community.

The council is organized into four standing committees: the Better Appearance Team (BAT Committee); the Business-Professional-Industrial (BPI Committee); the Community Affairs Committee (CAC); and the Executive Committee. The BAT, BPI and CAC activities are briefed elsewhere in this report.

The Executive Committee is made up of the Council officers and the other committee chairmen. It acts as a board of directors, generally coordinating the activities of the other committees, supporting activities of all participating organizations. The Executive Committee has specific responsibility for financing, maintaining and scheduling the Dobson Community Building.

Community Building Fund Raising

As its first priority, the Executive Committee reviewed the status of the Community Building, built ten years ago through the leadership of the previous Community Council. The study showed that operating costs (utilities, supplies, etc.) were only marginally met by rental payments for parties, receptions, etc. and by lease of the basement to Surry County Schools as a classroom day care of severely handicapped children. Inadequate progress was being made toward payment on the mortgage and a maintenance fund was needed to take care of immediate needs and future repairs.

A goal of \$50,000 was established to pay off the mortgage in three years, make necessary repairs and to establish maintenance fund. \$19,550 was raised in 1986 which exceeded the year's goal of \$15,000 by \$4,550. The following Community Building Fund raising events were coordinated by the Community Council:

(1) The Lions Club held a barbeque chicken dinner June 14 and raised \$700 for the community building.

(2) The Lions Club, with the assistance of the Woman's Club, Senior Citizens Club, Surry Central High School and other members of the Community Council, sponsored the 29th Annual Dobson Community Horse Show July 18-19 which raised \$3,500.

(3) The Woman's Club held its annual Christmas Bazaar November 14 which raised \$1,850.

(4) A cash prize raffle and community dinner December 6 was organized by the Community Council which netted \$9,400.

(5) The Executive Committee obtained a \$1,500 grant from the North Carolina Legislature for replacement of two heat pumps in the building.

(6) The Executive Committee sent letters to local businesses, industries and individuals soliciting donations to the Building Fund. \$2,550 was contributed in 1986.

The Surry Standard

25c

February 27, 1986

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Community Council sets committees

The Dobson Community Council held an organizational meeting at the Community Building Tuesday to elect executive committee officers and establish committee priorities.

Those elected were: Chairman, Dr. Swanson Richards; First Vice-Chairman, Charlie Jackson; Second Vice-Chairman, Patsy Shepherd; Secretary, Christine Greene-Harris; and Treasurer, Harold Davis.

The Executive Committee will act as the Board of Directors for the council in addition to setting goals and objectives, establishing council procedure, and coordinating committee activities.

In addition to the Executive Committee, three other committees

were established and assigned specific activities for the betterment of the Dobson area community.

The Business, Professional, Industrial (BPI) Committee will be chaired by Shirley Wright and co-chaired by Jimmie Davis.

This committee will be responsible for economic development activity benefiting the Dobson area including business promotion, professional services and industry development.

The Community Affairs Committee (CAC) will be responsible for activities which improve the quality of life for people in the Dobson area and

Please See P. 2

Community Council

From Page 1

visitors. This will include recreational facilities, youth activities, religious affairs, education and governmental services.

The CAC committee will be chaired by Gene Everette and co-chaired by Slim Reynolds.

An already existing committee, the Better Appearance Team (BAT), was also brought under the wing of the council and will continue to be responsible for area beautification efforts and environmental improvements. Executive Director of the BAT Committee is Bob Comer with Harold Davis serving as Chairman of the group.

The BAT Committee informed the council that it will be replacing the Town Flag with a new one at the end of March, and will conduct another dogwood tree sale in the near future.

In addition, BAT will sponsor a clean-up day at the city cemetery on March 22 from 10 until noon, with everyone invited to bring a rake and help out.

The BAT committee is also proposing to build attractive redwood flower container/park bench combinations to be placed throughout the city.

The next council meeting will be held March 24 at 4 p.m. in the Community Building.

The council discussed undertaking a Dobson area business promotion survey which would measure business activities in the Dobson trade area. To be conducted by the Department of Natural Resources and Community Development Community Assistance Division, the project would be under the direction of the BPI Committee.

In addition, the Executive Committee was charged with reviewing rental procedures, scheduling procedures, and current charges for use of the Community Building.

Community Building Supporters Report Highly Successful Fund-Raiser

DOBSON—The Dobson Community Building treasury is nearly \$10,000 richer as the result of a fund-raiser Saturday night.

Under the leadership of the Dobson Community Council, a coalition of Dobson businesses, civic clubs, churches and individuals, a fund drive was begun in November to raise \$50,000 to pay off the \$38,000 mortgage on the structure and to make needed repairs totalling about \$12,000.

A portion of that goal was accomplished Saturday, as a \$100-per-ticket barbecue dinner at Surry Central High School brought in a profit of \$9,598, according to Charles C. Jackson, chairman of a group

of volunteers who built the community building in 1976.

Jackson said that ticket sales totalled \$17,427, and that the group had about \$8,528 in expenses.

One of those people attending the dinner is also richer, as the purchase of a ticket entitled the holder not only to dinner, but to a chance on a \$5,000 cash award.

Jackson said that prize was won by Mrs. Ray Slawter of Dobson, while several other people were winners of smaller monetary prizes.

He noted that the Community Council was "well-pleased"

the profit from the event, and that the money will be put to good use.

First priority for the funds will be to pay off some debts that are due, and any remaining money will be used for repairs to the building, Jackson said.

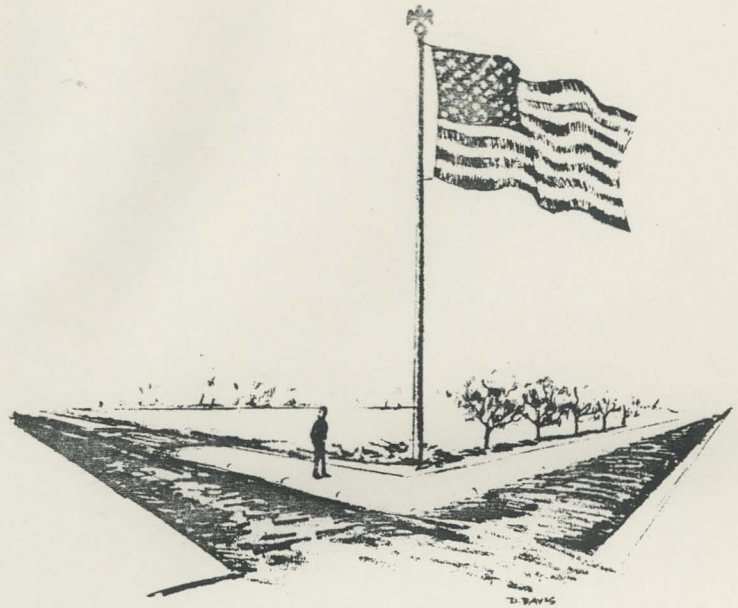
He added that no immediate plans have been made for any other fund-raising events, but said the dinner prompted many individuals in the community to make pledges to the community building fund.

Town of

DOBSON

BETTER APPEARANCE TEAM (BAT) EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

P. O. Box 351
Dobson, N. C. 27017
Tel. (919) 386-8962



Harold Davis, Chairman

The Dobson Better Appearance Team Executive Committee (BAT Committee) was formed in 1982. The Committee is made up of representatives of area civic clubs, schools, churches and other organizations interested in improving the appearance of the Dobson area. The representatives are nominated by their organization and are officially appointed by the Town of Dobson Board of Commissioners as an advisory commission on town beautification and appearance matters.

The BAT Committee's initial project was the development of several mini parks in town. The BAT Committee identifies unsightly, poorly cared for vacant lots, leases them at no cost, clears the lots of trash and weeds, plants grass and then subleases the lot to a member organization for maintenance and improvements such as shrubs, flowers, benches and picnic tables. There are seven BAT mini parks in Dobson now including the American Flag Park uptown maintained by the BAT Committee.

1986 BAT Committee Accomplishments:

(1) Two new mini parks were constructed in 1986, sponsored by the Wolfpack 4H Club and the Dobson Lions Club. The two parks were adjoining, unattractive weed lots in the center of town. Both have been cleared, leveled and planted in grass. The Lions have planted dogwood trees and spring bulbs. The 4H Club has planted dogwoods, white pines and has landscaped a four leaf clover walking trail in the park. Picnic tables constructed by Surry Community College's prison campus shop have been placed among trees at the center of the two parks.

(2) In the Spring of 1986, the BAT Committee purchased 600 five-foot dogwood trees for resale and planting in the Dobson area. Although the summer drought killed many trees, at least 300 to 350 new dogwoods that will soon be blooming in yards and along the streets of the Dobson area.

(3) The BAT Committee sponsored the annual "Dobson Spring Cleaning" in April, coordinating the participation of students from Dobson Elementary School, Surry Central High School and Surry Community College in cleaning up litter along the streets of Dobson. Over 100 bags of litter were collected.

(4) The BAT Committee's Flag Park was spruced up with a new 20' by 30' foot American flag, spring flowers and new dogwood trees. A plaque honoring contributors to the project was ordered.

(5) One thousand flower bulbs were obtained free by the BAT Committee from a local bulb distribution and were planted in the mini parks by BAT members.

(6) Surry Central High School's vocational class built a wrought iron and redwood bench with materials donated by Dobson Town employees in memory of former Mayor G. R. Mottsinger. The bench was placed in the BAT's Norman Alley Park in central Dobson.

(7) In cooperation with the County Manager the BAT Committee was instrumental in helping develop a landscape plan for the Surry County Court House square and obtaining a \$7,500 grant for the legislature to finance the project which will be completed in the spring of 1987.

(8) On March 29, the BAT Committee sponsored an Easter clean-up of the cemetery. 30 volunteers spent a Saturday cutting out dead trees and limbs, trimming bushes and grass, raking and sprucing up the cemetery. Each participant was given a free dogwood tree to plant.

BUSINESS-PROFESSIONAL-INDUSTRIAL COMMITTEE

Shirley Wright, Chairman

The Business-Professional-Industrial (BPI) Committee of the Dobson Community Council is responsible for economic development activities benefiting the Dobson area, to include promoting business, professional service and industrial development.

The BPI's goal for 1986 was to conduct a survey of Dobson merchants and shoppers in order to determine why people do or do not do business here. The BPI Committee believed that the answer to that question would lead to improvements in the business climate and to opportunities for providing new and better goods and services to the people in the Dobson area market.

Shopper and Merchants Surveys:

The BPI Committee asked the Town of Dobson Board of Commissioners to sponsor a shopper and merchants survey by the N.C. Department of Natural Resources and Community Development (NRCD). NRCD offers the program to municipalities through its Community Assistance Division. The Town agreed to pay the cost involved in the analysis for computer time. The questionnaires were professionally designed by NRCD, they were copied, distributed and collected by BPI Committee members in the summer of 1986.

Merchants questionnaires were delivered and explained to 50 local businesses. 41 were completed and returned. The shoppers survey forms were handed out by BPI members at a booth in the shopping center, placed on counters at businesses and printed in the newspaper. 181 were returned. Both questionnaires were completed by more than enough number of people to permit satisfactory analysis. Analysis by NRCD was completed in November and a summary is attached.

The analysis of Dobson's business climate indicates there are opportunities for expanded sales of goods and services in the market area. It also indicates that the Dobson business community is good at what they do but improvements could be made such as by offering a wider range of products and better marketing and promotion of Dobson as a place to do business.

The survey and analysis will serve as basis for developing a business promotion plan by the BPI Committee in 1987.

(SURVEY CONCLUSIONS ATTACHED)

Dobson

(Continued from Page 5A)

MARKET SURVEY PLANNED

A survey of the Dobson area business market and a comprehensive plan based on the survey results could pay great dividends to merchants, business and professional concerns in this area. An improved business climate would bring more shoppers to Dobson, create more jobs and improve the property and sales tax base, helping ease the tax burden on citizens of the area.

This was the message of Jonathan Edwards, a community planning specialist with the North Carolina Department of Natural Resources and Community Development, Winston-Salem regional office. He addressed 20 members of the Dobson Community Council April 8 at the Community Building.

The council's Business, Professional and Industry (BPI) Committee invited Edwards to assist in the program after the Dobson Town Board had agreed earlier this year to sponsor the survey.

BPI Committee Chairman Shirley Wright said members will review the survey forms before distributing them locally. The first survey will be given to business, professional and industry people to gain their views on what needs to be done locally to promote area business. Then, with Edwards' assistance, a shopper's survey will be conducted of people who live, work or do business in the Dobson area.

The results of the two surveys will be tabulated by NRCD computers, analyzed by Edwards and the results discussed with the BPI Committee.

"By finding out what the local merchants and professionals believe is important and why people of this area say they do or do not do business locally, Dobson area business and professional people should be able to work out a plan to improve the situation," Edwards said. He would assist in developing the plan, which might include special promotions, a festival, store front and window display improvements and other community improvement projects.

He emphasized that all survey forms would be retained by his office and kept confidential. Thus, no local officials would know who said what. The community would know the consensus of opinions about Dobson area business and government after the results were tabulated but individual opinions would not be revealed.

II. Conclusions

Dobson has a relatively large trading area, extending as far as ten miles from the town itself, and a relatively affluent clientele, with 57.4% having annual incomes of over \$25,000. Dobson is the immediate shopping area of choice for these people since it ranks much higher in frequency of shopping than does its competitors. Furthermore, the majority of its shoppers trade in Dobson more often now than they did two years ago.

However, these shoppers spend a relatively small proportion of their total available shopper dollars in Dobson and do so primarily for low-unit-cost expendible items such as food, gasoline, vehicle servicing, flowers, and personal care. Furthermore, these types of goods are principally carried by operations requiring relatively low capitalization and thus, according to national statistical studies, are generally the types of retail operations with the lowest levels of business stability. Dobson shoppers rely primarily on Elkin and Mt. Airy for relatively high-unit-cost, durable goods such as clothing, furniture, household accessories and appliances, and vehicle purchase. They even rely on far-away Winston-Salem for such items much more than they look to Dobson.

Corroborating these conclusions are the responses of Dobson shoppers whose three most-favored improvements concerned widening the range of goods and services available in Dobson—more department stores, (in other words, more general, durable merchandise), more clothing stores, and a better selection of goods and services. Shoppers, too, ranked Dobson poor in variety of goods available and had concerns about the prices of goods that are available in Dobson, and to a lesser extent about the quality of Dobson's goods.

Dobson's clear assets of shopper loyalty, locational convenience, relatively good physical appearance and cleanliness, good parking, friendly salespeople, and perceived safety, are all being under-utilized by its poor selection of goods and services. In addition, Dobson's reliance on offering low-unit-value expendibles is a failure to recognize effectively the business opportunities that exist in its natural trading area and carries an unnecessarily high danger of instability. A general effort, therefore, to improve Dobson's retail strength, should concentrate in the direction of increasing the variety, quality, and cost-competitiveness of Dobson's retail goods and services, particularly with regard to enhancing the availability of higher-value durables which its shoppers now seek elsewhere at far greater traveling distances and to increasing promotional activities, instituting evening store hours on a more general basis, and improving even more the area's physical attractiveness and convenience.

Opportunity for retailers

II. Conclusions:

Overall, most merchants feel that Dobson's business activity and business climate are satisfactory and improving, although many feel that there is ample room for betterment. The overwhelming majority of Dobson's merchants are renters, but they intend to stay in business in the town. Also, many feel that their customer base is improving with regard with results from the accompanying Shopper Survey which indicated a relatively high income level in Dobson's market area.

While one-third of the town's merchants have been in business for fifteen years or more, 44% (almost half) have been in business for less than four years, indicating not only a reasonably attractive climate for starting new business but also a fairly high level of business instability, for reasons, as pointed out in the Shopper Survey, having to do with a concentration of merchants relying on low-item-cost expendible consumer goods and a relative lack of inventory capitalization on high-unit-price durable goods.

The busiest time of day for merchants tends by far to be in the late afternoon, probably just after employees finish their work shifts. As indicated in the Shopper Survey, an extension of store hours into selected evings would be advisable particularly as an increasing number of households have to work-
ing adults who cannot as readily shop during working hours.

Merchants tend to rate some of Dobson's commercial characteristics higher than do shoppers. For instance, 51% of merchants rated variety of goods available as fair, while 56% of shoppers rated the same characteristic as poor; similarly 53% of merchants rated quality of goods as good, while only 34% of shoppers rated this characteristic as good, with 54% rating it as fair. Concerning some other characteristics, such as friendliness of salespeople, safety, cleanliness, and parking, merchants' and shoppers' ratings were almost identical.

Parking, at present, does not offer an impediment to Dobson's commercial attractiveness or convenience. A fairly high proportion of businesses provide private customer parking spaces. However, as business activity hopefully increases in the future, parking availability and convenience may become a problem without a corresponding increase in customer parking, either by

Page 5

building more spaces or by eliminating more employee use of parking more appropriately reserved for customers.

While active membership by merchants in The Dobson Community Council could be higher, there was nevertheless a generally high willingness expressed by merchants to cooperate in joint, voluntary promotional and improvement efforts, probably on a project-by-project basis. The better the extent that this willingness can be tapped and utilized, the more likely it will be for Dobson as an entrepreneurial community to grow, diversify, and prosper, to everyone's benefit. While the initiative and core activity for Dobson's improvement must come from the private sector, there are supporting activities which may be helpful for the Town (and the County considering its important properties and employment in Dobson) to undertake, such as selected landscaping, streetlighting, sidewalk repair and extension, code enforcement, and similar measures.

As far as Dobson's retail and business community is concerned, the most important and effective steps to undertake include widening the diversity and quality of goods and services available in Dobson, in order to attract a larger share of its currently under-tapped natural market, and to promote the expansion of existing employers and obtain-
ing of new employers, in order to strengthen the local market.

C.C.:
Change
Meeting time X

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

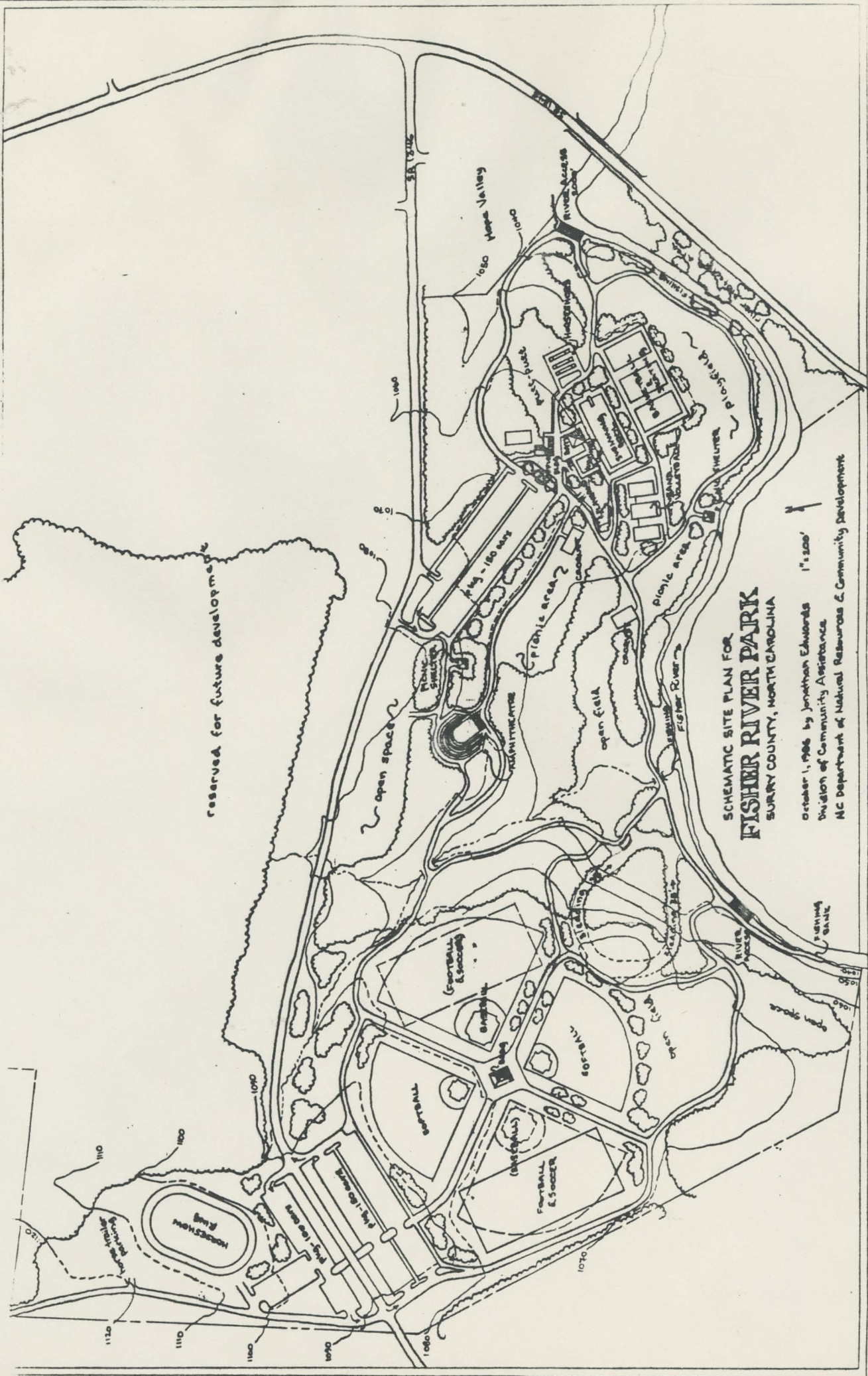
Gene Everette, Chairman

The Community Affairs Committee (CAC) of the Dobson Community Council is responsible for activities (other than beautification) that tend to improve the quality of life of people in the Dobson area and our visitors. These areas of activities include recreation, youth activities, spiritual affairs, education and government services. The latter areas of activities are briefed in other sections of this report. This CAC report covers the effort under way to establish a recreation park near Dobson.

Fisher River Park:

Under the leadership of Vice Chairman Slim Reynolds, the CAC originated a drive to convert the Old County Home property on Fisher River near Dobson into a recreation park for all Surry County citizens and visitors. Reynolds organized the Fisher River Park steering committee which is now being expanded into an official county commission. The Committee developed a professionally prepared master plan for the park and has submitted a phased construction schedule and budget to the County Commissioners. The Park proposal includes income to be derived from a local fund raising drive, federal, state and private foundation grants and in-kind services provided by construction companies and individuals, much of which has already been pledged. Progress on the proposal is expected when the County Commissioners approve a lease for the property to the newly formed Commission in early 1987.

(NEWS ARTICLE ATTACHED)



**SCHEMATIC SITE PLAN FOR
FISHER RIVER PARK
SURRY COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA**

October 1, 1966 by Jonathan Edwards
 Division of Community Assistance
 NC Department of Natural Resources & Community Development

County Seat area supports its Friends Of The Library in the name of \$1,600. See report in Hester Jackson's Dobson column on Page 5.

Dobson Edition

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Times-Foothills, Thursday July 22, 1968

Reality Of Recreational Facility Depends On Local Interest And Support Say State Officials

DOBSON—Citizens seeking to create a recreational park here were advised Tuesday night, July 15, to work together to get what they want, and not to wait on government funds that may never materialize.

Officials of the state Division of Parks and Recreation and Northwest Piedmont Council of Governments told the group that federal funds for recreation are not plentiful, and said those interested in building a park should organize volunteers now to begin work that can be done inexpensively through a community effort.

About 30 citizens, mostly from the Dobson area, attended the organizational meeting Tuesday night to try to revive a recreation plan that was denied by the county commissioners in May 1979.

The proposed park would be located one mile outside of Dobson on Prison Camp/Beulah Road at the old County Home site. Site plans were drawn up in 1977, and the organizer of the new effort, Clyde "Slim" Reynolds, still has those original plans. Reynolds said last week that he wants to establish a countywide park for all Surry residents.

Kathy White, recreation consultant for the N.C. Division of Parks and Recreation, told the group that matching grants are available through the Land and Water Conservation Fund program, but the state does not know how much money it will receive from the federal government next year.

"This year, we got only about \$1.2 million for the entire state," White said. "We don't know how much money we will have next year until

the president's budget comes out in October."

She noted that a \$100,000 limit has been placed on the grants, meaning that \$50,000 would be awarded through the state and the recreation organizers would have to match that with \$50,000 in cash, property value or labor.

"The cost of the project in 1977 was about \$407,000," noted Joe Matthews, executive director of the Northwest Piedmont Council of Governments. "Now it will probably cost \$600,000 or \$700,000."

"The majority of the people here tonight are from Dobson, and you are basically looking at a Dobson community endeavor," Matthews stated. "That might make it harder to get funds from the county commissioners."

He noted that other areas of the county, such as Elkin, Pilot Mountain and Mount Airy, have made progress during the past 10 years in the recreational facilities offered there, and may not want to participate in a countywide park effort.

"I don't think you can go with a countywide park because Elkin, Pilot Mountain and Mount Airy already have facilities under way," stated Kermit Draughn, a member of the county Board of Commissioners who was in the audience. "If the county funds a park at Dobson, it will have to give funds to those other areas, too."

Matthews emphasized that the group should get busy doing work at the site now through volunteerism, and then accept any county or federal funds, or donations, that may be offered later.

"Federal funds are not all that plentiful and the money is not here like it was 10 years ago," he said. "That doesn't mean you can't do the project. It means the people will have to work together for what they want."

"Get some people in the community that have tractors and go down there and do some grading," advised Matthews. "If you want a ballfield, get some tractors and fix a ballfield. When you get ready to sow grass, go to the local man in town who sells grass seed and tell him what you're doing, and that you're not going to pay full price."

He encouraged the group to build its own picnic tables, start clearing a nature trail and to enlist the help of local business and professional people to help with construction, such as getting a local paving company to pour tennis courts if volunteers help with the labor.

"Don't sit here and wait on federal money," added Matthews. "Do what you can, and we'll get you what money we can."

Those present agreed to form a steering committee to talk to area residents to gauge community support for the project and to determine the priorities for recreational facilities.

Those elected to the steering committee were Reynolds, Roy Hiatt, Bob Taylor, Wallace Creed, Peggy McCormick, Carlyle Shepherd, Wayne Motsinger, Frances McCormick and Ricky Bowman.

The committee plans to meet again within two weeks, but a date was not set.

Dobson Attorney Sentenced 5E(2)

STREET KNIGHT AUTO CLUB

Slim Reynolds, President

The Street Knights Auto Club was organized by Slim Reynolds and Jasper Cook in 1980 to further the interests of young men and women in restoring old automobiles and as an opportunity for young people to be of service in the Dobson community.

Christmas Parade:

In 1980, the Street Knights revived the Dobson Christmas Parade which had not been held for several years. They now organize and sponsor the parade annually the first Saturday in December. The 1986 parade was held December 6 and was produced for less than \$250. An estimated 8,000 people enjoyed the event. Billing it as "The Christmas Parade By the People, For the People," the Street Knights encourage entries by anyone with the Christmas spirit. Professional floats are few but each year the number of "people" entries grows with riding, marching, dancing and just-walking groups having a good time. There were 190 entries in the 1986 parade that stretched over a mile long through Dobson. The Grand Marshall was Debby Sievers Diamont of WXII television station.

Christmas Cheer:

The Street Knights collected toys and clothing for delivery to needy children in the Dobson area on Christmas eve 1986. Local people and businesses donated money, toys and clothing. A local band, "Dry County" played a benefit at Dobson Music Park December 13 to raise money for the children's gifts. There were many astonished and happy kids when they opened the door for Santa and his Street Knight helpers Christmas eve.

DOBSON LIONS CLUB

Pat Guyer, President

The Dobson Lions Club was chartered in 1940 and has been a major force in civic, economic, and charitable affairs in the Dobson community since its first year. There are more than 60 active members with 44 committees providing opportunities and training for individual leadership development. 1986 activities and accomplishments include:

(1) The Lions Club coordinated the Dobson Community Horse Show, a two-night event featuring Western horses on Friday and Walking horses on Saturday. Profits from gate receipts and concessions totaled \$3,500 which was donated to the community building. Over 75 volunteers from the Lions Club, Woman's Club and other organizations assisting with obtaining sponsors, advertising, printing, cooking, concessions, grounds-keeping, gate keeping, etc. This July was the 29th year for the horse show which formerly was sponsored by the Methodist Youth Fellowship for 25 years before the Community Council and Lions Club took it over.

(2) On June 14, the Lions Club prepared 300 barbeque chicken dinners for sale as a fund raiser for the Community Building at a profit of \$700.

(3) In March and October, White Cane fund drives were conducted by members who solicited a total of \$1,400 from motorists on Dobson street intersections. White Cane funds support research and other programs for the visually impaired in North Carolina.

(4) Also in March, the Lions Club sponsored its 30th annual Farmer's Appreciation Dinner. Local merchants and industries underwrite this event which includes dinner, entertainment, a speaker and discussion of farmers, agriculture officials and Lions attended.

(5) In August, the Lions Club held its annual Yard Sale and Barbeque Chicken sale which netted \$800 for local charities.

(6) On three consecutive days in early December, the Lions held thier annual Christmas Fruit Sale, along with fruit cakes and brooms made by the blind. The profit for local Lions Club was \$1,000.

(7) In connection with the annual Lions Club Christmas dinner, an elegant affair held at the community building, a VCR raffle raised \$450 which was donated to two local families hard hit by tragic medical cases and expenses. Widows or former Lions Club members are special guests at the Christmas party.

(8) The Dobson Lions Club sponsors a Leo Club for high school boys at Surry Central High School. In the Spring several Lions and Leos assisted in cleaning and sprucing up Camp Dogwood at Lake Norman. Camp Dogwood is a camp that provides recreation for visually impaired people in North Carolina.

(9) The club also sponsored a week at Camp Dogwood for a local high school girl who is visually impaired and raised \$300 for camp

operations through the sale of raffle tickets.

(10) \$200 was donated to Boy's Home of North Carolina and \$300 to Lions Club International Fund (LCIF). LCIF responds to international disasters and provided \$30,000 to tornado relief in Red Springs, NC in 1985.

(11) In 1986, the Lions sponsored Little League baseball and football teams and a T-Ball team. Donations were made for Surry Central High School's "Close-Up" program and East Surry High School's FHA trips to Washington, D.C. for students.

(12) The club paid for eye examinations and glasses for 12 area persons unable to afford eye care.

(13) Over 100 "eye wills" (agreements to provide corneas for transplants) were solicited by the Dobson Lions and 50 pair of used glasses were collected for repair and reuse.

Dobson Lions Fete Their Ladies Dec. 9 At Annual Holiday Dinner

The Dobson Lions Club entertained their ladies with their annual Christmas dinner Tuesday, Dec. 9, at the Dobson Community Building.

George Pendergraft offered a splendid social hour of toothsome dainties and various raw vegetable bits and seasonal dips, along with some grape potables.

Pat Guyer, club president, welcomed the group, especially the widows of deceased members. They were Margaret Smith, Jessye Belle Blackwelder, Kat Austin, Blanche Folger, Nell Folger, Ruth Freeman, Margaret Motsinger, Carolyn Comer and Era Snow. Lib Bolich and Clara Freeman were invited, but were unable to attend.

Other guests were Eleanor Powell, Shirley Wright and Oscar Kendall.

Charlie Jackson led the group in singing "Jingle Bells," and John Norman led the Pledge of Allegiance to the U. S. Flag. The Rev. Lonnie Kendall pronounced the invocation.

The group enjoyed an unusually good dinner of roast beef, ham, potato salad, green beans, congealed salad and homemade pound cake.

President Guyer introduced June Snow, director of the East Surry High School Show Choir, who led the 20-member choir in several songs.

The lively group did some songs that were popular in the 1960s. The full choir did "Winter Wonderland" and a fine arrangement of "The Battle Hymn of the Republic." The girls did a nutty number called "Fruit Cake" and the boys sang barbershop for a very impressive "Silent Night" and "Pass Me Not, Oh Gentle Savior." The group was formally dressed in black tuxedos with red cummerbunds and black dresses with red sequined ruffles.

Bob Comer won the VCR with a ticket drawn by little Miss Moore.

CAMPAIGN SUCCESSFUL

The Dobson Community Council's campaign to raise funds for the Dobson Community Building was \$9,773 closer to the \$50,000 goal following dinner and a raffle held Saturday, Dec. 6, at Surry Central High School. The figure represents the profit from the event after \$7,000 in cash prizes were awarded and the cost of serving dinner to approximately 250 people who attended had been paid.

Although not all of the 225 raffle tickets were distributed for a \$1.00 donation, the fund-raiser was termed "a great success" by Dr. Swanson Richards, chairman of the



Dobson

BY

HESTER JACKSON

Telephone: 386-8766

Community Council.

The \$5,000 grand prize was won by a ticket held by Mrs. Ray Slawter of Dobson and her son, Larry. Charles Welch and Cindy Comer, both of Dobson, won \$500 prizes.

A check for the \$9,773 net proceeds was presented Dec. 10 to Charles Jackson, chairman of the Dobson Community Center, Inc., a non-profit organization of local leaders which owns and maintains the building.

Richards praised the generosity of Surry County people and businesses who bought the tickets as donations to the fund. He also praised the work of Community Council members and others who organized the event, sold tickets, and conducted the raffle, including the Dobson Lions Club, Dobson Woman's Club and Dobson Jaycees.

Jackson announced that direct donations to the fund had been received from Surry-Yadkin Electric Membership Corporation, First Union Bank, First Citizens Bank, Mutual Federal Savings and Loan, Surry Insurance and Realty, Tultex, Wayne Poultry and the North Carolina Legislature. These funds total \$4,500.

Including the raffle, Jackson said, the grand total donated as of Dec. 10 is \$14,500, with \$50,000 needed to pay off the mortgage and make the necessary repairs to the building. He added that the fund drive will continue until the goal is reached.

Future fund-raising events planned include the annual Dobson Community Horse Show in July and another raffle next October. Jackson asked that donations be sent to Dobson Community Council, P. O. Box 448, Dobson 27017.

DOBSON WOMANS CLUB

Minnie Hyler, Past President

The Dobson Woman's Club was chartered in 1931 as a service organization, working to make Dobson a better place to live, assisting people in need, encouraging young people to higher achievements and providing Christian fellowship for the women of the Dobson area.

1986 Accomplishments:

- Provided two \$200 scholarships to Surry Community College for Dobson area high school graduates.
- Sponsored a Christmas baazar of food, clothing and decorative items made by Woman's Club members. Breakfast and lunch were served at the Community Building. The event raised \$1,843.42 which was donated to the Community Building Fund.
- Hosted and served refreshments for the bloodmobile in Dobson several times during the year.
- Sold the Community Birthday Calendar to raise funds for local charities.
- Sponsored the Heart Fund Drive in Dobson.
- Held an Easter Party for Dobson Elementary Schools Mentally Handicapped Class.
- Operated the food and drink concession stand for the annual Dobson Community Horse show.
- Made cash contributions to the following organizations:
 1. Hope Valley Alcoholic Rehabilitation Center
 2. Surry County Foster Children Christmas Fund
 3. Surry Central High School's Close-Up Program
 4. Friends of the Library
 5. Special Olympics for Handicapped Children

EARLY BIRD HOMEMAKER CLUB

Annie Laurie McMillian, Past President

The Dobson Early Bird Homemaker Club was formed in order to do something to make life better for mankind by improving health, happiness, education and higher standards for family living in the county.

The Club consists of 8 member which meets in the home of one of the ladies on the last Wednesday of each month, with a covered dish luncheon.

Besides being active in the Homemakers events, this group cooks and serves meals for which the proceeds go toward the Community Building Fund. They sponsor and serve refreshments for the bloodmobile three times a year. The members also volunteer to work at the bloodmobile each time it is in Dobson. They are responsible for two parties a year at the local rest homes where they furnish refreshments. Members collected and picked up trash during beautification week. Some of the ladies do volunteer work at Northern Surry Hosital as Pink Ladies.

The Early Birds had a booth at the County Fair on "Preparing for Retirement" and won second place. A member of the club received the "Second Wind" award at the Achievement Day for her dedicated services beyond retirement. One member is active in teaching special interest programs for groups on the county level. Another is a genealogist and local news correspondent for a county newspaper. And one of the Early Birds serves on the Surry County Retarded Citizen's Advisory Committee.

DOBSON SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB

Annie Laurie McMillian, President

The Senior Citizens Club was formed to help many retired people in the community to have a place to gather for fun, educational programs, entertainment and fellowship.

They meet once a month on the first Tuesday with a covered dish luncheon. Programs on health, nutrition, fine arts, travel, etc. are given. The members also play bingo and sometimes rook.

Several members volunteer to help in the bloodmobile and also give baked goods and crafts for the Woman's Club Bazaar. They donated the timber to go around the Community Building flower beds and planted dog-wood trees and flower bulbs.

THREE RIVERS SHRINE CLUB

Jay Brendle, Past President

The Three Rivers Shrine Club is chartered by the Oasis Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S. of Charlotte, North Carolina. The club's primary objective is to aid in the care of crippled and burned children regardless of race, sex, or creed, and to assist in community projects in the Three Rivers area. This area encompasses the communities in and surrounding the Fisher, Mitchell, and Yadkin Rivers whose approximate geographic center is Dobson, North Carolina.

The Shrine Club participates in an annual paper sale sponsored by the Oasis Temple which last year resulted in over \$5,000 in donations being made from the Three Rivers area to crippled and burned children's hospitals across the nation.

Three Rivers Shrine Club sponsors an annual Golf Tournament and a Horse Show in the Dobson area. In 1986 the Club sponsored, and provided transportation and assistance to, two burned children and their families from this community to the Shriners Burn Hospital in Cincinnati, Ohio.

The Club participates in the Community's Christmas Parade and has one member who is a stand-in for Santa Claus at several local schools, rest homes and nursing homes. Although the Three Rivers Shrine Club is primarily concerned with the crippled and burned child, it is always ready, willing and available to assist in any community project. Its purpose is to be a useful, and helpful member of the Dobson community in all ways possible.

SURRY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Jerry W. Weaver, Director
Learning Resources Center

Surry Community College strives to fulfill the "community" part of its name by participating in Dobson activities as much as possible. The college has representatives on the community council and currently, Dr. Swanson Richards, president of Surry Community College, is the chairman of the council.

Civic group activities and meetings which are held on campus include the Dobson Lions Club Eye Will Drive, Red Cross Blood Mobile Drives, District Meetings and banquets for Cub and Boy Scouts, the Jaycees Bike-A-Thon, the Surry County Historical Society, the Surry County Genealogical Society, various groups from the Agriculture Extension Service, Surry Friends of Youth, Hospice, Senior Citizens Association and the Association for Retarded Citizens (ARC) Group Home's Board.

Recreational interests are promoted by providing a ball field for the T-ball Youth league, tennis courts which are lighted at night, an outdoor physical fitness/health area co-sponsored by the Baptist Hospital, and a Jr.-High School basketball tournament which Surry Community College hosts.

Surry Community College also provides rooms for various governmental agencies to meet. Some of the users are the High School Health Occupation Students of America (HOSA) district

competition, the Retired School Teachers Association, Public School Foreign Language Festival, Surry Mental Health Board, Driving While Impaired Clinic, Driver Improvement Clinic, the Tobacco Growers Association, Surry County Industrial Development Committee, Public School Small Ensemble and Solo competition, and office space for the Surry County Economic Development Coordinator.

Another function of the college that is community-oriented is that the library is open to the general public. All citizens are permitted and encouraged to use the services offered by the library. Rooms are provided for Appalachian State University and Gardner-Webb to offer four-year and graduate courses/programs to our citizens.

Spaces are available for the Surry Telephone Company annual stockholders meeting, La Leche classes, and training programs for industry and government, such as communication seminars and computer workshops. More space will be available for this business/education partnership upon completion of a new building.

Communications Called The Key To Successful Economic Development

MT. AIRY NEWS - 10-28-86

By JODI SMITH
News Staff Writer

DOBSON—"The single greatest deterrent to economic development in North Carolina is communication failure," said Alvah H. Ward Jr., North Carolina's director of business and industrial development.

Ward added that good communications is also the key to successful economic development.

Ward addressed a large group of area leaders in business, government and education during a one-day communications seminar at Surry Community College last week, sponsored by SCC and the Surry Personnel Association.

He said strong communications is a necessity in competing with the more than 10,000 agencies nationwide which specialize in communications in relation to economic development. "I see three important aspects of communication as it relates to economic development — challenges, strengths and what the county and region should do to address challenges and restraints," he noted.

In reference to the first aspect, Ward said every state in the nation now has an implemented economic development program. He added that Surry County and its Economic Development Commission deserve a "pat on the back" for the creation of a new county economic



Alvah H. Ward Jr.

developer position here.

Ward said economic development should be an all-inclusive term that covers non-manufacturing development like tourism as well.

"Seventy percent of the Gross National Product in North Carolina is generated by non-manufacturing activity," he pointed out. "Industrial development is gone as the single economic thrust in the state."

The state official added that the effects of financial consolidation and deflation have slowed the capital spending rate, making industries more modernized and needing less equipment. Ward said the new federal tax bill also will have a yet-to-be-determined effect on

economic development in the state.

The intangibles and inventory taxes — a big factor in getting and keeping industries in the state — has cost North Carolina far more money than it ever produced, according to Ward, who called both "distinct disadvantages." He said the state lost a lucrative contract with Wal-Mart (now building in Mount Airy) for a distribution center because of its inventory tax.

Ward said the current administration realizes the problem and has "made a dent" in correcting the situation. "If you can persuade a client to do a total tax comparison, North Carolina can compete."

Small Businesses A Key

"Small business is big business in North Carolina," Ward continued on a more positive note. "Small businesses need to be encouraged at all levels, and existing industries should not be considered second to new industry." He added that the state has a bad reputation for overlooking existing industry, saying he didn't think it was a conscious attempt to neglect it, but that "we were just busy doing something else."

"We need to strengthen our business climate with strategic development efforts. North Carolina led the nation in

(Continued on Page 5A)

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Economic Growth

(Continued from Page 1A)

economic development in 1984, but we need to fine-tune our efforts," Ward continued. "We also need to emphasize education and vocational training to maintain that development in the future. In my opinion, North Carolina has the best community college system in the nation."

Ward said North Carolina also has the largest manufacturing work force in the country, as well as one of the largest amounts of low-level hazardous waste produced each year. "We must have low-level waste management to accompany economic development," he explained.

Ward mentioned several other state strengths that foster economic development, including the "world-renowned"

Research Triangle Park and the growing University Research Park in the Raleigh/Durham area, excellent airports, a fairly well-balanced tax base, the largest number of state-maintained roads in the United States, fine arts and recreation programs and a work ethic climate.

He also noted that the state is now listed as the 10th most populous in the nation, and that Charlotte now has greater financial resources than Atlanta, making it the economic strength of the Southeast.

Local Efforts Emphasized

Ward spoke of several things that area leaders should concentrate on in terms of economic

development at the local level. "These efforts should be coordinated with those of the state, which the taxpayers are paying to be the lead development agency."

"Locally, we need to communicate and coordinate efforts to maintain businesses; part of that is addressing the problem of adult illiteracy (the rate is 25 percent in Surry) and improving training skills," he explained.

"Each county and region should also continue to strengthen their local economic development corporation (North Carolina has 240 of them), and Surry should support Bob Comer as economic developer, and give him the tools he needs to do the job," said Ward, adding that Comer needs protection at

times, "much like a star quarterback from sacking or unnecessary roughness, or you'll lose every game."

Ward, who has been involved in state government since 1968, also related that almost every organization must have private sector assistance, and that economic developers should play the whole ballfield, including both industrial and non-industrial development.

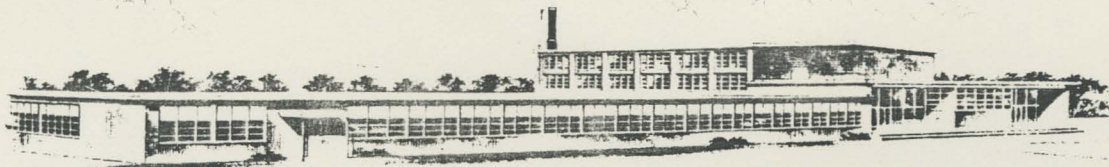
"The name of the game is jobs," he said. "I urge you here to continue your coordination of government, business and education in terms of economic development. Surry has long been earmarked as a leader in that area. I think you should know that."

SURRY CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

DOBSON, NORTH CAROLINA

27017

Office of the
Principal



Phone
386-8842

SURRY CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL:

by Gene Everette, Counselor

- I. IMPROVEMENTS AT SCHOOL: A new (SIMS) Student Information Management System has been installed and will be a great asset in lessening the paper work for the classroom teacher, plus scheduling and other administrative tasks.

The baseball field has been completely redone with a grass infield, plus fencing around the total complex.

The football field has a new Field House, plus concession area and bathrooms, plus it has been totally fenced in too.

The Library (Media-Center) has been enlarged giving the area much needed space for storage of equipment and office area.

- II. ACTIVITIES & CLUBS: The extra-curricular activities of a school are vital to the total educational process of our students as they gain leadership skills and the ability to accept responsibility and carry out various duties.

1. LEO CLUB (Jr. Lions): This past year received the "EXCELLENCE AWARD" from Lions International....only (47) Leo Clubs Internationally received this award out of 4,294 Leo Clubs representing 103 Countries and Geographical Locations.

- A. Sponsored a Leo Dance with proceeds going to the Boys and Girls Home (Orphans).
- B. Sponsored a Needy Child at Christmas with clothes and toys.
- C. Spent a Weekend at Camp Dogwood for the Blind and assisted with the blind.
- D. Sponsor a Foreign Exchange Student to our school.
- E. Assist Local Lions Club with their various projects.

2. SADD CLUB (Students Against Drunk Driving) were recognized this past year by Reader's Digest Magazine for having the Second Best SADD Program in the Nation. By virtue of this recognition the SADD Chapter received \$ 4,000.00 in Scholarship Money to be used in their school.

- A. Participated in "Crime Awareness Week" in Mount Airy...and interviewed by WPAQ about SADD Night featuring Trooper Dan Kiger.
- B. Gave a skit at Thanksgiving Assembly Program at school.
- C. WXII Television Station came to school and did two Public Service Announcements with our SADD Chapter regarding Drinking and Driving.

3. STUDENT COUNCIL: Made up of students from each grade level.
 - A. Responsible for Homecoming Activities and Dance.
 - B. Sponsored (3) Needy Families for Thanksgiving.
 - C. Christmas Projects:
 - a. Gave \$75.00 to Foster Child....
 - b. Gave \$30.00 to Needy Child...
 - c. Gave 100.00 to Joy Ranch for Orphans...
 - d. Canned Food Drive...collected 1,750 cans for Department of Social Services to be used during Christmas...
 - e. Sponsored the Annual TWIRP DANCE at School....

4. SCHS BOOSTERS CLUB (Athletics): During the past year the Booster's Club has been very active and hard at work for the Athletic Program at our school.
 - A. They provided our Athletic Program with a monetary figure of \$ 9,000.00.
 - B. They also provided that "Spirit" that is needed at all athletic games.
 - C. They serve as Coaches for our "Saturday Programs" for Elementary Children., plus serve as Chaperons whenever needed for a school function.

5. OTHER REPRESENTATION: Our students were represented at the following programs:
 - A. Governor's School ... Summer Ventures in Science & Math ... Boys State ... Girls State ... Hugh O'Brian Leadership Seminar ... National FHA Convention... State High School Golf Tournament ...

6. AIR FORCE JUNIOR ROTC PROGRAM: Very active program since 1972 ... Around 18% of our student body participate in the AFJROTC Program.
 - A. Last year our NC-72 AFJROTC Program was selected as the "Outstanding Unit" in North Carolina...by receiving this high honor...our school qualified for (3) direct appointments to any of the Service Academies...without having to have Congressional Appointments made by Senators, etc. Nominees must meet ALL admission requirements...academic, SAT Scores, physical, & medical.
 - B. The Cadets are visible at all parades (usually leading the parade with their Color Guard Unit)...VFW Ceremony...They present the colors every morning at school and at all athletic functions...
 - C. They have a Military Ball and Awards Presentation at the end of school, plus they also have a Christmas Dance for Cadets and dates.
 - D. They make a number of field trips throughout the year to the various Military Bases; so the cadets can see firsthand what is taking place. The students have the opportunity to fly...both in fixed wing and helicopters.

7. FUTURE HOMEMAKERS OF AMERICA CLUB (FHA):
 - A. Club made visitation at Christmas to the Resthomes in Dobson...gave gifts.
 - B. FHA Students participated in the Regional - State - National Proficiency Contests and received two Silver Medals.
 - C. A total of 24-Students attended the State FHA Convention.
 - D. Had a FHA Booth at the Surry County Fair and won 2nd. Place.
 - E. Have had several guest speakers throughout the year.
 - F. Had a FHA Christmas Social.
 - G. Recognized our Teachers on American Education Week with cupcakes for each one

DOBSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

An active little league - both with baseball and basketball. Facilitiles are provided by the school and using community people to work and organize the programs.

A new program of "before and after" school day care has been added this school year. Children in kindergarten thur the sixth grades are given the opportunity from 6:30 - 8:00 a.m. and 2:45 - 6:30 p.m. to be supervised in a day care situation. Currently, we are serving approximately 35 to 40 children each day.

In the area of academic achievement, we have had in the last two years groups of 7th and 8th graders that represented our school in a social studies contest (History Day) that won in the district, then state, and went to Washington, D.C. to compete nationally. They received an excellent rating nationally. This past year, our math counts team competed on local, district, and state levels - and were tops in the state for small schools. We also had the county winners in the 7th and 8th grades for spelling.

We have an active P.T.O. that helps finance and support our activites both academically and athletically.

A new building program is on the calendar for Dobson Elementary. A building at the cost of 1.825 million and a new middle school at 5.275 million is scheduled to be completed by 1990.

THE DOBSON YOUTH BASKETBALL LEAGUE

The Dobson Youth Basketball League was formed in October, 1985, by a group of citizens interested in providing a sports and recreation program for youth in the Dobson area. A committee was formed, and members assumed organizational responsibilities to ensure that the league would begin and would be successful. The purposes of the league were ". . .to promote fun; good sportsmanship, teamwork, and improvement in basketball fundamentals."

The first year a total of 65 area youth participated in the program. The league was open to any boy or girl between the ages of 7 and 10. Coaches and officials were recruited, financial sponsors were obtained, uniforms were purchased, and gym space was acquired. Special eight-foot goals were built for the younger players. The first game was held on December 14, 1985.

Approximately 25 volunteers made large contributions of time to make the program successful the first year. In addition to these individuals, the league was supported by several civic groups, eight local businesses, and the local school officials. The twelve-week season culminated with a tournament and awards ceremony on March 1, 1986. (see newspaper clipping.)

As a result of the experience acquired and the success achieved the first year, the league grew by 61% for the 1986-87 season. There are currently 105 youth participating. The league has expanded from eight teams to the current twelve teams. Also, an additional group, 11 year olds, was included this year. This growth has been paralleled by an increase in financial and volunteer support. There are 14 local businesses and civic clubs providing financial support. The number of volunteers has

increased to 35. This group will contribute approximately 1,290 man-hours to youth of this area in the 1986-87 season.

One of the most gratifying aspects of our basketball league has been the number of young men--high school and college students--who have contributed significant hours of volunteer time as coaches and officials. It is expected that most parents will contribute to an activity their children are involved in, but the efforts of this group of younger folks has been exemplary, and the league could not function without them as leaders and role models for the youth with whom they work. Throughout, this venture has been successful because of the partnership formed by the volunteers, businesses, civic groups, school officials, and parents who have been interested enough to see that the necessary support was available.

(Newspaper clippings are attached.)

DOBSON T BALL LEAGUE

The Dobson T-Ball League was formed in 1983 with about forty-five 5 - 8 year old boys and girls. This number grew to over 100 boys and girls in 1986. Several clubs and organizations within the Dobson area sponsor teams.

Numbers are not the most important thing about T-Ball but they are indicative of community involvement. At the last annual awards banquet over 300 parents and children were in attendance.

The purposes of T-Ball are many fold. First, T-Ball allows each child to participate in baseball for fun. Coaches ensure that every child participates in every inning.

The fundamentals of baseball, batting, hitting, and catching are taught. Finally and what has been most important to Dobson's success is the emphasis on every child being a winner. For example, while competition is inevitable Dobson's philosophy has been to down play winning and losing. No score is kept in T-Ball. Enjoyment of the games and learning sportsmanship is the emphasis.

DOBSON LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL

There are three Little League baseball teams in Dobson. The teams are open to boys and girls from 9 to 13 years of age. There are approximately 25 players on each team. All teams have an "A" group and a "B" group of players. Each group has a separate schedule of games. This ensures that the younger and more inexperienced players (the B team players) will get to play just as much as the "A" team players.

The Three Dobson teams are affiliated with The Surry County Little League Association which is composed of 18 teams. The regular season is followed by a championship tournament which covers the whole league. All of the Dobson teams are well organized and well coached. They are extremely well supported by a group of volunteers, mostly parents, and they also enjoy the support of the community at large.

All of the Dobson teams have a well established history. They have existed on a continuing basis for 15 or 20 years. They have been successful in promoting wholesome athletic competition and good sportsmanship. The Dobson Little League teams have produced many very good players. A current starting pitcher at UNC-Chapel Hill, Jeff Edmonds, is a product of our teams. Also, one player, Ben Callahan has made it to the major leagues. The Dobson Cardinals are the current champions of the Surry County Little League Association.

DOBSON PONY LEAGUE BASEBALL

Dobson sponsors two Pony League teams for boys from 13 to 16 years of age. Each team has approximately 25 players. These teams are affiliated with the National Babe Ruth League. With these two teams and the high school team, practically all of the "graduates" of the Little League who want to continue playing have that opportunity.

Beginning with T-Ball at age 5, youth in Dobson are provided with a good, organized program of baseball up through age 16.

DOBSON FOOTBALL

The Dobson area sponsors one little league football team. It has existed for a number of years. Little League Football has been important for the youth who want to participate in this sport. The football team works with about 30 boys per year between the ages of 10 and 13. It is good preparation for boys who will move up to the Junior High team at age 13.

DOBSON SWIM TEAM

The Dobson Community Swim Team is relatively new. It started

in 1985 under the auspices of the Dobson Recreation Park. The Dobson Recreation Park supports and provides coaches and facilities for the swim team. For the past two years the team has had about 30 participants per year, both boys and girls. Youth from 6 to 16 are on the team. The Dobson team is affiliated with the Surry County Swim Team Association. It has enjoyed early success as a new recreational program for this area. All indications are that it will continue to grow and expand in the coming year. The community is very enthusiastic about the addition of this program.

Youth Basketball

Semifinals

In Division I semifinal action Monday night, the Dobson Jaycees defeated the Dobson Caves, 34-23. The T.L.C. Tarheels soared past First Union, 32-25.

The Division II semifinals were played Tuesday night, the Dobson Lions outlasted Principal Financial Group, 27-21 in overtime. NW Carolina Distributors overpowered Draughn's Auto Parts, 25-6.

Championship Games

Four teams in Division I and II battled it out Friday night to claim championship titles in two very exciting games.

In Division I, the T.L.C. Tarheels defeated the Dobson Jaycees, 23-18 to become the champion. Brent White had 14 points for the Tarheels and Clent White had 16 points for the Dobson Jaycees.

In Division II, the Dobson Lions breezed by NW Carolina Distributors, 33-22 to win the championship. The Lions were led by Doug Jones, Brad Davis, an Jonathan Brame with 11, 10 and 9 points, respectively. Eric Shinault scored 14 points for NWCD.

Awards Ceremony

John Brame and Eddie Wilmoth welcomed the standing room only crowd and took turns recognizing the volunteers who assumed responsibilities to enable the league to operate. They were: Tim Dockey, Sam Wilmoth, Gary Hoosier, Allen McDevitt, Linda Davis-Allen, Vonda Comer, C.L. White and sons and Jim Current.

The sponsors of the eight teams and the coaches were recognized for their support and dedication to the league. They were: First Union, represented by Andrea Phillips and coached by Steve Moser and Rodney Hardy; Dobson Caves, represented by Spoford Cave and coached by Kevin Comer and Rocky Comer; Dobson Jaycees, represented by Ricky Draughn and coached by Jerry Taylor and Mike Branch; T.L.C. Tarheels, represented by Terry Collins and coached by John Brame and Eddie Wilmoth; Principal Financial Group, represented by Tim Dockery and coached by Robbie Wilson and Allen White; Draughn's Auto Parts, represented by Ricky Draughn and Kermit Draughn and coached by Jerry Weaver and

Suzanne Wright; Northwestern Carolina Distributors, represented by Sam Wilmoth and coached by Eddie Wilmoth and Jim Current; Dobson Lions Club, represented by Ricky Dobbins and coached by Myles Wilmoth and Mark White.

All players were presented trophies by their respective coaches for participating in the league with the Tarheels and Lions receiving the Championship trophies.

John Brame and Eddie Wilmoth were recognized by Jim Current and Jerry Weaver for their many efforts in organizing the league.

Rev. Lonnie Kendall, minister of the Dobson United Methodist Church, closed the awards ceremony with inspirational thoughts and a benediction.

Results of Friday Games (Finals)

Division I and II

T.L.C. Tarheels (23)

Brent White 14, John Collins 3, Drew Wilmoth 2, David Brame 2, Brandon Baugess 1, Josh Swift 1

Dobson Jaycees (18)

Clent White 16, Scott Hollar 1, Casey Mitchell 1

Dobson Lions (33)

Doug Jones 11, Brad Davis 10, Jonathan Brame 9, Jody Utt 3

NW Carolina Distributors (22)

Eric Shinault 14, Richard Kidd 6, Jeremiah Eanes 1, Matthew Cave 1

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Lions Club players include: front, left to right, Brad Davis, Chris Gillespie, David Branch, Nathan Garriss. back, Mark White, coach, Jonathan Brame, Doug Jones, Judy Utt, Miles Wilmoth, coach



SCOUTING

David Ayers, Senior Patrol Leader

I. Introduction

- A. Dobson Boy Scouts
- B. Troop 529
- C. Leaders
 - 1. John Norman
 - 2. Danny Stanley
 - 3. Lonnie Kendall
 - 4. Harold Davis
- D. Location/Charter
- E. Cub Scout Program

II. Summer Events

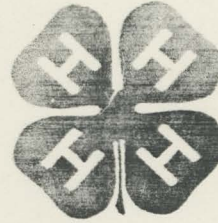
- A. Summer Camp at CRK
 - 1. Johnston Space Center
 - 2. Alamo
 - 3. Carlsbad Caverns and Hurricane
 - 4. Philmont Trail

III. Scouts Learn

- A. New Scouts Trip
 - 1. Harold Davis took new scouts out
 - 2. Taught fundamentals of Scouting
- B. Backpacking "Philmont Style"
- C. Council Camporee

IV. Scouts do other things...

- A. Scout-a-Rama
- B. Mt. Airy and Dobson Parades
- C. Cleaned up after Horseshow



16 members enrolled and 4 adult leaders

EDUCATION: Theme for the Year - Heritage

Had monthly programs as follows:

- Bill Mansfield - Music heritage
- Paula Larke - Family (music) heritage
- Photography Session - took pictures
- Family Photo Albums - show'n tell
- Visited Rockford
- Visited Linda and Ellis Hardison, Mtn. Park
(saw weaving on loom and farm animals)

Did a 4-H County fair booth on Heritage

- Won 1st place at County Fair
- Won 1st place at Dixie Classic Fair

6 members attended week-long summer 4-H camps

2 members and 2 leaders attended Wildlife Retreat

2 members assisted with Cloverbud camp at Lowgap

3 members turned in 7 projects

5 members won awards at Achievement Program

1 member entered Fashion Review

3 members entered Livestock shows

1 member entered County Demonstration Contest

Several members attended crafts classes, officer training,
demonstration and record book workshops

4 members attended County Council meetings

2 members trained as TRY Leaders - (have assisted with
after-school 4-H Club at Dobson School)

PROJECTS:

- 1) Poole - 4-H Mini-Park (assisted by BAT, Extension Service,
parents, Slim Reynolds)
- 2) July - Sponsor Birthday Party at Surry Rest Home - provide
fruit cup
- 3) Dairy Day at Mall - June - participated in ice-cream making
contest, sold ice-cream as fund-raiser
- 4) 6 members assisted with Petting Zoo at County Fair and Autumn
Leaves Festival

5) Spring Clean-up

Reported by: David Greene, President 1987
Jennifer Taylor, President 1986

POOLE-4-H CLUB MINT PARK

3, 27
8-12-86

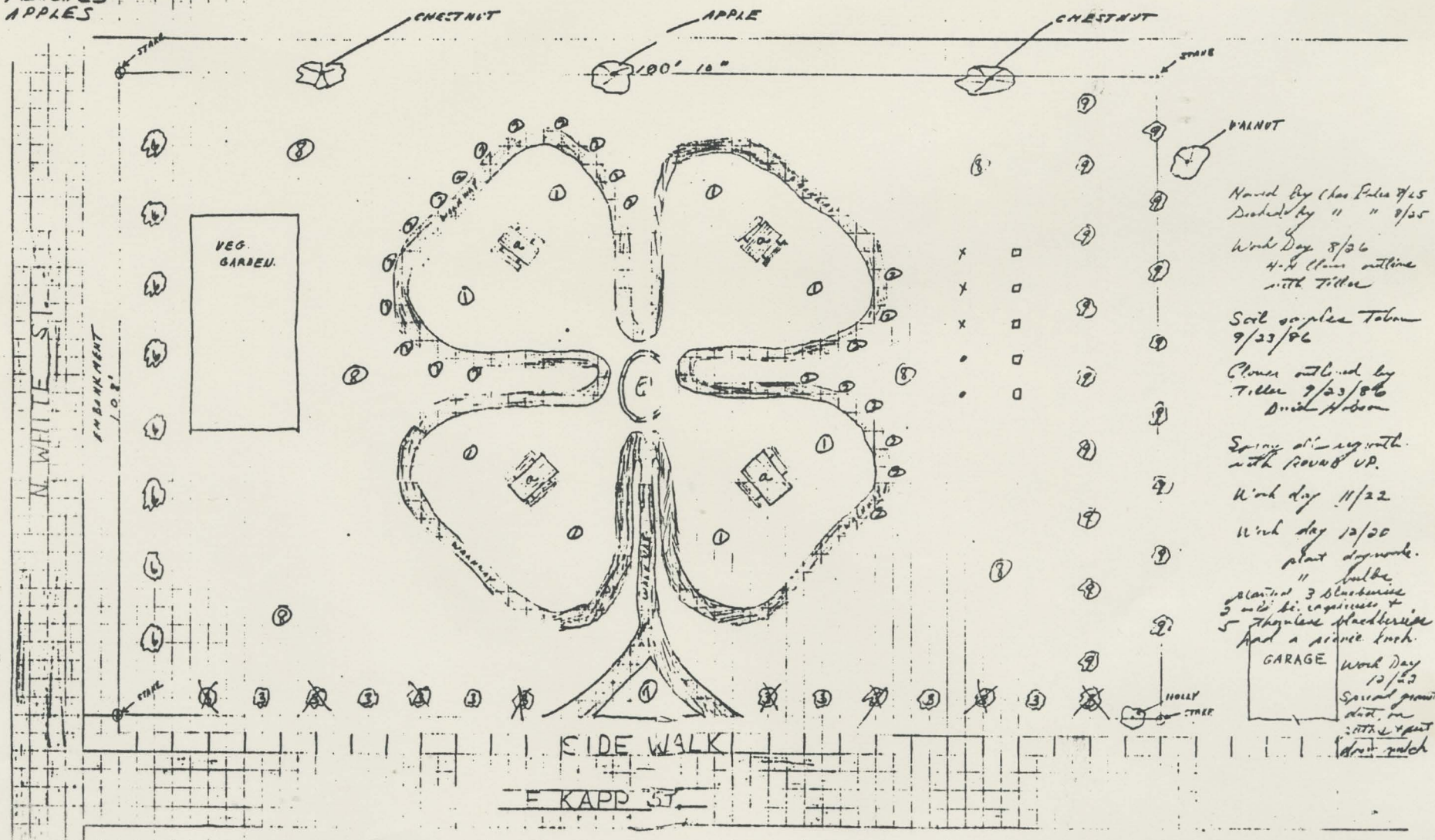
18E

LEGEND

- 1 WHITE DOGWOODS
- 2 LIRIOPE
- 3 BRADFORD PACHYRIZON PEAR
- 4 BLUE RUB GUNIPER
- 5 JAPANESE HOLLY (ILEX MTUNDICELLA, ILEX CORNATA)
- 6 HEMLOCK
- 7 ANNUALS BORDERS & BEDS (BULBS, MVNS, ETC.)
- 8 TURF GRASS AREAS (KENT. ST. FESCUE)
- 9 WHITE PINES
- 10 PEACHES
- 11 APPLES

- a. PLANT TABLES
- b. TRASH BARRELS
- c. SITTING BENCHES
- d. ALL SCARF TIMBERS (RR TIES)

SCALE: 1/4" = 3'



SURRY COUNTY YOUNG FARMERS AND RANCHERS

David T. Haynes, President

The following list of things are projects that the Surry County Farm Bureau Young Farmers and Ranchers have successfully accomplished in 1986.

- Membership: 85 members
- Selected as North Carolina's 1986 "Outstanding Young Farmers and Ranchers Organization," the fifth successive year of winning the award
- Sponsored four Bloodmobiles
- Provided volunteers and cash contributions to Surry County Special Olympics for handicapped children
- Cut wood for needy families
- Bought sewing machines for Surry County Mental Health
- Sponsored Scholarship in memory of a young farmer at Surry Community College
- Held Career Awareness Day for County school systems
- Planted potatoes for Boys' Home
- Assist with the Dairy Science Program at Surry Community College
- Sponsored District FFA Rally
- Held Agriculture Awareness Breakfast
- Held Farm-City Day demonstration at Mayberry Mall
- Sponsored Agriculture Chemical Awareness Meeting
- Provided Farm Tours for school kids
- Helped to winterize homes of the Elderly
- Bought Christmas gifts for Needy Children

DOBSON CHURCH ACTIVITIES

Rev. Lonnie Kendall, Pastor
Dobson United Methodist Church

Highlights: Three Dobson area churches unite for Thanksgiving and Easter Sunrise Services and they have joined together to provide funds for local and traveling indigent families.

Weekly Activities: Sunday School, Morning Worship, Youth Meetings, Choir Practice, Sunday evening and Wednesday evening services.

Monthly Activities: Women's and men's clubs, Fellowship meals, Church business meetings.

Occasionally: Our churches host special activities for other organizations or make their facilities available for family and social occasions. Senior citizens events.

Yearly Activities: Revivals, Special Seasonal Observances, Home Coming, Caroling, Vacation Bible School.

Community Activities: Three of our local Churches participate in annual community worship services at Thanksgiving and for an Easter Sunrise Service. Planted Dogwoods.

Outreach and Missions: Each one of our congregations provide for missional concerns and human needs through private and denominational agencies. Food and cloth collections are common. Often special funds are collected for a specific local need (i.e. medical expenses or family homes burn down). Toy collections at Christmas are made. Gifts for local nursing homes at Christmas.

Local Outreach: The Dobson United Methodist Church and Salem Baptist and the First Baptist Church of Dobson provide local funds for indigent families and for travelers. The Salem Baptist Church works with a ministry to migrant workers. Ministry to elderly and shut-ins. Salem Baptist has food pantry. At times of grief or illness all of our churches cooperate to provide comfort.

SALEM BAPTIST CHURCH

1. Summer Migrant Ministry
2. Youth Choir
3. Food Pantry
4. Wood for Needy
5. Annual Men's Day and Youth Sunday
6. Baptist Student Union at College
7. Royal Ambassadors

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF DOBSON

1. Children's Day Care Program
2. \$150,000 remodeling and facility enlarging
3. Pastor Teaches Religion Classes at Surry Community College
4. Provided Handicapped access

5. Maintains large tract of property for community use
6. A School of Christian Living (annual event)
7. Pictorial Directory
8. Open Church Activity Building for Community use
9. Participates in Literacy Program
10. Broadcast worship service every other week

DOBSON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

1. Boy Scout and Cub Scout Program
2. Pastor Teaches Religion Classes at Surry Community College
3. Built Ramps for access inside and outside sanctuary
4. Youth had Haunted House for Community
5. Maintains large tract of property for Community use
6. Hosted Christmas Party for needy children sponsored by Department of Social Services and Dobson Rescue Squad
7. We light a Community Christmas Tree Annually (visible from I-77)

TOWN of DOBSON

107 WEST ATKINS STREET

POST OFFICE BOX 351

DOBSON, N. C. 27017

TOWN GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES DURING THE YEAR 1986

The town government worked very hard to obtain \$225,000 in state grants for construction of a 500,000 gallon water tank necessary for firefighting and growth. A bond issue referendum for matching town funds for the project is scheduled for 1987.

The town also sponsored the Surry County Special Olympics held at Surry Central High School. More than 150 handicapped athletes participated.

The town manager made a presentation to the N.C. Transportation Board requesting a continuing ban on bill boards on I-77 and the institution of the logo sign system on the highway.

The town government cooperated with private developers in the development of a modern 24 unit apartment complex and a national chain variety store.

DOBSON COMMUNITY LIBRARY

The library had an outstanding year. There were 17,594 people visiting the library. There were 1488 in attendance at the 69 programs held. Borrowers registration is currently at 3,039.

The highlight of the year for the Dobson Community Library has been the continued support of the patrons and friends of the Library for its continued operation. Thanks to volunteers who have donated both time and money, as well as efforts of the state, we can proudly say that the library's activities have continued and been well received in the community and that book circulation has remained stable.

After the departure of a part-time employee, we were fortunate in being able to continue the story times with an average attendance of 22 to 30 children each time. This was done by two very capable volunteers. The Branch Librarian did a community outreach program of six monthly visits to a local rest home. A series of films after school for the junior high age group was also presented. A Friends of the Library was formally organized and held a tea for native author and Raleigh newspaper publisher, A. C. Snow. The summer reading program saw a marked increase in program attendance and a record book circulation for these months.

Additional bookshelves in the reference area and children's department have made locating needed materials easier as well as providing additional space for the growing book collection.

DOBSON FIRE DEPARTMENT

The fire department currently has 22 volunteers who give many hours of their time both in training and responding to fire calls. They have two pumper trucks to work with, both in good condition. Chief Draughn advised that 1986 was a good year in that the department only responded to 15 calls which is below normal. He feels that public awareness and safety classes have contributed to the decline of fires in the area.

DOBSON RESCUE SQUAD

Captain Steve Moser reports that the rescue squad had a very busy year. They responded to 325 emergency calls, 8 of which were pin-ins. The squad transported 12 patients and responded to 72 wrecks. They also provided on-site service and directed traffic at 50 community events such as high school athletic events and the annual Horse Show. They held 37 meetings and had 100 training hours. Four of the squad members attended the state rescue college.

During 1986, the Rescue Squad bought \$14,000 worth of equipment which included a new set of jaws-of-life. The squad currently has 17 members and their equipment includes 2 crash trucks, ambulance, and station wagon.

In 1986 the squad raised \$6,000 from fund raising activities. One of their high lights of the year was holding a special Christmas Program for the needy. 37 needy people attended and were given presents that ranged from a refrigerator to food and toys.

THE TOWN JOURNAL

CHRISTINE G. HARRIS-3429
RT. 1, Box 188
ELKIN, NC 28621

LXXV — No. 20

Elkin-Jonesville, N.C., December 17, 1986

35 Cents

Two Sections — 28 Pages

Promises to match

Dobson awarded water grant

The Surry Board of Commissioners Monday squeezed in the last allocation for state water and sewer money before the Dec. 31 deadline, granting Dobson \$200,000 to help build a \$720,000 water tank.

Surry

The commissioners had to delay their decision from a Dec. 1 meet-

ing until Monday to give Dobson officials time to confirm they could match the \$200,000.

Dobson officials had earlier discussed holding a bond referendum to raise the money, but failed to complete necessary legal requirements to hold the referendum by Dec. 31.

Town officials sent a letter to the commissioners last week stating

the town would hold a bond referendum if the commissioners would agree to allocate the money to Dobson. If the referendum fails, the town will raise the money from a restricted water and sewer fund and sales tax revenues, Jim Davis, mayor, said.

The town has \$161,000 in a restricted water and sewer fund and could make up the difference with revenues from sales taxes, Wayne Atkins, town administrator, said. The town receives about \$22,000 quarterly in sales tax revenue, Atkins said. The town plans to hold a \$400,000 bond referendum by mid-March, 1987.

The county commissioners said they were satisfied with Dobson's offer.

"We've been assured by the town board and mayor. We don't feel like we're taking a risk," Sam Couch, chairman of the board, said. Couch had said earlier his

(Please Turn to Page Two)

★ Dobson awarded water grant

(Continued from Front Page)

top priority in deciding whether to grant Dobson the money was to make sure the money stayed in the county.

Couch said he didn't think there was a risk because Dobson's assurances were essentially the same as the ones given by the towns of Elkin, Mount Airy and Pilot Mountain, which already had accepted grant allocations.

Commissioner Fred O'Neal said he was concerned that Dobson might not be able to raise the money, but was convinced by the

letter from Dobson officials. O'Neal also said by allocating the money to Dobson, the board would be fairly distributing the money to all four towns in the county.

Elkin town officials said they weren't disappointed with the decision and were more concerned the money stay in the county.

The town commissioners had submitted a request for the money in case Dobson was not able to promise the match. The town requested \$200,000 for a \$465,000 project to extend water and sewer lines from North Bridge Street to I-

77 along CC Camp Road.

The commissioners voted in November to spend \$40,000 on engineering plans for the project. Ed Burchins, town manager, said he doesn't consider that money ill-spent because one of the town's goals is to extend water and sewer services to the area. "It's nice to have plans on hand because we are ready to move right into construction," Burchins said.

Since the plans are completed, the town may show them to potential developers who may be interested in building in the area, he said.

Agricultural Extension Service
Report to Dobson Community Council
NWDA Judging February 4, 1987



**AGRICULTURAL
EXTENSION
SERVICE**

The North Carolina Agricultural Extension Service, Surry County Office, is housed in the Agricultural Building, 210 N. Main St., Dobson. Hours are Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

An educational agency, numerous classes, workshops, are offered to and attended by Dobson citizens such as various crafts, cooking classes, food preservation, agriculture, clothing, house furnishings, management sessions in various program areas. Many citizens make office visits and phone calls for individual consultations with agents.

Citizens serve on Extension advising specialized committees, program committees and/or Councils. Some also serve as volunteer leaders with groups sponsored by Extension such as Extension Homemakers, 4-H, and Agricultural Commodity groups. Several serve as volunteer teachers such as Lilo Comer is a Master Food Preserver and a Master Knitter and has given many volunteer hours in teaching others her skills.

Specific programs are provided to clubs in community on a request basis. Clubs and businesses often provide sponsorship (financially and with volunteers) to help carry out Extension programs. Ex; the Expanded Foods and Nutrition Education for Low-income youth and families.

Extension is appreciative of the use of Dobson's facilities (community college, schools, churches, banks and other businesses) as meeting places for many of our programs. This certainly allows Extension to make its resources more available.

Extension sponsors a widow-to-widow support group and a divorce recovery group. By meeting in Dobson this means the participants are primarily from Dobson.

An Agricultural agent is providing leadership to helping the 4-H club develop the mini-park and plan the new Summer Berry Festival scheduled for July 18, 1987. This same agent has also developed a landscape plan for the Health Department Building located in Dobson.

The Extension staff feels fortunate to have its headquarters in the Dobson community. The cooperation as listed above helps us to save our public more effectively and use your tax dollars more wisely.

Christine Irene Harris
Home Ec. Extension Agent

DOBSON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Summary

Dr. Swanson Richards, Chairman

Dobson is the seat of county government for Surry County. Most county offices are located in the town. In addition to governmental offices, three educational institutions are located in the town: Dobson Elementary School, Surry Central High School, and Surry Community College. Approximately 4,000 students attend classes in the three educational institutions.

A rather large percent of the employees in government, education, business, and industry who are employed in Dobson drive from other places of residence, but are very interested in working to improve the town.

Many activities and accomplishments have been organized and implemented during the past year. These accomplishments are a result of hard work by the people working or living in the Dobson area.

The greatest asset of the area is the people and their attitude toward the area. The desire is to make the Dobson area a better place to live and work.

You have heard today the many accomplishments of many organizations. There are many individuals and businesses acting independently to help needy people. For example: our local dentist, Dr. Stephen Yokeley, provided free dental services for area people who could not afford dental care. Dobson industries and businesses contributed more than \$3,600 to the United Fund of Greater Mt. Airy. Those are just examples. Dobson provides volunteer workers and board members and cash donations to Surry Arts Council, Foothills Arts Council, Surry Historical Society, America's 400th Anniversary Committee, the North Carolina Living History Farm Committee and many other county and state wide civic and religious organizations.

The 1987 year will be a busy one for the area. Continued fund raising activities to pay off the debt on the community building will take considerable time. This is a worthy goal for the community in order to put money into programs and activities for people instead of debt reduction and interest on building. The Berry Festival planned for Dobson appears to be a project that is needed to bring attention to agricultural diversification in the northwest piedmont.

Dobson is indeed a "people helping people" community.

MA NEWS DEC 10 1986

Dobson Dentist Reaching Out In The True Spirit Of Christmas

By JANET WILLARD
News Staff Writer

DOBSON—In the spirit of giving for the holiday season, a dentist here will be providing free dental services to those who cannot afford the care they need.

Dr. Stephen Yokeley, whose office is located at 214 S. Crutchfield St., has set aside Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. to be his day of spreading holiday cheer, as he will see those whose circumstances do not allow them to afford necessary dental treatment.

Yokeley will be examining, cleaning, extracting and filling teeth as needed on a first-come, first-served basis.

"We will see everybody that we can in one day," Yokeley explained Tuesday. "The people that we can't see that day we will try to work into our regular schedule during

December."

The dentist said he has no guidelines as to who will be eligible for the free treatment, noting that he will try to help anyone who requests assistance.

"It's really up to the individual," said Yokeley. "If they say they can't afford it, we'll take their word."

Friday's effort will afford an opportunity to give the gift of healthy smiles, the Dobson dentist said.

"We also seem to have more emergencies around Christmas, and it's not any fun to have a toothache every year at Christmas," he added. "We realize that a lot of people can't afford the dental treatment they need, and in a small way, we're trying to help them get it done."

Dobson Could Become Home Of The Piedmont Summer Berry Festival

By TOM JOYCE
Managing Editor

DOBSON—First there was Mount Airy's Autumn Leaves Festival, then the Mayfest celebration in Pilot Mountain. The Dobson Berry Festival appears to be next on the list.

In its regular monthly meeting Monday night, the Dobson Board of Commissioners gave its endorsement to such an event — being organized by a group called the Steering Committee to Plan the Northwest Piedmont Summer Berry Festival.

The committee is composed of representatives from Surry, Stokes, Forsyth and Yadkin counties.

The event is still largely in the planning stages, but preliminary plans call for various activities to be held promoting the growth of the berry industry in this area. The

committee wants to hold the festival in Dobson July 18, according to Monday's discussion.

"I don't have any objections," remarked John Nörman, one of the town commissioners. "I think the merchants will be glad to see people coming to town." Several board members suggested blocking off the street somewhere in town to accommodate the festival, which is done in similar cases elsewhere.

Dobson officials' support of the festival had been sought by Milton Parker, a horticultural agent with the Surry County Agricultural Extension Service in Dobson.

According to Mayor Jimmie H. Davis, the committee wanted to get permission to hold the event from the town before proceeding with its plans. The group has scheduled a meeting for 7 p.m. Friday at West-

ern Steer in King to further the project.

Sandy Atkins of the Agricultural Extension Service said Tuesday that committee members believe such an event is needed "to publicize that we do grow the berries — that it's typical of this area."

Agricultural leaders say that increasing numbers of farmers are turning to berry production as an alternative to tobacco and other crops on the decline. Those grown in Surry include strawberries, blueberries, raspberries and blackberries, Atkins said.

Town officials pointed out that the festival date is the same as the annual Dobson horse show, but they don't think this would present a problem.

Commissioner Jack D. Marion noted that some people might visit the festival and then choose to go on to the horse show.

Inflation

(Continued from Page 1A)