

# Housing Authority to Cut Back Services

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## The Virginian-Pilot The Second Front

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Mornings when the old car won't start I hitch a ride in a car pool whose regular membership is made up of lawyers and the head of a laboratory. They lighten their way to work with a game that consists in seeing which rider can come closest to predicting the temperature flashing on a board outside a savings and loan association in downtown Norfolk.

Each rider bets a quarter, and the lab man usually walks away with the pot.

The other day I asked him privately how he managed to win so consistently.

Since you're not a regular player and couldn't master the system even if you were, he said, I'll tell you my secret. Each morning, just before joining the car pool, I read the predicted low for the day printed in the upper left hand corner of The Virginian-Pilot and add 10 degrees.

He jingled the quarters. Where but Norfolk, he asked, could you find so much action at this hour of the day? Where, indeed?

And it is a question that, when you take in Portsmouth, Chesapeake, and Virginia Beach with Norfolk, could be asked at pretty nearly any hour of the day.

The offerings are of such variety and quality—plays, music, baseball, hockey, basketball—that one need only look in the amusement section or at the upper left hand corner of the front page to find ample diversion.

The other day, for instance, my wife notified me that the Norfolk Consort was going to have a premier of an unusual musical composition on Sunday, April 27.

The what? I asked.  
The Consort, she said.  
You mean concert, I guess.  
No, she said, Consort.

If you have become so cultured that you insist on pronouncing concert consort, I said, there is nothing I can do about it except to deplore it in the strongest possible terms.

The Consort, you go see, is a group of a dozen or so instrumentalists from Tidewater's schools and colleges and the Norfolk Symphony Orchestra who get together to play out-of-the-way works.

Oh, I said.  
On Sunday at 7 o'clock they will be playing music composed by Tom Rice for seven sonnets by John Donne, she said.

Tom Rice, I discovered, is the band director for five elementary schools at Bayside, which ought to be enough to exhaust anybody. But, after mulling over the idea a couple of years, he spent seven weeks last summer composing music to accompany as many sonnets by Donne, the 17th century metaphysical poet.

A sonnet a week, I said, marveling.  
Donne, who can wrap more in 14 lines than most writers can bundle in as many volumes, happens to be one of my favorite poets.

Rice's, too. He selected a series on the life of Christ, in which Donne has the last line of one poem become the first line in the next poem. In several cases, although the words stay the same, punctuation changes the meaning of the recurring line.

The connecting sonnets compose what Donne calls a crown.

Rice will conduct; Dennis Striny, a professional singer from New York, will sing the verses, and Art Jones of Virginia Beach will read them. Since the audience also will have copies, everybody has a fair shot at Donne's meanings.

Rice, who was born and reared in Washington, D.C., came to Virginia Beach 15 years ago with a master's degree in musicology from the University of North Carolina.

After the work, which takes about half an hour, there will be questions from the audience.

So what do you do after you finish playing? I asked Rice.  
You sit there and cry, he said, laughing.  
Aren't you going to answer the questions? I asked.  
If they don't have to carry me out on a stretcher, he said.

No, he added, the nice thing about playing with the Consort is that everybody plays so beautifully that you have no worries about the thing being done well.

That's why they call it the Consort, I told him.

Later my wife said she'd like to go hear the Consort Sunday at the Chrysler Museum Theatre.

It's as good as done, I said. (You fall under his influence very quickly.)

It costs \$3 a ticket, she warned. (\$1 for students and military, \$2 for museum members, and \$3 for nonmembers.)

If I were double that I'd be all one to me, I said, gallantly. Nevertheless, between now and Saturday I'm going to ride in the car pool—and look carefully at the upper left hand corner of The Virginian-Pilot.

NORFOLK—Rising utility costs and declining federal aid have put the heat on the Norfolk Redevelopment and Housing Authority.

As a result, residents in the authority's low-income housing units will have their heating units cut off sooner than they or the authority would like, and preventive maintenance on the units will have to be cut back or eliminated.

These gloomy prospects were presented to the NRHA's commissioners Monday primarily because of two reasons.

First, the Department of Housing and Urban Development has decided to give the authority about \$1.4 million less than housing officials feel is needed to run the low-income projects adequately.

The authority had asked for \$2.5 million from HUD, but will only get \$1.1 million for this budget year.

"They have an absolute club over our heads and there is nothing we can do about it," Shiver told the commissioners, who reluctantly agreed to reduce the proposed budget for the low-income housing units.

Angry NRHA officials told the commissioners that the low HUD grant will require several distasteful measures. The most serious, they said, will be the cut-back or elimination of preventive maintenance.

That wasn't all the bad news for the commissioners, and more importantly, for the residents of the low-income housing units.

Utility rates are rising so fast, Shiver said, that about 74 per cent of the rental money the authority receives must be used for this purpose.

"The thing that is really killing us is utility rates," Shiver said.

Shiver pointed out that in 1971, 28 per cent

of the money the authority received from rent was used to pay utility bills of about \$849,000. This year, that amount has about doubled to \$1.7 million, he added.

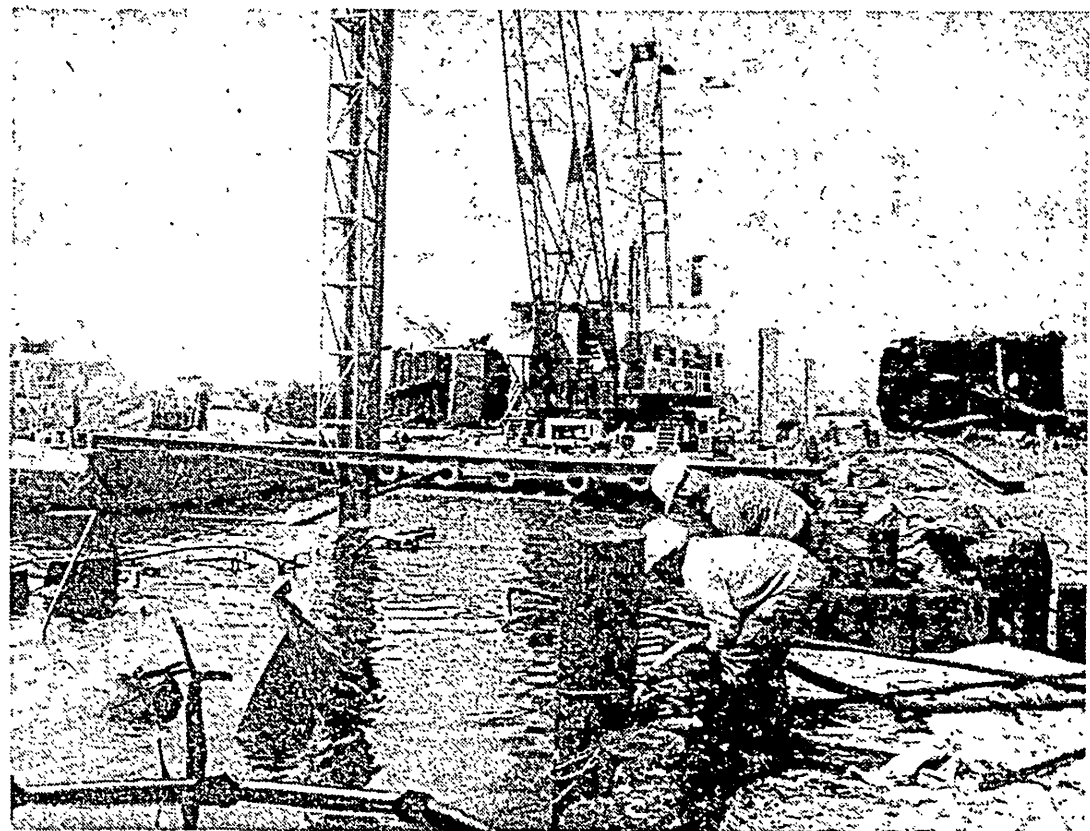
This increase will result in heating units being cut off sooner than the residents or the authority wants, he said.

It may also be necessary, Shiver said, for the authority to begin charging residents a fee if their utility bill is more than authority officials feel is necessary.

Because of this rise in utility rates, Shiver added, housing authorities across the county should band together to ask for more federal money.

A resolution, which Shiver said he will ask other housing authorities to support, was approved by the commissioners asking that HUD provide more money because of the utility rates.

"I want to submit this resolution to congressmen and other housing officials," Shiver said.



Virginian-Pilot Photo by Robie Ray

### Making Little Ones Out of a Big One

An explosion March 17 in Allied Towing Corp.'s 300-foot tanker barge ATC 3060 started the process which the big McLean Contracting Co. floating crane Cape Fear is finishing. Using a drop hammer guided by the beam stretching from the barge to shore, the sunken barge is being cut into small enough pieces to be handled. Such a

piece can be seen at the right and others are framed by the crane and the drop hammer. The \$78,000 job is expected to be completed in another two weeks. The men in the foreground are pumping oil from the barge from the surface of the water. The explosion which sank the barge took the lives of two men.

## Officer Cleared in Slaying

VIRGINIA BEACH—A white policeman who fatally shot a black man in the man's backyard last month acted in self-defense and will not be prosecuted, Commonwealth's Atty. Andre Evans told the City Council Monday.

Evans' report was based on an investigation of the March 1 shooting of Clarence M. Morgan Jr., a 32-year-old longshoreman, at his Burton Station Road home by Patrolman Douglas W. Nicholson, 28.

one of whom told Nicholson not to "go back there without more help."

Nicholson was told that a man, later identified as Morgan, was choking someone in the backyard of his brick house, and he went into the backyard while Marson parked the car, Evans said.

Evans said that Nicholson had his gun in one hand and a flashlight in the other, and was not displaying a badge.

Nicholson saw that the "victim" was not a person but a dog, Evans said, and the black man kneeling over the animal appeared to be trying to cut its throat with a butcher knife.

Nicholson lowered his pistol and asked the man what he was doing, Evans told the council, and he replied, "She's the devil! She's the devil!"

When the patrolman, who was five or six feet from Morgan, told him to drop the knife, Evans said, Morgan "arose and began advancing rapidly on the officer with the knife held out in front of him in what appeared to be a threatening manner."

"Under the facts as they appear, and the law as enunciated by the courts, my conclusion is that Officer Nicholson was legally justified in defending himself, even though his actions had such tragic consequences," Evans told the council.

"In my opinion, his judgment was reasonable under the circumstances, he is legally entitled to assert the claim of self-defense, and his actions were therefore justifiable from the standpoint of the law."

The victim, Evans said, had been "emotionally upset" for about a week before his death. He had been treated the day of

the shooting at Norfolk General Hospital, Evans said, where he was suffering from "serious delusional symptoms."

Evans said Morgan was released from Norfolk General against the advice of a doctor, and became upset after returning home, where he finally "became uncontrollable."

First Morgan's mother called the police, Evans said, reporting that there was a person with a mental problem who had come home from the hospital.

Then came a second call, more frantic, reporting a man who was choking his wife. The house numbers reported by the two callers were different, Evans said.

He said that Nicholson and his partner, Patrolman James E. Marson, were among four police units answering the calls. They were the first to arrive.

The officers were wearing casual civilian clothes, Evans said, and were driving an unmarked police car when they arrived in the neighborhood. But they were recognized as policemen and flagged down by several people,

### Suit Said Possible

## U.S. Probes Bide-A-Wee Policy on Blacks

By STEVE GOLDBERG  
Virginian-Pilot Staff Writer

PORTSMOUTH—The Justice Department is investigating a complaint that Bide-A-Wee Golf Club illegally excludes blacks from its membership.

Justice Department officials in Washington confirmed that they are probing the all-white club for evidence that it is operating in violation of the public-accommodations section of the 1964 Civil Rights Act.

They added that the review could result in a lawsuit not only against Bide-A-Wee, but also the City of Portsmouth Golfer Chandler Harper leases the 134-acre tract on which the club is situated from the city.

Under the Civil Rights Act, private clubs are allowed to admit whomever they chose, but

it is illegal to form a private club solely for the purpose of excluding blacks.

"There are many cases where allegedly private clubs were, in fact, under the law, not private clubs," one Justice Dept. official said.

Officials emphasized, however, that simply because the case is under review does not mean legal action will be taken. "A suit is a possibility, but by no means a certainty," one official said.

Largely because of its relationship with the city, Bide-A-Wee has been embroiled in controversy concerning its racial policies since it was formed in 1955.

The city owns the tract in the southern part of the city, but leases it to Harper at a rate of

\$3,600 a year. The current lease runs until 1992.

As part of the agreement, Harper was to build the golf course at a cost of between \$10,000 and \$140,000, and to construct improvements costing \$50,000 by the time the lease expires. At that time the golf course would become city operated.

Harper, and the Bide-A-Wee Golf Club, Inc., a group that subleases the course from him, have maintained that blacks aren't expressly forbidden from joining. It's just that no suitable black applicants have been found, they have said.

Harper, though, has accused black leaders of having "tried to play golf. They don't need to play here. . . ."

"A lot of clubs only allow white people," Harper said.

John Coney of the Norfolk FBI office said a probe into possible violations by the club of the public-accommodations section was conducted after a charge of discrimination was lodged with the Justice Department.

"We did conduct an investigation at the request of J. Stanley Pottinger, assistant attorney general in charge of the Civil Rights Division, based on an allegation from a black resident of Portsmouth that he and other blacks were not permitted to play on the golf course because of their race," Coney said.

He declined to identify the person who complained.

Harper has promised to fight in the courts any attempt to dictate who can join the club.

Leon Lasting, president of the corporation which subleases the club from Harper, has said, "We know there's a little bit of controversy and I think the less said about it the better for everybody."

He added: "We have no regulations against blacks."

According to Harper, there are about 550 members of the club and monthly dues for an individual are \$15.20.

Black golfers have complained to the City Council that they must drive to other parts of the city to play, when Bide-A-Wee is nearer their homes.

Cavalier Manor, the city's largest black middle-class section, is only a few blocks from Bide-A-Wee.

## Pollution Curb Septic-Tank Limit Urged By Hanbury

By BERT ROHRER  
Virginian-Pilot Staff Writer

VIRGINIA BEACH—City Manager George L. Hanbury Monday proposed that the City Council impose a moratorium on the installation of septic tanks in densely populated areas that drain into the Lynnhaven River to help stem increasing pollution there.

Hanbury's recommendation, which was part of a letter distributed to the council concerning problems in the Lynnhaven and possible solutions, did not define "densely populated."

Obtaining permission from the Department of the Interior to dredge the river "in order to allow a flushing action."

State laws requiring boats to have waste-holding tanks "or some other method of treating sewage before (its) being discharged into the water."

Those four recommendations, in one form or another, have had the council's tacit blessing for a long time.

## White House Invitation to Miss Giscard

WASHINGTON (AP)—Susan Ford has invited French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing's daughter for a White House tour Wednesday.

The 21-year-old Valerie-Anne Giscard d'Estaing is in the United States for appearances in connection with her crowning as queen of the Azalea Festival in Norfolk.

In addition to welcoming her at the White House, President Ford's daughter will attend a dance at the French Embassy, which is being given in honor of Miss Giscard d'Estaing on Wednesday night.

## Today's Azalea Festival Events

Tea reception and fashion show, sponsored by the Federation of Garden Clubs of Norfolk and Vicinity, 1 p.m., Tidewater Dinner Theater.

Afternoon in the park, a tribute to volunteers and senior citizens, featuring the Marching Virginians of VPI, 3 p.m., Lafayette Park.

Arrival ceremony for Miss Valerie-Anne Giscard d'Estaing, Queen Azalea XXII, about 6 p.m., Norfolk Regional Airport lobby.

Easter Seals membership drive dinner, 6 p.m., Sheraton Inn-Beach.

VPI band extravaganza, sponsored by Khedive Temple and featuring VPI bands and dancers, 8 p.m., Scope.

## Processors Asked For Peanut Bids

WASHINGTON (UPI)—The Agriculture Department has invited peanut processors to bid on crushing 100,000 tons of government-owned surplus peanuts into oil for domestic giveaways and foreign aid.

Officials said the peanut meal produced from crushing the nuts would be left with processors to pay processing costs. The oil will be donated to school lunchrooms in this country and will be used in grants or long-term credit sales abroad under the Food for Peace Program.

The 100,000-ton bid invitation was the first step in an operation agriculture officials plan similar treatment for all leftover crop

peanuts acquired under the peanut price support program.

Spokesmen said bids on the initial batch are due in 10 days.

When the plan was announced March 17, officials indicated that they expected to convert nearly 388,000 tons of peanuts worth \$142 million into oil. Since then, however, the department has sold about 28,000 tons for food use and some small sales are expected.

An official estimated about 100 million pounds of the resulting 140 million pounds of peanut oil will be given to U.S. school lunchrooms. The remainder will be used in foreign aid.