

of the board's
"ee" could be
the board's

ce chairman
chairman.
l not say he
ointed by the
to hear the
on schedule.
at 4:50 p.m.
by various
subsequent

Schools of County

soft drink and candy
s in an apparently vain
to pry open their cash

police also reported
st of George Daniel
35, of 4804 Kellogg Dr.,

l was charged with
eny Sunday afternoon
ficer J. D. Bird, on
it" at a Dale City
ion site, said he saw
ling lumber into his
agon. The lumber was
roperty of Hylton
ses.

H LOMOND

s Plan ale

his area are properly
and have had their
inoculation. Any
ian can inoculate your
may obtain your dog
rough the Department
ce in Manassas or at
field Administration
in Woodbridge. You
sent a valid rabies
n certificate at the
urchase the license.

there. He is mainly self-
educated and serves in a

Dairy

(Continued from Page 1-A)

problem, particularly for
farmers like Wheeler whose
land along I-66 rose rapidly in
value.

Wheeler said he thought the
land - use tax assessments
approved by the Board of
County Supervisors last year
should help other dairy farmers
maintain their herds.

"Before it was passed,"
Wheeler related, "had I not sold
some land, I couldn't have paid
my taxes."

The newly approved tax
break was not enough to keep
Wheeler in the dairy business,
however.

He had purchased Portici
Farm originally with the idea of
producing milk for about 20
years before selling the land.

The decision to sell the herd
was finally reached because of
partner Pearson's poor health.
The herd was sold at public
auction in June.

Before the sale Pearson
managed a herd of 100 head,
including 55 milk cows. Daily
milk production averaged about
2,200 pounds.

Like most other dairy
farmers in the area, Wheeler
sold his milk to the Maryland -
Virginia Milk Producer's
Association. The price rose
gradually through the years,
though not as fast as costs,
finally reaching \$7.47 a hundred
pounds.

The price, Wheeler
commented, was fair and would
allow a farmer with a topflight
operation, who grew his own
feed, to make a profit, if costs
could only be held down.

Now that he has sold his dairy
herd, Wheeler said he might

Woods, immediate past
president of the Woodbridge
Jaycees and now chairman of
the board of the organization
who will talk on "Aims and
Purposes of the Jaycees."

Will Mountjoy, past president
of the local chapter will discuss
the Jaycee organization, and
"Opportunities for Jaycees"
will be the topic of Bill Cates,
who is also a past president.

Bob Surkosky, the newly
installed president of the local
chapter will say a few words
and will introduce the speakers.

Judy Bailey, president of the
Woodbridge Jaycee Wives will
speak on the functions of the
Wives organization.

The Woodbridge Jaycees
would like to extend an
invitation to all young men
between the ages of 18 and 35 to
join in an evening of fun and
information. This is a very good
opportunity for anyone who is
interested in the interests and
the capabilities of this civic-
minded organization, and wives
are cordially invited.

—Ann Migacz

The moon's orbit around the
earth moves out into space
about one foot every 30 years.

H sta

Another Prince William Dairy Farm Gives Up

And More
9-15-73

By Ed Heck
 Another Prince William County dairy farm stands idle now.
 The milk barns on William H. Wheeler's Portici Farm astride Interstate 66 near Bull Run have been empty for a month.
 The demise of Wheeler's farm, operated in partnership with Thomas Pearson, was just a footnote to the story of the decline of the dairy industry in Prince William.

In a county where 134 dairy farms were producing milk 20 years ago, only 21 remain today.
 Despite the building of 1-66 across his land, Wheeler was able to stay in the business longer than most, although

taxes and costs rose continually.
 When Wheeler began farming in the early 1960's, he recalled last week, there were 14 dairy farms within a four-mile radius of his operation. For about the last four years, his was the only one that continued to operate.
 The building of 1-66 could have had a devastating effect on Wheeler if he had not been able to buy more land. The highway took 26 acres and left an additional 10 acres completely separated from the farm on the opposite side of the interstate.
 However, Wheeler was able to build houses on those 10 acres, and buy an additional 70 acres, bringing the dairy farm to 200

acres.
 That was about the minimum size for a dairy farm in Prince William, Wheeler said last week. With that much land he was able to produce enough hay and provide enough pasture to take care of the basic feed requirements of his dairy herd, except during a rare dry spell.
 Nonetheless, Wheeler and Pearson had to buy the feed concentrates and protein supplements required to keep milk production high. No rising prices hit the dairy farmer so hard as the seven-fold increases in the price of needed feed supplements over a 20-year period.
 Rising taxes were also a

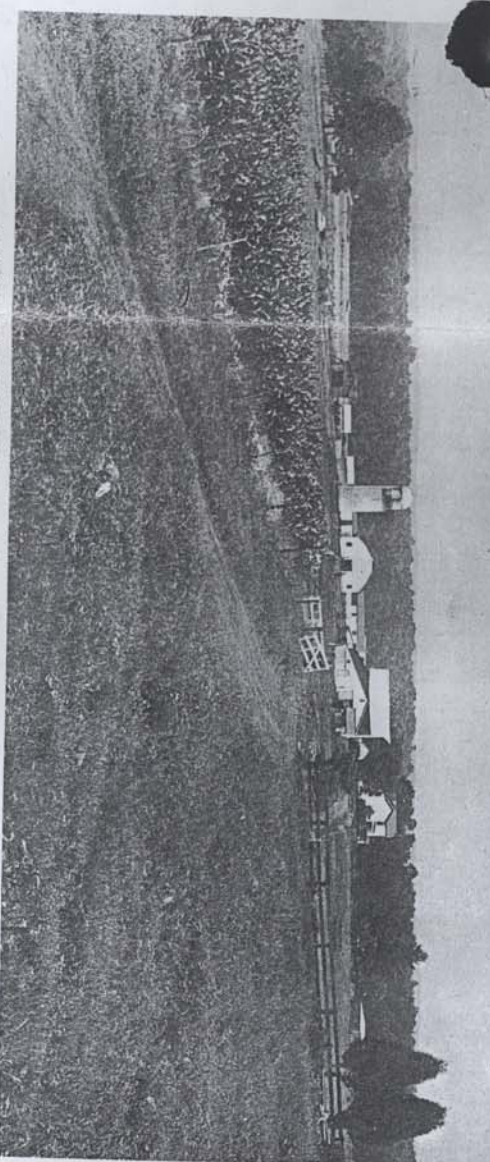
(Continued on Page 7A)

VIRGINIA FILE
Pr C - Historic Sites

Prince William Public Library
 Manassas, Va.

HISTORIC SITE FILE PORTICI
PRINCE WILLIAM PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM
 REIC/Bull Run Reg Lib Manassas, VA

THE MILK BARNNS ARE EMPTY NOW ON WILLIAM H. WHEELER'S PORTICI FARM



U
Co
Ja
N
CI
R
F
C
B
H
P
S
B
A