

People's law school scheduled

By JULIE BALL
News Herald Staff Writer

Residents of Burke County and the surrounding area will soon have a chance to find out more about how the legal system works by participating in the second annual "People's Law School."

The "People's Law School" is a series of five seminars that will cover various areas of law. The sessions will begin in March.

"The program is intended to allow lawyers to educate the public regarding legal rights and responsibilities," said Wayne Martin, a local attorney who is coordinating the event.

"It's an opportunity to learn more about the specific subjects being presented," said Martin.

Subjects ranging from writing wills and bankruptcy to new laws such as the "Lemon Law" will be discussed by local attorneys at the free seminars. The "Lemon Law" is a new law protecting consumers purchasing new automobiles.

The "People's Law School" is sponsored as a public service by the North Carolina Academy of Trial Lawyers and The News Herald. The academy is sponsoring "People's Law Schools" throughout the state.

Other groups helping with the event include Western Piedmont Community College and the Burke County Historical Society.

In addition to the seminars, there will also be a mock driving while impaired (DWI) trial.

"We will have one jury composed of people attending (the session) who want to serve on that jury, and we'll have one jury composed of six students from Freedom High School and six students from East Burke," said Martin.

The juries will be shown evidence and asked to make a decision on the guilt or innocence of the accused.

The first "People's Law School" in Burke County held last year received a good response with about 100 people attending, said Martin.

At each of the sessions there will be 45 minutes of discussion and a 45-minute question and answer period,

People's law school scheduled

★ From page one

said Martin.

The following is a list of the seminars and when they will occur:

- Employee/employer, Social Security and worker's compensation, March 14.
- Title opinion, ad valorem taxes and wills, March 21.
- Traffic court, March 28.
- DWI trial, April 4.
- Bankruptcy, "lemon law" and landlord/tenant, April 11.

The seminars will be held at Moore Auditorium at Western Piedmont Community College, except for the April 4 session which will be held at the old Burke County Courthouse. All of the seminars will run from 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

For more information, call Wayne Martin at 437-7060.