

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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Waterfront park, site B

This tranquil scene will soon begin on Hertford's \$200,000 waterfront park. Site B, located behind the Municipal Building, will include boat ramps to accommodate four trailers, three treated timber piers, and a parking lot area to accommodate 12 vehicles and trailers.

Park project getting started

Long-awaited construction will begin soon on a portion of Hertford's waterfront park, a project conceived in February of 1977 and tangled by red tape for some three years. The Hertford Town Council authorized T.D. Eure Construction Company to begin work on Site B of the park on Monday. Site B will consist of boat ramps, docking facilities, and a parking area to be located where the town boat ramp is presently. According to Harry Gibson, a soil conservation engineer from Edenton, existing wooden piers and the wooden boat ramp will be replaced with two, double concrete ramps (with a total capacity of four trailers) and three piers made of treated timber which will measure four feet and eight inches wide each.

(Continued on page 2)

Land use problem won't cost county

Perquimans County apparently will not be penalized for failing to meet a federally set deadline for completing its land use plan.

The county initially faced a charge of nearly \$8,000 when the Coastal Area Management Commission recently deemed progress on the plan as "severely off schedule." But steps have been taken to salvage what has been done on the land use plan and to secure another consulting firm to complete the draft.

Required by the Coastal Area Management Act, the plan is designed to identify problems and issues that could confront the county in the next five years, and to project an overall view of desired land use in 1985.

Members of the CRC met last week with Robert Whitley, director of the Albemarle Regional Planning and Development Commission, the agency contracted to devise the land use plan, in an effort to ascertain what steps should be taken to produce a quality plan for Perquimans County.

According to Whitley, the CRC recommended the termination of ARPDC's contract

in order to seek another planner. "We cannot complete a quality plan in the length of time we have," said Whitley. The draft plan would have been due June 30, and scheduled for the CRC's final approval on August 30.

Whitley added that ARPDC's community planner Dan Tew, initially in charge of the land use plan, would work closely with whomever the CRC commissioned to complete the work. "But we will not be the lead planners," said Whitley.

Because trouble on the land use plan was detected early, additional funds needed to complete work can be obtained from the CRC. "The county is not responsible in this instance because it will begin a new contract with another planner," said Bill Gardener, chairman of the Coastal Advisory Council. Gardener added that the CRC would absorb the cost on a 90-10 basis. "The CRC will take care of 90 percent of the cost and 10 percent will be local or in-kind," he said.

Gardener said he felt that problems which arose on the plan's completion were due to personnel changes within the ARPDC. "Right after they

(ARPDC) contracted to do the plan, their head planner left," said Gardener referring to Larry Chilton's resignation from the commission early last fall. "Dan Tew just was not experienced enough to do all that work," he added.

Tew had not only undertaken Perquimans County's land use plan, but Chowan's and Gates' as well. "It is humanly impossible to do all three in the time allotted," said Gardener, "but the work Dan did get done was excellent."

T. Erie Haste, Perquimans County's representative on the CRC was in accordance. "Dan has done a lot of work on the plan," said Haste who added that Tew "just did not have enough time or experience to produce a quality plan."

The completion of Perquimans County's land use plan now pends on the CRC's hiring of another planner. "Work will get underway as soon as another consulting firm is located and accepted by the commission," said Haste, who added that the deadline would now be June 30, 1981 for the draft plan, and August 30, 1981 for the CRC's approval.

Newbold - White

No charge for underground

The Hertford Town Council has resolved to supply an underground transformer to the Newbold-White House at a charge not to exceed their present cost of supplying the historic site with overhead power.

At the council's last regular meeting, William Nixon, representing the Perquimans County Restoration Association, had requested that the town either release the Newbold-White House

from its electrical system, or run an underground line to the site at a cost not to exceed that of Albemarle Electric Membership's price quotation for the same service.

EMC had quoted the association a sum of \$255.43 for providing underground power to the historical site, an amount based on the difference between overhead and underground current and not inclusive of labor and material costs for providing the service.

Although Hertford Mayor and City Manager Bill Cox had originally estimated the cost of running underground power to the site as "some \$6,000," he said the actual assessment would be "considerably less."

Cox could not give any approximation of just how much under \$6,000 the service would be, but he did say that materials would probably run around \$2,800, and that labor cost would be "in house."

The cost of running underground lines to the site

would come within the electrical budget, according to Cox. "We will consider the service as a normal improvement," he said.

Nixon had also pointed out at the council meeting that the Newbold-White House, located about 1 1/2 miles from town, was not receiving the town services, made possible through utility profits, rendered town residents.

And although the council told Nixon they "would look into the possibility," their

ultimate decision was that it was not possible to extend town services to the site.

"We cannot extend our services outside the corporate limits," said Cox.

It's time to vote Tuesday

The polls will open at 6:30 a.m. on Tuesday for the 1980 primary elections.

Local state, and national candidates will be endorsed at seven polling places scattered across Perquimans County.

These will be: the Bethel Community Building; the Nicanor Community Building; the Belvidere Community Building; the Parkville

Community Building in Winfall; the New Hope Community Building, the Perquimans County Courthouse; and Hertford Grammar School.

County elections board chairman William Tilley said that voter turnout would be largely dependent on the weather.

"If the weather's pretty and

the farmer's got work to do he won't vote," said Tilley. A rainy day, though, could mean a large turnout, he said.

Incumbent Register of Deeds Jeanne C. White's name will not appear on the ballot because she has no primary opposition, Tilley said. Her name will, however, appear on the ballot in November.

Emmett Long, Bethel Township school board candidate, has also drawn no opposition, but his name will appear on the ballot as the non-partisan school board race will be decided by primary balloting.

Voting will be by paper ballot and the polls will close at 7:30 p.m.

Volunteer Day Saturday

Plans are being finalized for Perquimans County's third annual Volunteer Day, set Saturday, May 3, at the courthouse in Hertford.

Festivities, scheduled from 2 to 4 p.m., will begin with a few words about the importance of volunteers from Sister Gloria Gillman, a

member of the Daughters of Charity.

Representatives of the Perquimans County Heart Association and the Cancer Society will speak briefly about their recent funding efforts, and demonstrations from county volunteer fire departments and the

Perquimans County Rescue Squad will also be featured.

Area civic organizations are expected to be on hand to answer questions about their organizations and offer information about their roles as volunteers in the community. The Perquimans County Lion's Club will host the

Mobile Eye Care Unit. All participating clubs should be at the courthouse at 1:30 with their tables and displays.

Entertainment will be provided by the Perquimans County High School Band and Miss and Mr. Perquimans County, LuAnn Chappell and Jay Meads, and Little Miss and Mr. Sweetheart, Susan Lavezzo, and Benjamin Waters, will also perform.

Schools

Budget work begins

The board also examined salaries, instructional materials needed for the coming year, fuel and transportation costs, and the continuation of energy conservation measures.

Although Harrell would not release any estimation of the total budget amount for the coming year because no decisions had been made, he said that the board would present a final budget draft at the Perquimans County Board of Commissioners meeting slated for May 5.

In answer to statewide decreases in teacher allocations, the Perquimans County School Board will attempt to retain existing programs through the local budget.

The board met last Thursday night to begin the process of establishing the 1980-81 school budget, and although no action was taken, every item to be included in the budget was examined.

Schools superintendent Pat Harrell said that among capital outlay projects under consideration are the upgrading of science facilities, the construction of a field house, and the expansion of vocational facilities, all at Perquimans County High School.

W.M. Morgan closing doors

An old established Hertford business will be shutting its doors to the public in the near future.

W.M. Morgan Furniture Company, established in 1914, is currently in the process of closing out its stock.

Co-owner Jay W. Dillon said the firm is going out of business because both he and fellow owner Helen Morgan reached retirement age several years ago.

The large main street building will be put on the market for sale, and Dillon has hopes that it will find a customer.

"I hope some interested party would renovate, and open up some type of business," he said.

Actually....

In an article on candidates for the Perquimans County Board of Education, we reported remarks by Parkville candidate Cliff Towe out of context, obscuring the meaning of one particular phrase.

We reported Towe as saying, "Surely I would not be a success today if it were not for the opportunity afforded me to succeed when I was in high school." He actually stated, "The student who leaves our community and looks back on his years in the Perquimans County School System and says 'Surely I would not be a success today if it wasn't for the opportunity afforded me to succeed while I was in school'."



Spin your Partner

Snug Harbor's Harbor Lites Square Dance team swung their way into the Perquimans County High School last Friday afternoon as part of

the North Carolina Heritage Week celebration. The Harbor Lites will also perform at the courthouse this Saturday to provide entertainment for

Perquimans County's Volunteer Day. See the article on this page for further information on Volunteer Day,

and the story on page 12 for more on Heritage Week. (Photo by PAT MANSFIELD)