



Girl Scouts Landscape At BCC

Girl Scouts in Brownie Troop No. 724 and Junior Troop No. 859 plant the flower bed in front of Brunswick Community College's new classroom building on a recent Saturday morning as a community service project. Those above include (from the left) Troop Leader Gloria Rountree

(foreground), Jackie Hardy, Myrtle Stevenson, Renee Rountree, Tiffany Stevenson, Cyndi Crumpler, Jennifer Quantance, Assistant Leader Anna Horne, Cindy Fenton, and on the porch, Mrs. Ruby Wiles. Eva Crumpler is the troop's assistant leader.

First Aid Class Slated

A 12-hour multimedia first aid course begins the evening of May 11 and continues May 12 and May 19 in Southport.

Susan Arnold of Shallotte is the instructor of the class, which is expected to be particularly helpful to those who are care providers, employed in day care centers or involved in parenting.

Registration is \$15, free to those age 65 and older. It is payable at the first class meeting, to be held at First Step Child Care, 608 E. Leonard Street, Southport. Classes will meet from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

For more information contact the Brunswick Community College Continuing Education Department, 754-6900, or 457-6329.

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Program Aim Is To Improve Sub-Standard Housing

BY RAHN ADAMS

At least eight local families will be a little warmer next winter thanks to a weatherization program soon to be administered by Brunswick County Public Housing.

Director Perita Price said last week that the program should begin in June, after funding is received from the N.C. Department of Commerce's Energy Division and after her staff is trained to handle applications.

"I think it's going to be a plus for the county," Ms. Price said. "Any time this county can assist low-income families to improve their standard of living, then I'm an advocate of it, and I think this is definitely going to help."

The weatherization program is nothing new to Brunswick County. Until last year, it was administered by Sencland Community Action, a four-county anti-poverty agency which closed in February 1987.

According to Ms. Price, Brunswick County last year was allocated \$15,000 in the statewide weatherization program. However, Brunswick County Commissioners did not authorize Public Housing to administer the program until April 18. And as a result of that lapse in the program, the county's allocation dropped to \$12,000 due to "non-use" of the initially allotted funds, she said.

Increased funding would be available in subsequent years after the local program's "track record" is evaluated by the state. "We'll continue to be on some type of funding cycle," she noted.

Ms. Price explained that the purpose of the program is to weatherize sub-standard homes by caulking, doing minor repairs and installing weather-stripping, storm windows and doors. Up to \$1,400 can be spent on each home to make it "air-tight"

according to strict program standards.

"It'll save on heating and cooling, but we're mainly concerned about heating, so that families don't have to pay high heating costs," she said. "The benefits will be seen in the winter months."

More than eight homes can be weatherized if the \$1,400 limit isn't spent on each dwelling, Ms. Price said. The work itself will be done by a contractor.

She added that homes requiring major rehabilitation could be considered for up to \$7,800 in repairs through a separate energy conservation program that will soon be offered by the state. Guidelines on that program should be received "any day now," she said last week.

In the meantime, Public Housing must notify the Energy Division that the weatherization program has been authorized by commissioners. Then a program design must be completed

and the staff must be trained before applications are taken.

She said her staff will probably use at least three sources to identify sub-standard housing: the 1980 Census figures and other statistical information; "windshield" surveys of the county to look at sub-standard housing firsthand; and the application process itself, to see where the most applications originate.

In 1982, Public Housing identified approximately 1,000 homes in Brunswick County that were sub-standard in some respect, she said.

According to Ms. Price, tentative plans are for applications to be accepted in June, with weatherization work to begin late that month and be completed within three months.

She speculated that at least one home in each of the county's five districts will be approved. "I think we'd probably try to spread it around as much as we could," she said.

Elizabeth Newman's
of Calabash

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