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Ornamental Birds and Game Stock.....Story Page 4-A

## Hobucken Bridge Closing

### 10-3 Again

Weekday closings are once again scheduled for the Hobucken bridge, this time for painting. The 10 am to 3 pm closings will begin on Wednesday, November 12, and will continue until the job is completed. A spokesperson for

the Army Corps of Engineers said he did not know how long the painting would take but that the bridge over the Intracoastal Waterway should reopen on a full-time basis within a month.

### Area Meetings

**Thursday, Nov. 13**  
Arapahoe Town Board - 7:30 pm, town hall.

**Monday, Nov. 17**  
Pamlico County Board of Commissioners - 7:30 pm, courthouse, Bayboro.



Aurora Harvest Festival.....Story Page 5-B

# The Pamlico News

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## Group Home Planned For Pamlico County

It's taken several years, but the goal of a Pamlico County woman will soon be realized.

Last month, word was received that the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) had approved funding for the construction of a group home to be located in Pamlico County to house six mentally retarded men.

The residents for whom the home is being built "need a degree of supervision in their lives," said Gary Johnson, a psychologist who serves as the coordinator of residential services for the Neuse Center.

"The home is an exciting venture," commented Dan Jones, director of the Neuse Center's mental retardation division. He added that the support of the community has enabled Pamlico County's home to be further along in the process than the other thirteen sites selected.

In some locations, residents have protested the placement in their neighborhoods of a group home for the mentally retarded.

"It's unusual to have a community provide this much support," said Jones. Support has come in the forms of a petition and letters of endorsement, including one from the county commissioners.

"Dot Andrews deserves a big pat on the back," Jones stated. Andrews has been working for several years to secure some type of non-institutionalized living arrangement for the county residents.

The New Bern ARC (Association for Retarded Citizens), which also serves Pamlico County, actually made application for the home, Jones explained, and will be putting up a \$2,500 deposit. HUD finances the construction and the house is run by ARC-Housing Development Services in Greensboro. The group home will be licensed by the state's Division of Facility Services and overseen by the Neuse Center staff.

Regarding maintenance of the house, HUD has strict guidelines and will inspect it at least once a year, said Johnson.

To keep the home operating, the clients will pay for their room and board. Most receive social security or supplemental security income, said Johnson. Client payments usually provide about half the needed operating funds with the remainder coming from the state.

Johnson commented that five clients can be served in a group home for less than it costs to keep two in an institutional setting. Three of the residents chosen will come from those now living in an institution.

The house itself will cost around two hundred thousand dollars to construct and will be located on a site on Highway 306 between Grantsboro and Arapahoe.

It will have six bedrooms, one for each resident, and an attached apartment for the live-in staff. The house will be barrier-free with hallways wide enough to accommodate wheelchairs. Special safety features include a structural fire wall between the bedroom wing and the rest of the

house and doors with a one-hour fire rating. In addition, the home will be wired throughout with a smoke and heat detection system.

According to Johnson, the state will provide start-up money for the purchase of a vehicle and

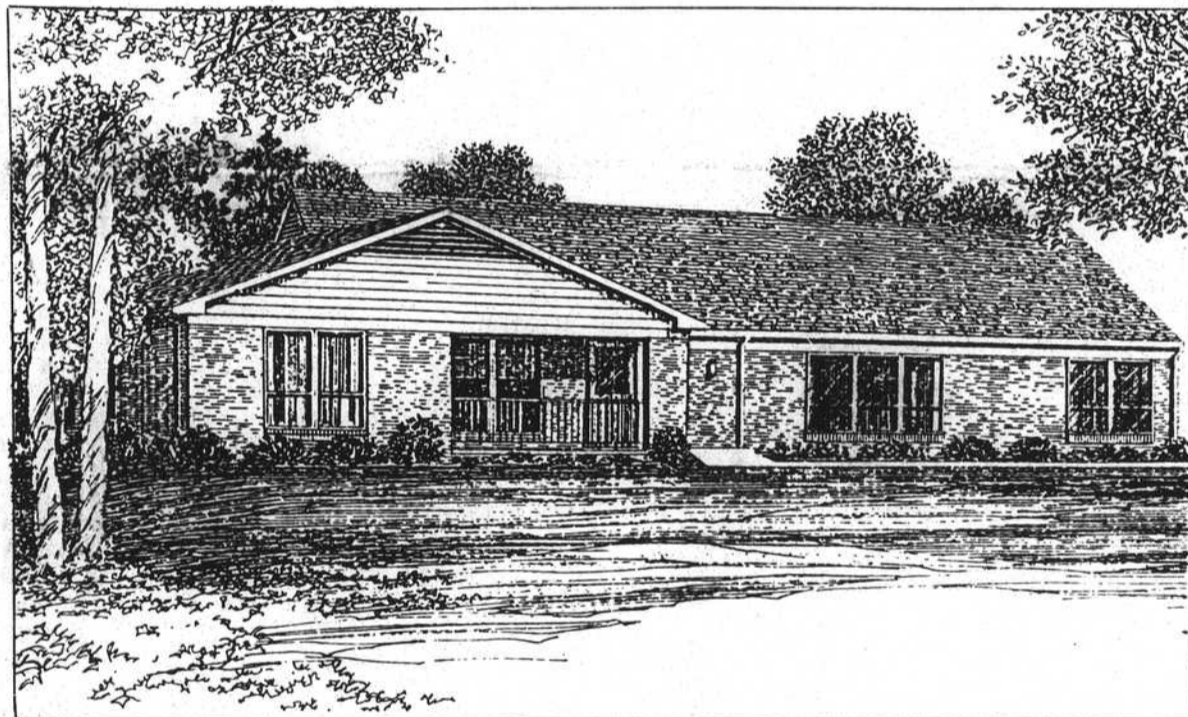
household furnishings. In the past, that figure has been \$35,000.

And since some of the clients may be living there for the rest of their lives, Johnson said everything possible is done to ensure that the house has a homey

feeling, from the choice of furnishing to the clients who will make up the new "family".

Other residents may use the home only as a transition, going on later to some other, perhaps

(See HOME, Page 6-A)



Rendering of the group home planned for Pamlico County.

### Working To Get Permits

## Farming Shrimp In Pamlico County

A Pamlico County man interested in constructing a shrimp pond met with representatives of the Division of Environmental Management (DEM) Monday morning to continue working out some of the details, a process which he hopes will lead eventually to a permit.

According to Roger Thorpe, a water quality technician with DEM, and Bill Moore, a DEM environmental technician, the major hurdle presently facing Montier Potter's aquaculture project is the

quality of the discharge from the shrimp pond.

At Monday's meeting, Potter asked Thorpe and Moore if they had any information on the quality of the water pumped from shrimp ponds.

Moore replied that he had some reports from similar projects located in South Carolina and "our initial concerns are based somewhat on what is contained in those reports." He added that most of his information was based on the culture of crayfish, a

freshwater species.

Fred May, chairman of the Pamlico County Extension Service, pointed out that the water quality could not be too bad or the shrimp would not survive.

Thorpe commented that the division's major concerns centered about the coliform bacteria that would be discharged with the pond water. "The information we've gotten is that it is present," he stated.

(See SHRIMP, Page 6-A)

## Family Dollar To Open New Store In Alliance Nov. 20

The 206th Family Dollar store in North Carolina and the 1143rd in the fast-growing North Carolina-based discount store chain will open in Alliance Thursday, November 20.

The new store, located at 1853 Main Street next to Lee's Western Auto, will open at 10 am.

Local officials and Family Dollar executives will take part in a brief ribbon-cutting ceremony at

the main entrance to the store immediately before the opening. The company expects a large crowd to attend the ribbon-cutting and take advantage of special Grand Opening sale prices afterward. Prices will also be honored at the New Bern store.

Jim Seagraves, Senior Vice-president of Store Operations, said, "Family Dollar looks forward to locating in Alliance and

being part of a fine business market." John Marks, the firm's District Manager for the area said, "Family Dollar offers excellent employment opportunities in this area and throughout the 23 states in which our stores are located. As many local people as possible will be employed at the new store." Marks added that

(See STORE, Page 6-A)

## Landfill, Space Problems On Beaufort Commissioners' Agenda

The Beaufort County Commissioners began and ended their monthly meeting on November 3 by discussing the problems in the computer that have delayed the mailing of tax notices to Beaufort County property owners.

Tax supervisor Buddy Stowe and computer programmer Cary Carbone stated that notices will not be mailed until they are totally

accurate, which could be any time before the end of the year.

The commissioners rejected all bids to renovate the Leggett building adjacent to the courthouse. They had considered moving the sheriff's offices and the county communications center into the building. Chairman Ledrue Buck said that the cost of renovation was "too much."

Commissioner Frank Bonner pointed out that the property was purchased with the plan in mind to remove the building and use the land as a parking lot. He suggested that the county proceed with the original plan and solicit bids to remove the building.

Buck said that the entire building needs of the county are currently being studied.

To meet the expansion requirements of the sheriff's office, the commissioners discussed the possibility of purchasing the Oakland building on Market Street. They authorized a study on the condition of the building and set a meeting for November 18 at 7 pm to discuss the findings of the engineers. They hope to reach a

## Hobucken Man Arrested On Drug Charges

A little more marijuana was taken out of circulation last Wednesday night when a Hobucken man was arrested on drug

charges. Acting on information supplied

(See DRUGS, Page 6-A)

(See BEAUFORT, Page 6-A)



Workers were busy last week at the new Family Dollar Store in Alliance setting up the shelving and other fixtures. The store is scheduled to open Thursday, November 20, with a ribbon cutting ceremony at 10 am. John Marks, district manager, was at the store last Thursday interviewing prospective employees; twenty-one were hired for the temporary stocking and setting-up positions. The manager will be Janice Popper who is being transferred to Alliance from another store.