

# Summer Youth Program employs 500 from area

Over 500 young people in ten counties have jobs in everything from marine biology to custodial services.

These 554 young people in Perquimans, Pasquotank, Chowan, Camden, Washington, Gates, Tyrell, Dare, Hyde and Currituck counties are employed by the summer Youth Program which is operated by the Employment Security Commission (ESC) and the Economic Improvement Council (EIC).

The Summer Youth Program is funded under the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA). The major goal of

the program is to help in-school young people stay in school by earning money and improving learning skills. Through counseling and educational opportunity, high school drop-outs will be encouraged to return to school.

Eligible young people ages 14 to 21 are paid federal minimum wage of \$2.65 an hour for work experience and classroom training.

The Summer Youth Program operated by ESU in this area has several components incorporated as work experience and classroom training. Vocational exploration and education, on-the-job train-

ing, counseling and remedial education have been coordinate within the counties.

Willard Newbern is the CETA coordinator for ESC's ten-county area. "We've tried to have several different categories in this program for the different interests of the young people," he said. "We've coordinated well with several public agencies to get these young people some good work experience."

Because the ten counties form a large region, four cities in different counties supervise an area. Elizabeth City coordinates for Dare, Currituck, Pasquotank, and Camden; Edenton for Chowan, Gates, Perquimans and Tyrell counties; Plymouth for Washington County and Beihaven for Hyde County.

Most of the CETA participants are working in the school system to prepare the schools for the fall. Mowing grass, cleaning and painting are some of their duties.

Harry Thomas, superintendent of Pasquotank county schools, says the Summer Youth Program workers are definitely needed.

"If it wasn't for the CETA summer workers, we would have to employ additional personnel," Thomas said. "So they save the county money and take a heavy workload off our janitorial staff. We just need that additional help."

Besides the maintenance work done in the ten-county area, the Summer Youth Program also provides for two state demonstration projects.

Coordinator Willard Newbern explains the pilot projects are concerned with health career work experience and vocational education.

"We've coordinated with Elizabeth City State

University to employ some of their students interested in health careers," said Newbern. "They've been placed in different health positions, and hopefully, they're getting some career experience plus helping the public health departments with their work."

Another pilot project operated out of ESC and EIC is in Plymouth High School. Several young people are in class at Plymouth High School learning a vocational skill and training. The second part of the day, the students use what they've learned in the classroom.

"They're being taught mechanics, small engine repair, carpentry and metric skills," said Walter Dorsey of ESC's Plymouth office. "Then later in the day, they help out in the bus garage and around the schools."

Other Summer Youth Program participants have been placed at day care centers, the Marine Resources Center, the fire department and parks and recreation sites for beautification purposes.

The Elizabeth City Police Department supervises several CETA participants as police cadets. Annie Barnett, a Summer Youth participant is a cadet in traffic violations and Ricahrd Weston, 17, is learning how to dispatch and he occasionally patrols with officers.

Mrs. Retha Thompson of the police department helps supervise the cadets. "We encourage the participants to work with us. The police department gets more street coverage," Thompson said. "Several officers also take vacations in the summer so we need that extra help."

The National Youth Sports Program (NYSP) being offered at Elizabeth City State University has

five CETA participants as instructor aides. The NYSP offers athletic instruction to children 10 to 18. T.L. Caldwell is assistant program administrator for NYSP. "Because we have five Summer Youth workers, we can give 75 more children something to do this summer," Caldwell said. "That means we get more children off the street and into sports."

"This also gives the Summer Youth workers a chance to learn leadership and improve their athletic skills."

Lawrence Brooks, 17, is working with the NYSP under CETA. "I've learned about attitudes and patience. I like being with these kids all day, they keep me busy," Brooks said.

Several Summer Youth Program participants are

working for the Boys Club in Elizabeth City tending fields, cleaning and instructing.

David Brinson of the Boys Club supervises the CETA workers. "A lot of things just wouldn't be possible if we didn't have this help," Brinson said. "We don't get any extra seasonal money and there's much more work during the summer. We're just glad to have CETA for that work."

The Summer Youth Program covering this ten-county area is part of a \$12 million summer program funded under CETA and administered by the state's Division of Community Employment. The division's representative in this area is Ervin Bibb.

The program is operated in 86 counties and is expected to reach over 12,000 young people.

## Booklet discusses small business

For some 400,000 Americans this year — 160,000 of them women — "doing it my way" will mean going into business

for themselves as proprietors of gift shops, candy stores, cosmetic studios, card shops, fashion boutiques, service

stations or any of a variety of other small business enterprises.

According to the Small Business Administration of

nearly half will fall within two years, due primarily to inadequate record keeping, poor planning and lack of experience.

## Civic calendar

THURSDAY, JULY 20

Hertford Fire Department meets.

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The Hertford BPW Club will meet.

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Hertford Lions Club meets.

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The Helen Gaither Home Extension Club will meet.

SATURDAY, JULY 22

A car wash sponsored by the Poplar Run Church will be held on the church lawn in Winfall starting at 11 a.m. A car wash donation is \$2.

SUNDAY, JULY 23

The Snug Harbor Civic League will hold a picnic starting at 1 p.m. in the park. This is the picnic postponed on July 16.

MONDAY, JULY 24

The Perquimans County Social Services Board will meet in the old agriculture building at 7:30 p.m.

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The Perquimans County Jaycees Board of Directors will meet.

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The Perquimans County Rescue Squad meets.

TUESDAY, JULY 25

Belvidere Homemakers Club meets.

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A meeting of the Hertford Rotary Club will be held at 6:30 p.m.

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Perquimans Masonic Lodge meets.

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The local chapter of Woodmen of the World will meet.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 26

The Perquimans County Jaycettes Board of Directors will meet at the home of President Sandra Hudson beginning at 7:30 p.m.



**BIG BEE HIVE** — While the playground area across from the Perquimans Recreation and Parks Department offers much in the line of entertainment, an added attraction was recently discovered. Nature lovers might be interested in observing this large bee hive found in one of the trees on the lot. Recreation officials have issued a warning however that the bees will attack if provoked, so they suggest quiet watching rather than active participation. (Staff photo)

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