

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

Volume 35, No. 43

USPS 428-080

Hertford, Perquimans County, N.C., Thursday, Nov. 1, 1979

20 CENTS



Twilight tree

A large tree by Grubb Street Extended casts a spooky image against the late October sky. It must have been the Halloween season. (Photo by NOELTODD-MCLAUGHLIN)

Crop loss loans set

Congressman Walter B. Jones announced this week that Perquimans and Chowan Counties have been named emergency loan areas due to crop damaging weather conditions during this year's growing season.

Jones said the loans are intended to cover losses incurred by farmers because of a month long period of excessive rain in the early part of the growing season, abnormally low temperatures during June, a July that saw virtually no rainfall, and crop damages caused by Hurricane David in early September.

Perquimans County Farm-Home Administration officer Melvin Howell said that excessive rains were the primary reason for crop loss in this county.

Certain areas of the county, however, seemed to have been harder hit than others.

"The Winfall, Belvidere, Joppa area seems to have had more loss than the New Hope area," Howell said.

Some farmers, though, have indicated higher than average yields this year.

The loans will be administered through the FHA office on Edenton Road.

In order to qualify, farmers must have sustained a 20 per cent loss in a major crop and be unable to qualify for loans at their normal lending institutions.

The loans carry a 5 per cent interest rate with a repayment period of up to 7 years.

Howell advised that farmers should wait until their harvests are completed to apply for the loans, so that they can be sure of exactly what their losses are.

Applications will be accepted until July 29, 1980 for physical losses and until Oct. 29, 1980 for production losses.

There were no figures available at press time as to the dollar value of crop loss in the county, but losses were apparently severe enough to qualify the county for the federal loan program.

Center will open Sunday

The Hertford-Perquimans Multi-Purpose Senior Center will celebrate its grand opening on Sunday, Nov. 3 beginning at 3 p.m.

Hertford mayor Bill Cox will conduct a brief ceremony in officially dedicating the center. The dedication will be attended by the county commissioners and state and local officials.

The center has already opened its doors, and is operating on a five day 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. schedule.

Eventual activities planned for the center include recreation classes conducted by county recreation director Billy Wooten, crafts and other courses conducted by the faculty of the College of the Albemarle, health screening, and food stamps eligibility counseling.

There is also expected to be a telephone reassurance program in which homebound elderly persons will be contacted daily, and an information and referral service that can put the elderly in touch with needed services.

The center is located adjacent to the town tennis courts on Grubb Street in what resembles a modest, well kept home.

It has been completely remodeled, is well furnished, and has a fully equipped kitchen. In effect, it is an activity center with a living room atmosphere for those over 60.

A joint town-county project, the center was born out of public hearings conducted a year and a half ago.

The hearings demonstrated a strong interest in and desire for a center. Town and county officials decided to go ahead with a grant application.

The grant was written by Pam Whitley of the Albemarle Regional Planning and Development Commission, and the project was funded to the tune of some \$37,000.

Hertford and Perquimans County were required to chip in \$5,000 each and the town contributed \$1,440 in matching labor.

A contract was awarded in April of 1979 for the recently completed remodeling of the center.

Tuesday is town election time

The polling places will be open from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. for Tuesday's municipal elections in Hertford and Winfall.

Two town council seats and the mayor's office are to be decided in both elections.

Candidates for mayor of Hertford are Bill Cox and Herbert Nixon. Town council candidates include A.L. West, Jr., Dennis Hare, Mattie "Pete" Broughton, Billy L. Winslow, and Jesse Harris.

All candidates for office in Winfall are running unopposed. David R. Trueblood is the mayoral candidate and Richard H. Bryant and Jesse P. "Jake" Chesson are seeking the two open town council seats.

Perquimans County Board of Elections Chairman Buddy Tilley said that turnout in the

Hertford election would depend to a large degree upon the weather. He predicted that a sunny day might see as many as 1000 to 1200 people go to the county courthouse and cast a ballot.

Voter turnout is expected to be extremely light for the Winfall election, since all candidates are running without opposition.

With a light turnout, however, Tilley warned that a write-in campaign could have an impact on the election's outcome.

Voting will be by paper ballot, with one polling place in each town.

In Hertford, ballots will be cast at the county courthouse. The Winfall Community Center will be the polling place for Winfall.

At last, county gets new chairman

W. R. "Bill" Jester, District Extension Chairman said the appointment is effective December 1. Jester will succeed Richard Bryant who retired June 30 on disability.

Jester's appointment was announced by Joe Nowell, Chairman of the Perquimans County Board of Commissioners and Dr. T. C. Blalock, Director of the North Carolina Agricultural Extension Service, following approval by the Board.

Mrs. Josephine Patterson,

Jester, 32, is a native of Salisbury, Maryland where he grew up on a farm. He has a B. S. degree from the University of Maryland, an M. S. degree from the University of Delaware, and has done further work at Iowa State University.

Jester has been on the Tyrrell Extension Staff for the past 19 months. Prior to that he was field representative with Green Giant. He was responsible for both field corps and horticultural crops in Tyrrell.

At Green Giant he worked with farmers who were producers of vegetables for the big food processing company.

"I will be looking forward to working with the people of Perquimans County and will do my best to help them to

develop one of the best Extension programs in the state", said Jester.

His wife, Judith, is a librarian who works in the Roper and Creswell Elementary schools. They have a 7-year old daughter, Frances, who is a student in the Tyrrell Elementary school.

Jester is a director of the Columbia Rotary club and a member of several scientific and professional organizations.

The Agricultural Extension Service is a Cooperative Educational Agency involving County Government, N. C. State University, and the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Local Extension Agents carry out programs related to Agriculture, Home Economics, 4-H and Community Resource Development.

HUD project is still lagging

The problem of relocating King Street residents continues to plague the \$439,700 development project currently underway in Hertford.

"Relocation is still our major problem," said Mayor Bill Cox in reference to the progress of the project.

The project, funded by the Federal Department of Housing and Urban Development under the Community Block Grant program is expected to be completed sometime in June of 1980.

The demolition of sub-standard housing in the King Street area is currently in progress but cannot be completed until all families have been moved.

"Approximately eight

families remain to be relocated," said Cox, "and about that many have already been situated."

After completion of the redevelopment project bids will be taken for the construction of private homes on the property.

The Hertford Town Council met last week with representatives of Howard Capp's Redevelopment Firm, contracted to improve the area, to amend the Community Development Budget.

The council will ask HUD to rearrange the budget to include the money that would be received from the sale of properties.

That amount, estimated at \$45,000, is based on appraisals made on the value of the land after the improvement.

Newbold-White House gets a \$15,000 boost

Congressman Walter B. Jones recently announced the approval by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service of a grant of \$15,000 to the NC Department of Cultural Resources for the restoration of the Newbold-White House near Hertford.

The Newbold-White House is perhaps the earliest extant building in the state, and the objective of this project is to restore it to its pre-Georgian

appearance and to open it to the public as a historic house museum.

"We plan to use the funds to finish restoration of the house" said William Nixon, president of the Perquimans County Restoration Society.

The grant money will also be used toward restoration of the root cellar behind the Newbold-White House.

Although it is hoped that the restoration project will be

completed by July of 1980, Nixon said there has been some difficulty securing materials.

"The heart pine we need for the flooring is hard to find in this area," said Nixon, "and we are still looking for logs to cut that material from."

M.W. Kemp, restoration contractor, has already restored much of the interior with paneling made from old church pews.

Smoke, no fire in sewer testing

By MIKE McLAUGHLIN

Where there was smoke there wasn't necessarily fire in recent weeks as the Hertford Volunteer Fire Department was called out on more than one occasion in connection with smoke testing of the town sewer lines.

The testing, which sent non-

toxic smoke pouring into some homes and at least one business, was part of a long range plan to upgrade waste water treatment facilities in Hertford.

Town officials have realized for some time that the sewer system is overtaxed. Currently, an average of

450,000 gallons of water per day is run through the 300,000 gallon capacity plant.

Much of the excess flow is clean water that shouldn't be going through the system at all, according to Dan Pritchett of W.F. Freeman Associates, the town's engineering firm. This clean water enters the

system through storm drains, misaligned joints, ground-water seepage and broken sewer lines.

The smoke testing is to pinpoint where extra water is coming into the system with the eventual intent of rehabilitating faulty lines.

After as much clean water as possible is eliminated from the system, the town will look at alternatives for upgrading its system.

"At this stage we know one of two things will have to be done," said Hertford mayor

(Continued on page 2)



Newbold-White House

The Newbold-White house, located off Harvey Point Road and considered to be the oldest structure in North Carolina, is presently under renovation.