

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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Emergency loan applications being accepted

By JANE WILLIAMS

On September 23 Perquimans County was declared a crop disaster area because of drought conditions and extremely high temperatures that persisted throughout the summer months. Farmers in the county then became eligible for Farmers

Home Administration (FmHA) loans.

In general this will provide for farmers that have lost at least 30 percent of their production due to the drought. Proceeds from crop insurance and the PIK program will be taken into account when determining

eligibility.

Applications for emergency farm loans for losses are being accepted at the local FmHA office in Hertford.

FmHA County Supervisor, Melvin E. Howell urges farmers who are interested in receiving an emergency loan to get their applications into his

office as soon as possible after they have completed harvesting.

Howell said, "We hope farmers will get their applications in early rather than waiting until near the deadline which is March 23, 1984. The longer they wait, the more chance there is for long delays in getting their checks. If the applications come in early we can avoid backlogs and speed up the process.

Howell said farmers may be eligible for loans of up to 80 percent of their actual losses, or the operating loan needed to continue in business, or \$500,000, whichever is less.

For farmers unable to obtain credit from private commercial lenders, the interest rate on the first \$100,000

borrowed is five percent; the interest rate is eight percent on the balance borrowed over that amount. For farmers who can obtain commercial credit but who choose to borrow from FmHA, the interest rate is 13.75 percent Howell said.

As a general rule, a farmer must have suffered at least a 30 percent loss of production to be eligible for an FmHA emergency loan, Howell said. Farmers participating in the PIK or federal crop insurance programs will have to figure in proceeds from those programs in determining their losses.

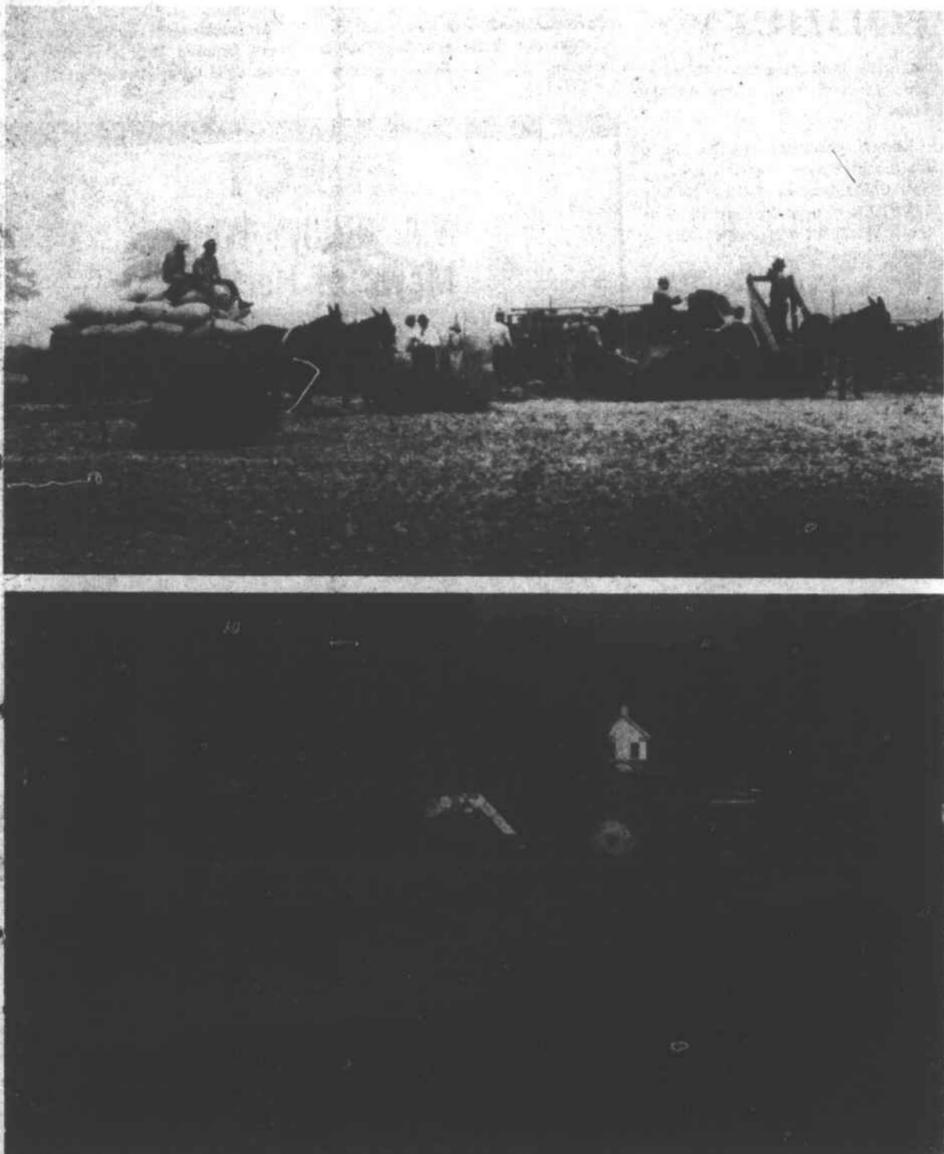
FmHA is a credit agency of the United States Department of Agriculture. It is authorized to

provide disaster emergency loans to recognized farmers who work at and rely on farming for a substantial part of their living.

Eligibility is extended to individual farmers who are United States Citizens, and to farming partnerships, corporations or cooperatives in which U.S. citizens hold a majority interest.

The local Farmers Home Administration office is located in the ARPC Building in Hertford. Their office is open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. The telephone number is 426-5733.

Applications for emergency loans can be picked up at the county office.



Then and now...

The pictures above present the changes that have occurred in the farming industry during the past 40 years. The

top photo shows the peanut harvesting procedure in 1941. The bottom picture depicts the harvest today. (The 1941

picture was loaned by Leigh Winslow. Staff photo by Ken Castelloe.)

Island residents look for county water hookup soon

By JACK GROVE

Holiday Island property owners have been told to expect to have county water service to the community in December.

Property Owners received this information at their annual meeting on October 16.

"I have talked to the county engineers (Rivers and Associates, Inc. a Greenville consulting firm on the county water system) twice in the past week about the county waer and how it will effect Holiday Island and when we could expect to have service from the county," General Manager Forest Myers reported. "December 1, 1983 is the target date," he said.

Holiday Island has its own water

system including wells, processing plant and water lines throughout the development.

On September 14, 1980, a special meeting of property owners was held to consider looking into the new county water system and disestablishment of the community water plant. The reported benefits would include deletion of plant maintenance costs, future capital expenditures for replacement of plant equipment and new well sites and improved water quality.

At this meeting a resolution was approved for the county water hookup and to raise \$100,000 for the connection.

Myers said, "From this date, September 14, 1980, we have been obligated to raise the money for this project." He reported that the latest estimated cost is \$42,261.

According to a letter from Ronald H. Sessoms of Rivers and Associates, the cost factors include installation of 8,700 linear feet of six inch pvc pipe; 60 linear feet of 12 inch steel casing; a six inch valve; a six inch hydrant and valve; and a six inch compound meter. The pipe will bring water to a bulk meter at Holiday Island from Harvey Point Road.

The property owners association will pay a bulk water rate to the county. Ultimate water users will be billed by the association. The community's by-passed water plant will be sold according to Myers, with the disposition of proceeds as yet un-

determined.

A motion was made at the meeting for a \$25 per lot one-time special assesment to cover the \$42,261 cost. This motion was passed unanimously by the approximately 300 property owners present.

Myers also gave an accounting of the associations financial status. "In the past twelve months we collected \$62,260 in back assessments that have been put into the Reserve Fund. We have received 20 lots in lieu of back assessments. Thirteen of these have been sold for a total of \$31,200. All of this money goes into the building fund. All of your 1983-84 assessments have gone into the General Operating Fund and as of Septembe 30 we still have \$68,878 to last until May 1, 1984," he reported.

In other business:

•Twenty-four past and present members of the Board of Governors were honored with certificates of appreciation in commemoration of the association's tenth anniversary.

•The membership elected Clyde Merritt and Helen Moore (an incumbent) to three-year terms on the Board of Governors. Both are permanent Island residents.

•At a board meeting after the membership meeting, the following officers were elected: President, Claude J. Rogers; vice-president, Hazel Miles; treasurer, Rufus Outland and secretary, Clyde Merritt.

School handicapped program given award

By SUSAN HARRIS

The Perquimans County School system was honored last month with a Governor's Program of Excellence Award given for an outstanding program for the county's Trainable Mentally Handicapped students enrolled this year.

Of the 30 Programs of Excellence Awards presented, Perquimans County received two; for both the Level I and Level II program divisions.

Jeanie Umphlett, co-ordinator of the county programs for exceptional children, gave an audio-visual presentation at the awards banquet in Raleigh depicting many aspects of the program.

Umphlett was accompanied to Raleigh by student Gayline Walker, who will be the program's first graduate in May.

Alma Banks teaches the students at Perquimans Central School, while Kathy Ansink instructs students at Perquimans High.

The main objective of the program in Perquimans County is to integrate the Trainable Mentally Handicapped student into society, according to a program outline compiled by Umphlett. This objective pursued through the use of the Elsmere Project, a vocationally oriented prgram for the mentally retarded.

County children from ages five to 21 are served in a Level I or Level II setting, determined not by the student's age, but rather by his/her functioning level.

In times past the trainable men-

tally retarded were provided with little or no education. These individuals often grew into adults without a feeling of self-worth, and unfortunately, most never reached their full potential.

A new social awareness has developed over the past decade, and there has been increased emphasis placed on educating the handicapped student.

Perquimans County Schools initiated its Trainable Mentally Handicapped Program in the 1981-82 school year.

The program curriculum prepares students to function in the community.

Vocational skills and attitudes necessary to perform in a work atmosphere are emphasized.

The trainable mentally handicapped students are offered basic skills in six subject areas:

•Functional Academics - This area focuses on the development of skills which enable the individual to recognize and respond to as many signs and symbols in the environment as his/her abilities allow. Such concepts as size, amount, time and money are developed; concepts which will later assist the student in living in the community.

•Socialization - This curriculum helps students learn to get along with others, develop a positive self-image and show appropriate expressions of feelings and emotions.

•Independent Living - Concentration is on development of skills

and attitudes which enable the student to do as many things as possible for himself/herself.

•Pre-Vocation - Often utilizing a work table to afford maximum student interaction in completing assembly-type assignments, this area stresses the development of proper work behavior and attitudes.

•Vocation - the objective of this curriculum is to help students attain and reinforce skills appropriate to employment.

•Personal Family Life - The goal of this aspect of the program is to have the student accept and understand their physical and emotional maturation process.

The trainable mentally handicapped program is individualized to conform to the needs of each student. The teacher makes available to the student those activities which will produce the desired learning when the pupil appears ready to learn on that level.

The students participate in the Special Olympics, a highlight of their year.

Some of the students are given jobs around the school.

Umphlett expressed her satisfaction that the students enrolled in the regular curriculum responded so positively to the trainable mentally handicapped participants.

Their support and acceptance provides a vital link in the chain of the Trainable Mentally Handicapped program.

Hertford receives award for Community of Excellence

By JANE WILLIAMS

Hertford, Perquimans County was presented with the Governor's Community of Excellence Award at a banquet held in Raleigh on October 19.

This is the fifth consecutive year that Hertford has been the recipient of this prestigious award that is given to communities that have made themselves attractive to possible industrial interests.

The award program is sponsored by the North Carolina Department of Commerce and Governor James B. Hunt, Jr.

The purpose of the program is to encourage communities to upgrade their area so that it will become attractive to industrial prospects.

In preparation for the awards program Hertford Mayor Bill Cox said that the committee comprised of Tim Brinn, Roy Reed, Joel Hollowell, Chris Christensen, Joe Nowell and himself emphasized the need for a clean community.

Other criteria involved in preparation for the program included gathering site data and identification for industrial development potential, a slide presentation depicting the area, originating an industrial development team to talk and work with individual prospects, and visiting existing businesses and industries to study their needs and gain ideas,

while trying to assist them in present situations and future development.

Communities are required to document labor statistics, identify the work force, and identify resources such as railways, highways, availability to airports, etc.

All of the information that is gathered in preparation for the awards program is on record in

Raleigh at the Commerce Department. A complete file on Perquimans County is available to industries that might be interested in locating in Northeastern North Carolina.

Cox stated that the local committee was aided by the Perquimans County Industrial Development Commission as well as by the Perquimans County Committee of 100.



Hertford receives the Governor's Community of Excellence Award being presented by Governor Jim Hunt to Hertford Mayor Bill

Cox on October 19 at the Annual Community of Excellence Awards Banquet held in Raleigh.

This week...

Remember that Sunday morning brings to a close Daylight Savings Time for another year. Don't forget to set your clocks back one hour before retiring on Saturday night.

Halloween is on Monday, October 31. The Hertford Police Department advises children to be cautious and stay within their own neighborhood. Parents are asked to have their children in by 10:00 p.m.