

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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Hertford, Perquimans County, N.C., Tuesday, November 24, 1983

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Funding granted for local Hwy. 17 project

By JANE WILLIAMS
Governor Jim Hunt approved Fri-

day a \$42.7 million speed-up in major highway construction for projects in

Northeastern North Carolina. For Perquimans County residents

the good news of this decision is the federally funded project of widening

to four-lanes U.S. Highway 17 from Woodville to the Intersection of U.S. 17 Business and 17 By-pass in Winfall at a projected cost of \$7.2 million. The widened stretch of highway will mean that U.S. 17 will be entirely four-lane between Winfall and the Virginia State line, 34 miles to the north.

Right of way acquisition for the new link will be completed by 1985, with \$1.9 million earmarked for that purpose. A contract for \$5.3 million will then be awarded to build the road in 1986.

Another Perquimans County project will be the re-surfacing of U.S. 17 Business to Winfall East City Limits, a total of three and three tenths miles, at a cost of \$190,000.

Other projects that are scheduled for Albemarle Highways include:

•An accelerated \$32 million contract to be let by August 1984 to build a North Carolina 32 bridge across the

western reaches of the Albemarle Sound between Plymouth and the northern shore east of Edenton.

•Widening of U.S. Highway 64 between Williamston and Plymouth. The 24 mile stretch of improved road will cost approximately \$12 million. It is expected that Highway 64 work will be mostly three lanes, including bypasses around the towns of Jamesville and Darden.

•Widening a 15 mile stretch of U.S. Highway 158 By-pass between Kitty Hawk and Nags Head. The project will widen portions of the congested thoroughfare to either three or five lanes at a cost of \$6 million.

Hunt backed the change in highway priorities, especially the U.S. 158 project, to help handle a sharp increase in traffic in the Albemarle region that is expected during the 400th Anniversary celebration beginning in July 1984.



Christmas is Coming

The street decoration in the Town of Hertford went up last week. This is a sure sign that Christmas is just around the corner.

Small business disaster loan program slated

Charles L. Noble, Supervisory Loan Specialist for the Small Business Administration (SBA) will be presenting a program at Gabby's Restaurant on Tuesday, November 29 for businesses that have suffered economic injury due to the severe drought suffered in Perquimans County during the summer of 1983.

Perquimans County was designated as a disaster area because of the drought conditions that persisted throughout the summer. This means that area businesses are eligible for disaster loans at a reduced rate of interest under the SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loan Program.

The program, which will begin with a dutch meal at 6:45 p.m., is be-

ing arranged jointly by Peoples Bank & Trust Company and NCNB National Bank in conjunction with the Perquimans County Chamber of Commerce.

"We feel that this program will be very beneficial to local businesses to help recover lost revenues and carry increased accounts receivable due to poor economic conditions caused by the drought," said Ben Berry, Vice President of Peoples Bank in Hertford. "We will greatly appreciate the support and attendance of local businesses at this meeting."

Anyone wishing to attend this meeting should contact Berry at Peoples Bank (426-5213) or O.B. Rawls, Assistant Vice President of NCNB National Bank (426-5723).

Knox speaks at Farm-City Banquet

By JANE WILLIAMS
Stressing the importance of the business community and the farming community "to depend on each other," Charlotte Mayor Eddie Knox

spoke at the Perquimans County Annual Farm-City Banquet at Perquimans County High School Friday night. Knox, a two-term state senator, is

a candidate for the Democratic nomination for Governor in 1984.

Knox told the estimated crowd of 150 people that they should continue to rely on the basics that have kept North Carolina a front-runner in agriculture. "We must continue to rely on basics — textiles, furniture and agriculture. They will be the base of the state's economy for years to come," Knox said.

Charles Ward, County Commissioner and Chairman of this year's Farm-City Week Banquet, and R.T. (Tim) Brinn, Chairman of the Perquimans County Democratic Party, took great measure in stressing that this year's event was non-political.

In introducing the guest speaker, Brinn stated that Knox was qualified to speak because he is the Mayor of Charlotte and has deep agricultural roots, still owning farm land. Brinn noted that Knox was the national

award winner of the Future Farmers of America in 1955.

Brinn took advantage of the time allocated him to praise the efforts of local people who recently helped ob-

tain state funding for the four-laning

project on U.S. Highway 17 from base of the "new" bridge in Winfall to Woodville. Hertford Mayor W.D. (Bill) Cox and Winnie Wood of Camden County were thanked for their special efforts in helping obtain the necessary funding for this project. Cox serves as the President of the Highway 17 Transportation Association, while Wood is a member

of the Committee of 100 and state co-chairperson of Farm-City Week. Both Cox and Wood were in attendance as were special guest Vernon Jams, State Representative, and Perquimans County native and former State Representative Archie T. Lane, Sr.

Knox, who grew up on a cotton farm in rural Davidson County, summed up his speech with a challenge to the citizens of Perquimans County.

"People in Northeastern North Carolina are beginning to feel good about their area, but we're not going any place unless we pull together and push together. You are in a great area. Love it, protect it, and push hard for it."



Charlotte Mayor Eddie Knox (above right) was the speaker at Perquimans County's Annual Farm City Banquet. Shown with Knox is Charles Ward, chairman of this year's banquet.

Paper to publish "Letters to Santa"

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY will be accepting "Letters to Santa Claus" through December 14, 1983. The winner of this year's letter contest will be drawn at random and will receive a \$25 U.S. Savings Bond from Hertford Savings and Loan.

All letters that are received will be printed in the Christmas edition on

December 22.

Letters should be written on white paper with black ink or dark crayons. Please include your full name, age, address and telephone number.

Mail your letters to: Santa Claus c/o THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY, P.O. Box 277 Hertford, NC 27944

Happy Thanksgiving

