

Farming news

Community involvement program set for February 21

By: Paige L. Underwood
Home Economics Ext. Agent
The Family Community Involvement Program sponsored by the Perquimans County Agricultural Extension Service and Extension Homemakers will be held on Tuesday, February 21 at 7:30 p.m. at the Perquimans County Extension Office Building.

Andrea Held, health educator, will present information concerning the Perquimans County Health Department and its many services available to all residents. Maria Hoffman, county librarian, will represent the Perquimans County Public Library by sharing the opportunities offered by the local library including the outreach serv-

ices. What do you know about the Albemarle Commission? (ARPDC) Don Flowers, executive director, is eager to inform the citizens of Perquimans by talking with us, just as he did recently in Dare County. There are many unknowns about the "funny shaped building" on Church Street Extended. This will be an excellent time to get the facts! Patty White, senior citizen director, is pleased to talk about one of her "loves" - the seniors, and what opportunities they are privileged to have.

Stan Winslow, county extension director, will explain the Agricultural Extension Service, an agency which is still not as well known as it should be after 75 years.

These five agencies are only a few of the many agencies in the county. It is possible that others can participate in a similar program in the future.

During the evening, there will be entertainment by the New Hope Women's Quartet. Members of the quartet are Cheryl Green, Mattie Wray Godfrey, Sue Stokely and Joanne Caddy. Frances Jones is the group's director.

Refreshments will be served by the planning committee: Mrs. Emma Burke, chairman, Mrs. Thelma Rogerson, Mrs. Shirley Cohee and Mrs. Jean Umphlett.

The public is invited to attend this free program.



Mrs. Carolyn Ward's Hertford Grammar School kindergarten class visited the library Monday. The students walked to the library, purchased stamps, and mailed their parents Valentine's cards.

Watermelon referendum underway

Yes it has finally come, the vote on the Watermelon referendum is in February. We informed you earlier about the Watermelon Research and Promotion Plan, but lets recap what is happening.

On December 20, 1988, the Watermelon Referendum was published in the Federal Register. The voting on the Watermelon Research and Promotion Plan is to begin February 6 and conclude February 21, 1989. The proposed plan would authorize the collection of equal assessments on watermelon producers and first handlers with the money to be used for research and promotion.

The proposed assessment is not to exceed two cents per cwt. on wa-

termelons produced and two cents per cwt. on watermelons handled. The producer is defined as one producing five acres or more of watermelons who owns or shares the ownership and risk of loss of such crop. Handlers are defined as one who handles watermelons (grades, packs, processess, sells, ect.) (except comon or contract carriers of watermelons owned by another person). If producer is the first handler, the assessment would be four cents per cwt. The program should cost each grower about \$3.00 per acre and seems like a small investment for rich rewards.

The funds are to be used for promotion and research programs with watermelons. Part of the rea-

son for development of this program is the fact that per capita watermelon consumption has dropped from 20 to 10 pounds in recent years.

The funds will be administered by a 29 member board appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture. Twenty-eight members will come from nomination by watermelon producers and handlers; one member to be appointed from outside the industry would represent the public. States will be divided into seven districts and each district will elect four members (two producers and two handlers) for eventual appointment by the Secretary of Agriculture. North Carolina is in district 4.

Governor Jim Martin has proclaimed the week of February 19-25 as "Severe Weather Awareness Week" in North Carolina.

Martin said, "On the night of November 28, 1988, we all saw the power of nature as tornadoes ripped across nine North Carolina counties, leaving death and destruction. Because North Carolinians knew what to do when they heard the roaring tornado approaching, many lives were spared. Preparedness paid off. By becoming more knowledgeable about severe weather events, we

will be better able to protect ourselves when severe weather threatens.

"Severe Weather Awareness Week" is an annual cooperative effort of the North Carolina Department of Crime Control and Public Safety's Division of Emergency Management, the National Weather Service and the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction.

The main focus of the week will be a statewide tornado drill on Wednesday, February 22. In the event of inclement weather on the

22nd, the drill will be held on Friday, February 24.

Crime Control and Public Safety Secretary Joe Dean said, "I encourage all citizens to take part in this important emergency drill. Knowing how to protect yourself and your family is the key to surviving severe weather."

For more information about "Severe Weather Awareness Week," and the February 22nd drill, contact your local Emergency Management Coordinator, Keith Haskett.

Notes from Senator Marc Basnight

EMPHASIS ON ROADS FOR THE EAST

As many of you know, I served on the State Transportation Board for many years before becoming State Senator of the First Senatorial District.

I can honestly say that experience was one of the most educational yet frustrating experiences I've ever had. A familiar story: so much need and so little money.

I am proud of the accomplishments of that Board during my tenure, but never was I satisfied that the eastern section of the state received that attention and highway improvement that it deserved and so badly needed.

During this session of the General Assembly, I will serve as Vice-Chairman of the Senate's Transportation Committee, as well as Chairman of the entire Budget Committee which will strongly influence the Transportation budget.

Now, we have a proposed state highway package that truly addresses the region's needs. The

catch is that the plan, which would be implemented over a period of years, will cost approximately \$12 billion. We simply can't talk about that kind of expenditure without talking about an increase in taxes.

No one likes the idea of increasing taxes. I know that. But I also know, from talking to hundreds of you over the last few years, that better roads are a priority. Better roads have been a priority of mine since 1976.

These are the major projects for our area:

US64: The plan calls for acceleration of the widening of lanes from Williamston to Tarboro. The Tarboro to Rocky Mount section is now under construction and will open next year.

The Williamston to Jamesville section of US64 is scheduled for construction in 1991. Jamesville to Plymouth is presently under construction and will open next year.

The Plymouth to Columbia segment will be done at a later date, and Columbia to Manteo after that.

US17: What is not now four-lane on the existing 285 miles of road, will be widened in the proposed plan and will include proper bypasses. This part of the highway project covers 13 counties and affects half a million people.

I also think good news is coming regarding the four-laning of US17 in Virginia. Governor Jim Martin and I are presently negotiating with officials from Virginia to have this work done, in exchange for our four-laning US22 in Rockingham County, which leads into the Martinsville area of Virginia.

US 264 will be widened to four lanes in its totality from Wilson to Douglas Crossroads in Beaufort

County. I am working now with Secretary Jim Harrington to also add the widening of US264 from Douglas Crossroads to Belhaven, then from Belhaven to intersect US264 with US64, for a completely modern highway project.

Construction of a rest area in Hyde County is also a wish of mine. I'll push for that in the plan.

US168: Widen to four lanes, from the Virginia state line to the intersection of US 158 Currituck County. This is another past-due project now proposed in the highway plan.

US158 from I85 in Warren County over I95 in Northampton County through Elizabeth City in Pasquotank County, and connecting with US168 in Currituck County in the vicinity of Barco;

and the widening of US 13 from Windsor to the Virginia state line are also included in the proposed plan.

We've just recently doubled the number of miles of unpaved secondary roads that will be paved when the plan is implemented.

The plan proposes a new bridge over Currituck Sound to the Corolla area, a new bridge parrelling the Wright Brothers Bridge over Currituck Sound, a new bridge over the Chowan River, and over the Perquimans River, parrelling existing bridges.

Much hard work and careful deliberation have gone into what I consider to be a truly feasible highway plan. It represents the dreams of many who have served on various groups and associations with the single goal of improving the state's roads and highways. One thing is certain: the proposed Highway Construction Plan means better roads for the eastern part of the state. I think the plan will be supported.

Beware claims of miracle products

Fake fertilizer claims are being repeated again this year according to James R. Stevens, N.C. Department of Agriculture fertilizer administrator.

"Companies are operating in the state promoting fertilizer products of little or no value," Stevens said. "Their recommended application rates are so low, it's impossible to see any benefits."

All fertilizer products sold in the state have to be registered with the NCDA but Stevens said sales meetings promoting unregistered

materials were being held.

Sale of unregistered fertilizer products is against North Carolina law.

"A lot of the sales pitches are beyond imagination," Stevens said. Some even claim their materials make plants drought-resistant. Others say their products protect crops from too much water.

A favorite claim is using a small amount of product on large acreage. For example, one gallon to 10 acres.

Stevens said only registered fertilizer products should be used by farmers or anyone. He suggested that fertilizer and lime be applied at rates recommended by free soil testing offered by NCDA's Agronomic Division.

For information concerning questionable fertilizer products, contact Stevens at the North Carolina Department of Agriculture in Raleigh. Phone: (919) 733-3930 or call Stan Winslow, Perquimans County Agricultural Extension Agent at 426-7697.

<p>NCNB NATIONAL BANK Harris Shopping Center N.C. 426-5723</p>	<p>PERQUIMANS COUNTY SERVICE DIRECTORY</p>	<p>Mobil HOLLOWELL OIL COMPANY PETROLEUM PRODUCTS P.O. Box 237 Winfall, N.C. (919) 426-5745</p>
<p>Darden Department Store 109 Church St. Hertford, N.C. 426-5464</p>	<p>EMERGENCY CALL 911 HERTFORD POLICE 426-5587 SHERIFF DEPARTMENT 426-5615 FIRE DEPARTMENT 426-5300 RESCUE SQUAD 426-5571 HEALTH DEPARTMENT 426-5488 HIGHWAY PATROL 335-4300 HERTFORD MEDICAL CLINIC 426-9172 ALBEMARLE HOSPITAL 331-4610 CHOWAN HOSPITAL 482-8451 WINFALL POLICE 426-8561 SPONSORED BY YOUR LOCAL MERCHANTS</p>	<p>WOODARD'S PHARMACY 101 Church St. Hertford, N.C. 426-5527</p>
<p>Peoples Bank "Thinking Ahead" 106 N. Church St. Hertford, N.C. 426-5213</p>	<p>NATIONWIDE INSURANCE 812 Edenton Road Hertford, N.C. 426-5457 E.G. PETE OVERMAN P.O. Box 105 Hertford, NC 27944</p>	<p>GINGERBREAD INN Hertford, N.C. (919) 426-5809</p>
<p>Hertford Supply PRIDE OF PERQUIMANS CUSTOM MIXED FEED Co., Inc. 426-5591 P.O. Box 307 Hertford, N.C. 27944</p>	<p>GRACE OVERMAN ACCOUNTANT 812 Edenton Road Hertford, N.C. 426-5457</p>	<p>Jimmy's Barbecue 3 Locations To Serve You 426-5014</p>
<p>Phillips Furniture Co. FACTORY OUTLET NEW & REJECT FURNITURE U.S. 17 BY-PASS Hertford, N.C. 426-5639</p>	<p>ALBEMARLE AREA REALTY REALTOR® P.O. Box 485 Hertford, N.C. 426-5588</p>	<p>Albemarle Furniture Center U.S. 17 By-Pass Hertford, N.C. Quality Furniture at Comfortable Prices 426-5843</p>
<p>FirstChoice REALTY Hertford, N.C. 426-7872</p>	<p>Better Homes and Gardens Hertford, N.C. 426-7872</p>	<p>HERTFORD HARDWARE & SUPPLY COMPANY, INC. 146 Church Street Hertford, N.C. PHONE (919) 426-5211</p>

SPECIAL INVITATION TO PUBLIC!!
South Haven Manor Rest Home would like to invite not only the Woodville area but all the Ten County adjoining area: To visit or monitor the Rest Home at any time.
Have a meal, join in our activities our Sunday School and Church Services on Sundays.
Come on out and get to know what rest homes are for yourself!!