

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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Local Briefs

BeLo Foods plans "Blue Ribbon" Kids Day on Sunday

BeLo Foods has set aside Sunday, April 30th as their "Blue Ribbon" Kids Day. This last day of "Child Abuse Awareness" month was chosen to leave a lasting impression on our community about the problems our society faces with child abuse.

On this day, approximately 1,500 BeLo employees in our 43 stores will be wearing a blue ribbon in an effort to share with their customers the concern over this growing problem. As a community effort, BeLo Foods is asking that other businesses and organizations join them in wearing a blue ribbon on April 30th, as a symbol of recognition today and a pledge of commitment for tomorrow.

Give a "Hug & Kiss" - On this "Blue Ribbon" Kids Day, all youngsters (accompanied by an adult) will receive a Dailey's "Lil Hug" drink and a Hershey's "Kiss" - BeLo's way of saying "We Care".

Long joins sheriff's department as deputy

The Perquimans County Sheriff's Department has hired a new deputy, according to Sheriff Joe Lothian. George Long, formerly with the Hertford Police Department, and most recently an employee at the N.C. Department of Corrections-Maple Unit, has joined the department.

Long has a good background in law enforcement, including a criminology degree from Elizabeth City State University. He has participated in a number of drug raids with the sheriff's department in the past.

Lothian commented that he is very pleased to welcome Long to his staff.

Hertford Police Dept. has two new patrolmen

Mayor Bill Cox announced that two new officers have been hired to fill vacancies in the Hertford Police Department. Anthony Walton Jordan and Bobby Claude Watson have signed on as patrolmen.

Jordan is a native of Elizabeth City. He attended College of the Albemarle and finished the N.C. Basic Law Enforcement Training course in February. Prior to coming to the Hertford department, Jordan worked with the Ahoskie Police Department.

A seven year veteran of the Washington, N.C. Police Department, Watson is from New Bern. He began his career in law enforcement with the Havelock Police Department, where he served as dispatcher. In Washington, he earned his sergeant's stripes.

The two new officers are expected to lift the burden off of the department, which had dropped to three officers.

Cox stated that he hopes that a decision will be reached on the position of chief within the next two weeks.

County Democrats elect Julian Broughton

The Perquimans County Democratic Party elected as its chairman Julian Broughton during the county convention this weekend. Also elected were Shirley Yates, first vice chairwoman; John Young, second vice chairman; J.C. Cole, third vice chairman; Fannie Leigh, secretary and Lillian A. Holman, treasurer.

Broughton was chosen as a member of the state executive committee. Six Perquimans delegates will be sent to the District Convention.

Hertford Mayor Bill Cox was the keynote speaker. Cox told the group that the Democratic party is the party of the people. He said the party had always responded positively in crisis, and that the party is now in crisis. He urged all Democrats to work together for the good of the party.

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Dr. Mary Jo Martin, schools superintendent in Perquimans County, delivered the address kicking off the Regional Special Olympics games at Northeastern High School Saturday (above). Below, members of the Perquimans Special Olympics team happily celebrate their good fortune at the games. The related story is on page 7.



Area farmers hampered by too much rain

Most farmers are finally able to get into their fields to prepare for spring planting. In low-lying areas, it is still too wet to cultivate.

"Almost everybody will be able to farm on at least part of their land this week," said County Agricultural Extension Agent Stan Winslow.

According to Winslow, by late April in most years, corn planting is almost finished and farmers turn to preparation of cotton and peanut land. Most farmers are just this week planting corn, putting them behind in other planting.

Winslow said the latest to plant corn is around May 10. Historically, he said, corn has done better when it was planted earlier. He estimates that the late planting could delay harvest by seven to ten days, depending on summer conditions.

"Don't take any extra risks with corn because of late planting," is Winslow's advice to area farmers. He said that land must be properly prepared for planting, even though preparation takes added time. He feels that farmers will jeopardize their anticipated crop if they do not fertilize and use the insecticides and pesticides they normally apply prior to or at planting time.

Some farmers may be wise, Winslow said, to stop planting corn, get their cotton and peanuts

in the ground, then finish with their corn. He cited as his reason that cotton and peanuts have a higher potential value at harvest, and therefore should be a priority.

"We're already late on corn to the point it could be hurt," Winslow said, adding that farmers may be better off financially to take more loss on the corn, and make sure the cash crops are planted on time.

Farmers are not the only ones affected by the rain. Area farm supply dealers who spread chemicals are also in the fields working from

dawn to late in the night in an effort to catch up. Fertilizer trucks can be seen in county fields alongside tractors as all agri-businesses have been negatively effected by the rainy season.

Hopefully, the weather will stabilize and farmers will enjoy a bountiful harvest combined with good selling prices on the market. Last year was the first in a long time that some farmers were able to pay off farm loans. A favorable growing season yielded good harvests, and prices stayed up.

Fire Squad receives grant

The Durants Neck Fire Department received an \$800 grant from the state recently.

Governor James G. Martin announced recently that 60 rural fire departments in the state will receive matching fund grants as part of the Federal Rural Community Fire Protection Program.

The N.C. rural fire departments will receive \$68,900 in federal grant funds from the program for fiscal year 1989-90. The money will be used to purchase a variety of fire-fighting equipment ranging from "turn-out gear" and hoses to pumps and pumper trucks.

To qualify for the Federal Rural Community Fire Protection Pro-

gram, rural fire departments must serve fewer than 10,000 people. The program is administered by the Division of Forest Resources in the Department of Natural Resources and Community Development through the U.S. Forest Service.

Beware of mail fraud warns postal service

The U.S. Postal Service has scheduled the week of April 23 - 29 as Consumer Protection Week in conjunction with National Consumers Week. Postmaster D. C. Burch of Hertford announced today.

"Receiving and opening our mail is part of everyone's daily routine. Sometimes, however, your mail may contain an incredible offer: a free vacation, a cure for baldness, or even a once-in-a-lifetime investment opportunity," Burch said. Customers may think that because it is offered for sale through the mail, the postal service has checked out the advertiser's claims to be factual.

"The 'con' artists who design mail frauds seem to be able to come up with something for everyone," Burch says. "Mail fraud is a scheme to get money or anything of value from you by offering a product, service, or investment opportunity that does not live up to its claim."

Most mail-order companies are honest and stand behind their products and services. Unfortunately, there are a few who give direct

mail advertisers a bad name. They cheat people by peddling worthless products, medical quackery, and get-rich-quick schemes. Unscrupulous businesses do not mind taking advantage of an unwary customer. "Let the buyer beware" is their motto—and you may be the buyer.

Last year the postal inspection service notified hundreds of business operations to stop using the mails for shady advertising practices. They also conducted mail fraud investigations and arrests while obtaining more than 1,000 mail fraud convictions.

"No one would fall for fraud if it looked like fraud," Burch said. "So the 'con' artist makes it look like something else—a limited-time offer. A chance to receive a free gift or a business opportunity offering a fast buck."

By telling customers and friends who think they've been victims of mail fraud to contact the postal inspection service, all of us can contribute to the important consumer protection role of the postal service. Remember, if it sounds too good to be true, then it usually is.

One arrested on felony charges in Perquimans

Acting on a tip from Detective Joe Tade of the Elizabeth City Police Department, the Perquimans County Sheriff's Department investigated Kenneth Gordon Astin of Route 4, Hertford.

Law enforcement officials from the sheriff's department and Elizabeth City Police Department raided Astin's mobile home on April 20, and found that Astin was growing marijuana in a room in the dwelling.

Astin was subsequently arrested and charged with felonious manufacture of marijuana, a schedule IV controlled substance. He was placed under a \$3,000 secured bond. Also found during the raid was drug paraphernalia and a small quantity of marijuana.

Recently the sheriff's department received a call from the Elizabeth City Police Department that the driver of a light colored full size car with a black vinyl top was wanted for allegedly shooting at passersby in the Roanoke Bible College area. A license plate number was given.

Shortly thereafter, deputies Eric Tilley and George Long saw a car entering Hertford which matched the description given by the Elizabeth City department. Tilley and Long stopped the car on the parking lot at Harris Shopping Center.

The two passengers in the car were identified as Michael Sharp and Cornelius Leary of Edenton. The pair was apprehended.

Leary was carrying a handgun at

the time he was stopped. The officers found a 30-06 rifle in the trunk of the car, which is believed to have been stolen in a break-in at Hertford Hardware.

Both men were placed under arrest.

During last week's court session in Hertford, two prisoners escaped, but both were recaptured by law enforcement authorities.

Nelson Isaac Jones, alias Trick, was awaiting trial on numerous felony charges in a back room of the courthouse. The sheriff's department has evidence that suggests that someone left a piece of steel resembling half a crowbar in the grating in the bathroom-area of the holding cell. The lock was pried open, and Jones escaped.

Jones was caught in the woods behind Wynne Fork Court by members of the sheriff's department, Hertford Police Department and N.C. Highway Patrol around 5:00 p.m. after law enforcement officials were told that he was seen leaving through the back window of one of the apartments in the complex.

Edward Ashe, wanted in Washington County, was arrested by Sheriff Joe Lothian during a court recess. He was placed in a back room with a deputy when he ran. Deputies George Long and Ralph Robinson apprehended Ashe within two blocks. He was turned over to Washington County authorities later.

Town of Hertford receives state grant

Governor James G. Martin announced recently Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) awards for four counties and six towns including the counties of Anson, Edgecombe, Lenior and Pasquotank. Those towns receiving awards include Enfield, Pembroke, Bladenboro, Hertford, Oakboro and Maiden.

The award to Hertford is for \$600,000 and will be used for community improvements such as housing rehabilitation, and improvement to public facilities such as water, sewer or street repairs. The majority of the funds must provide direct benefit to low- and moderate-income persons.

The town plans to use the funds to revitalize the Market and Dobbs Street areas within one block of Edenton Road Street on the east and west.

A total of 38 units is involved. The town plans to acquire four dilapidated structures and lots and two other structures. Six dilapidated structures will be demolished. Three households will be relocated to standard-quality housing. Thirty-one dwellings will be rehabilitated.

The town of Hertford has committed \$30,000 in unrestricted general revenue funds to the housing rehabilitation activity for the purpose of increasing the energy-effi-

ciency of units treated under the program.

The town has also received a commitment from the Economic Improvement Council for up to \$8,400 to weatherize up to six units of owner-occupied, low-income housing. The local commitment dollars dedicated to the project by the town will be allocated to units not treated with EIC funds on a grant basis in an amount not to exceed \$1,200.

The award announcements mark the final distribution of funds for the 1988 program year. North Carolina has received a \$37 million federal CDBG allocation for distribution for the 1989 program year. CDBG awards are made in the categories of Economic Development, Housing Demonstration, Development Planning, Urgent Needs and Community Revitalization.

The grants are awarded on a competitive basis and must meet minimum eligibility requirements. Local governments may request a maximum of \$600,000 in any one program year. During the 1988 program year, over \$35.5 million was awarded to local governments across the state.

The CDBG program is administered by the Division of Community Assistance in the Department of Natural Resources and Community Development.



Reverend Terry Fowler, Reverend Ralph Knight and Reverend Gene Asbill (front row) join Edgar Berry, Dan Berry, Luther Parks and James Lane at the groundbreaking ceremony for the new Chowan Baptist Association Building in Hertford Sunday.

Baptists hold groundbreaking ceremony

A groundbreaking ceremony was held Sunday, April 9 at the site of the future building of an associational office for the Chowan Baptist Association. The association is 183 years old and this will be their first permanent building. The site is located in Hertford beside Dozier's Florist.

Reverend Ralph Knight, Director of Missions, opened with scripture and a challenge to the association. Reverend Gene Asbill, pastor of Warwick Baptist Church and moderator of the association, also spoke briefly. Reverend Terry Fowler, pastor of Sandy Cross Baptist Church and chairman of the

building committee, commented that volunteer labor would be used as much as possible and that anyone willing to help should contact him at 297-2173 or 297-2985.

The Chowan Baptist Association is comprised of 59 Southern Baptist Churches and two missions in the ten counties of Dare, Currituck, Camden, Pasquotank, Gates, Perquimans, Chowan, Washington and Tyrrell.

The land was donated by Dan and Edgar Berry and their families in memory of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. Y. Berry.