

# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

Volume 59, No.29

USPS 428-080

Hertford, Perquimans County, N.C. Thursday, July 19, 1990

30 CENTS

## Briefs

### DOT sets hearing

The N.C. Department of Transportation will hold a public hearing Tuesday, July 24 on a proposal to widen the U.S. 17 Hertford Bypass.

The hearing will be held at 7:30 p.m. in the Perquimans County Courthouse in Hertford.

Construction has been scheduled in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), NCDOT's planning document for highway projects, to widen the U.S. 17 Hertford Bypass to four lanes from U.S. 17 Business south of Hertford to U.S. 17 Business north of Hertford beginning in Fiscal Year 1993. This project includes the construction of a new bridge across the Perquimans River.

NCDOT officials will be at the hearing to explain the proposed design, right of way requirements and procedures, relocation advisory assistance and the state-federal relationship.

The public is invited to attend the hearing, ask questions, make comments or submit material about the project. Material not presented at the hearing may be submitted until August 7 to C.B. Goode Jr., N.C. Department of Transportation, P. O. Box 25201, Raleigh, N.C. 27611.

A map of the proposed location and design of the project and copies of environmental documents can be reviewed at the Perquimans County Courthouse.

For more information about the hearing, contact Goode at the same address or call him at 919-250-4000.

### Intersection signal markings to change

Motorists soon will begin seeing a new type of traffic signal display at some intersections on North Carolina highways.

Signal displays are the combinations of red, green and yellow lights used to direct motorists through an intersection.

Some traffic signals at intersections with a right-turn lane and/or left turn lane will show a red light over a green arrow indicating that traffic turning in the direction of the green arrow has the right of way.

At intersections with two or more adjacent turn lanes, the red light over each turn lane will be replaced with a red arrow to alert motorists to stop.

The changes are part of an effort by the N.C. Department of Transportation to adopt standards set by the Federal Highway Administration.

For more information, contact Tom Agnew, Traffic Engineering Branch, NCDOT at 919-733-5637.

### DEADLINES FOR THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY ARE AS FOLLOWS:

NEWS RELEASES ... 3:00 PM

RETAIL ADVERTISING ... 3:00 PM

CLASSIFIED & LEGALS ... 3:00 PM

MONDAY PRIOR TO THURSDAY PUBLICATION PERQUIMANS WEEKLY  
119 W. Grubb St.  
426-5728  
8 AM-5 PM, MON-FRI



Firefighters (l to r) Bill Glover, Todd Tilley, Hertford Police Chief Aubrey Sample, Hertford Fire Chief Edgar Roberson, and firefighter Parker Newbern survey the area around an accident on the S-shaped bridge last Thursday. Two people were injured in the accident.

## Peoples Bank welcomes executive

Peoples Bank & Trust Company, Inc. has assigned a new city executive to the Hertford office.

Rick Tobin, a company vice president, officially began his new duties on July 2.

Ben Berry, the former city executive, has been transferred to Elizabeth City as city executive and senior vice president. In addition, Berry serves as the regional executive for northeastern North Carolina.

"Rick has the perfect personality and background to blend in very well in Hertford by having worked in Edenton and Wilson which are banking markets very similar to the Hertford banking market," Berry said. "We are very pleased to have someone of his caliber to serve the citizens of Hertford and Perquimans County."

Service and a friendly atmosphere are important banking qualities, Tobin said, and the Peoples Bank philosophy includes both.

Another thing that makes Peoples Bank stand out from other banking institutions, according to Berry, is local decision-making.

"We adhere to what we call the community banking policy," Berry said. This policy

allows local bank officers and the board of directors to make many decisions based on a working knowledge of the clientele and community market conditions.

The system works, according to Berry. In a recent audit performed due to the planned merger with Planters Bank this fall, auditors found that the credit quality of Peoples Bank was very high. Because of this, they were not asked to make any additions to their loan loss reserve account. The loan loss reserve account is an account required by bank regulatory agencies that insures that a bank can cover a percentage of its loans if borrowers fail to repay them.

The merger will not affect the quality of service now offered by Peoples Bank, nor the local banking philosophy, Berry said. The only change most customers will see is the name Centura Bank on their checks and on the signs outside the banks. Inside, it will be friendly service and community-based banking as usual.

In late July, an automated teller machine, called an ATM, will be installed in Hertford.

"With our new ARM, we will now have 24-hour bank-

ing," Tobin said.

Customers will be able to make cash withdrawals, deposits, balance inquiries, transfers between accounts, and credit card withdrawals. The system will be connected to the RELAY system which covers many banks in the southeast.

Berry added that the ATM will offer service not only to private bank customers, but also to businesses. They will be able to get cash after normal banking hours. Potential customers of local businesses will be able to get cash to make purchases.

In addition to depository accounts, Peoples Bank offers a full range of loan services, including mortgages, car loans, farm loans, personal loans and equity lines.

Not only is Peoples Bank committed to service, the company is also a strong supporter of the community, Berry said. They make financial contributions to school groups, county programs, civic groups and other worthwhile endeavors.

The bank would also like to see downtown Hertford revitalized and took a very positive step by completely renovating their facility. Berry said the bank hopes that other businesses will follow suit.

## Wreck injures two

A wreck on the historic S-shaped bridge in Hertford Thursday afternoon sent two people to Chowan Hospital.

Three vehicles were involved in the accident. They were a 1985 Chevrolet van, operated by Clark Lee Harris, 100 Clark St., Hertford; a 1986 Peterbilt semi-tractor trailer driven by Ralph E. Berry, 1007 E. Lowell St., Kansas City, Kan.; and a 1984 two-door Ford Escort driven by Vincent Andrew Felton, Rt. 2, Box 111, Hertford.

According to the traffic report compiled by Hertford Police Chief Aubrey Sample, the tractor trailer was traveling south on N. Church Street and apparently crossed the center line and collided with the van driven by Harris. The truck and van both continued to slide after impact.

The Escort was traveling behind the van. Felton, in an effort to stop, applied the brakes and slid partially under the left rear of the tractor

trailer. The Escort was pushed across the road with the rear of the car against the bridge railing.

There were no passengers in the van or the truck. However, Felton and a passenger in the Escort, Angela Mia Bembury of Mexico Road, Edenton, were both transported to Chowan Hospital with incapacitating injuries, including abrasions and contusions to the head, Sample said. Both Felton and Bembury's injuries were treated and they were released late Thursday afternoon.

Officers from the Hertford Police Department, Perquimans County Sheriff's Department, state Highway Patrol and Winfall Police Department responded to the accident.

Also member of the Perquimans County EMS, Perquimans County Volunteer Rescue Squad and Hertford Volunteer Fire Department assisted.



Ben Berry (standing) reviews a customer file with Rick Tobin, new city executive in the Hertford branch of Peoples Bank & Trust Company. Berry was named the city executive of the Elizabeth City office.

## County to change health insurance plan

Perquimans County employees could be giving doctors and hospitals new insurance cards beginning this October if commissioners adopt a proposed plan.

The plan would replace the current Blue Cross/Blue Shield coverage.

County manager N. Paul Gregory Jr. presented the proposal, which is partially self-funding, Monday night. The proposed plan would be administered by Cal Byrum, local representative for the insurance firm General Administration of Charlotte.

Gregory said he would meet with employees to discuss the new plan within the next 30 days. The manager recommended that the county change to the newer, less costly insurance.

Currently, county employees can subscribe to Blue Cross/Blue Shield of North Carolina. The new plan would save the county at least \$4,500 and maybe more, said Gregory.

The plan has a potential savings of \$21 per month per employee, said Gregory. "That's a considerable savings," he continued.

## Commissioners discuss dumpster misuse

### No action taken on crime recognized by state law

Following in the footsteps of the Town of Hertford, the Perquimans County Commissioners attacked littering Monday night - stopping short of taking any action, however.

Commissioners discussed state laws which allow a fine of \$50 for a first offense and \$200 for a second offense of littering. The problem, commissioners agreed, is in catching someone littering, particularly at dumpster sites.

Discussion centered on reports that some residents are leaving old appliances and refrigerators near dumpster

sites instead of at the tri-county landfill in Joppa.

One resident said the location of the site could be a problem, because it is so far away from many people's homes. The landfill is located where Perquimans, Gates and Chowan counties meet.

Commissioner Thomas Nixon said he did not believe people actually intended to litter the area. They may not be aware where large appliances should be placed, he said.

Those who leave large appliances in non-approved areas can be arrested, although catching them is difficult,

said county attorney John Matthews.

"Some people are going to go (to dump appliances) in the dead of night," said Matthews.

Chairman Lester Simpson suggested changing collection methods, including charging residents for house-to-house trash removal.

Some commissioners indicated a tipping fee would have to be charged at the landfill in Joppa, although they said the fee would not stop people from dumping in unauthorized locations.

No action was taken regarding the problem of illegal dumping.

Read through our pages and enjoy new items of interest