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35 Cents

County gets CDBG funds

By SUSAN R. HARRIS
Editor

Some Perquimans County residents will have improved living conditions thanks to a \$362,500 Community Development Block Grant recently awarded to the county through the North Carolina Department of Economic and Community Development, Division of Community Assistance.

The grant funds will be used to install water lines to six dwellings on Ferry Road not presently served by the county water system and to rehabilitate 16 dwellings in the Woodville Road/Ferry Road community.

According to Earline Sullivan, Community Services Director at the Albemarle Commission, a preliminary pre-grant application survey indicated severe housing needs in the area. Most of the 16 units will require substantial repairs. The renovations will include upgrades to roofs, electrical systems, plumbing, septic systems, foundations and other areas deemed necessary to bring the dwellings up to at least the Section 8 Housing Standards of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Sullivan said once grant funds are approved and cleared, a detailed study of each unit to be rehabilitated commences. Work recommendations are made including complete cost estimates. That phase is followed by the renovations.

The county matched the grant with a \$20,000 local share to be funded over two fiscal years.

The county applied for a \$600,000 grant last year which would have included rehabilitating houses along U.S. Highway 17 in addition to the Ferry Road/Woodville Road project. The funds were not awarded.

At the advice of Dick George, Assistant Community Services Director at Albemarle Commission, the county lowered its grant request and doubled its matching funds share. George told the county commissioners that the grant would stand a better chance in the competitive grant application process with a larger county share.

According to 1990 census figures, almost 5 percent of Perquimans County's 10,447 population lives in substandard housing.

Community revitalization funds are used to rehabilitate substandard housing, improve water and sewer services to households and finance other community improvements in low- and moderate-income neighborhoods.

The Division of Community Assistance, which administers the state's CDBG program, received requests for community revitalization funding from 109 applicants. These requests totaled in excess of \$82 million. Forty-three requests totalling over \$31 million were funded.

CDBG community revitalization grants must meet minimum eligibility requirements including benefit to low- and moderate-income people. Local governments may request a maximum of \$1 million during any one program year.

It's fair time!



A new ride graces the midway at the Jaycees six county fair which opened Tuesday in Elizabeth City. The Giant Wheel is a 105-foot tall ferris wheel and is said to be the tallest ride ever erected in Elizabeth City. The ride will seat 120 adults or 160 children and cost over \$1 million. (Photo by Susan Harris.)

Hertford to sell water outside the town

By TRACY E. GERLACH
The Daily Advance

The Hertford Town Council agreed to provide water to a 34-lot development outside its boundaries Monday.

As part of the agreement, however, developers Preston Stevenson and Gene Meads would have to pay for the extension of the town's water line, which ends at the Brian Center Nursing Home and voluntarily annex any further phases of the project into the town limits.

Town Manager Bill Cox said the town would prefer to have the development inside its borders and receive the tax revenue, but felt it necessary to work with the developers and encourage them to locate in Perquimans County.

"The fact is we need a subdivision," Cox said. "We need the houses, although they're not in

"The fact is we need a subdivision...We need to grow and this is part of the growth process."

W. D. "Bill" Cox
Hertford Town Manager

the city limits, it will benefit the town and the county. We need to grow and this is part of the growing process."

Phase one of a proposed 250-home development on the 70-acre Stevenson farm will begin this fall. Once all the phases are complete, the area near the Brian Center Nursing Home will house single-family and multi-dwelling homes, offices and institutions.

One section of the development plan includes upscale townhouses.

The developers will have to agree to voluntarily annex the

second phase of the project before the town will sell them water. Town Council members agreed that water customers living outside the town should not get their water at the same cost as those living within the limits, but no rate was set.

"We need to cooperate with the developers for the growth of the county," Cox said. "It's certainly better than saying we're not going to cooperate at all."

Town of Hertford looking for volunteers to build boat house

From Staff Reports

A 1920 Shad boat the town received from Rep. Vernon James last month is sitting in the old fire station awaiting a home.

So far, the town has received little response to a call for volunteers and donations to build a shelter for the boat, Mayor John Beers said Monday. The plan was to house it permanently at Missing Mill Park.

"If we leave it outside it won't last long," Beers said. "It's a shame to let this boat sit where it is."

Building a shelter for the boat would cost approximately \$5,000, Beers said.

Town Councilman Sid Eley said the county's planning committee has discussed finding funds to purchase and renovate the Morgan Building on Church Street for a museum. The committee expressed an interest in displaying the boat there," he said.

Purchasing and refurbishing the Morgan Building could take years, Beers pointed out.

Billy Winslow suggested that the town try to create interest in building a shelter among area contractors. He could lead a group of volunteers in building the structure, he said.

County among first to earn America 2000 designation

By TRACY E. GERLACH
The Daily Advance

Perquimans County leaders left the state capitol last Wednesday with a new responsibility.

The county, along with five other communities to receive the North Carolina 2000 designation, will be expected to lead the rest of the state in educational reform, Gov. James G. Martin told school and community leaders.

Six communities, named last month as the first to adopt the goals of America 2000 and North Carolina 2000, were honored by Martin at a special ceremony in the state capitol. Among the first communities to receive the official designation were Perquimans County, Rosman, New Hanover County, Hickory, Charlotte/Mecklenburg and Catawba County.

"Across the state, you will serve as a good example for other aspiring communities who have set the same goals and are working with the same kind of dedication and teamwork," Martin told officials from the six school systems. "I encourage all of you to keep up the work that brought you this far and help us to spread the word about programs, how things can be done and how you made education a number one priority in your community."

North Carolina 2000, a strategy for reaching the National Education Goals, began about a year ago. Its purpose is to ensure that the United States will be a highly competitive nation during the 21st Century.



Board of Commissioners chairman Mack E. Nixon, school board chairman Wayne Howell, county manager Paul Gregory and superintendent Randall L. Henlon were honored by Gov. James G. Martin last week for Perquimans

The program involves the entire community in the process.

"Your presence today shows that you're not going to settle for mediocrity. You're going to settle

for nothing less than the best. You want something better for your children, for your community and the future of our nation," Martin said. "...You've

learned very quickly what you have to do as a team to improve education."

Comparing the state's education system to the more than a

century old capitol building, Martin told community leaders it needs to be redesigned, retooled and re-equipped.

School systems in the state and the nation have settled for average for too long, he said.

"It needs to be given extensive renovations and that's what you're prepared to do in your own communities," he said. "You know that it's not easy to become a North Carolina 2000 community. Certainly that's true when you look around and see that today we are recognizing the first six."

Another 75 communities in the state are expected to follow suite an adopt the goals of the North Carolina 2000 program, said Barbara Moore, program director. Of the 100 counties in the state, 66 are already working on different phases of the program.

As officially designated communities, the six are now eligible for a \$10,000 grant from the state program, Moore said. Additional federal money is also available to communities which have been recognized.

Randall Henlon, Superintendent of Perquimans County Schools, attributed the program's success to a dedicated community. The county's economic planning committee, Perquimans County 3000 steering committee, board of commissioners, school board, town council and East 2000 were all instrumental in helping the county achieve designation, he said.

Hertford officer receives investigation training

A Hertford police officer recently completed a three-day course of instruction on preliminary investigations at the North Carolina Justice Academy in Salem.

Ray Jedele, a patrolman who joined the Hertford Police Department in December 1991, completed the course as part of his ongoing law enforcement

training.

The preliminary investigations course is designed to familiarize the uniformed, non-investigative officer with the ba-

sic fundamentals of preliminary investigative techniques and procedures to ensure the security and preservation of a crime scene. Topic areas included: crime scene protection and secu-

ity, investigative notes, evidence and interviewing.

Marvin Williams of the Justice Academy staff was coordinator of the course.

The North Carolina Justice Academy is a division of the North Carolina Department of Justice under the administration of Attorney General Lacy Thornburg.

Officer Ray Jedele recently attended investigation training at the North Carolina Justice Academy at Salem.



**Football
CONTEST**
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