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# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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35 Cents

## W.D. "Bill" Cox highway

### Roadway named for the man who fought hard for transportation improvements

By TRACY E. GERLACH  
The Daily Advance

The new brown and white sign bearing the name of Town Manager and transportation activist W.D. "Bill" Cox will remind millions of travelers on of U.S. Highway 17 they have a friend in Hertford.

Cox' years of public service and devotion to improving highways in Northeastern North Carolina were recognized Tuesday morning with a stately ceremony attended by more than 200 people. U.S. Highway 17 from the Chowan County line to the Pasquotank County line was named in his honor.

A blue stage and podium stood just off the newest portion of what will be the four-lane highway — to the side, a barbecue truck waited to feed the hungry crowd. Key DOT officials and state representative turned out to honor Cox.

Common to all the speeches at a ceremony dedicating a portion of the newly constructed highway to Cox was the word friend.

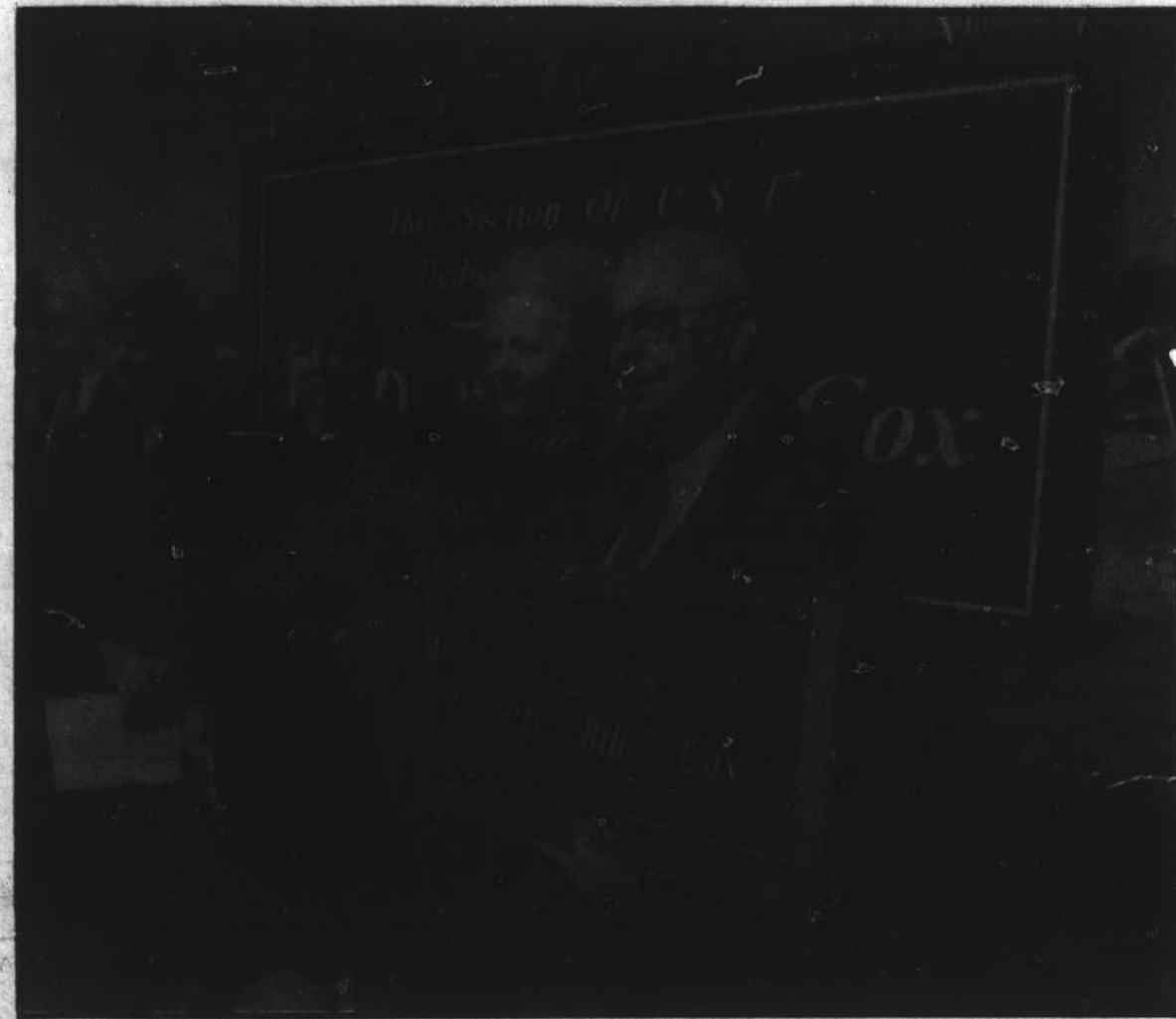
Town Councilman Eric Haste Jr. knows Cox as someone who always comes through.

"I've heard Bill say many times, 'Just tell me what you want to do,' or 'I'll take care of it.'" Haste said.

State Sen. Marc Basnight, D-Dare, called Cox one of his best friends in politics.

"I sincerely love him and Miss Jessie," Basnight said of Cox and his wife before presenting the latter with a dozen red roses.

Cox showed his face so often around the Department of Transportation so often while lobbying for area highways, employees there might have thought he was one of the staff, said Thomas J. Harrelson, secretary of the N.C. Department of Transportation. Working for better highways for more than a decade, Cox has spent many hours and driven many miles to promote transportation needs, he said.



W.D. "Bill" Cox was joined by his wife and daughters Tuesday when the North Carolina Department of Transportation dedicated a portion of U.S. Highway 17 to him. About 200 dignitaries and well-wishers turned out for the dedication at the Farmer's Market. Pictured in front of one of the signs to be erected along the highway are (left to right) Pam, Susan, Jessie and Bill Cox. (Photo by Gary Cosby Jr.)

"He's been a real and vital advocate for this area," he said.

Cox, who appeared humbled by the ceremony, thanked everyone in the audience for their hand in the effort to improve the area's highways and the Department of Transportation for being

cooperative and always willing to listen.

"I'll never forget this day," Cox said. "There will never be anything else in my life that will make me feel prouder than having this piece of highway named for Bill Cox."

Cox, who was mayor of Hertford for 20 years, spent many of his years in office trying to upgrade roads in the area. He was a charter member of the Highways 17 Association, which he chaired, cochaired and now serves as treasurer.

## Schools participate in teacher support system

By SUSAN R. HARRIS  
Editor

Perquimans County Schools has joined forces with other school systems across the state to offer more support to initially certified teachers and get them on the right track to excellence in teaching and growth opportunities.

"It is particularly well-suited to a small school system," said Perquimans Schools Superintendent Randall L. Henion of the program. "We'll be connecting our teachers with some wonderful resources."

Henion and personnel director Paul Ward attended a support conference in Rocky Mount designed to bring representatives from the participating districts together to build team skills, disseminate information and solicit input regarding the collaborative effort. Support professionals from public schools, including a number from colleges and universities, provided input during the session.

"I was really impressed with the way they're organized," Henion said.

All nine first-year teachers in the Perquimans County system are expected to participate in the program, Ward said. The teachers have been identified and contacted by support coaches from Edenton-Chowan and Martin County, who will assist them with professional development, Ward said. Second-year teachers were given the option to join the program.

At present, teacher talk groups have been formed which bring new teachers together to discuss any concerns they may have and share ideas. Support coaches attend these sessions to facilitate interaction and provide guidance.

"It is particularly well-suited to a small school system. We'll be connecting our teachers with some wonderful resources."

Dr. Randall L. Henion  
Schools superintendent

The plan is to provide five workshops, build a support network and publish a newsletter to help new teachers acclimate themselves to the profession. Also under consideration is a support network for new principal and support service professionals.

In addition, the collaborative plan provides long-term training programs for those seasoned teachers willing to become mentors for initially certified educators. Brenda Dail and Peggy Griffin of the Perquimans County School system are participating in the first-year phase which includes three training sessions. They will be given a practicum next year before reaching the stage where they will work directly with first-year teachers as mentors.

Participating in the collaborative plan are Perquimans County, Edenton-Chowan, Edgecombe County, Granville County, Halifax County, Martin County, Northampton County, Tarboro City, Vance County, Warren County and Weldon City school systems.

## Waterfront park downsized to meet budget

By TRACY E. GERLACH  
The Daily Advance

Budget constraints have forced the Town of Hertford to downscale its plan for a waterfront park, eliminating lighting, curbing, landscaping and a handicap ramp and walk.

Town Manager William D. "Bill" Cox told council members Monday that parts of the project have been removed in order to cut the cost by approximately \$12,800.

"The bids came out \$12,000 to \$13,000 more than we budgeted for," Cox said. "We're going to lose some aesthetics, but we're not going to lose any of the workings of the basic

concept of the project."

The changes will reduce the contract from \$61,000 to \$48,273.

Plans for a waterfront park behind the town offices still includes an eight-foot wide boardwalk along the Perquimans River, and 23 parking spaces.

Eliminated are light fixtures, turndown sidewalks, handicap ramp and walk, curb section at the back steps of the police department building, and a handicap sign and post. Sidewalk widths have also been reduced to save money.

Town Councilman Eric Haste Jr., said

the project should be constructed in a way that the items could be added at a later date.

Most of the money to pay for the work came from a \$43,000 grant from the state. The remainder came from the Town of Hertford and the Albemarle Resource Conservation and Development Committee.

The park is part of a long-term waterfront access project, which includes two other sites along the river that would eventually connect the park to Missing-Mill Park.

## Jollification VII is set

Jollification VII, the annual fall fundraiser for the Perquimans County Restoration Association, has been scheduled for Oct. 24 from 5-7:30 p.m. Sharran Haskett and the special events committee of the P.C.R.A. will host a soup and supper buffet to be held in Perquimans Center at the Newbold-White House site. Tickets will be \$15 per person. The menu for the evening includes ham-hock bean soup, sliced marinated eye of round on angel biscuits, chafing dish cocktail franks, chicken drumettes, season's vegetables

with pumpkin dip, two-cheese pimento spread with assorted crackers, broccoli quiche squares, assorted fresh fruits, mini cheese cakes, wine, apple cider, and decaffeinated coffee.

The entertainment will be provided by the Detention Hall Jazz Band composed of local young musicians. This band will present a porch concert at 5:00 at the David Newby Cottage at the Newbold-White House site. The soup course will be served during this portion of the program.

An attractive Pembroke table, handcrafted by Gordon Boyce of Tyner is on display in the window of Layden's Radio and Electric Shop and will be raffled off the night of the dinner. Raffle tickets will be on sale for \$5 each at Layden's or at the Newbold-White House. To make reservations, you may call the Newbold-White House by Oct. 17 at 436-7567 or write to the Perquimans County Restoration Association at P.O. Box 103, Hertford, NC 27944.

## Heating assistance to be available through DSS

The Perquimans County Department of Social Services began accepting applications for the Low Income Energy Assistance Program on Oct. 12. The LIEAP provides a one-time payment in February 1993 to low income households to help eligible families pay their heating bills. Most households who receive food stamps for October will receive an application in the mail. These households do not need to go to the Department of Social Services to apply. Households who do not receive food stamps for October and some food stamp households must apply at the Department of Social Services. An elderly or handicapped person may apply by telephone. He may also send a representative to the Department of Social Services to apply for him.

We encourage all interested low income households

to call and request an appointment date and time before coming in to apply for heating assistance.

The Low Income Energy Assistance Program is not a first come/first served program. Any eligible household that applies between Oct. 12 and Nov. 25 will receive a payment.

Call Perquimans County Department of Social Services -Telephone number 426-7373, hours 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

### Crisis Intervention Program

The Crisis Intervention Program provides financial assistance to households that are in a heating or cooling-related emergency. A household may receive a maximum benefit of \$200 per year.

## Ghoulish decorations



Mike and Betty Byrum have created a ghoulish Halloween scene on their front lawn. Call us with your favorite yard decorations in Perquimans County. We'll take some color photographs of the best ones for our Halloween issue on Oct. 29. (Photo by Susan Harris.)

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**CONTEST**  
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