

Merry Christmas!

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

Volume 61, No. 52

Hertford, Perquimans County, N.C., Thursday, December 24, 1992

30 Cents

Schools need big bucks

By SUSAN R. HARRIS
Editor

Perquimans County Schools need an estimated \$12.7 million to upgrade facilities and implement new programs throughout the system.

"That's realistic," said schools superintendent Randall L. Henion. "That's not a pie-in-the-sky projection."

The information was presented to the county commissioners Monday evening when school officials discussed the findings of an architectural study performed by HBA and Associates in Virginia Beach.

The long range plan required by the state every five years includes replacing Central School in Winfall. The top priority on the school board's needs list, the new school would call for the biggest chunk of the \$12.7 million at an estimated cost of \$6.5 million.

To be built on the existing site behind the present facility, the new building would house preschool through second grades.

Henion told commissioners that a new facility would be built in the same architectural style of the present building. He said architectural and engineering studies have shown that it would not be feasible to renovate the building.

Next on the list is renovating Hertford Grammar School. Needed there are classrooms, a resource center, media center expansion, multi-purpose space, administrative support space, air conditioning and a new sewer system. The price tag for renovations is estimated at just over \$2 million.

Two projects were listed as needs at the high school. The most pressing includes a \$200,000 project to bring the auditorium up to state code and tearing down the King Street annex.

Number six on the list is a \$2.6 million upgrade at the school to include technology education space, a media center expansion, gym and locker room expansion, administrative support expansion and technology education equipment.

Other needs on the list include a \$750,000 computer technology network, a \$265,000 bus maintenance facility renovation, a \$14,000 school plant maintenance facility upgrade and \$330,000 at the middle school, which was the last priority.

Henion was joined by school board chairman Wayne Howell and board member Wallace Nelson at the commissioner's meeting. The group told the commissioners that the needs listed and their priority order was in line with the last state-required study done five years ago. At that time, the middle school was the top priority. Thanks to a \$2 million chunk of capital needs funds from the state and additional local support, that facility should be renovated by late summer.

"Our middle school should be in excellent shape by the beginning of next school year," Henion said.

The state asked that needs be listed through 2002-2003 regardless of funding availability.

Henion said he felt having the study done professionally would help the county get grant monies and funds from government or private sources.

"We're looking to the state of North Carolina for more help and elsewhere to meet our goals," Henion said.

Henion said the children in Perquimans County deserve better facilities such as those enjoyed by larger, more wealthy areas of the state.

"Right now the playing field is uneven," he said.



Gary and Sharon Winslow share their celebration of the birth of Christ with this handmade nativity scene in their front yard. Lawn displays are becoming increasingly popular. (Photo by Susan Harris)

Residents deck the halls

From the wreath on the front door to the lights wrapped around the eaves, Perquimans residents have dressed their homes for the holidays.

Lights twinkle on fence posts, shrubbery, yard lights, doors and rooftops throughout the county.

Carolers, snowmen, Santa Clauses, reindeer and nativity scenes shine in the beam of spotlights. Bows of red and gold wish glad tidings to all who pass. Inside, homes display Christmas trees, holiday table settings and favorite ornaments from

past and present. Stockings are hung by the chimney awaiting the arrival of Santa Claus. Waterfront dwellers have placed Christmas lights on piers, sending beams of color reflecting across the quiet waters of the Perquimans River.

Arrests reported

The Hertford Police reported the following arrests:

On Dec. 11, Doris Marie Wood, 34, of Lot 2 Dogwood Mobile Home Park, Hertford, was arrested and charged with forgery and uttering and larceny. A secured bond of \$1,200 was set.

On Dec. 11, Linwood Clifton Wood, 33, of Lot 2, Dogwood Mobile Home Park, Hertford, was arrested and charged with forgery and uttering and larceny. A secured bond of \$1,200 was set.

On Dec. 12, Stephen Troy Leary, 20, of 190 Alder Branch Road, Shiloh, was issued a citation for speeding.

On Dec. 12, Anthony Bernard Little, 26, of Route 2, Box 423, Williamston, was issued a citation for speeding and for license plate cover.

On Dec. 12, Wilbert Lee Jones, 31, of Lot 13, Meads Mobile Home Park, Hertford, was arrested and charged with assault with a deadly weapon. A secured bond of \$200 was set.

On Dec. 13, Richard Barry Jackson, 38, of 301 Dobbs Street, Hertford, was issued a citation for driving while license revoked.

On Dec. 13, Doresia Virginia Land, 36, of 121 Wynne Fork Court, Hertford, was arrested and charged with assault by pointing a gun. A secured bond of \$500 was set.

On Dec. 13, Andre Karl Mercer, 25, of 229 Sleepy Hollow Road, Camden, was issued a citation for speeding.

On Dec. 13, Faye Symons Stallings, 60, of 720 Gaston Drive, Hertford, was issued a citation for improper passing.

On Dec. 14, Danny Lee Darrow, 28, of P.O. Box 82, Point Harbor, was issued a citation for speeding.

On Dec. 17, Manuel Miller, 30, of 329 Market Street, Hertford, was arrested and charged with simple assault. An unsecured bond of \$200 was set.

On Dec. 17, Marion Jackson Miller, 28, of Route 2, Box 43-T, Hertford, was arrested and charged with two counts of assault with a deadly weapon, and simple assault. A secured bond of \$600 was set.

Helping hands make Christmas merrier

By SUSAN R. HARRIS
Editor

Many people in Perquimans will have a merrier Christmas, thanks to the generosity of county residents.

Monday the Parksville Ruritans distributed gifts to 129 children. The club put a Christmas tree in Woodard's Pharmacy decorated with tags. Upon each tag was written the age, sex and clothing sizes of a child Santa needed some help buying gifts for. People looking for someone to do something special for during the holidays chose a tag, purchased gifts, wrapped them and sent them back to Woodard's. The Ruritans picked up the gifts and distributed them Monday.

Five tables stood full of brightly-wrapped gifts Monday, when parents stopped by the Ruritan building to pick up gifts purchased for their child(ren). Smiles decorated the faces of most parents who left with arms full of presents.

"We were able to help more kids than we did last year," said Ruritan Carla Hurdle.

Names for the Christmas Tree Project came from the Department of Social Services.

In addition to the Ruritan assistance, other civic groups also contacted Social Services to find families who needed help with gifts.

Churches and civic groups were generous in their donations to a new project organized by Social Services employees this year. Several hundred dollars was given to buy Christmas presents for the county's foster children. Susan Chaney, who oversees the foster program in Perquimans County, said she was delighted with the overwhelming response.

"I am just so grateful," Chaney said. "These children will have what I think will be the best Christmas since they've been in our program."

County church congregations and school groups have gathered food, clothing and gifts for others this holiday season. Groups have also visited nursing homes, presenting programs, refreshments and gifts to residents.



Ruritans Gill Underwood and Tommy Dale help prepare gifts for needy children. The Parksville Ruritans sponsored the Christmas Tree Project for the second year, and collected gifts for 129 children who might otherwise have had a sad Christmas morning. The Ruritans are just one group who have lent a hand to make Christmas better for others. (Photo by Susan Harris)

Sheriff's Department makes arrests

The Perquimans County Sheriff's Department reported the following arrests:

On Dec. 14, John Seymour Gregory, 30, of 902 Honeycutt Ave., Elizabeth City, was arrested and charged with assault on a female. He was confined to Albemarle District Jail in lieu of a \$200 unsecured bond.

On Dec. 16, Edward Allen Lew, 18, of Route 4, Box 748, Hertford, was arrested and charged with first degree trespassing. He was released on a \$200 unsecured bond.

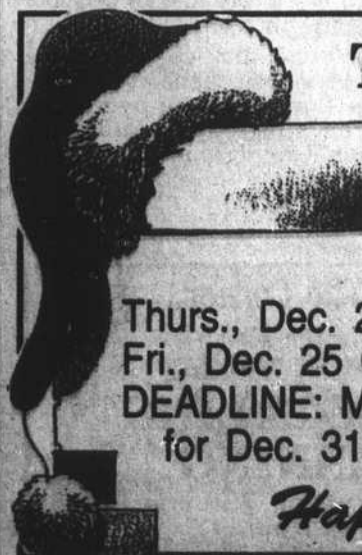
On Dec. 18, Karl L. Predom Sr., 46, Route 2, Box 373A, Hertford, was arrested and charged with communicating threats. He was released on a \$200 unsecured bond.

On Dec. 19, Gregory Eugene Dance, 23, Route 2, Box 285, Hertford, was arrested and charged with failure to appear. He was released on a \$200 unsecured bond.

On Dec. 19, Ranlad Nicholas Morgan, 22, Lot 34, Bethel Fishing Center Road, Hertford, was arrested and charged with simple affray. He was released on a \$200 unsecured bond.

On Dec. 20, Dwight Allen Rea, 23, of 33A Bethel Fishing Center Road, Hertford, was arrested and charged with simple affray. He was released on a \$200 unsecured bond.

On Dec. 20, Artis Christopher Henton, 32, of Route 2, Box 119, Hertford, was arrested and charged with a deadly weapon, assault on a female, and communicating threats. He was confined to Albemarle District Jail in lieu of a \$3,000 secured bond.



The Perquimans Weekly

Holiday Hours & Deadline

Thurs., Dec. 24 Closed at 1:00
Fri., Dec. 25 Closed
DEADLINE: Mon., Dec. 28; 3:00 p.m.
for Dec. 31 edition

Happy Holidays