

Sports:

White's Barbecue takes men's league championship: Page 6

Community:

Happenings column lists variety of local events, meetings: Page 3

Perspectives:

Weather forecasters can touch a nerve; Gail Winds: Page 4

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

Volume 62, No. 25

Hertford, Perquimans County, N.C., Thursday, August 5, 1993

35 Cents

WAVY TV highlights local flood relief effort

By SUSAN R. HARRIS
Editor

Excitement was in the air at Daddy Ruth's Hertford Cafe Monday as a news team from WAVY TV 10 in Portsmouth interviewed locals about the Perquimans County flood victim relief effort.

On Monday, Aug. 9, every dime taken in at Daddy Ruth's will go to a family who has lost everything because of the flood. Even the staff at the restaurant is donating work time and tips. Daddy Ruth's will open at 7 a.m. and will stay open until customers stop coming in to eat.

Owner Will Ferguson said the restaurant is scheduled to close at 3 p.m. on Aug. 9, but if people continue to come in, he'll keep it open.

"As long as the people keep

coming, we'll stay," he said.

The effort is the brainchild of Ferguson. Ferguson said last week that as he watched the news one Sunday evening, he felt a call to help those people who have lost everything.

"You see all these people losing everything, you've got to do something," Ferguson said. "You can't just sit there and do nothing."

Ferguson said he considered the idea of donating his take for one day to the relief effort. When he spoke with waitress Kim Rollinson and others he employs, they were also willing to help, Ferguson said.

Rollinson, the victim of flood waters in Hatteras, said she knows first hand what it's like to lose your home and practically everything else you own to nature's forces.

The Daddy Ruth's crew has contacted numerous local businesses as well as out-of-town suppliers to enlist their support. The response, Ferguson said, has been overwhelming.

"Just about everyone we've contacted has been willing to help," Ferguson said.

Several local businesses and organizations have agreed to pitch in with the effort.

"I'd like to get everybody in town, in the whole county, to donate," Ferguson said.

That should be possible. Although Daddy Ruth's is not a large eatery, town officials have agreed to close the downtown block and set up a sidewalk cafe so that more people can be served.

If the project is successful, Ferguson said he will continue to set aside days especially for the flood victims. He said he knows how long it takes to get back on your feet, having himself been the victim of hurricanes in Florida and floods in Georgia.

Those who will not be able to donate by eating at the restaurant can donate money, canned foods, clothing, furniture and other items. Cash donations and food can be taken to Daddy Ruth's. Larger items will be collected at The Perquimans Weekly office.



Hertford Police officer Robert Harvey Sr. (left) was honored Monday night at a dinner given by the town of Hertford in recognition of his 27 years of service on the police department. Harvey and town manager W.D. "Bill" Cox enjoyed talking during the occasion. (Photo by Susan Harris)

Harvey honored for service

Made history on Hertford police department

By SUSAN R. HARRIS
Editor

No one really knew if he was old enough to retire or just had in enough years of service. Robert Harvey's secret was safe until his daughter spilled the beans that the man who drove a Hertford police cruiser for many years is 62.

Harvey was the toast of the town Monday night, as Hertford officials bid farewell to the police officer who recently retired after 27 years of service.

Harvey was honored for his dedication and commitment to law enforcement in Hertford by his fellow officers, town councilmen, the mayor, the city manager and his children at a

dinner at Angler's Cove Restaurant.

Harvey broke new ground in Hertford, becoming the town's first black officer in 1966 when he signed on part-time. During his tenure he became a full-time officer, and from the comments made during Monday night's banquet, made a name for himself as one of the most respected officers on the force.

"He did his share and more than his share," said town manager W.D. "Bill" Cox. "His dedication will never be exceeded."

Cox characterized Harvey as an officer who quietly did his job without offending peo-

ple or losing his composure.

Police chief Aubrey Sample Jr. said Harvey had achieved three accomplishments few people ever realize: 1. He stayed in law enforcement 27 years, 2. He was a dedicated officer and 3. He retired from the force.

The town presented Harvey with a plaque bearing his badge. The plaque read "In deep appreciation to Robert Louis Harvey for 27 years of dedicated and faithful service to the citizens of the Town of Hertford, N.C. April 18, 1966-April 30, 1993." Harvey's co-workers gave him a fishing rod to use in his newly acquired spare time.

JTPA gives youth job experience

Thirty-three Perquimans County youth are getting job experience this summer through the Job Training Partnership Act. And at least two of them are having fun at the same time.

Ben Waters and Jermaine McClenney were assigned to the Perquimans County Recreation Department. The two said they'd had a good time preparing softball fields, working the 13-year-old Babe Ruth tournament, painting tennis courts, cleaning buildings, cleaning up the park and mowing.

"Hot, but fun," is how McClenney described his weeks at the recreation department.

In addition to the fun they've had together and with recreation director Lee Hoffman, the two

said they have learned discipline, responsibility and self-motivation from their summer jobs.

Another plus for the duo has been a new friendship. Waters, a 1993 graduate, and McClenney, a rising senior, said they knew each other only in passing before working together. Now they consider themselves friends. They've even joked while sweltering in this summer's record heat about teaming up to start the B & J Corporation, a mowing business.

Waters worked for the recreation department through JTPA last summer, but said he's doing more work this year than last. He requested to go back to the recreation department. McClenney just asked for a job through the program, but said he's glad he was assigned to the department.

Hoffman has been pleased with the work produced by Waters and McClenney.

"I don't have to watch over



Jermaine McClenney fixes the striping on the tennis courts while Ben Waters sprays to control weeds around it. The youth are working for the recreation department this summer under the JTPA program. JTPA is a federal program designed to provide on-the-job training and summer employment for qualifying youth. (Photo by Susan Harris)

them," Hoffman said. "I just tell them what needs to be done and they do it. They've been a big help to me."

Other youth employed through the program include Gwanetta Askew, Ramona Barnwell, Odell Brown, Timeka Eason, Tanya Everett, Antoine Jones, Darrick Banks, Eric Colson, Marita Elliott, Lorenzo Farrow, Tavis Foreman, Vereaqueka Gray, Patricia Holley, Edward Jennings, Maurice Mabine, Kamani Perry, Maurice Shannonhouse, Andreae Vaughan, Keesha White, Tareka White, Tony White, Richard Williams, Ramon Coleman, Kelsey Moore, Sherry Duck, Tyra Hurdie, Nicole Jordan, Tamara Rob-

inson, Tamika Robinson, Jessica Modlin and Dawn Overman.

The Albemarle Commission administers the program for the 10-county Region R. Throughout the region, approximately 320 youth are participating in the program. Participants work an average of 30 hours per week at a rate of \$4.25 per hour. Youth between the ages of 14 and 21 who meet program requirements are eligible to participate.

For more information about JTPA, contact Sharon Robinson, JTPA administrator, at the Albemarle Commission.

Sheriff hires sixth deputy

Commissioners say position was contingent upon grant

By SUSAN R. HARRIS
Editor

The Perquimans County Sheriff's Department has a sixth deputy, but how long she'll get paid may be in question.

County manager N. Paul Gregory Jr. read a letter dated July 29 from sheriff Joe Lothian to the county commissioners in regular session Monday stating that Lothian had hired Mary White as a new deputy effective Aug. 2.

Lothian told both Gregory and board chairman Leo Higgins earlier Monday that White will be a uniformed deputy who will become certified. Her primary job duties at present will be clerical.

But the commissioners questioned Lothian hiring a sixth deputy, even though the position was funded in the county's fiscal budget, because they understood Lothian would fill the position only if the department received a grant for approximately \$25,000 to fund the DARE program. Because the county offset the cost of hiring a new deputy in the 1993-94 fiscal budget with grant funds, the source of White's salary is in question. If the grant is not approved, the county would have to dip into the fund balance to pay White.

Higgins sent for the county commissioners' minutes book to try to answer board members' questions about how the new position was approved. Specifically, Higgins was looking for a motion that tied the new position to the DARE grant. The information was not found during the meeting.

Gregory and commissioners Archie Miller and Mack Nixon said they recalled discussions with Lothian during budget meetings that left them with the understanding that a sixth deputy would be hired only if the DARE grant came through.

"I agree with the personnel, but where is the money going to come from?" Miller asked.

Lothian was called in to the meeting to discuss the issue. Lothian told the board that he had told them he needed the extra position and that he did not know for sure whether his department would be funded under the grant program.

"I'll be honest with you, I'm at wits end with the whole situation," Lothian told the commissioners.

Lothian said he understood from a discussion with Higgins that the commissioners stood behind hiring a sixth deputy regardless of the status of the grant application.

Miller told Lothian that the way the budget is written at the present time, there is no funding for the deputy's position.

"For once I did exactly what was asked of me," Lothian said. "Everybody is at wits end in my office. We're engulfed in paperwork."

The paperwork dilemma is a result of chief dispatcher Homeria Jennette's decision not to do clerical work for the sheriff's department after June 30. Jennette has done the clerical work for the past several years, often taking work home with her because she had insufficient time to complete the job during her shift as a dispatcher, Lothian said. Jennette requested compensation for doing the work when she submitted her budget last spring, but the additional money was not budgeted. Jennette set June 30 as the last date she would perform the duties.

Commissioner Shirley Yates said she knew the sheriff's department would be bogged down in paperwork when Jennette stopped doing it. She said she knew someone would have to be hired to do the clerical duties.

"I think we backed ourselves into a corner" by not funding part-time clerical help for the sheriff, Yates said. "I understand the sheriff and what he's going through."

Yates added that the department needs an efficient person in the office for clerical work. "I've been for that all along," she added.

Higgins said he felt the commissioners obligated themselves to provide an employee in the sheriff's department when they promised help, budgeted the sixth deputy and took away Jennette's help by failing to provide additional funds for her. He said the county was morally committed to provide funding for the deputy.

Higgins said the budget indicates that Lothian would transfer \$15,000 from his funds to purchase a car. Higgins said the county could use those funds to pay the deputy instead. But Lothian said Tuesday morning his funds cannot be used for personnel.

With no resolution in sight, the commissioners tabled discussion on the deputy until their September meeting. The commissioners do not have to approve hiring a deputy, but they do provide local funds for salaries and operations.

Three men file for two Hertford council seats

Hertford voters will make choices in the November election because three people have filed for the two available seats.

Up until last Thursday, only councilman Sidney Eley had filed for election. On Friday at noon, former councilman Jesse L. Harris filed. Councilman Eric Haste Jr. signed up Monday.

Over in Winfall, only one

candidate has come forward for the three available slots. Fred Yates filed for the mayor's seat on Aug. 3. As of that date, Yates was the only candidate to file for a post in Winfall.

The filing period closes Friday, Aug. 6 at noon. Residents of either town who decide to file for election must fill out their forms at the board of elections office by that time.

Recycling recipe

Use empty clothes detergent boxes with lids for trash boxes in the car. They work great and smell good, too!

This week's recipe submitted by Linda Godfrey.

Submit your recycling ideas to The Perquimans Weekly.

