

The Perquimans Weekly

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The only newspaper for and about Perquimans County people

Hertford, North Carolina 27944

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Perquimans County an All of Us Care Community

June's theme:

Get out of a rut

All of Us need a little change to get out of a rut. Write that long overdue letter or make phone calls to folks you haven't spoken with in a while. Try something new. Start that project or stop that bad habit. Get involved in a new organization or activity in your community. Plan a new adventure. Take a different route to work. Check out a library book on an unfamiliar subject. Try something that you haven't done in a long time. Stop and smell the flowers. Take a walk. Go fly a kite. Visit someone who could use some company. Doing something little for someone can often boost your energy!

For All of Us Care information, contact Sandra Smith Chamber of Commerce 426-5657



PHOTO BY SUSAN HARRIS

The historic S-shaped bridge crossing the Perquimans River will be closed to traffic beginning Monday. NCDOT will begin repair work on the bridge that should last for approximately 8

weeks. Traffic will be rerouted to U.S. Highway 17 Bypass until the bridge is closed for repairs. The entire steel span and roadway will be replaced.

S-bridge to close for repairs

By SUSAN R. HARRIS Editor

The distance between Winfall and Hertford will get longer when the S-bridge linking the county's two towns closes for major repairs on Monday.

Hertford Town Manager John Christensen said Tuesday that state department of transportation officials expect the repairs to take about eight weeks. The steel understructure of the bridge will be torn out and replaced and a new concrete roadway

will be poured. During the time the bridge will be closed, traffic will be routed to follow U.S. Highway 17 Bypass.

Some Hertford residents have requested that town officials ask the state to close the historic bridge to truck traffic.

The residents say trucks are taking a toll on the structural integrity of the bridge, and they believe that once it can no longer be repaired, Hertford will lose the unique distinction of the S-shaped corridor, the only structure of its kind in the United States.

Habitat raises \$10K

The Gold Nail campaign for Habitat for Humanity has raised nearly \$10,000 toward the first Habitat house in Chowan and Perquimans counties.

That good news was announced to the Chowan-Perquimans Habitat board by Development Committee Chairman Bill Haley at the board's July 1 meeting.

The most recent gift received by Habitat was a \$1,000 check from St. Catherine's Guild of Holy Trinity Church in Hertford. Additional funds were received prior to the start of the Gold Nail Campaign in February.

According to Habitat's president, Jim Robison, gifts to Habitat have come from as far away as New England and New Mexico. The New England check came from a traveler who stopped at the McDonald's in Edenton, saw a poster, and mailed in a contribution along with a note that sending a gold nail wasn't necessary. Haley's niece, Cindy Russell of Albuquerque, visited the area in the spring and later sent a check.

All papers for certification of the local affiliate have been filed with Habitat for Humanity and tax exempt

501(c)3 status is assured. A Habitat committee has been working with officials in Edenton and Hertford to locate property and an accelerated tax sale is possible, according to Robison.

Locating a qualified family has been more difficult than raising the funds, Robison said. Applications continue to be accepted. Those desiring to become home owners, to move out of substandard housing and who have limited incomes should call 482-8521 for information on becoming a Habitat homeowner.

Through Habitat, qualified applicants are assisted in the construction of a home. Habitat homeowners must contribute a specified number of hours toward building the home. Low-interest loans with affordable monthly payments are made available for the purchase of the property. After that, homeowners are expected to help with construction projects for other Habitat families.

In its 21st year, Habitat hopes to build or renovate 4,000 in 1997 in the U.S. alone.

To contribute to Habitat, mail your donation to Chowan-Perquimans Habitat for Humanity, P.O. Box 434, Edenton, N.C. 27932-0434.



PHOTO BY SUSAN HARRIS

A flag with an Independence Day theme on Punch Alley is a good reminder that Perquimans County can enjoy fireworks at nightfall in Missing Mill Park on July 4th. Hamburgers and hot-dogs will go on sale at 6 p.m. The day will kick off with a pancake breakfast, 7-10 a.m., at the American Legion hut.

Brian Center celebrates 10th anniversary

Brian Center/Hertford celebrated its 10th anniversary on June 25.

In the beginning, the center was owned by The Brian Center Management Corporation. The first staff at the site included present Administrative Assistant Judi Wills and Business Office Manager Edith Cooper.

The first resident to move into the center was Millicent "Dolly" King. By February 1988, all 78 beds in the center were full.

Brian Center has seen many changes over the last 10 years. Almost 800 residents have become a part of the Brian Center family.

Responding to changes in patient care, Brian Center expanded its therapy services about four years ago. Eight fulltime therapy staff members provide physical, occupational, speech and respiratory therapies on both an inpatient and outpatient basis.

In August 1995, The Brian Center Corporation merged with Living Centers of America.

The residential health care industry continues to change. Once a facility where people came expecting to live the rest of their lives, many residents now have short-term stays. The goal of residential care centers is to offer the therapy

and care necessary to allow residents to return to their homes if possible. And the mission is always to provide the highest quality of life for residents, whether their stay is short- or long-term.

Brian Center has Five Foundational Values—enthusiasm, excellence, leadership, integrity and compassion. The center's motto continues to be, "We make a difference."

Current department heads include Joe France, administrator; Terri Smith, director of nursing; Aretha Kelly, social worker; Debbie Spence, dietary manager; Don Overton, director of environmental services; Suzanne

Williams, activity director; and Cooper and Wills.

Chowan's Williams goes to Central

By SUSAN R. HARRIS Editor

The guard will soon change at Perquimans Central School.

The school board approved the appointment of Edward J. Williams Monday in special session to serve as principal at Central School effective July 1. Williams will fill the position vacated by the retirement of Gary Stubbins.

Williams comes to Perquimans from D.F. Walker Elementary School in Chowan County. He served as assistant principal there from 1985 until resigning to come to Perquimans County Schools. He was signed to a two-year contract here.

The new principal received his bachelor's degree from Lee College in Cleveland, Tenn., and his masters from the University of Tennessee in Chattanooga. He holds a B.S. in social science and a masters of arts in education school administration.

Williams began his career as an elementary grades teacher in Georgia in 1972. He accepted a position at E.A. Swain Elementary in Chowan County in 1976. He holds principal, intermediate teaching and mentor licenses.

In a related move, the board approved the appointment of Chris Barber as director of instruction. She will serve as a half-time administrator and half-time Title I director. Barber was formerly assistant principal at Central School and the Title I director. There will no longer be an assistant principal at Central School.

Pam Price, who now serves as the schools' pre-school development coordinator, will assume the duties of director of exceptional children effective in August upon the resignation of Brenda Terranova Umphlett.

Elonza Joyner will become a career services/instructional specialist at Perquimans County High School. Joyner has been on staff at the school as a vocational teacher for many years.

Also among the personnel items approved during Monday's session was the reassignment of Robert Turner from vocational business/physical education teacher at the high school to health and physical education teacher at the same facility. Turner's new position was formerly held by W.G. "Pete" Hunter, who retired recently.

Schools public relations director Brenda Lassiter said the board will meet as necessary over the next few weeks to fill vacancies.

Outside

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
High: 80s Low: 70	High: 80s Low: 70	High: 90 Low: 70
PARTLY CLOUDY	MOSTLY SUNNY	CHANCE OF RAIN