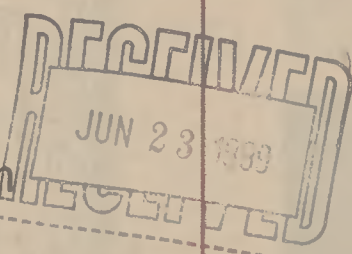


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Our annual
Progress Edition



THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

35 cents

June 24, 1999

Vol. 67, No. 24 Hertford, North Carolina 27944

Chamber charts new course

Business group to focus on small business, recovering from financial slump

SUSAN R. HARRIS
Editor

The Perquimans Chamber of Commerce board of directors is wading through fiscal and philosophical changes as it begins the task of looking for a new executive director.

A preliminary audit completed after the resignation of executive director Sandra Smith on June 8 indicates that the chamber is presently \$4,000 in debt.

In addition to deciding how best to proceed with its financial concerns, the chamber is also refocusing its responsibilities relating to business and community development, according to a press release issued by the board this week.

To deal with the shortfall of funds, the board voted on June 15 to more closely oversee financial transactions, the release said. This may also include updating chamber bylaws.

In addition, it was agreed that members of the board would attend county and town meetings to ask for financial support for the chamber. The chamber had already submitted requests to the local governments asking for support for marketing, in particular printing new brochures.

In a presentation to the county commissioners during a recent budget meeting, chamber membership director Carol LeRoy told commissioners the chamber works in partnership with the county by promoting the county and its businesses, and by providing visitor information and relocation packets. These services cost money, LeRoy said. The chamber asked the county for \$17,000.

LeRoy also appeared before the Hertford Town Council seeking \$4,661 from that group. The request was tabled until the July meeting, but there were positive comments made about the chamber by councilmen Horace Reid, Carlton Davenport and Sid Eley.

Councilman Billy Winslow questioned the chamber's \$10,000 marketing budget, but LeRoy responded that reprinting brochures is expensive.

The chamber board believes that its marketing efforts have been successful.

"The marketing information that the Chamber produces is a powerful marketing tool, creating and stimulating interest in our town," the chamber news release stated. "Recently, the Perquimans County Chamber of Commerce was recognized as the 'North Carolina Chamber of the Year' (by the state Technological Development Center). Efforts to promote Perquimans County are being felt statewide."

The board will redirect its focus to small business support and recruitment, an area in which vice president Mary White said the group has been successful.

Members with questions, concerns or suggestions may contact LeRoy at 426-5657.

Schools host Teaching Fellows

From Staff Reports

If you were in downtown Hertford a few weeks ago and saw a tour bus full of young adults touring our area, you probably wondered where they all came from. They came from all over North Carolina.

Perquimans County Schools served as a host school district for the North Carolina Teaching Fellows by facilitating their discovery of the economy, the schools, and the people of our state. The college students that visited our area will complete their college education and then enter the teaching field. Perquimans County Schools participated in the project to help students identify with Perquimans

County and Perquimans County Schools.

"It is imperative that we recruit early," says Brenda Dail, Personnel Director for Perquimans County Schools. "Currently, there is a teaching shortage in our state and we want to make sure we reach out and let college students majoring in education know about Perquimans County Schools."

Since its inception, the North Carolina Teaching Fellows Program is the top teacher recruiting program in the United States. The primary purpose of the program is to attract top high school seniors to become education majors and ultimately public school teachers.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

A group of North Carolina Teaching Fellows stopped in Perquimans County recently to become acquainted with the area and the opportunities available in education. Perquimans was one of the host sites for the Teaching Fellows' Discover 99 summer tour.

SCHOOL'S OUT FOR GOOD!



More than 200 family members, friends, and co-workers flowed into the Board of Education Office last week to give this year's honorees best wishes as they retire from Perquimans County Schools. Mary Schultheiss, Sid Eley, Bertha Moore (left) and Carolyn Darnell were



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

among the honorees at the 1999 retirement social for Perquimans County Schools. Walter Leigh, vice chairman of the Board of Education, presented each retiree with an Oak Charleston Regulator Clock.

Band camp

Perquimans County Schools will offer summer band camps for Perquimans County Middle School students and rising 9th graders.

The two-week sessions are scheduled for June 28-July 9. Each camp will be held daily and will be taught by David Ziemba, Director of Instrumental Music for the Perquimans County Schools.

Camps include:

A Band: one band for rising 7th grade students (8:30-9:30 a.m.); **B band:** one band for rising 8th and 9th grade students (10-11 a.m.); and **Jazz:** one band for rising 7th, 8th, and 9th grade students in Jazz studies (audition required) 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

The camp is free of charge and will study and perform music on grade level of students. To register, call Ziemba at PCMS at 426-7355 or 426-1568.

Class of 1999 collects over \$370K in scholarships

SUSAN R. HARRIS
Editor

The PCHS class of 1999 earned over \$372,000 in one-time and renewable scholarships.

Almost half, 47 percent, of the 98 graduates plan to attend a 4-year college or university, while 27 percent plan to attend a 2-year community college or trade school. Thirteen percent of the graduates enlisted or plan to enlist in the military. The remainder plan to enter the workforce.

In addition to earning the scholarships, PCHS Principal Elaine Pritchard said the class was the first to meet tougher graduation standards, including state testing and completion of a senior project (see related story).

Earning scholarships were: Brandy Ballard - ECSU Incentive - \$15,200; Regina Boone - UNC - Chapel Hill Incentive - \$12,000; Dr. J. Weaver Memorial - \$4,000; Perquimans County NAACP - \$1,000; Delta Sigma Theta - \$500; Parksville Ruritan - \$500; Markeita Boyce - ECSU Incentive - \$15,200; Hertford BPW - \$200; Amanda Byrum - Barton College Athletic - \$12,000; Barton Leadership - \$6,000; Lettie Tate Whitehead Memorial - \$3,200; Parksville Ruritan - \$1,000; Whiteville Grove Baptist - \$100; Hertford

Senior projects get high marks

PCHS seniors met many challenges during their schools days, probably none more daunting than the famed senior project.

While many members of the class of 1999 looked at the senior project as an extra burden to bear during an already tough year, the learning experience and outcomes were extremely positive, according to PCHS principal Elaine Pritchard.

"Overall, I was real, real pleased," Pritchard said. "They just seemed to be pleased with their efforts. They felt good about themselves."

Pritchard said there was an obvious sense of pride and accomplishment on the

faces of the students as they finished their presentations at the central office.

The senior project, Pritchard said, is a major component of the senior English curriculum. It combines a wide array of learning experiences.

For the senior project, students chose to study in-depth a career in which they are interested. The study included traditional research, internet research and learning from a mentor in the field.

Students were required to write a formal proposal on what they planned to do and what they thought they would gain from their plan, do the research, write a

research paper, complete a related hands-on project and make a presentation to a panel of teachers and those in the community familiar with the career they chose for their project.

In addition to honing research, writing, critical thinking and communication skills, Pritchard said a very positive outcome of the projects was the confidence and self-esteem many students gained through its successful completion.

"Everybody could do it on their level," she said. "It benefited the students across the board."

The senior project spanned the entire year and was a graduation requirement.

UMW - \$100; Eric Byrum - ECSU Incentive - \$15,200; Hertford UMW - \$100; Knowles Memorial - \$1,253; Candace Downing - Philadelphia College Faculty Incentive - \$20,000; Philadelphia College Incentive - \$2,000; New Bethel Missionary Baptist - \$500; Neil Eure, Ruritan - \$500; LeAnn Ferrell - ECSU Incentive - \$15,200; Jay Finch - Saunders Grove Church - \$1,500; Andrew Harris - UNC Merit Scholar -

\$500; PCHS Salutatorian - \$200; Lauren Hill - Educational Office Personnel - \$250; Brandy Hollowell - NC Teaching Fellows - \$26,000; SEANC State \$1,000; SEANC District 69 - \$200; Hertford UMW - \$100; Grace Coston Memorial - \$150; Ashley Hurdle - George and Frances London - \$20,000; Albemarle District Firemans Assoc. - \$250; Albemarle District Ruritans - \$500; Hertford UMM - \$850; Hertford

UMW - \$100; John Coston Memorial - \$150; Parksville Ruritan - \$500; PCHS Salutatorian - \$200; Natalie Long - Scott Williams Memorial - \$200; T.J. Long - ECSU Incentive - \$15,200; Jermaine Malory - Ruritan - \$500; Educational Office Personnel - \$250; Angela Manley - NCCU Incentive - \$12,000; AKA Debutant - \$2,000; Hertford Rotary - \$500; New Bethel Missionary Baptist -

\$500; Joey Manning - Bogue - \$2,000; Hertford Rotary - \$250; Dail Nixon - NC Teaching Fellows - \$26,000; PCHS Vaedictorian - \$300; Stacey Overton - Forestburg Ruritan - \$500; Albemarle District Ruritans - \$500; Ruritan National - \$500; April Owens - NC Teaching Fellows - \$26,000; Athletic Booster Claude Brinn Memorial - \$300; Parksville Ruritans - \$500; Bear Swamp-Beech Springs Ruritans - \$500; Michael Roberts - Ruritans - \$500; Terilyn Ross - ECSU Incentive - \$15,200; New Millennium - \$4,800; ECSU Minority Presence - \$4,000; ECSU Music - \$800; Michael Rucker - ECSU Incentive - \$15,200; Parksville Ruritan - \$500; Demetria Sheard - ECSU Incentive - \$15,200; Coast to Coast/ServiStar Vocational - \$100; Jason Small - ECSU Incentive - \$15,200; Kim Stallings - Friends of Chowan Hospital - \$1,600; L. Paul Smith - \$1,000; Hertford Lions Club Catfish Hunter - \$500; Hertford Rotary - \$500; Parksville Ruritan - \$500; Adam Swindell - Bobby Carter Memorial - \$500; Hertford UMW - \$100; Joe Tunnell Memorial - \$667; Virginia Talmadge - ECSU Incentive - \$15,200; Lee Thach - NC Association of Rescue/Emergency Medical Services - \$12,000; UNC-W Jazz - \$250; Bethel Ruritans - \$500; Hertford UMW - \$100; Thelma Elliott - \$437.