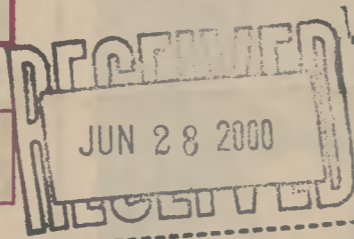


Progress Edition:
Meet some people who've
touched many lives
in Perquimans
Pages 9-14

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35 cents

County residents get new addresses

Addressing one of final pieces of Enhanced-911 implementation

SUSAN R. HARRIS
Editor

Rural routes will soon be as obsolete as party lines in Perquimans County. Letters blanketed the county earlier this month informing

county residents of their new addresses. The new addresses have street names and numbers that replace all rural routes. Most residents who already had street names and numbers will not change addresses, however there are some exceptions.

The new addresses are one of the last components of the county mapping project and will lead to full implementation of the enhanced-911 emergency system by Jan. 1, 2001.

ASI Landmark, the compa-

ny contracted by the county to complete the mapping/addressing project, assigned an address every 50 feet down each road in Perquimans County. County Manager Paul Gregory said with the county's subdivision regulations calling for 100-foot lots, the addresses allow for plenty of growth.

"No matter how much we grow, it's built into the plan," he said.

With addresses assigned, the county sent out letters ear-

lier this month asking residents to respond on enclosed address cards within 5 days. After 30 days, the county will notify the post office and telephone company of new addresses. Residents can begin using their new addresses at that time, which will be approximately Aug. 1.

Postmaster Billie Simpkins said the post office will take the county's database and verify the numbers for changes. Then the post office will notify utility companies and periodi-

icals (magazines and newspapers) of changes free of charge. Those whose addresses change will be responsible for notifying all others of their address change. Simpkins said the post office has kits to make changing addresses easier. She added that mail will be forwarded using the old addresses for 12 months.

Like Gregory, Simpkins said while it may be time-consuming to get an address changed, this change will mean never having to change addresses

again unless someone moves. With the growth in certain areas of the county, the post office has found it necessary to change several rural routes over the past few years. That won't happen with the new addressing system, Simpkins said.

Emergency and law enforcement officials say the new system will help them immensely.

Perquimans County Communications Director Homeria Jennette said the new system will save what could be Please see E-911, page 6

Hertford's Main Street designation official

JEREMY DESPOSITO
The Daily Advance

About 75 people watched as Mayor Sid Eley accepted a certificate designating the town an official North Carolina Main Street Community Monday.

Several speakers were among the crowd outside the Historic Perquimans County Courthouse. Afterward, many in the group enjoyed lunch while on a river cruise around the town while others lunched under tents near the waterfront.

The keynote speaker was N.C. Department of Commerce Secretary Rick Carlisle. The "S" bridge, he said, is a unique gateway into town.

"It's a gateway to Hertford," he said. "It (offers) a spectacular image coming into town. Not many towns in the country have that."

See Main Street, page 6



Daily Advance photo

State Commerce Secretary Rick Carlisle presents Hertford Mayor Sid Eley with a certificate announcing the town's designation as a North Carolina Main Street community Monday.

Superintendent seeks OK to move administrators

Pritchard to leave PCHS for central office

SUSAN R. HARRIS
Editor

Perquimans County Schools has eight vacancies — including one for a principal at Perquimans County High School.

The school board was expected to approve a recommendation by Superintendent Gregory Todd to transfer PCHS principal Elaine Pritchard to the central office during its June meeting Tuesday night. If approved, Pritchard will serve as Director of Curriculum/Instruction.

Pritchard began her tenure with Perquimans County Schools as an English teacher during the 1970-71 school year. She soon transferred to PCHS to become the vocational guidance counselor. She served one year as an assistant principal and has served the last 6 years as principal.

Todd said the schools will advertise for a replacement for Pritchard. Until a new principal is hired, Todd said Pritchard will continue to perform some of the duties of principal.

The curriculum/instruction duties were formerly handled by Chris Barber and Jake Boyce. Boyce retired from his post as assistant superintendent effective Feb. 1. Todd said Boyce has stayed on to complete some projects on which

he was working at the time of his retirement. His last day is expected to be June 30.

Director of Instruction Chris Barber will transfer to Oasis, the school system's alternative school located at Albemarle Learning Center in Chowan County. Barber will be an instructor/facilitator at that site. She was assigned to the center upon the retirement of career teacher Carolyn Modlin. Like Pritchard, Barber began her education career with Perquimans County Schools as an English teacher before moving into several administrative positions.

The final administrative action to be recommended to the board will be a leave of absence for Susan Winslow. Todd said Monday he was unsure of the length of Winslow's leave, which was requested to allow her to complete her doctorate. Winslow has served in several administrative capacities, including principal, during her tenure with the school system.

Todd said he anticipates no other administrative changes, including principal assignments, for the coming year.

Applications are being accepted for seven other positions. The six teaching positions include business at the high school; language arts, science, math/science and health & PE at the middle school; and art at Hertford Grammar School. There is also a Student Information Management Systems clerical opening at the high school. Todd said all positions are being advertised.

Agents close bingo

SUSAN R. HARRIS
Editor

Law enforcement officials closed a beach bingo operation in Hertford Saturday night.

The bingo parlor was operated by Phyl Walker Kennedy and Melanie Conner Pollard, both of Martin County, at Harris Shopping Center. Hertford Police Chief Dale Vanscoy said Kennedy was charged with four counts of offering prizes in beach bingo of over \$50, a violation of state law. Pollard was charged with two counts of the same offense. The business was closed and

its assets, including TVs, scoreboards and bingo cards, seized, Vanscoy said.

Vanscoy said the Hertford Police Department had been investigating the beach bingo business for about 30 days after receiving numerous complaints about the pot being too high and the way payoffs were handled. ALE had also received complaints and was working the case. Vanscoy said ALE officials actually made the arrests and closed the bingo business.

The state strictly regulates beach bingo, Vanscoy said, with stringent rules that must be followed.

Independence celebration set

When you get off work Monday, head down to Missing Mill Park for an evening of family fun organized by the Chamber of Commerce and American Legion Post 126.

Perquimans County will get a head start on Independence Day celebrations with a Monday 4th of July gala. Activities get underway at 5 p.m. with a first-come, first-served barbecue dinner, old-fashioned

games, festival foods and ice cream.

Fireworks will light up the night sky over the river at 9 p.m. Donations to the fireworks fund may be sent to American Legion Post 126, c/o Julian Broughton, P.O. Box 551, Hertford, NC 27944.

For information on reserving a game or food booth, call the Chamber at 426-5657.

Incubator will offer support for small businesses start-ups

JEREMY DESPOSITO
The Daily Advance

Small businesses that have a hard time staying afloat long enough to celebrate their first anniversary will soon have some help in Perquimans County.

Officials and local business leaders broke ground on the Manufacturing Technology Incubator in the Perquimans Commerce Center recently, and the building is expected to be ready in about 90 days.

"This completes my dream," said Winfall Mayor and Perquimans 2020 Vision member Fred Yates. "The incubator

was a dream that has taken five or six years to put together."

The incubator building is designed to accommodate seven small businesses that are too large to operate out of a garage but not large enough to compete in a free-for-all business environment, Yates said.

Small businesses that locate in the incubator will be charged a cheaper rent than they might pay in the private sector. They can remain in the incubator for three years or until they're strong enough to move out on their own, whichever comes first.

"We've had five or six people on the waiting list (for space in the incubator)," Yates said.

The incubator will also allow Perquimans County to put together a program to offer residents distance learning, Yates said.

About 25 people attended the ground-breaking ceremony held at the building site on Harvey Point Road. Among them was Jack Taylor, vice president for the Perquimans Chamber of Commerce.

Taylor, who's had some experience with incubators, lauded their success at helping small businesses grow.

"They've been very successful and have improved the employment as well as the lifestyle of the community as a whole," Taylor said. Please see Incubator, page 6



After several years on the drawing board, the Manufacturing Technology Incubator finally broke ground.

WEEKEND WEATHER

THURSDAY
High: 80s
Low: 70s
PARTLY CLOUDY

FRIDAY
High: 80s
Low: 70s
PARTLY CLOUDY

SATURDAY
High: 80s
Low: 60s
PARTLY CLOUDY