

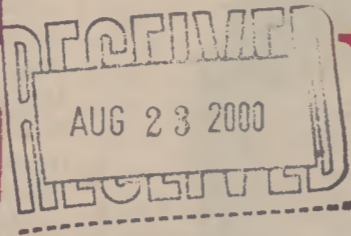
Lady Pirates open 3-0  
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PCHS football starts Friday  
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Youth win 4-H awards  
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# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

35 cents

## Planning Board reviews development plan

SUSAN R. HARRIS  
 Editor

A development containing both business and residential features was reviewed by the Hertford Planning and Board of Adjustments Monday night.

Michael Zarpass proposes to develop 110 acres of land on the northeast corner of Highway 17 Bypass and Harvey Point Road. The site plan the developer presented the board includes several out-

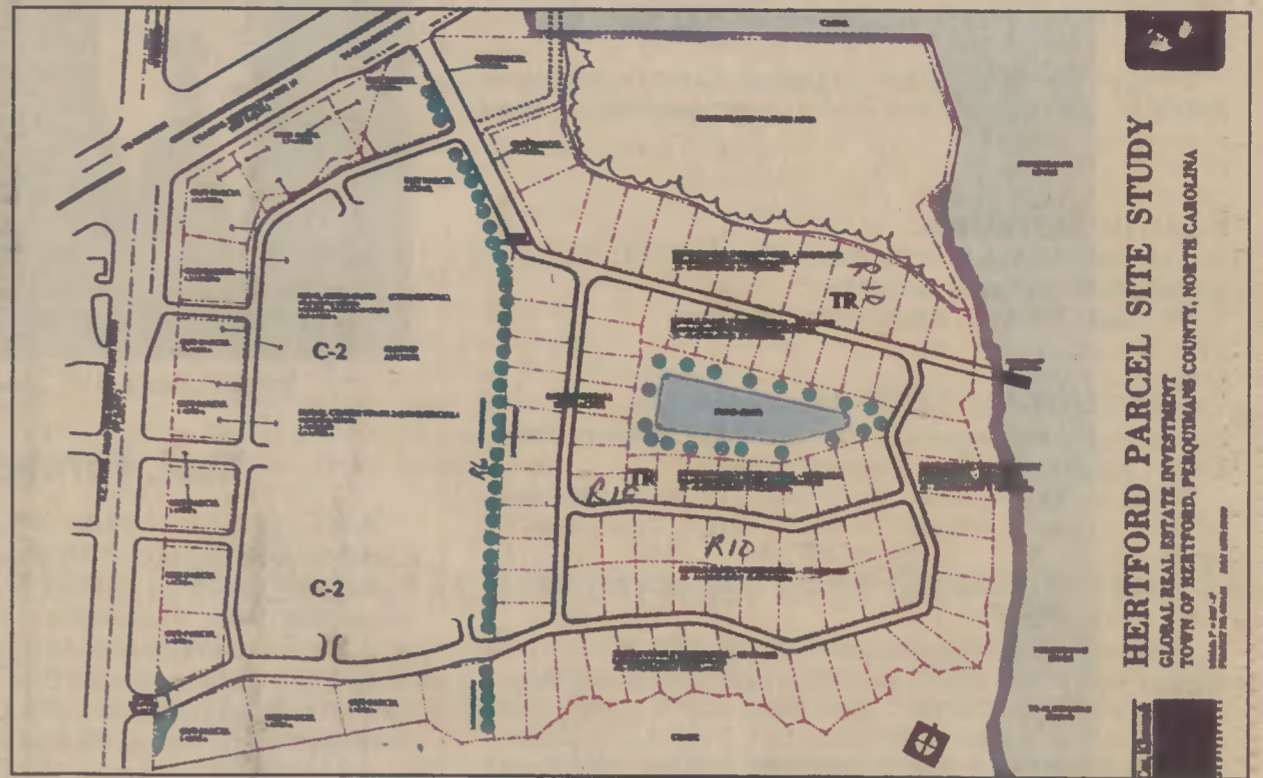
parcels, a shopping center in which Zarpass plans to house an unnamed grocery store, townhouses, a pond, and river access.

Zarpass said he plans to put a bank on one of the out-parcels in the development. East Carolina Bank has announced plans to open a branch on that corner. East Carolina Bank representative Becky Winslow, who will be the local manager of the Hertford branch, attended the July 17 meeting of the Planning and Board of Adjustments when

Zarpass first submitted his plan to the board.

Concerns over wetlands, building heights, zoning, services roads and general traffic flow in the area were voiced during the first meeting. Zarpass was asked to return with a more detailed sketch of the proposed development.

In order to get approval for the development, Zarpass must submit full, detailed plans for the area, including zoning requests and buffer zones. He did not indicate when he will return for approval.



The proposed development on U.S. 17 Bypass and Harvey Point Road

## Carolina Beach Club returns

The southern sounds of Carolina Beach Club will fill Missing Mill Park to end the Indian Summer Festival.

The street dance, which traditionally signals the end of the celebration of life in historic Perquimans County, has been moved back to the waterfront park this year.

The county festival day, which this year is Saturday, Sept. 9, has expanded to include not only Indian Summer Festival in downtown Hertford, but the Hearth & Harvest Festival at the historic Newbold-White House as well.

Arts, crafts, food, entertainment, learning about life in early Perquimans, and the street dance highlight festival day.

A shuttle will be available to take festival-goers between venues.

## CHECK MATE



Students at Hertford Grammar School acquaint themselves with the game of chess. Through a grant funded by The North Carolina Power Partnership, teachers at the school are using chess to help students master math skills outlined in the North Carolina Standard Course of Study. Specific targeted skills include problem solving using multi-step problems and a variety of strategies; probability; data gathering/analysis; and specific thinking skills including knowledge, organizing, applying, analyzing, generating, integrating and evaluating. Community volunteers interested in the game should contact Hertford Grammar School at 426-7166.

## Voter education group combats voter apathy

The North Carolina Center for Voter Education has launched the first two components of its fall initiative, *Go Vote*, a campaign intended to combat voter apathy and to increase public awareness of the November election.

Chris Heagarty, the Center's Executive Director, said North Carolina ranks in the bottom 10 states for voter turnout. He noted that there has been a steady decline in primary election turnout, with only 17 percent of registered voters having voted in this May's primary.

*Go Vote* serves two purposes. First, it reminds everyone of the importance of voting, and it also provides citizens with a website where many voted-related questions are answered.

Because the Center for Voter Education is non-partisan, no information on candi-

dates is provided. However, the on-line guide provides comprehensive voting information, such as how and when to register to vote, and how to vote using an absentee ballot.

The website also features background on the state offices that are up for election this fall, as well as a job description for each office. Data is also provided on salaries and recent campaign costs.

"North Carolina has one of the longest ballots in the country," Heagarty continued. "The on-line voter guide will hopefully assist people in understanding what all of these offices actually do."

The web address is [www.ncvoter.com](http://www.ncvoter.com).

The deadline to register to vote in the Nov. 7 general election is Oct. 13. For information on where to go to register to vote in Perquimans, call the Board of Elections, 426-5598.

## Be careful on highways while taking Labor Day vacations

Celebrating the end of summer is a rite of passage for Americans. As you take to the road this Labor Day weekend, celebrating the end of a very wet or very dry summer, bear in mind the findings of a recent survey by progressive.com:

- Fifty-seven percent of respondents said they were more likely to drive when overtired or fatigued while driving home from a weekend getaway.

- Fifty-nine percent were more likely to drive when they shouldn't have because they wanted to get to a summer getaway in one night.

- Twenty-six percent of respondents reported driving when they shouldn't due to alcohol consumption at summer barbecues.

- Twenty-three percent of respondents said they would be more likely to drive after drinking at a summer barbecue if they didn't have very far to drive to get home.

- People are stressed out working too many hours each week and traveling for business. So when it comes time for vacation, people's attitudes are different.

### Interesting survey findings:

When asked what was most likely to take their attention off the road while driving in the summer, the top five answers were:

1. fatigue: 34 percent
2. talking on the cell phone: 17 percent
3. singing along with the radio: 16 percent
4. getting angry at other drivers while in heavy traffic: 12 percent
5. having children in the car: 10 percent

Surprisingly, consumers ages 55 to 64 were twice as likely to speed on a Sunday evening after a weekend getaway during the summer than consumers ages 18 to 24.

Respondents ages 55 to 64 were six times more likely to drive after drinking while attending a summer sporting event than respondents ages 18 to 24.

Men were twice as likely as women to drive in the summertime with their child out of their car seat if they were driving only a short distance.

Divorced respondents were twice as likely as married respondents to take their child out of their car seat so that they can sleep better/longer on a long car trip during the summer.

Forty-nine percent said the most aggravating time to drive during the summer was on Friday evenings on their way to a weekend getaway, followed by: returning from a trip on Sunday evening (27 percent) and returning from a weekend getaway on Monday morning (19 percent).

"They want to enjoy the outdoors, relax and de-stress," said Alan Bauer, Internet

Business Leader, Progressive. "But what we found was that while people go to great

lengths to enjoy the summer, they may be pushing the limits of safety and letting their busy lives affect their driving habits. It's extremely important that consumers are aware of the risks that they and their friends and neighbors create when traveling this holiday weekend."

Further, the progressive.com study of more than 400 consumers found that more than one-fifth of consumers reported having taken their kids out of their car seats while driving on a summer trip. And it looks like women are more likely to take chances — women were four times more likely than men to break a traffic law (i.e. speed, run a red light, drive on the shoulder) while stuck in summer traffic with kids in the car. Also, families with children were six times more likely to drive home from a long day trip while fatigued during the summer than those people without children.

Progressive offers the following tips on safe summer highway travel. Follow them this Labor Day weekend:

1. Wear a seat belt/restrain children. It is estimated by the

NHTSA that safety belts save 9,500 lives a year. If every passenger over the age of four was strapped in, an additional 9,000 lives could be saved annually. An estimated 312 children under age five are saved annually in the U.S. by being strapped into a car seat

2. Allow extra time to reach a destination. Speeding causes 30 percent of all fatal crashes and over 13,000 lives are lost each year due to speed-related accidents.

3. Keep children under age 12 buckled up in the back seat to avoid injury from airbag impact.

4. If you're on a long drive, stop for a walk or meal at dusk - the most dangerous driving period of the day - and avoid city travel during rush hours.

5. Take frequent breaks. Stop, get out of the car and stretch tired muscles. Exercise increases the oxygen flow to the brain and boosts wakefulness. Avoid sugary snacks and caffeine that give drivers a surge of quick energy but leave them feeling more tired later.

6. Stop to read maps or discipline children. The rule of

thumb is both eyes on the road and both hands on the wheel at all times.

Progressive (NYSE: PGR), headquartered in Mayfield Village, Ohio, is one of the nation's largest auto insurance companies and the leading provider of insurance services and products via the Internet.

## WEEKEND WEATHER

THURSDAY  
 High: 87  
 Low: 68  
 ISOLATED T'STORMS

FRIDAY  
 High: 86  
 Low: 66  
 PARTLY CLOUDY

SATURDAY  
 High: 85  
 Low: 67  
 PARTLY CLOUDY