

Senior enjoy Evening in Paris

Page 2

PCHS to get tasty lessons

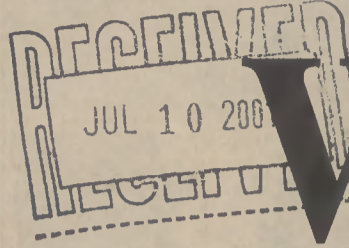
Page 5

Library has busy schedule

Page 3

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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Hertford may redo ice plant

SUSAN R. HARRIS

For several years, Hertford officials have talked about the need to renovate the old ice plant.

Thanks to a grant/loan proposal, the needed work will likely be done.

Hertford received a grant/loan proposal in the amount of \$872,624 from Rural Development. Of that, \$146,600 is grant money, and \$726,024 would be borrowed at 4.875 percent for 30 years with an annual payment of \$46,176.

Mayor Sid Eley said town officials found it is more cost-effective to renovate the old building than to tear down the old ice plant and build a new building. The space will be renovated for offices and storage for the utilities and maintenance departments. Eley said

with inside storage available for the town's vehicles and equipment, the equipment should last longer.

Notice was also given to council that signs announcing no bicycles and other wheeled recreation items such as rollerblades and skateboards are being delivered and will be put up downtown soon.

The town will send out notices with the next utility bills asking residents to trim trees, bushes and plants growing over sidewalks. For several months, council has discussed growth near the streets and sidewalks that makes it difficult to see at intersections and also to walk down some of the town's sidewalks.

Recently, the town severely cut back hedges on Church Street that encroached on the sidewalk. They hope residents take quick action.

PLAYIN' AROUND



Children enjoyed Sunday afternoon in the park on July 1 at the Perquimans 4th of July celebration. Tag, sliding, swinging, and just talking with friends were popular activities at Missing Mill Park.

School fights mold

SUSAN R. HARRIS

School officials are working hard to eliminate the mold problem at Central School.

Interim superintendent James "Pat" Harrell told school board members late last month that Maintenance and Transportation Director Richard O'Neal went to a workshop on how to deal with mold and mildew.

M.B. Kahn, the construction management firm that oversaw construction of the building, has also been called for recommendations, and the state Department of Environmental Science has looked at the building. Boney Architects, school designers, have also been asked for assistance with concrete borings.

The problem, Harrell said, is moisture in the building.

Last year, some students complained of physical symptoms resulting from the mold in the building.

The facility is two years old.

Junk car abatement program is underway locally

SUSAN R. HARRIS

It's not exactly a "one man's trash is another man's treasure" story. But it is a story about moving out trash and treasuring the local environment.

The Perquimans Chowan Gates Solid Waste Management Commission is operating a state demonstration project to rid the tri-county area of junk vehicles. The goal is to haul and recycle 600 vehicles — 200 from each county.

Albemarle Regional Solid Waste Management Authority Recycling Coordinator Anne Blindt said that hundreds of junk and abandoned motor vehicles have accumulated in the Albemarle region. The vehicles are unsightly and unhealthy, and they also hamper economic development efforts as communities try to lure businesses, industries, heritage tourists and retirees to the area. Even the historic dis-



Cars are being collected for recycling at the tri-county landfill in Belvidere. Through a state junk car abatement pilot project, officials in Perquimans, Chowan and Gates counties hope to rid the area of 600 junk vehicles.

tricts are marred by junk cars.

Just over a year ago, a group of government leaders and concerned residents of Chowan County spoke to members of the Senate Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources Committee about the junk car and other litter problems in the area. They asked committee members to fund a pilot

junk car abatement project in the region.

Last summer, the group met with people from Perquimans and Gates counties and formed a tri-county Junk Car Task Force. The task force wrote a grant proposal for a pilot junk car abatement project and submitted it to Senator Marc Basnight.

The proposal outlined methods of removing vehicles from private property

both by enforcing existing codes and by gaining the voluntary cooperation of vehicle owners through offering free towing. In addition, Gates County agreed to work to pass a junk and abandoned vehicle ordinance to help in the clean-up effort. Perquimans and Chowan counties already have junk car ordinances.

Continued on page 8

Getting rid of junk cars in Perquimans

In Perquimans County, the Inspections Department is responsible for the junk vehicle abatement program.

Inspections clerk Debbie Proctor said the office gets two to three calls each day about removing junk vehicles. In fact, Proctor said, people from other counties have called and asked why their county doesn't have the program.

Building Inspector Virgil Parrish said Chief Inspector and Code Enforcement Officer Zeke Jackson is handling most of the calls in Perquimans. Parrish said when calls come in, Jackson goes out to meet with the vehicle owner

Call 426-8283 for assistance in Perquimans.

or property owner on whose land the vehicle sits. Proof of the vehicle's ownership must be established. The best way to do this is with a title; however, Parrish said, an affidavit of ownership or other documents may be completed if no title is available. Once ownership is established and documented, a sticker is put on the vehicle and the tow company notified to pick up the vehicle.

Continued on page 8



TOURNAMENT TIME

Perquimans Cal Ripken All-Star Matthew Perry prepares to throw a strike in the Babe Ruth 12-and-Under District Tournament hosted by Perquimans Youth League last Tuesday—Sunday. Perquimans was eliminated from the tournament in two sixth-inning, one-run heart-breakers. The Outer Banks defeated Camden Sunday for the championship.

Smart Start launches fund-raising campaign

State cuts will curtail programs

SUSAN R. HARRIS

Most businesses in Perquimans County likely got a plea for money from the Chowan/Gates/Perquimans Partnership for Children recently.

The Partnership, the Smart Start implementing agency for the three counties, has initiated a fund-raising campaign to help keep its programs moving forward in light of state budget cuts. The first phase of the campaign was mailing requests for support to all businesses on the chamber lists in Perquimans and Chowan counties. Addresses for other businesses, as well as those in Gates County, are now being sought to continue

the campaign.

Partnership spokesperson Gail King said the Partnership's fund raising committee will meet on July 18, and she anticipates that the group will coordinate other activities to raise needed funds. Volunteers have already offered their help.

"Our board strongly believes it is necessary to take steps to ensure the many fine programs we have begun that benefit children and families in our tri-county service area are continued and enhanced," said Winfall Mayor Fred Yates, newly-elected Partnership board chairman.

Yates said the Partnership currently offers 14 separate activities beneficial to families of children from birth to age 5. The organization has also served as a pilot for programs that extend

beyond pre-school age. In fact, Yates said, the Partnership would like to eventually expand services to include children up to age 18.

The Smart Start mandate is to provide services that prepare all children to begin school with the tools and skills needed to learn.

The Partnership is a not-for-profit private organization. State funds have been made available for start-up costs and programming; however, Smart Start programs are designed to function as public-private partnerships and rely on funding from the private sector.

In fact, fund raising was a part of the Partnership's plan from its inception. Yates said the state's budget woes caused that component to be put into place more quickly than originally planned.

Those interested in involvement with the

Partnership should contact King or Partnership Executive Director Wendy Jewett at 221-3030.

WEEKEND WEATHER

THURSDAY
High: 85
Low: 68
SUNNY

FRIDAY
High: 81
Low: 67
SUNNY

SATURDAY
High: 82
Low: 67
SUNNY