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THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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Local Briefs

Ext. service issues alert

Perquimans County farmers should begin scouting corn and small grain fields IMMEDIATELY! Devastating infestations of Billbug, cutworm and armyworm were found in corn fields on Monday. Some small grain fields have been reported to have twice the threshold level of armyworm. Please call the Perquimans Agricultural Extension Office at 426-5428 for more information.

Education bosses honored

Governor James G. Martin and the National Association of Educational Office Personnel have proclaimed the week of May 21-27 as Educational Bosses' Week.

The observance is designed to stress the important role of school administrators in quality education. Although less visible than teachers, administrators also play a vital role in the lives of the state's youth through their dedication to scholastics, community, children and teachers. They form the foundation for communities' schools in North Carolina.

Members of the North Carolina Association of Educational Office Personnel are planning bosses' banquets, luncheons and receptions to honor their principals, presidents, superintendents and supervisors throughout the state.

All NCAEOP members join together in giving our school administrators a big "thank you" for a job well done.

Lions Club celebrates anniversary

The Hertford Lions Club will tonight celebrate its 50th anniversary. A banquet will be held at the Perquimans County High School cafeteria at 7:00 p.m.

On hand to help commemorate the occasion will be District Governor 31-J Raymond J. Hall, Past District Governor Herbert Hollowell and Past International President Jack Stickley, as well as local Lions.

Bus drivers are thanked

School Bus Driver Recognition Week has been proclaimed by Governor James Martin as May 14-20. In making the proclamation, Martin noted the importance of having safe and responsible school bus drivers. About 687,100 children ride more than 13,100 school buses each year in North Carolina. More than 650,000 miles in 100 counties are traveled daily in a combined total of about 21,000 trips statewide. Approximately 1,315 children ride school buses in Perquimans County.

Hats off to the bus drivers for a job well done.

Docents Day set at site

At 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 20, the Perquimans Heritage Center at the Newbold-White House site will be the setting for a presentation by Mrs. Nelson Watkins about herbs which were important to seventeenth century life.

Mrs. Watkins will discuss medicinal, culinary and aromatic plants and will bring herbs to show and to give away. The public is welcome.

Following the herb program, there will be a luncheon at 12:30. Newbold-White docents and their families will be admitted free of charge, but others are invited to the luncheon at a cost of \$5 per person. Anyone planning to attend should call the Newbold-White House at 426-7567 by Friday, May 19 to make a reservation.

Also on that day, an auction will be held at the site to benefit the kitchen of the new Perquimans Heritage Center. Those attending the herb lecture and luncheon are encouraged to bring articles such as baked goods, jewelry, kitchen utensils, etc. to auction off. Any help in this regard would be greatly appreciated.

Board of Education updates policies

The Perquimans County Board of Education approved the use of a revised coaching contract Monday night.

Recently Athletic Director Spencer White told the board that there had been past problems with coaches neglecting to account for uniforms and equipment at the end of their sport's season. This had led to missing uniforms and poor equipment inventory.

In an effort to control the problem, the Board added to the coaching contract that 25 percent of the coaching supplement will be held until equipment, a copy of inventory and uniforms are turned in to the Athletic Director and principal. The contract also requests that coaches submit a list of needs for the next year.

Student transfer policy

The Board has been trying to implement a student transfer policy that sets specific guidelines, so that all requests will be handled equitably. Student transfers effect those students who live in the Perquimans school district and wish to

attend school in another district, students who live in another district and want to attend Perquimans Schools and students within the Perquimans system who wish to attend a school other than the one to which they are assigned.

It was decided to implement a policy whereby parents of students who were approved for transfers during the present school year must submit a written request to the board of education at least three days prior to their first meeting in June if they need to continue to attend school at their present location. The Board reserved the right to ask parents to attend a board meeting if additional information is needed to make a decision on the request.

Letters are being drafted for board approval to go out to parents who requested transfers this year. The first board meeting in June is on June 5, so requests must be submitted by June 2.

Senior exam exemptions
Seniors Nancy Boynton and Tracy Brown asked the Board to

favorably endorse the proposed changes to the senior exam exemption policy submitted by PCHS Principal William Byrum.

The old policy stated that students who had more than 10 absences would not be exempt from exams even though they might have maintained the 90 average required for exam exemption.

Byrum and the students agreed that the policy should state "10 unexcused absences," rather than 10 absences. The students told the board that by not specifying unexcused absences, those students who were out of school for illness, field trips or other justifiable causes would be penalized, even though they had made the effort to keep their average at or above 90.

The board agreed to the new policy which also states that any student who has been placed in in-school suspension or has been suspended from school will not be exempt from exams, regardless of grade point averages.

Public school forum
Dr. Martin told the board that

Perquimans is one of 13 schools systems participating in the public school forum. Five administrative staff members will participate in four three-day leadership training and problem-solving sessions throughout next school year.

PCHS grant

PCHS had been awarded an innovative program in math and sciences grant of \$12,500. The funds will be used to beautify the grounds around the science wing. The area will become an "outdoor classroom" as students complete the work, setting up a mock business, producing videos and having brochures printed.

Other action

In other action, the Board: the resignation of Kay Boyce. the bid of O'Neal Contracting Co. for \$15,158 to replace the windows at the PCHS gym if the company can produce satisfactory comparables.

to go into executive session to discuss personnel matters.

VFW installs new officers

The Garland H. Onley VFW Post 8148 held their monthly meeting Wednesday, May 10th at 7:00 p.m. at Jimmy's Bar-B-Que.

Commander Ron Reighard conducted the meeting with a good attendance.

The incoming officers were installed as follows:

Ernest W. Sutton, Commander; William B. Swain, Sr. Vice Commander; J. G. Manning, Jr. Vice Commander; Bryan Glover, Quartermaster; Joe Perry, Adjutant.

The installing officer was Post CMD D. J. White. Post 8148 is looking forward to a good year.

The Post unanimously recognized Chaplain and Past CMD Edward Barber for his outstanding work in the Voice of Democracy and other programs. He was given the Commendation Award certificate.

Adjutant Joe Perry won the attendance award, but was not present to receive it.

Plans were made for our annual Buddy Poppy sale. Buddy Poppy Committee Chairman is incoming Jr. Vice CMD J.G. Manning - he will be assisted by Emmett Landing and other VFW volunteers. Buddy Poppys will go on sale in the Hertford area on May 27th.

During the Buddy Poppy sales drive, members will also participate in the Light-a-bike project. Reflective tapes will be placed on bicycles in order to make them more visible, and therefore safer. The program, called "Be safe - Be seen," is mainly geared toward elementary school children, but anyone may get a reflective tape.

The Hertford VFW Post will place approximately 150 flags on the veterans graves this Memorial Day.

Eligible veterans are invited to join the local VFW Post, become active members and support the Veterans of Foreign Wars.



The Garland H. Onley Post 8148 installed officers at their meeting at Jimmy's Barbecue last Thursday night.

GOP blasts land transfer tax bill

The Perquimans County Republican Executive Committee has unanimously adopted a resolution waging the defeat of a controversial land transfer tax bill introduced by State Representatives Vernon James (D-Pasquotank) and Pete Thompson (D-Chowan). The bill applies to Perquimans, Washington, and Pasquotank counties only.

Both the Pasquotank and the Washington County Republican Executive Committees have also adopted similar unanimous resolutions opposing the bill, HB786.

The bill would authorize expanding the controversial tax to the three counties. The Republicans noted that the land transfer tax is an unusual tax that exists nowhere in North Carolina except in the legislative district of Vernon James

and Pete Thompson.

The bill would authorize imposition of a tax of one percent of the total sale price of land, buildings, timbers and many mobile homes. The Republicans criticized this provision as unfair in that the tax is a percentage of total sale price instead of a percentage of equity or net proceeds, and the tax will thus severely impact anyone selling property with a large mortgage such as highly leveraged farmers who have to sell their land.

For example, a seller selling a home with an 80 percent mortgage would pay five percent of their net proceeds in land transfer tax, while a seller with a 90 percent mortgage would pay 10 percent of net proceeds and a seller with a 95 percent mortgage would pay 20 percent of net proceeds.

The Republicans described the land transfer tax as a tax targeted against the middle class.

They further object to its impact on young families, observing that the land transfer tax will place a further burden on hardworking young families struggling to buy their first home because sellers will inevitably pass the cost along to buyers, and tax will add about \$500 to the cost of an average home.

The bill allows proceeds of the tax to be used for any capital expenditures and does not limit it to particular uses.

The resolution calls upon all Republicans and Conservative Democratic Legislators to join together to defeat HB786.



These little Stever School of Dance tappers practice for their upcoming recital. The event titled "Lights, Cameras, Action" will be held Friday at 8:00 p.m. in the PCHS auditorium. Tickets are available at the door.

Farm bill provision may badly affect local farmers

By: John Myers
District Conservationist

Farming new ground could result in a loss of USDA programs. There are four (4) conservation provisions included in the 1985 farm bill.

"Swampbuster" is one of these provisions that could effect most Perquimans County Farmers. Under Swampbuster, if you convert naturally occurring "wetlands" and use it to produce agricultural com-

modities after December 23, 1985 (the date the farm bill was signed), you lose USDA program benefits the year in which such commodities are produced. Wetlands, for the Swampbuster provision, are defined as areas of hydric soil with a predominance of hydric vegetation. This includes much of the woodland in the county.

It is also important to note that the loss of eligibility applies to all the land you farm, not just to the specific wetland field.

If you are planning to clear new ground for agricultural production, please contact your local soil conservation office, located in the Agricultural Extension Building on Edenton Road Street or call 426-5545 to determine if you are clearing a "wetland".

All programs and services provided by the USDA-Soil Conservation Service are available without regard to race, color, sex, age, religion, marital status, handicap or national origin.

Students design advertisements for special tab

The students in the Perquimans County High School and seventh and eighth grade art classes designed the advertisements in the special insert this week titled "Perquimans County Schools Design-an-ad Tab."

Working through the schools, the Perquimans Weekly staff was able to have students design the advertisements. Then the Weekly staff took the advertisements to local businesses to sell them.

"Most of the advertisers were very pleased with the work the students did," said Advertising Manager Dixie Gomer. "We were also very satisfied with the results."

"Next year, I hope to publish a much larger insert," said Editor Susan Harris. "We learned a lot with this issue, and have already begun making plans for next year's Design-an-ad."

Art teachers Joan Wood and Brenda Hollowell and English teacher Linda Perry worked very hard with students drawing the advertisements.

"We really appreciated the cooperation from the teachers," said Harris. "We could not have put out the insert without their support."

Look through the insert and see for yourself how talented Perquimans art students are. Next week, a winner from the high school level and junior high school level will be announced.

County students perform well on state test

Sophomores at Perquimans High School who took the North Carolina competency test for the first time in February performed very well, according to Ted Henson, Director of Instructional Support Programs in the county. County students had a higher passing rate than both the regional and state averages in all four tested areas, including writing objective, writing essay, reading and mathematics.

Passing rates in each category improved dramatically from the prior year's averages. In 1988, the writing objective passing rate was 80.9 percent, which was raised to 89.9 percent this year. The writing essay passing rate went from 93.1 percent to 96.3 percent. The reading rate jumped from 89.2 percent to 97.2 percent, while the mathematics rate climbed 8.5 percent, to 91.7 percent.

"I think it's a very good report," said Dr. Mary Jo Martin, superintendent.

"This is great," added School Board Chairman Clifford Winslow. "I hope that we can continue to stay at this level."

Henson and Martin credited the much-improved statistics to the faculty at the high school. They said that PCHS Principal William Byrum had reviewed the objectives of the test at the beginning of the year and asked teachers to be aware of those objectives as they taught.

The exam covers basic skills such as map reading, organization, classification, following directions, computations, money problem solving, percentages and other areas that effect everyday life.

All students in North Carolina must pass the competency exam before graduating.

In order to reach state accreditation standards, schools must have an 88 percent passing rate. Over 88 percent of the students in Perquimans passed in each category.

Products recalled

Raleigh-Land-O-Sun Dairies is voluntarily withdrawing four ice cream products manufactured at its Hickory, North Carolina plant, the North Carolina Department of Agriculture's Food and Drug Protection Division announced.

The products may contain Listeria monocytogenes, a bacteria which may cause flu-like symptoms in humans. Individuals most vulnerable to this bacteria are pregnant women, frail or elderly persons or person with weakened immune systems.

"There have been no reported illnesses to these products and Land-O-Sun officials are cooperating fully with the department", said Jim Graham, Commissioner of the North Carolina Department of Agriculture.

The products being withdrawn and the identifying codes are:

1. PET BRAND CHOCOLATE ICE CREAM IN ONE PINT CONTAINER WITH Pet Dairy Johnson City, TN 37602 3440 on the carton lid and the code on the bottom of the carton D6 3775.

2. PET BRAND NUTTY BUDDY packed six per box with the debossed code date D19. Plant code 3775 printed on opposite end of package.

3. PET BRAND NUTTY BUDDY packed two dozen per box with the code D19 3775 ink printed on the top of box.

4. PET BRAND ICE CREAM SANDWICHES packed 12 per box with the code date D 19 89. Plant code 3775 printed on opposite end of package.

No other PET BRAND ICE CREAM PRODUCTS other than those listed above which were manufactured at Land-O-Sun Dairy, Hickory, NC and identified by the plant code 3775 on the package are affected by the withdrawal. The PET BRAND NUTTY BUDDY six packs and 24 packs were distributed in Georgia, South Carolina, Tennessee, North Carolina, Florida and Virginia.

The PET BRAND NUTTY BUDDY 24 pack product was also distributed in Missouri.

The PET BRAND CHOCOLATE ICE CREAM ONE PINT was distributed in Georgia, Virginia, South Carolina, Tennessee, North Carolina and Florida.

The PET BRAND ICE CREAM SANDWICH was distributed in Georgia, Missouri, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Florida, and Indiana.

Consumers with any of the above products should return it to the place of purchase.