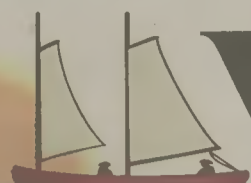


# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



See this week's Pets of the Week, 4

"News from Next Door"

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2016

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## PARADES, LIGHTS ARE COMING

BY PETER WILLIAMS  
News Editor

There will be no shortage of things to do in Perquimans County this weekend.

Events kick off Friday night with the Grand Illumination in downtown. The event runs from 6-7 p.m. The Perquimans County Chamber of Commerce puts on the event with assistance from Historic Hertford, Inc.

Performing will be the Perquimans High School Marching Pirates, the Perquimans Middle School Band, the Dance Company of Hertford and the Holy Trinity Episcopal Church choir. As in year's past, memorial luminaries will line the courthouse sidewalk. Mayor Pro Tem Lillian Ann Holman will throw the switch to light up the town. Small gifts for children will also be given out by the Perquimans County EMS volunteers.

If you want something to eat before hand, the Parksville Ruritan Club will hold chicken BBQ plate dinner Friday from 4 p.m. until 6 p.m. at the Ruritan building in Winfall. Tickets are \$8.

And this Friday and Saturday The Rocky Hock Opry will be performing in Hertford. Usually the Christmas show is held in Edenton.

Tickets are \$10 each. Call Steve Evans at 333-8567 to have tickets reserved at the door. Doors will open at 6 p.m. both nights, and the shows will start at 7 p.m.

For dining out Saturday morning, both the Hertford American Legion Post Riders and the Forestburg Ruritan Club will be holding pancake breakfasts. The Legion event will be at the Legion building on West Academy Street from 8 a.m. until 11 a.m. The cost is \$7. The Ruritan Club breakfast is 7 a.m. until 10 a.m. at the Ruritan building. The cost is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children under 10.

After that here come the parades.

Winfall's Christmas parade starts at 11 a.m. Saturday followed by the Perquimans County Christmas Parade in Hertford at 2 p.m.

Sid Eley, the executive director of the Perquimans County Chamber of Commerce, said typically between 50 and 100 groups take part in the parade. This year that will include the bands from Perquimans, Pasquotank and Northeastern High Schools.

This year's Grand Marshal

See EVENTS, 2



FILE PHOTO

Grand Illumination on Church Street in downtown Hertford is expected to draw a crowd Friday night.

## High school hosting 'Opry Christmas'

BY REBECCA BUNCH  
Chowan Herald

When the Rocky Hock Opry's Christmas Show takes place Friday and Saturday night, it will feature the same music and comedy bits that are traditionally associated with the shows.

But there will be a couple of differences. First, the pair of holiday shows will take place at the Perquimans High School Auditorium in Hertford rather than the E.A. Swain Auditorium. The Edenton auditorium sustained damage during Hurricane Matthew and will not be available in time for the Opry shows.

And, Opry founder and emcee Jack Evans died Nov. 21. Taking over his hosting duties for both shows will be his son, Steve Evans, a musician and perhaps best known to Opry show-goers for his comedy skits as Flat-Billy Bob.

Evans said that continuing the shows, which have raised close to \$500,000 for Chowan-Perquimans Relay for Life in just over a decade, was what his dad would have wanted.

"As dad would say, the show must go on," Evans said.

While Evans will serve as emcee for the shows, his Dad's spot in the popular Opry Boys Quartet will temporarily be filled



CHOWAN HERALD FILE PHOTO

Steve Evans, aka Flatbilly Bob, will continue with his comedic bits during the upcoming Rocky Hock Opry Christmas Show in December while taking over as host of the show following the death of his father, Jack Evans, who founded the Opry more than a decade ago to raise money for cancer research. Performances will be held at the Perquimans County High School Auditorium.

by friend and fellow musician Doug Bazemore.

"Doug is from Askewville and sings with the quartet Steadfast," Evans said. "We had done some church programs together. He's

got a great voice and we're looking forward to his participation."

Other performers for these shows, Evans said, are scheduled to include vocalists. "Additional performers for this show

are Jamie Harmon, vocals, and a new member of the Opry cast for this show, Lacey Winslow, also doing vocals," Evans said. "Lacey is from

See OPRY, 2

## Postal move rejected

BY PETER WILLIAMS  
News Editor

The U.S. Postal Service has rejected a local request to move the Post Office in Hertford. It also denied a request to increase the hours of operation for the building on Grubb Street.

The Perquimans County Commission was notified of the decision this week along with a letter from Sen. Richard Burr.

In a Nov. 9 letter to Sen. Burr, David Webster responded to Burr's request to look into the situation. The county commission adopted a resolution calling for both the change in location and the office hours. Some have suggested moving the office closer to U.S. 17 where there would be far more parking.

"The request to relocate the Hertford Post Office to another location, specifically the vacant State Employees Credit Union off U.S. 17 is denied," Webster said in a letter to Burr dated Nov. 9.

Webster is the postal district manager and lead executive for the area. His office is based in Greensboro and he copied the manager of post offices in the region, the Hertford postmaster and the postal operations

See POST OFFICE, 2

## Heating assistance available

BY PETER WILLIAMS  
News Editor

The Perquimans County Department of Social Services will begin taking applications for the Low Income Energy Assistance Program starting Thursday.

Depending on the household situation, grants of \$200, \$300 or \$400 are available to pay for home heating for this winter.

Susan Chaney, the director for the Perquimans County Department of Social Services, said the energy assistance program is vital to many older residents.

"We have citizens that make choices every day of choosing between food, medicine and heating. If the agency can assist with heating, that is a big benefit to them."

The federal program was

See HEATING, 4

## Bridge may offer benefits to county

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the second of a two-part series.

BY PETER WILLIAMS  
News Editor

Construction delays aside, Perquimans County residents will see some benefits once construction of a new Hertford bridge is

finished.

The good news is it will taller but not "too" tall. What N.C. DOT refers to as Alternative B will be about 15 feet off the water. The current S-Bridge provides maybe about five or six feet of clearance. But the original option of building another bridge as tall as the 33-foot U.S. 17 Bypass bridge was considered too tall by some residents.

A bridge with 15-feet of clearance could be good

See BRIDGE, 3

## Buyers embrace 'shop small' Saturday

From Staff Reports

Shop Small Saturday may over, but the effort to encourage shoppers to visit locally owned businesses will continue throughout the holiday season.

The Perquimans County Chamber of Commerce in conjunction with American Express, promoted the Nov. 26 event. American Express donated the canvas shopping bags, crowns, buttons and posters.

Maureen Williams, the owner of The Silver Fox of Hertford, said she had a particularly good day on Saturday.

"Local residents from Hertford, Elizabeth City and Edenton came to the Silver Fox to do their holiday shopping," she said. "Thank you so much, for keeping

See SHOPPING, 3

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Erin Hazen shows holds special "Shop Small Saturday" bags for the event last weekend.



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