

Band Boosters

Big show is set Sunday

Saturday is the night when the biggest variety show in the area will be presented. The time is 8 p.m. and the place is the Perquimans County High School auditorium.

The show's purpose is twofold: to raise money for the Junior High and High School bands, and to provide a lot of fun and entertainment.

Tickets are \$2 and can be purchased from members of the sponsoring organization, the Band Boosters Club, from any band member, from Pitt Hardware, or at the door.

One of the show's highlights will be a Virginia clogging group, The Western Branch Cloggers. They have appeared at the Hampton Coliseum, in Scope, and many other places where the biggest names in country music have performed. Soon, they will be on "Hee Haw."

Proclaimed by the National Enquirer as the third ugliest man in the world, he has appeared on "The Mike Douglas Show." Audience members will have the opportunity to pose with him, and if the ladies can take it, he'll give out kisses.

One of the most popular gospel groups is the New Mount Joy Singers. They will be featured during the show, 40 voices strong, singing black gospel and patriotic music. It is said that they seldom appear without winding up with a standing ovation.

From Elizabeth City, one of the Albemarle's own song-dance men, Roy Askew, will perform as will Alice Sue Rousseau, a musical star of the Satyr Players. They will perform individually and together.

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Farm-City fest recognizes all

Area officials and just plain folks gathered over lunch at Gabby's Restaurant last Tuesday to celebrate National Farm-City Week.

Wayne Ashely, 1979 Perquimans County Farm-City Week Chairman, said that although Perquimans County enjoys town and country harmony all year long, it was nice to set aside a week to recognize the "excellent working relationship between our town and county."

Also on hand at the luncheon was Bill Jester, the newly hired Perquimans County Agricultural Extension Chairman.

"As farmers are getting fewer and fewer, we're going to have to rely on the city more and more," said Jester.

Hertford Mayor Bill Cox enumerated several of the achievements accomplished

through town and county cooperation.

Heading the list was the recently awarded Community of Excellence honor, which Cox said was specifically presented to the town of Hertford and Perquimans County.

"We couldn't have done it without the endorsement of the Perquimans County Commissioners, the Jaycoes, the Extension clubs, and all the people who worked at cleaning and fixing up our community," said Cox.

Other accomplishments realized through town and county cooperation are the Hertford-Perquimans County Senior Center, the recently completed historical inventory, a central dispatch system, and a county recreation program.

"You name it, and the town and county and have worked together to achieve it," said Cox.



Youngest belly dancer

One of the world's youngest belly dancers, five-year old Michelle Alexander, will be on hand as a featured performer at the Band Booster Variety Show on Saturday, Dec. 1 at 8

p.m. The \$2 tickets will be sold at the door and are also available in advance from Pitt Hardware, band members, or Band Booster Club members.

Firelighting plagues area

Firelighting deer, or attempting to take deer by artificial light and arms, is a problem plaguing area wildlife enforcement officers all year, but is apparently more prevalent now, during deer season, according to James E. Alston, of Edenton, and Assistant Supervisor for District I in Wildlife Enforcement Counties.

"We have to deal with firelighting off and on year-round, but it happens more this time of year," said Alston.

Firelighting is a misdemeanor in North Carolina, and punishable by a maximum fine of \$250 plus court costs, or confinement of not more than 60 days, or both

for first offenders, according to Horace Cohoon, N.C. Wildlife Enforcement officer of Perquimans County.

A second offender may be fined a minimum of \$250 plus court costs, or imprisoned not more than 90 days, or both in discretion of the court.

Both first and second offenders stand to lose any weapons, lights, or vehicles confiscated at the time of the arrest, said Cohoon.

"Any time you spotlight a deer and have a loaded gun, bow and arrow, or any weapon on your person, you could be convicted," said Alston.

Gates County keeps firelighting in partial check by enforcing an 11 p.m. curfew

against any spotlighting. And although there is no such curfew in Perquimans County, Cohoon sees it as a possibility.

We've had several calls from residents complaining about hunters shining lights into their windows, and it seems there is more and more support for establishing a curfew in Perquimans County," said Cohoon.

Firelighting deer, according to Alston, is an offense that has been going on as long as hunting.

"Before electricity, people used to make a torch out of wood and go out and scare deer with fire, that's how it came to be known as 'firelighting,'" said Alston.

County grants softball land

The Perquimans County Board of Commissioners endorsed efforts to secure funding for a multi-purpose recreation field last Monday night by granting 14 acres of land in the Winfall Township to the county recreation department.

The land, which has been leased to farmers in past years, will be used as the county's matching share in grant applications.

The facility, to be called the Perquimans County Athletic Park, would consist of two lighted softball fields with portable fences that could be moved for football and soccer games, and a refreshment stand-restroom building.

County recreation director Billy Wooten estimated the cost of constructing the field at between \$40 and \$60 thousand.

The need for such a facility first surfaced at the Oct. 22 meeting of the commissioners. Wooten, supported by the county recreation committee, offered a detailed presentation on why the Perquimans Union School field is no longer adequate for the some 400 participants in the recreational softball program.

At the Nov. 19 meeting of the commissioners, Wooten and his committee again showed up to argue for a field, this time supported by a strong

contingent of county residents.

After a question and answer period of some half an hour, the commissioners unanimously approved the deeding of the property to the recreation department on the condition that if the department ever ceased to exist the land would revert back to the county.

Pleased with the decision of the commissioners, Wooten later expressed confidence that the money needed to construct the facility could be secured from state and federal sources.

"I think the vote for giving us the land to put the field on is

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Immunization drive is underway

Perquimans County students will have 30 days upon notification that immunization records are incomplete to receive the necessary shots.

Those students who fail to comply with the new immunization law within the 30-day grace period will be suspended, according to Pat Harrell, Perquimans County Superintendent of Schools.

Harrell said that individual student records will be checked around the Christmas holidays. Those records discovered to be incomplete will be followed up with an inspection of health department files to discern whether there is any existing immunization information missing from school records.

Although not required by law, Harrell said that the rechecking of incomplete files at the health department would save parents from having to do it themselves and would thus be more efficient.

This year, the immunization law only affects kindergarteners, first-graders, and students who have

transferred to the Perquimans County school system from out of state.

Parents of these children will be notified by letter around the first of the year if their child's immunization records are not complete.

Second through twelfth graders will be required to comply to the immunization law before next school year, or they will be denied enrollment for the 1980-81 term, Harrell said.

Parents of these children will also be notified by letter sometime in 1980.

Diseases covered by the immunization law are polio, measles, rubella (German measles), whooping cough, diphtheria, and tetanus.

According to Frank Lewis, North Carolina immunization coordinator, vaccines given in October at health departments state-wide increased dramatically over October of last year.

Oral polio vaccine was up 133 percent, measles vaccine by 268 percent, rubella 273 percent, and diphtheria/tetanus increased by 78 percent.

Flower thieves strike

A rash of thefts of flowers and live plants from graves in Hertford has prompted the town police department to issue a warning against placing valuable items on graves.

Hertford police chief Marshall Merritt said the thefts have occurred with alarming regularity at both the Roadside Cemetery and

the Cedarwood Cemetery.

"Each individual person thinks it's just happening to them but it's happening to everybody that brings something out there," Merritt said.

An investigation of the thefts is continuing and Merritt urged that all such incidents be reported to the police department.

No charges expected in radio station threat

It appears that no charges will be filed against a Hertford man alleged to have issued an implied threat of takeover to an Edenton radio station last week.

Clifford J. Perry of Hertford has taken credit for making two telephone calls to WBXB in Edenton demanding air time to broadcast a call for a nationwide general strike in protest of the holding of American hostages by Iranian students.

Chowan County Sheriff Troy Toppin, however, said he had received instructions from the district attorney not to press charges unless he was asked to do so by the management of the station.

Toppin said that Perry had apparently not referred directly to a takeover of WBXB in his telephone conversations with station manager Dottie Lillibridge, though he had said he thought

his group would take a station.

Perry told reporters at the Elizabeth City DAILY ADVANCE Friday morning that he was responsible for the telephone threats, in which he had said he was acting on the behalf of a secret group called the "Sons of Liberty."

Perry said, however, that he had been expelled from the group for his actions, and he may have misunderstood the group's intentions.

Town hosts festivities

A host of festivities centered in downtown Hertford Friday afternoon will kick off the Perquimans County Christmas season, 1979.

It all starts with a parade beginning at 4 p.m. at Perquimans High School.

The parade is sponsored by the Perquimans County Jaycoes and the Chamber of Commerce, and is expected to be a good one.

"It's not going to be one of the biggest but it's going to be one of the best," said parade chairman Edgar Roberson. Roberson estimated that

more than 30 different units would participate in the parade, and said he expects more competition because of new categories established this year.

Members of the Perquimans High School Band will ride on a float in the parade, and the Columbia High School Marching Band as well as the Perquimans County Marching Unit will take part.

A large number of floats sponsored by church and civic organizations will take part, and Roberson said there may be an appearance by the

Elizabeth City State University Marching Band.

Following the parade, the Perquimans County Business and Professional Women's club will conduct its annual Christmas tree lighting ceremony on the courthouse lawn.

Bulbs for the tree have been purchased by community members either in honor of or in memory of friends and loved ones.

The tree lighting will take place at dusk, and will precede concerts by Perquimans County's junior high and high school bands.



Stringing lights

Hertford is all dressed up for Christmas now as town employees spent the latter part of last week stringing lights and putting up decorations.

(Photo by NOEL TODD-MCLAUGHLIN)