

Community news

North Carolina Small Grain Growers to meet Jan. 6 in Raleigh

Madison Angell, president of the North Carolina Small Grain Growers Association, has announced plans for the third annual meeting of the Association.

The meeting will be held on Jan. 6 at the North Raleigh Hilton and Towers. President Angell will welcome the delegates and will update

members on the activities during 1988.

The morning session will begin with Reggie Wyckoff, vice president of the National Association of Wheat Growers. He will give his views on what to expect from Washington under a new administration regarding small grains.

This will be followed with a roundtable discussion on production led by Ron Jarrett and selected farmers. The association will conduct its business session at 11:30 a.m.

At the luncheon, Agriculture Commissioner James Graham, and North Carolina State University Dean of the College of Agriculture

and Life Sciences, D. F. Bateman, will make remarks to the group. Jarrett, NCSU Crop Science Extension specialist, will recognize the 1988 North Carolina Wheat Contest winners.

Following the luncheon, there will be a marketing seminar that will give farmers a hands-on work-

ing knowledge of how to make and use different kinds of contracts. Representatives from Merrill Lynch will be in charge of this part of the program. Bob Purkey will be giving information on the price outlook for 1989, and Moly Clark will be speaking on the strategies and mechanics of hedging for 1989. Pur-

key and Clark are both out of the Norfolk, Va. office of Merrill Lynch.

Coffee and danish will be served beginning at 9 a.m. with the formal program beginning at 10 a.m. There is no registration fee and no charge for lunch. For additional information call 919-881-9908.

State parks closed for Christmas

Raleigh — North Carolina's state parks and recreation areas will be closed Christmas Day, the N. C. Division of Parks and Recreation announced.

Records kept on Christmas Day visitation indicate low turnout on the holiday, according to Dr. William W. Davis, Director of the N.C. Division of Parks and Recreation.

Since 1987, state parks and state recreation areas have been closed on Christmas Day.

"The Christmas Day closing allows our staff to enjoy a traditional holiday with their families at a time when most other state facilities, including the state aquariums and historic sites, are closed," Davis said.

Parks will reopen Dec. 26, 1988 according to the normal schedule.

Clinic schedule

The following is the Perquimans County Health Department schedule for the remainder of December, 1988.

Dec. (15) adult health clinic; (16) general p.m., wic all day; (19) prenatal a.m., family planning p.m.; (21) Dr. Slade pediatric p.m.; (23) holiday; (26) holiday; (27) prenatal & general p.m.; (28) eye clinic.



Special award

Billy Williams president of Perquimans County Farm Bureau, was announced as the winner of a special award by W. B. Jenkins, president of the North Carolina Farm Bureau Federation, at its annual meeting in Charlotte. The award allows Farm Bureau insurance agents an opportunity to win this honor for their county's president who serves on a voluntary basis. Pictured is President Jenkins congratulating Williams, Agency Manager Lewis Evans, and Agent Edgar Roberson.

Hospital plans bloodmobile

A bloodmobile will be held at Albemarle Hospital on Wednesday, Dec. 21, from noon till 5 p.m. in the AHEC Building which is located next to the hospital.

All blood types are needed, and types O positive, O negative and B

positive are in shortest supply. You are eligible to donate if you are between 17 and 70 years of age, weigh at least 110 pounds and are basically in good health. For further information, please contact the Public Relations office of Albemarle Hospital at 331-4455.

4-H Christmas Ornament Workshop

WHAT Annual 4-H Christmas Ornament Workshop.

WHERE Perquimans County Extension office.

WHEN Saturday, Dec. 17.

TIME 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

BRING Bag lunch and 55 cents for a drink.

COST \$3.00 - covers all ornaments you will make: Wooden Teddy bear

ornament, beaded wreaths and candy canes, ceramic ornaments, liquid solder ornament, paper necklace.

For ages 10 and up! NOTE Workshop is limited to 30 participants. You must call 426-7697 to register.

SPONSORS: Perquimans County Extension Service, Perquimans County 4-H.

JOY 95 sponsors tree for MDA

NORFOLK, Va. — JOY 95 radio will sponsor a Christmas tree to help raise money for the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

Locally, the MDA holds a free clinic for its patients while sponsoring a local research grant at Eastern Virginia Medical School.

The tree will be decorated with bows, lights and crystal balls that will be sold for donations to MDA.

Additionally the local office provides, at no charge to patients, orthopedic equipment and many aides to daily living.

Interested contributors should contact the MDA or Joy 95 for more information. Businesses will receive on-air mentions for their help.

A summer camping program in Wakefield, Va., is also supported through local fund raising such as Christmas tree promotions.

Funds raised from this promotion will help to continue a comprehensive patient services program in Tidewater.

To purchase an ornament and help decorate the tree for muscular dystrophy, call the MDA at 461-0177 or 722-8091, or JOY 95 at 671-9490.

Christmas trees have no relation to Christ

Fraser firs and Virginia pine trees may seem like a universal symbol of Christmas to some, but the evergreen trees have nothing to do with the birth of Christ, say botanists at the N.C. Botanical Garden at Chapel Hill.

Evergreens were used in religious ceremonies in Egypt and Rome in 2000 B.C. Medieval German mystery plays used the evergreen to symbolize the everlasting life of Eden.

Only a century ago Christmas tree hunting meant a visit to a nearby field. Today most people rely on trees cut on tree farms and

trucked into distant cities and towns.

Christmas tree farms in North Carolina began in the 1950's. The majority of the 32 million trees annually marketed in the United States still come from the Pacific Northwest and Great Lakes regions, but Tar Heel tree farmers are producing about 2.5 million of them.

Not only is North Carolina rising in the industry with increased tree production, it also is producing some of the nation's finest trees, some receiving national awards for superiority. Some also have been used in the White House.

One of the reasons North Carolina growers can produce such good trees is the climate. In mountain regions, where usually cool temperatures and plenty of moisture exist, Christmas trees seem to grow well.

Another asset is the rapid growth of trees in this area. Northern trees take about 10 years to reach harvesting size. In North Carolina, the same size tree can be produced in only six years.

The most popular type of Christmas tree is the Fraser Fir. It grows well in the mountain regions, has a traditional shape, is a rich dark green color, has a wonderful scent and retains its needles well.

Federal diesel excise tax refund claims

The Internal Revenue Service has mistakenly disallowed refund claims filed by farmers who paid at least \$1,000 in excise taxes on diesel fuel for non-highway use during the quarters ending June 30 and Sept. 30.

The IRS, apologizing for any inconvenience, said farmers whose claims for \$1,000 or more were rejected may refile the claims by returning the disallowance letter and explaining that IRS disallowed the claim in error.

The Internal Revenue Service has set up special post office boxes so these claims can be identified and processed as soon as possible. Farmers in North Carolina should send their resubmitted claims to 3131 Democrat Road, Stop 48, Memphis, TN. 37501.



Safe carrier

Calvin Johnson, city carrier at the Hertford Post Office, was presented a safety award by the Postal Service for his outstanding awareness of safety. Presenting the award is D. C. Burch, Hertford postmaster.

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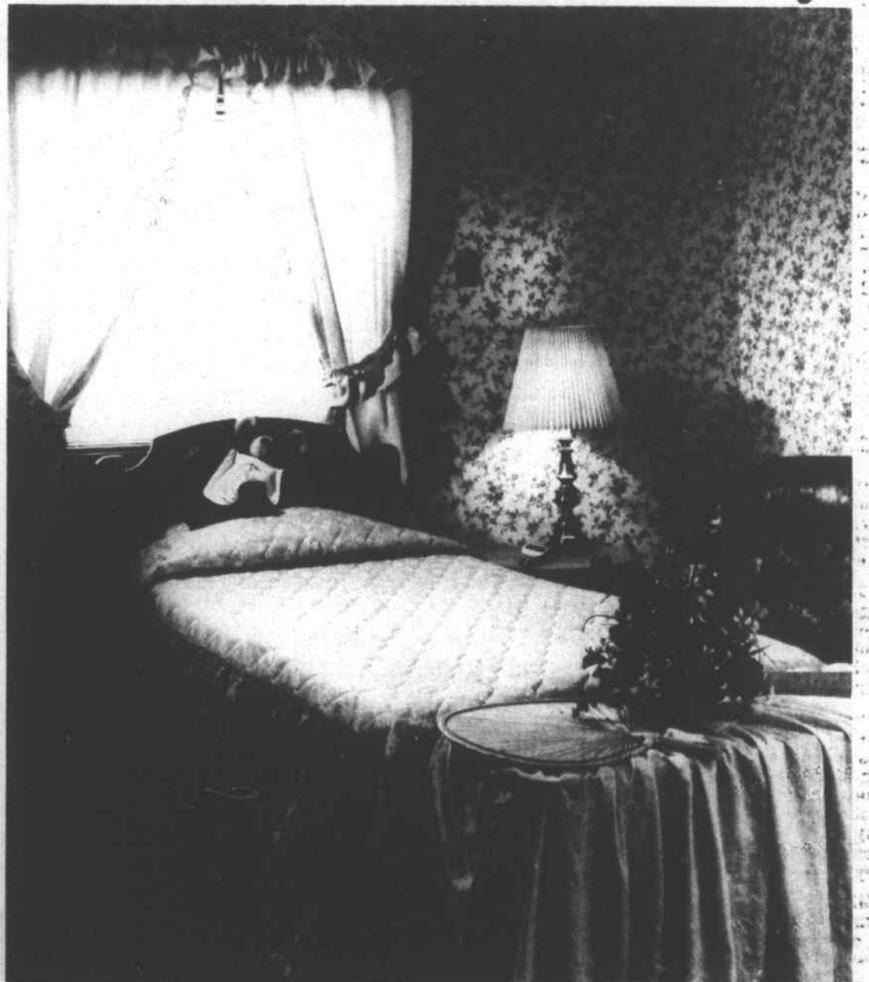
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