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# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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## Local Briefs

### County wins safety award

Perquimans County will receive an award for outstanding achievement in on-the-job safety on June 6 along with 26 other award recipients.

The N.C. Department of Labor recognizes annually those business and governmental agencies which have maintained either a perfect safety record for the year or recorded an occupational injury incidence rate (for cases involving days away from work) at least 50 percent below the statewide average for their particular industry group. In addition, the firms must have 10 or more employees and no on-the-job fatalities in a calendar year.

Dr. James A. Oppold, director of the Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Division, will present the awards at a dinner at the Vicki Villa Restaurant in Elizabeth City. The banquet is cosponsored by the Elizabeth City Area Chamber of Commerce and the N.C. Department of Labor.

Freddie Pierce, a comedian and performer, will entertain the assemblage.

Oppold said, "The safety awards program recognizes the efforts of management and workers in businesses and governmental agencies in North Carolina who maintain a safe and healthy place to work."

"The firms receiving awards have done a superior job of avoiding injuries and illnesses in their workplaces. We commend them for that and encourage them to continue to promote safety and health awareness among their employees," he said.

Perquimans has received the award for five years.

### Swindell receives director's license

Suzanne Stanton Swindell of Hertford, recently received her Funeral Directors License by passing the North Carolina State Board of Mortuary Science exam. She and her husband, W. Larry Swindell, have owned and operated Swindell Funeral Home in Hertford since October 1985. Prior to joining the family business, Mrs. Swindell taught social studies in high school.

Also licensed in insurance, Mrs. Swindell will work in the area of Pre-Need Funeral Arrangements.

Through her license, Mrs. Swindell will be better able to assist the public in arranging and conducting funerals or answering questions.

### Jaycees attend state convention

The Perquimans County Jaycees received several state awards at the annual North Carolina Jaycee convention May 19-21 in Greensboro.

Denise Peckham won the JCI Senate first-timer's award. The award is given to the Jaycee attending his or her first state convention who can answer specific questions about the Jaycee organization and gets the most signatures of executive committee members.

Recognized as one of the top three regional directors in the state was Parker Newbern. He was also inducted into the President's Club for the second time. In addition, he won the "Eat My Dust" award for traveling more miles in April than any of the other 10 regional directors in the state.

Diane Copeland was recognized for serving on the state's CPG PAC committee.

The chapter received awards for its contributions to Boy's Home, Cystic Fibrosis and Duke Cancer Center.

Attending the convention from Perquimans were Parker Newbern, Sara Winslow, Chris and Denise Peckham, Carlton Boyce and Percy Davis.

### Chamber sets date for annual festival

Planning is underway for the Perquimans County Chamber of Commerce eighth annual Indian Summer Festival to be held Friday and Saturday, September 15 and 16.

Entertainment and activities are being scheduled for all ages both days. Arts, crafts, displays and food booths will again be available on Saturday in the Park.

Application for all booths are available by contacting the Chamber of Commerce (919) 426-5657.

## Library plans fun summer schedule

By: Maria T. Hoffman

June will be a busy month at the Perquimans County Library. On Sunday, June 11 from 2:30 - 5:30 the Perquimans Quilters will hold a quilt show and silent raffle at the library. Admission to the show will be \$1.00. Quilt raffle tickets are currently available at the library for \$1.00.

Beginning on Wednesday, June 21 at 10:00 a.m., we will kick off our Summer Reading Program. The theme of this summer's program is On Beyond...Reading. The purpose of the program is to foster a love of reading and to promote the use of the library. The activities are designed for children in grades K-7. Come to one or come to them all. Please sign up at the library by June 16 if you plan to participate in the reading portion of the program.

On the first Wednesday we will journey back into the past to explore local history and genealogy. On June 28, we will listen to ghost stories. Come dressed in a scary costume! On July 12 come dressed as a sea creature. We will explore the water around us and the crea-

tures living there. We'll travel into space on July 19 and learn how to navigate by the stars.

On July 26, we'll travel to a far away country and learn a game called wari. Come dressed as your favorite fairy tale character on August 2 as we journey into the imagination. We'll also learn several string games. On August 9 we will return to the library to explore its treasures. Join in a scavenger hunt for information. Certificates will be awarded for those who have participated in the reading portion of the program.

Following is a partial list of our new books:

- Agent of Influence by David Aaron
- Daughter of Destiny by Benzir Bhutto
- The Naked Heart by Jacqueline Briskin
- While My Pretty One Sleeps by Mary Higgins Clark
- The Bailey Chronicles by Catherine Cookson
- The Negotiator by Frederick Forsyth
- The Charmed Circle by Catherine Gaskin

Incident at Badamya by Dorothy Gilman

- Life Lines by Jill Ireland
- Eminence by William X. Kienzle
- The Dreaming Tree by Patricia Matthews
- The Boat Maintenance and Repair Book by Tony Meisel
- ACC Basketball by Ron Morris
- Innumeracy: Mathematical Illiteracy by John A. Paulos
- Stranger in Savannah by Eugenia Price
- The Joy Luck Club by Amy Tan
- The Temple of My Familiar by Alice Walker

And remember the library's SUMMER HOURS:

- Monday - 9:30 - 5:30
- Tuesday - 9:30 - 8:00
- Wednesday - 9:30 - 1:00
- Thursday - 9:30 - 8:00
- Friday - 9:30 - 5:30
- Saturday - 9:30 - 12:30

The Perquimans County Library is located at 110 W. Academy St., Hertford, NC. Phone 426-5319.



Cement has been poured for Pala Engineering, a new business expected to open in Hertford this summer. Community and business leaders came out to welcome Frank Pala to the area.

## Local educators attend state conference

The N.C. Alliance for Public Education sponsored Public Education Day on Tuesday, May 16 at the Civic Center in Raleigh. Representatives from the Perquimans County Schools were Dr. Mary Jo Martin, Superintendent; Clifford Winslow, Chairman of the Board of Education; Nancy Harrell, teaching assistant at Central Grammar School; Charlotte Jones, secretary for the Department of Maintenance and Transportation; Richard O'Neal, Director of the Maintenance Department; Pete Riddick, Director of School Transportation; Wayne Howell, Board of Education; and Jeanie Umphlett, Community Schools Coordinator.

The day began with a general session featuring Joe Mavrectic, Speaker of the House and Jim Gardner, Lieutenant Governor, as they shared a legislative update and entertained questions from the floor.

Bob Etheridge, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, brought greetings from the Department of Public Instruction during the buf-

fet lunch. Jim Martin, Governor of North Carolina, was the guest speaker. The topics from all four speakers centered around the fate of the Basic Education Plan, Career Ladder, and salaries as the three "big ticket items which remain to be resolved." Compounding the puzzle are funding initiatives necessary to end the road building debates.

Speculation has and continues to exist on holding the course on the Basic Education Plan. There continues to be some strong commitment to full funding but it would be shortsighted to assume that it is safe. It is possible that some parts of the plan may be in danger and there is still some conversation about either changing or delaying this vital program.

Four salary plans are under consideration. All of them contain common elements; specifically, multi-year phase-in plans that result in more competitive salaries.

Senate Bill 2, sponsored by Senators Ward and Conder and several other members of the Senate, has

passed the Senate Education Committee. Senate Bill 2 has the makings of a historical piece of legislation. In a nutshell, the bill would provide far greater local flexibility than currently exists while calling for a much higher level of school accountability. The bill also proposes to continue the Career Ladder Program but gives local systems a choice of whether they participate or not. This legislation gives a great deal of choice to local school systems. Each system could choose to:

- participate in the flexibility-accountability program only.
  - participate in the Career Ladder Program only.
  - participate in both flexibility-accountability AND the Career Ladder Program.
  - not to participate in either flexibility-accountability nor Career Ladder.
- The afternoon concluded with an ice cream social served on the legislative veranda.

## Hospital celebrates nursing home week

By: Pete Rogers  
Public Relations Director

National Nursing Home Week May 14-20 had a special meaning this year for the patients and staff at Chowan Hospital's Skilled Nursing Facility.

Of course, it had to do with the modern new surroundings as the facility is less than one year old, having opened in July 1988.

Still one thing is certain, the staff treated the week special to go along with this year's theme: "A Tradition of Caring."

All 40 patients got to wear buttons signifying the week, but that was only the beginning. A large banner was placed in front of the facility proclaiming that residents along with the families and staff were celebrating National Nursing Home Week.

Drawings for gifts were held daily, especially a "Special Gift" for employees. Balloon liftoffs took place Wednesday and Friday in front of the facility with residents participating.

Concluding the festivities was a patient-family social on Saturday

in the dining room.

Some of the reasons why the care at the Skilled Nursing Facility is truly a Tradition of Caring is not only because of the staff and volunteers, but also because of the students from the Health Occupation Classes at John A. Holmes High School.

Two of those students, Karen Wright and Tommy Priest, both seniors at Holmes, have spent the last five months, (two hours a day, five days a week) doing their share to make life a little easier for the patients.

Karen, who plans to enter the three year nursing program at the College of the Albemarle in the fall, decided healthcare would be her chosen profession from the health occupation courses and practical experience at Chowan Hospital. "I like helping somebody else," said Karen, who's mother is a nurses' assistant.

Although Priest, a 17 year-old resident of Tyner, has already committed to the military upon graduation in June, the experience he's received at Chowan Hospital, especially at the SNF has been rewarding.

## Where is the "pig lady?"

Several people have called and visited Hertford recently looking for Cathy Chapman, known as "the pig lady." The Chamber of Commerce has tried unsuccessfully to track her down.

Those looking for Chapman say they have purchased ceramic pigs with tags reading "Cathy Chapman, the Pig Lady, Hertford, NC." But no one seems to know who she is or how to locate her.

Anyone with any information regarding Chapman is asked to contact the Chamber office.

## Partners with youth needs volunteers

By: Karen Dashiell-Ames

The Perquimans-Chowan Partners With Youth Program is looking for some good volunteers to become a strong role model in a young person's life.

Presently, we have four children waiting, all male, ages 12-16 years. Most of these boys have been on our waiting list for some time now.

As has been stated in the past, we are part of the Governor's One-On-One Volunteer Program that presently serves 34 counties in this state, and is expanding. These programs have been designed to help curb the problem of juvenile delinquency, undisciplined behavior, and we also focus on keeping the children of our community at home with their families.

The Partners with Youth Program accomplishes this by matching these young people with adult role model volunteers. Ninety percent of our population does have some sort of contact with the juvenile court system; the other 10 per-

cent are children who have never been involved with the court, but are at risk of getting into trouble.

Our goal in working with these children is to eliminate any further court involvement, improve school attitudes, and strengthen home relationships. In order to complete our goal, volunteers are given a strenuous eye-opening training session that is set up at their convenience. This session has been designed to better help volunteers work with the children. Our volunteers are also required to spend at least four hours a week for one year with their matched child, attend on-going training sessions bi-monthly, and participate in planned group activities.

Keep in mind, we have children waiting. Won't you be a friend?

If you are interested, please contact Partners With Youth in person at the Old Courthouse on E. King Street, 2nd Floor, by calling 482-3939, or by writing to P. O. Box 943, Edenton, NC 27932. Financial contributions are also accepted at the above address.

## Chobot wins TIP scholarship at Duke

Alexander Chobot, a student at Perquimans Middle School will be honored for his academic achievement at a statewide ceremony on June 2 at Duke University in Durham.

The recognition ceremony is sponsored by the Duke University Talent Identification Program (TIP) to salute the seventh graders from North Carolina who qualified in TIP's ninth annual Talent Search. All students invited to the ceremony have earned scores on the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) or the American College Testing Assessment (ACT) comparable to college-bound high school seniors.

The students will receive certificates of distinction at the ceremony. The highest scorers will also receive scholarships and books.

TIP conducts recognition ceremonies in each of the 16 states it serves in the Southeast, Midwest and Southwest. Over 50,000 mathematically and verbally gifted sev-

enth graders are identified by this program each year. TIP offers additional educational opportunities for gifted students in seventh through tenth grades.

TIP is a non-profit educational organization established in 1980 with a five-year grant from The Duke Endowment. The program receives continuing support from student fees, individuals, corporations and foundations.

Chobot was awarded a \$1,300 scholarship to attend TIP's 1989 Summer Residential Program.

In addition, Wake Forest University awarded Chobot a scholarship to pay tuition for one college-level course based on outstanding performance in the 1989 search conducted by Duke's Talent Identification program. The scholarship must be used in the next two years at Wake Forest University only.

Chobot is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John I. Chobot of Hertford.

## Thach wins Heart Fund award

Research Triangle Park-A Perquimans County resident was among the volunteers honored at the American Heart Association, North Carolina Affiliate's 40th Annual Meeting, Delegate Assembly and Scientific Sessions on May 19 at the Sheraton Imperial Hotel and Towers in the Research Triangle Park.

Elizabeth S. Thach of Hertford received the Ten Year Service Award. The award, a bronze medalion with an easel bearing the

recipient's name, is presented to volunteers who have rendered 10 or more years of continuous and outstanding service in two or more of the Affiliate's major areas of interest. Those interests include fund raising, community programs or administration.

The 40th Annual Meeting brought together more than 300 medical and nonmedical volunteer leaders from across the state to share ideas, discuss policy and recognize achievements.



A Monday morning wreck on the U.S. 17 Bypass bridge slowed traffic to a snail's pace. A pickup truck caught on fire after knocking a portion of the cement bridge rail into the river. No details were available at press time.