

Sports:

Pirates beat Knights;
Girls take second loss;
JVs improve: Page 6

Feature:

Peckham, Crandall
begin new life together
as sweethearts: Page 9

Perspectives:

Rumors and gossip
cause pain, suffering
for subjects: Page 4

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

Volume 61, No. 7

Hertford, Perquimans County, N.C., Thursday, February 13, 1992

35 Cents

Briefs Agencies push for drug task force

Fire claims life

An early-morning fire claimed the life of a Perquimans County man Tuesday.

William Daugherty, 71, of 18F Pine Street in the Snug Harbor community, apparently died of smoke inhalation after the mobile home in which he lived caught fire.

Daugherty was found in the bedroom of the mobile home. No cause for the fire has been determined, according to Bethel Fire Department chief Jeff Proctor. Bethel and the Hertford squad responded to the blaze around 4:30 a.m.

According to Sheriff Joe Lottian, foul play is not suspected. Proctor said the incident is under investigation.

Supper set

The Belvidere-Chappell Hill Volunteer Fire Department will hold their annual barbecued chicken supper on Feb. 15 from 4-7 p.m. The cost is \$4 per plate. Anyone wishing to purchase tickets may call Jennifer at 426-5728.

Senior club to meet

The Memory Lane Senior Citizens Club will hold their monthly meeting on Monday, Feb. 17 at 2 p.m. at the Senior Center.

Input needed

The 10-county Albemarle Resource Conservation and Development Council will hold a meeting at 5 p.m. on Feb. 18 at the Soundview Restaurant to receive public input for its long range Area Plan Revision. Please call the Albemarle RC and D office at 482-7437 if you have questions of for further information.

School dance slated

The Perquimans Middle School PISA is sponsoring a Valentine's Day dance on Friday, Feb. 14 from 7-10 p.m. Admission is 50 cents. Sixth, seventh and eighth graders will be admitted to the dance.

Daffodil Days back

The Perquimans County Unit of the American Cancer Society will sponsor Daffodil Days during the week of Feb. 27. Freshly-cut daffodils will be available to purchase in bouquets of 10 for \$4. Flowers may be ordered in advance by calling Kay Winslow at 426-8178.

CPR course offered

The Belvidere Chappell Hill Volunteer Fire Department will host a free CPR course on Feb. 18-20, from 7-10 p.m. at the fire department. Don Madry will be the instructor. To reserve a space or for more information please call Jennifer Layden at 426-5728.

Clinic schedules

The Perquimans County Health Department clinic schedule for Feb. 14-20 is as follows:

Feb. 14 - general p.m., family planning follow up; Feb. 17 - prenatal a.m., family planning p.m.; Feb. 18 - WIC all day; Feb. 19 - child health a.m., Dr. Slade p.m.; and Feb. 20 - adult health all day.



Photo by Susan Harris

Hearts and flowers

Dozier's Florist is geared up for Valentine's Day on Friday, the day when hearts, flowers and candy are exchanged across the country. Balloons and silk flowers say "I love you" in a 'beary' special way.

High school enters battle against drugs with new weapon

Perquimans County High School has entered the battle against drug use and traffic with new weapons. Thanks to a \$23,500 grant, the school has implemented ASAP - Assisting Students at Perquimans.

The program is designed to identify and assist all students at risk academically, socially and emotionally. Its purpose is to work cooperatively with students, parents, school personnel and the community in building responsible attitudes to assist any students in crisis.

The school system recognized that the use of alcohol and other drugs is becoming growing among students. Substance abuse, and the resulting problems, pose a serious threat to the health and welfare of youth. Through the program, solutions to these problems will be sought through the use of outside resources, and the education of parents, peers and faculty to symptoms and intervention methods of substance abuse.

School personnel will become trained in the recognition, referral and follow-up of the problems facing youth. Hopefully, these measures will make a difference in the lives of students at risk.

The Perquimans High ASAP team consists of six staff members, a counselor and trained staff members. Other staff members will also be trained, and are encouraged to participate in the program. The team implements procedures to insure confidentiality of all information they receive regarding students at risk. The information will not be made available to anyone other than ASAP team members on a need-to-know basis. Parents and guardians can be supplied with information upon written request. All student records are destroyed when the student leaves the school.

Students can be referred to the ASAP team for specific behaviors which are known to lead to problems.



Photo by Susan Harris

Schools superintendent Dr. Randall Henion talks with Wendell Hall and Austin Warner, two of the guest speakers at last week's alcohol and drug abuse awareness night. The program provided an overview of the problems facing youth, but was not well attended. The students responded well to the sessions at the high school on Friday.

Speakers level with parents, kids about problems

Perquimans High School kicked off its student assistance program, tagged ASAP, last week with an alcohol and drug abuse awareness night for the community, and student sessions the following day.

Wendell Hall, regional director of alcohol and drug defense program for the state education department; Anne Barnes, coordinator of student assistance programs in Wake County Schools; and Austin Warner, an alcohol and drug abuse counselor and former addict, were on hand to share with community members and students the problems of drug abuse and use and dysfunctional families.

Hall said drugs are invading society.

"It's in every community, every village, every hamlet. I don't care where you go," Hall said.

His statistics were frightening.

He said that there are 3 million functioning alcoholics below age 13 in the United States. The average age for trying marijuana is 12. Crack, ice, Black Tar and Sisco are also popular drugs. All these drugs are dangerous, but Hall said ice is particularly worrisome.

"It's ice that I'm afraid of," Hall said. Although ice costs more than crack, the "high" is more intense and lasts 18-24 hours. The appetite depressant causes users to go into a rage when they "come down" from under the influence of the drug.

There is another reason for fear, Hall said, when people get hooked on ice and crack. "I don't know too many people who make it through it," he said. Without intervention, death resulting from drug use or criminal action, or incarceration is likely.

"As parents, we've got to take responsibility for our children," Hall said. "Set rules and go by those rules. Ask questions."

Barnes' story of growing up the child of an alcoholic sparked a flow of students into the assistance program.

"It's hell, it's a living hell," she said.

She stressed that parental alcoholism is not the fault of the child, that a child cannot take any action to change the parent. Barnes encouraged children living through the nightmare of alcoholism at home to seek assistance in dealing with the problem.

A recovering drug addict, Warner told of growing up in Harlem, the son of an alcoholic and a drug abuser, the brother of drug addicts who turned to prostitution to support their

habits. He dropped out of school to deal and use drugs. His lifestyle was cut short when he was imprisoned for armed robbery in 1969.

He made it out of the pit of drug use, married, had a family and is now working to help pull others out. His family members were not so lucky. His mothers and both sisters are dead, victims of the ravages of drugs and alcohol on their bodies.

The community turn-out Thursday evening for the program was poor, but according to Community Schools Coordinator Jeanie Umphlett, the student response was overwhelming.

Each student and faculty member received a T-shirt and button to help remind them of the program, and that there is help through ASAP.

Hertford, Winfall to participate

Representatives from six area law enforcement agencies have come together to attempt to form a multijurisdictional drug task force. The Elizabeth City Police Department, Pasquotank County Sheriff's Department, Camden County Sheriff's Department, Hertford Police Department, Winfall Police Department and the district attorney's office are working to procure a grant from the Governor's Crime Commission to implement the task force.

A grant pre-application has been drafted and approved by the cooperating agencies. The officers are in the process of meeting with their respective local governments to garner financial support.

Joseph P. Tade of Elizabeth City, project director, sees the task force as the most effective means to fight the drug traffic across the three-county area.

"It's something that's long overdue," Tade said. "If we can get six of us (agencies) working drugs over this entire area, we can fight more effectively."

Tade said if Elizabeth City is the drug marketplace, then Hertford and the rest of Perquimans County are the warehouses. Investigation into drug trade has shown that large amounts of drugs are stored in and distributed from Perquimans County.

Hertford Police chief Aubrey Sample Jr. said the task force will provide a strong force against drug traffic without further burdening the individual agencies, who are pressed for manpower.

"The task force concept concentrates on drugs," Sample

said. "The officers' efforts go solely to fighting drugs."

Sample said existing manpower would be utilized, but the task force officers would play the major role in drug investigations.

Even if efforts to form the special unit fail, Sample said the agencies will sign mutual aid agreements. His department and others will also continue to work closely with other agencies and task forces to stem the tide of drug traffic.

Dale Van Scoy, Winfall police chief, said people think Winfall is exempt from the drug problem because dealing is not so apparent on the streets. That is an illusion, according to Van Scoy.

"Basically, a lot of people think Winfall doesn't have a problem due to lack of street dealers, but they are using houses here for storage. They're cutting from there, then going out to Hertford and other areas of the county," Van Scoy said.

With only one officer, himself, Van Scoy needs the task force.

"The simple reason (we need the task force) is we can't fight the problem because we're so small and due to lack of manpower," Van Scoy added.

All agencies involved agreed that there is a dire need for the task force, and that cooperation between agencies is the only answer to the drug problem. If the force becomes a reality, it will be staffed by enforcement officers whose sole purpose and responsibility will be to investigate, arrest and prosecute drug dealers from the street level to the highest level possible.

REASONS FOR REFERRAL TO THE ASAP TEAM

1. Academic Failure
 - a. change in grades
 - b. lack of interest
2. At-Risk Behaviors
 - a. pregnancy
 - b. attempted suicide
 - c. retained during school career
 - d. parents are known substance abusers
3. Attendance Problems
 - a. chronic absenteeism
 - b. chronic tardiness
4. Atypical Behaviors
 - a. change in appearance
 - b. sleeping in class
 - c. change in friends
 - d. lying/cheating
 - e. minor accidents
5. Criminal Behavior or Legal Problems

Such as Theft and Fighting
6. Chronic Disruptive Behavior
7. In School Suspension

(three times per semester)
8. Out of School Suspension
9. Substance Abuse Policy is Broken
10. Suspected Chemical Use/Abuse
11. Suspected Physical Abuse
12. New Student to System

RED FLAGS IN DRUG/ALCOHOL ABUSE

1. Talking about drugs and alcohol
2. Smelling of alcohol and drugs
3. Finding drugs in the student's possession
4. Concern about parent's usage
5. Personality change - temper outbursts

DEADLINES FOR THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY ARE AS FOLLOWS:

NEWS RELEASES MON. 3 P.M.

ADVERTISING MON. 3 P.M.

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