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THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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35 Cents

Newbern receives award

• Named AFA Fireman of Year

A Hertford firefighter was named the Albemarle Firemen's Association Fireman of the Year earlier this month.

Parker Newbern, a 20-year firefighting veteran who presently serves as captain and training officer in the department, earned the honor from the 10-county firefighting association. Newbern was named Hertford Fire Department Fireman of the Year in December 1992.

"He (Newbern) is one of the leaders and part of the backbone of our department," Newbern's nomination form read. "Parker is a loyal and dedicated department member."

During 1992, Newbern logged 370 training hours. Part of these hours were taken under the fire science curriculum offered by Wilson Technical Community College through College of The Albemarle. Once finished with the curriculum, Newbern will receive an associates degree in fire science.

He also trained employees at Brian Center Nursing Facility to respond to fires with fire extinguishers. The training proved its merit in January, when two employees were credited with controlling a boiler room LP gas blaze at the facility using fire extinguishers. Training sessions at other places are under consideration.

Newbern is a member of the department's emergency response team. He has taught extrication to those enrolled in EMT courses sponsored by the Perquimans County Rescue Squad.

One of three representatives from Perquimans County on the Albemarle Fire Safety Committee. Newbern spent 24 hours last spring teaching fire safety at the county's elementary schools using the Albemarle Fire Safety Trailer.

Newbern is the director of public works for the town of Hertford. He lives in Winfall.

Landfill study group to meet with officials

The citizens' group formed to study solid waste management will meet with Perquimans County Commissioners Monday at 7 p.m. To ensure that all citizens who wish to attend the meeting can be seated, the meeting will be held in Courtroom B.

The group will make a presentation to commissioners, based on information they have learned through their waste management study.

ATTENTION!

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Cooperative clean-up



Volunteers spent Friday and Monday cleaning up a trash site on Boat Ramp Road in New Hope. Spearheaded by the late Fred Jones, the Durants Neck Ruritans decided to push for clean-up on the site owned by Steve Perry. The state, the county, the county water authority, Ruritans and other community volunteers kept trucks and heavy equipment moving briskly, hauling away about 45-50 loads of garbage. Law enforcement officials will be keeping an eye out for those illegally dumping on the property, and Perry has said he will press charges. The clean-up is just one of the community projects coordinated by the Ruritans. (Photo by Susan Harris)

Home alone: Ready or not?

In the wake of recent publicized child neglect cases involving children being left home alone for extended periods of time, many parents have questions concerning when children can be safely left alone.

There is no magic age when all children are ready to be left alone but the North Carolina Chapter of the National Committee for Prevention of Child Abuse offers the following guidelines for parents.

Some children are able to start being alone between the ages of 10 and 12 although every child is different. In order to stay alone for a short period of time children should demonstrate:

- A desire to stay alone.
- Telephone skills such as knowing whom to call, what to say in an emergency and how to handle phone calls.
- Ability to get ready for school on time, solve problems independently and finish homework with little supervision.
- Ability to communicate problems.

According to Jennifer Tolle, Executive Director of NC/CNPCA, parents should prepare their children to stay alone by teaching them how to handle potential problems such as getting locked out, arguments with siblings, answering the door, preparing snacks and handling household emergencies or injuries. Children should have definite rules, preferably written and signed by both the parent and child.

Even if a child seems ready to stay alone, parents should continue to provide supervision, guidance and emotional support. Listen as you regularly ask your child about problems they may experience.

For more information contact the North Carolina Chapter of the National Committee for Prevention of Child Abuse at 1-800-354-KIDS.

Extension plans jewelry workshop

"Jewelry and Fashion Accessories" will be presented by Amy Taylor Nixon at the Perquimans County Cooperative Extension Service on Thursday, March 11 at 2 p.m. Nixon handcrafts bows, tee shirts, belts, earrings, necklaces and other customized items.

The Bertie County native is married to Michael Nixon of Chowan County. They live the Rocky Hock community with their 5-year-old daughter, Jessica, who is responsible for her mother's accessory hobby and business. Nixon first made hair bows for her daughter and then branched into other creative accessories.

Please call 426-7697 or 426-5428 to register. Admission is free.



Willis Proctor (left), a member of the Board of Directors of Ruritan National, presented the corn yield trophies at January's Farm-City banquet. Winners were (left to right) William Wray Chappell - first place, Michael E. White (Willow Branch Farms) - second place, and Gene Perry - third place. The trophies were sponsored by the Ruritan Clubs in Perquimans County. (Photo courtesy Perquimans Cooperative Extension Service).



Leo Higgins (left) of the Hertford Lions Club presented soybean yield trophies at the Farm-City banquet last month. Receiving trophies were (left to right), Randy Park and A.O. Roberts of Eure Seed Farms - second place, and Gene Perry - third place. Choice Acres, Inc. earned first place. The Hertford Lions Club sponsored the trophies. (Photo courtesy Perquimans Cooperative Extension Service).

Crop yields recognized

Local producers of corn and soybeans received trophies for high yields entered in the county yield contests. Winners in the county corn contest were: first place - William Wray Chappell with a yield of 213.15 dry bushels per acre; second place - Willow Branch Farm with a yield of 209.24 bushels per acre; and third place - Gene Perry with a yield of 202.24 bushels per acre. In the soybean con-

test, the following winners were recognized: first place - Choice Acres, Inc. with a yield of 61.4 bushels per acre; second place - Eure Seed Farms with a yield of 52.5 bushels per acre; and third place - Gene Perry with a yield of 48.9 bushels per acre. Corn trophies were sponsored by the Perquimans County Ruritan Clubs, while soybean trophies were sponsored by the Hertford Lions Club.

Taxpayers sentenced to pay in Little Rascals case

By SUSAN R. HARRIS
Editor

Being a good neighbor is sometimes costly. Perquimans County found that out firsthand by hosting the trial of Kathryn Dawn Wilson, the second defendant to be tried in the Little Rascals Day Care sex abuse case.

County Manager Paul Gregory said Monday that the trial cost Perquimans County taxpayers between \$14,000 and \$18,000 to provide heat, a deputy to run court and janitorial services. He said it would be difficult to tie down an actual-to-the-penny figure because of how the deputies were scheduled to handle the extra workload caused by the case.

The money was not the only damage done to taxpayers' pocketbooks. Gregory said Clerk of Superior Court Gail Godwin has been trying to locate two missing law books. The two volumes were part of a set. So far, Godwin has had no luck finding the books. In addition, the carpet must be cleaned, the carpet was damaged in one room and some walls need to be repainted thanks to encounters with tables and chairs that were pushed into them during the trial.

"You can definitely tell it's been used," Gregory said of the upstairs facilities.

The Wilson trial began in mid-November and ended on Jan. 26, when Wilson was found guilty of five counts of sex offense and sentenced to life in prison.

Wilson's conviction came nine months after the guilty verdict handed down against former day care co-owner Robert F. Kelly Jr. Kelly was found guilty of 99 counts of sex offense and received 12 life sentences. Kelly's trial was held in the Pitt County town of Farmville.

Both the Kelly and Wilson cases are on appeal. Still to be tried are Kelly's wife, Elizabeth, former Edenton video store operator Willard Scott Privott, and three others. No decision on who will be tried next, when another trial will begin or where the next case will be heard has been made.

Do you think Perquimans County should host a second Little Rascals day care trial? Why? Voice your opinion by calling 426-5728 before Monday at 5 p.m. You do not have to identify yourself.

Arrests made

The Perquimans County Sheriff's Department reported the following arrests:

On Feb. 16, Richard Edward Mathews Jr., 25, of Route 2 was arrested and charged with first degree trespassing and simple assault. He was released on a \$200 unsecured bond.

On Feb. 17, Erman Carton Lane, 25, of Route 1, Box 725-C, was arrested and charged with assault on a female. He was released on a \$200 unsecured bond.

On Feb. 18, Isaac Stanley White, 35, of 211 Covent Garden, was arrested and charged with failure to appear. He was released on a \$200 secured bond.

On Feb. 19, Sherri B. Ward, 38, of Route 1, Box 497, was issued a criminal summons for worthless checks.

On Feb. 19, Gary Lee Talmadge, 34, of 132-M Cork Street, was arrested and charged with two counts of worthless checks. He was released on a \$200 secured bond.

On Feb. 22, John Edward Brown, 47, of Lot 55, Meads Trailer Court, was arrested and charged with failure to appear. He was confined to Albemarle District Jail in lieu of a \$7,500 secured bond.

On Feb. 22, James Ulysses Walker, 27, of Route 4, Box 1025, was arrested and charged with felony larceny and two counts of failure to appear. He was confined to Albemarle District Jail in lieu of a \$1,900 secured bond.

Doggone problem: Courtesy may be key to hunting situation

Those you who called in for our poll were 29-9 in favor of hunting. Most cited personal freedom, population control and animals feeding on crops as reasons you support hunting.

However, even most hunters acknowledged that there are those in their ranks who do not take care of the property of others, and who do not follow safe hunting practices.

From your comments, it is evident that many of you, whether you favor hunting or not, agree that hunters should police themselves in order to save the hunting tradition for more fathers to pass on to their sons.

Some callers warned that they are serious about putting an end to hunting with dogs, and maybe even going after high-powered rifles, because sitting down and talking simply didn't work.