

The Perquimans Weekly

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Watch alcohol amounts at parties

The holidays are upon us. The Perquimans Weekly will publish holiday tips each week until Christmas to help our community enjoy a safe, happy holiday season.



Holiday tips

The end of November and Thanksgiving weekend mark the beginning of the holiday season. And while it is time to celebrate and be thankful, Perquimans County Sheriff David Lane said it is also a time to be careful. That message is especially important when a drunk or drugged river is concerned.

The holiday season is a very festive one. Good food and good "cheer" are a must. But too much "cheery" alcoholic beverage can lead to a tragic alcohol-related traffic accident when the party is over and guests and family drive home.

To make the season safer, Lane suggests the following tips for holiday gatherings:

- ★ Always service food if you serve alcohol. High protein and carbohydrate foods like cheese and meats are especially good. They stay in the stomach longer, which slows the rate at which the body absorbs alcohol.

- ★ Serve non-alcoholic beverages. It is important that people have the option not to drink alcohol. Especially encourage designated drivers to drink these alternatives.

- ★ Don't let people mix their own drinks. If you tend bar yourself or hire a professional bartender you can control the amount of alcohol in each mixed drink. Have small glasses for beer, wine or champagne so that if guests want to drink more they will have to make repeated trips to the bar where you can monitor their consumption. Never force drinks on your guests, some may accept your unwanted offer of more alcohol not wishing to appear rude.

- ★ Stop serving alcohol about two hours before the party is over. This gives the guests time for their bodies to absorb alcohol consumed. Serve coffee, non-alcoholic beverages, and more food.

- ★ If a guest has had too much to drink, try to slow his or her drinking by engaging the guest in conversation, offering drinks with little or no alcohol, and serving high protein food. Offer to pay for a cab ride home, take the guest home or have the guest spend the night.

"Only time can sober someone up," Lane said. "Coffee and a cold shower are not the answer. An awake drunk is just as dangerous behind the wheel."

The party is not over until each guest is safely home, Lane said.

Help avoid highway tragedy this holiday season. Don't drive after drinking alcohol.

P.C.H.S band to perform in Philadelphia

By SUSAN R. HARRIS
Editor

Turkey a' la Phillie. That's what the Perquimans County High School Marching Pirates band will dine on for Thanksgiving dinner.

The award-winning band will perform in the 77th annual Channel 6 Thanksgiving Day parade in Philadelphia, Penn., an invitation-only event. In addition, the band's color guard was selected to perform in the grand finale, a production which will feature over 1,000 performers including flags, cheerleaders, choirs, dancing elves, skaters, bikes, confetti, streamers and Santa Claus.

Before dawn Wednesday, band students will board buses for Pennsylvania. They will return Friday.

Perquimans County Schools Director of Instrumental Music David Ziemba said he was very pleased with the band's invitation to historic Philadelphia.

"I'm very proud of the kids and I'm very excited for them to have this opportunity," Ziemba said. "Educationally, this will be a good experience for them."

While in Philadelphia, band students will enjoy a traditional Thanksgiving dinner and attend a Broadway performance of "Hello! Dolly." Ziemba will also try to fit his-



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Perquimans County High School Marching Pirates band will brave the elements in Philadelphia Thursday when they per-

form in the 77th annual Channel 6 Thanksgiving Day parade, an invitation-only event.

toric sightseeing tours into the band's holiday trip.

The road to Philadelphia has been paved with hours of hard work by a big band from a small school. Perquimans High School has less than 600 students, placing it in 1-A competition in athletics. However, with 82 marching band students, the Perquimans musicians and color guard goes up against schools twice its size in band events, competing in the 3-A and 4-A categories. Even with such stiff competition, the Perquimans entourage has consistently earned superior ratings and numerous awards for its per-

formances.

During the 1996 competition season, the Marching Pirates earned superior ratings in both the Peanut Festival in Edenton and the Colonial Classic in Washington. In Edenton, the group captured first place in the parade, and second place drum line and third place drum major in class 3-A competition. Perquimans brought home an overall second runner-up trophy, and first place trophies in both color guard and drum major from Washington.

The success the band enjoyed in 1996 is a sign of good years to come for the

Perquimans program. About 65 percent of the band students are freshmen and sophomores who will continue to represent Perquimans High School next year.

Ziemba started the Perquimans band program in 1978. In 1980, the first Marching Pirates band made its debut. Since that time, the Perquimans band has earned first place awards in Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina and Florida. In addition to one-day competitions the band participates in each year, the Marching Pirates have traveled to Disney World, Ocean City, Md., Wilmington

and Statesville for competition. The band earned one of its most coveted invitations in 1988, a request to appear in the Bicentennial Inaugural Parade of President George Bush in January 1989.

Perquimans students can begin band classes in the seventh grade. The school system has a seventh grade band, eighth grade band, and two high school band classes, band and advanced band. All are under Ziemba's direction.

Ziemba said the Philadelphia trip was made possible by the support of the Perquimans County Band Boosters.

PCHS COMEDY/ACTING RICH!



PHOTO BY SUSAN HARRIS

Perquimans County High School drama students got lots of laughs last Thursday evening with their fall production, "Acting Rich!" Cast members included Daniel Boyd, Misti Powers, Joey Lothian, Cindy Rayburn, Josh Turpin, Crystal Gower, Rebecca Padget, Matt Leicester, Robbie Paris, Heather Vanscoy, Jessica White, Bryan Jacobs and Loretta Lane. Drama teacher Lynwood Winslow directed the light comedy.

Newspaper, schools launch project

Tiger Territory makes its print debut, page 7

By SUSAN R. HARRIS
Editor

Young journalists are getting their first taste of ink this week, as The Perquimans Weekly and Perquimans County Middle School ABLE Learners Program unveils *Tiger Territory*.

The newspaper within a newspaper features stories written and edited by sixth grade students at Perquimans Middle School.

The project is coordinated by ABLE Learners facilitator Andrea Boone, Perquimans County Schools Public Relations Officer Brenda Lassiter and Perquimans Weekly editor Susan Harris.

Students in the sixth grade were selected for inclusion in

the program by their home-room teachers. The group has met several times over the last few weeks to learn more about newspapers, and how their curriculum in all subject areas is put to use in the journalism field.

Working under the supervision of Boone and Harris, the students decided what jobs each would handle. The next job was deciding on a name and masthead for the product. Then they decided what subjects they would write about, made story assignments, proofread stories, rewrote stories, decided what pictures they needed to accompany their stories, and helped to finalize plans and layout for the first *Tiger Territory* feature.

Even as the Nov. 27 edition of *Tiger Territory* was being finalized, student editors were brainstorming to come up with stories for the next edition, scheduled for Dec. 12.

"I am so excited about this project," Boone said. "It is a wonderful opportunity for our students to strengthen their writing and decision-making skills."

Boone said she plans to offer seventh and eighth graders the opportunity to write stories for the page in the near future.

Harris is also pleased with the project.

"I have offered to help coordinate this kind of program to encourage reading and writing skills for several years," Harris said. "I was thrilled when Andrea called me and asked if we could begin this newspaper project."

"We think *Tiger Territory* is one of the most unique Newspapers in Education Projects ever undertaken, and the most beneficial."

Initially, the feature will appear every two weeks in The Perquimans Weekly. Look for this week's *Tiger Territory* on page 7

County man charged with indecent liberties

A Perquimans County man was arrested last week and charged with indecent liberties with a child.

Kenneth W. Bateman Jr., 43, of Route 4, Box 932, Hertford, was arrested by Perquimans County Sheriff's deputies

Sunday. He was placed under a \$15,000 secured bond.

Neither Sheriff David Lane nor Chief Deputy Dean Cartwright were available Monday to provide further information on the arrest.

Holiday activities are approaching

Downtown Hertford will be filled with the sounds of Christmas on Tuesday, Dec. 10 when musicians and singers gather on the courthouse lawn for the annual evening of holiday melodies.

Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Sandra Smith said Monday the evening will feature Perquimans County Schools band students and local singers.

The organizing committee is seeking church choirs and other vocalists who wish to share the joy of the season through song.

Call the Chamber at 426-5657 for information about the holiday event.

The annual Christmas parade, themed "Christmas, the Birthday of a King," is set for Saturday, Dec. 7 at 2 p.m. Several bands from Perquimans and the surrounding area have agreed to perform in the holiday event.

Entry forms are available from the Chamber of Commerce office. They may be turned in at the Chamber office, NationsBank or The Perquimans Weekly.

The Extension Homemakers will hold their annual Christmas Ramble tour of homes on Thursday, Dec. 12. This year's tour will highlight the New Hope community. Please see the Happenings column on page 2 for details.

Outside

WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY	
High: 50s	Low: 30s	High: 50s	Low: 30s	High: 50s	Low: 30s
FAIR		MOSTLY CLOUDY		FAIR	