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Perquimans County
 an
All of Us Care
 Community

April's theme:

Value and
enjoy our
environment
 focusing on

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle
 Conserve resources

Incorporate these Healthy
 HABITS into your daily life and
 help make our community a
 better place to live!

For All of Us Care
 information, contact
 Dr. Randall L. Henion,
 Perquimans County Schools
 426-5741

GARDEN PARTY



PHOTO BY SUSAN HARRIS

Around 225 people enjoyed music, food and conversation Sunday afternoon at the Perquimans County Restoration Association's annual Garden Party. The fundraiser has become the most successful means of raising money for historic preservation and education for the Association. PCRA president Chris Lane said the afternoon event drew people from as far away as Rocky Mount, Virginia Beach, Raleigh and Washington (N.C.) "We really did have a lovely, lovely crowd of people," Lane said. "Everything went as we would have liked. The food was outstanding and the decorations were gorgeous. We're looking forward to next year."



US 17 project is on schedule

Driving along U.S. Highway 17 between Hertford and Edenton can leave motorists frustrated these days, but take heart: N.C. Transportation Department officials say construction is on schedule.

Environmental concerns delayed the start of the project, but construction is progressing smoothly now that contractors are moving ahead with the \$70.2 million project which will four-lane US 17 from the Hertford Bypass to the Edenton Bypass. The estimated completion date of the project is June 1, 1998, according to Don Conner, division engineer for the N.C. Department of Transportation.

The expansion was initially estimated at \$10.8 million.

Construction was delayed after concern arose over the project's impact on surrounding wetlands and a certain bat species, Conner said. Environmental studies and obtaining permits from regulatory agencies set the initial timeline back significantly.

While having a four-lane highway between the neighboring towns will be nice, construction has made traveling US 17 slow at times.

The Hertford to Edenton expansion is phase I of the US 17 project. Phase II will continue the four-lane highway from the north end of the Edenton Bypass to the east end of the Chowan River Bridge. The third phase will expand the bridge and its approaches.

The entire project is scheduled for completion by July 1999, barring delays.

German orchestra visits Perquimans High School

By ANGELA FOREST
 The Daily Advance

They may speak a different language most of the time, but talking to local students seemed to come easily for several young German musicians visiting local schools last week.

Students from Perquimans County High School gathered Tuesday to learn more about German culture from three young members of the Ulmer Knabenmusik, a symphonic orchestra from southern Germany that toured the area. Other members of the orchestra also paid a visit to Albemarle School.

"Do you have a problem with crime in your country," one Perquimans student asked.

One of the orchestra members named "Joey" answered that crime rates varied from city to city, but the city of Ulm, where most members live, has a fairly low crime rate.

"What kinds of food do you eat?" a girl asked.

"Oh, you know, dogs, cats," Joey said, causing the classroom to break into laughter.

The 65 members of the all-male orchestra, with ages ranging from 11 to 24, got the opportunity to interact with students at area schools and with people in the community before giving a public concert last Thursday evening at the Swain Auditorium in Edenton. The concert was one of four



Members of the German orchestra Ulmer Knabenmusik visited with Perquimans County High School students while on their tour of the Albemarle area last week.

they performed. The other three were held especially for public school students in Chowan, Perquimans, Tyrrell and Bertie counties, said Ann Perry, executive director of the Chowan Arts Council, the tour sponsor.

"This is the orchestra's first American tour. This is a one-in-a-lifetime experience," Perry said.

Planning for the tour began a year ago after orchestra president Michael Leibinger visited friends in Edenton and fell

in love with the town's quaintness and natural beauty. Soon after, Leibinger sent Perry a letter requesting support from the Arts Council in having the orchestra play in the area during its American tour. The young men stayed with host families in Edenton while visiting. Funding for the tour was provided by the Arts Council.

Perquimans County Schools Director of Instrumental Music David Ziemba and some

of his band students assisted with concert set-up, evening loaning the group instruments.

Raelael Lang, who plays the French horn, said some of the things he liked best about being in the United States was all-you-can-eat restaurants and air conditioning.

Asked about the absence of women in the orchestra, he explained that would change its purpose.

"It's not the philosophy of the orchestra to have girls. It's more fun with just boys," he said.

Heather Vanscoy, a junior at Perquimans High, and one of about 12 student guides who escorted orchestra members, said she was not sure what to expect after being told members spoke little English. She

would find out most of them were fluent in the language. She said having lived in Germany as a child made meeting the members even more interesting.

"I was in Germany for about six years because my parents were in the Army. I used to speak it fluently, so now it's coming back to me."

Perry said the goal of the tour was to broaden the cultural experience of both the community and orchestra members.

After leaving the Albemarle, the orchestra headed to Myrtle Beach, S.C., and then to Atlanta, where they were scheduled to participate in an exchange program with a school orchestra before returning to Germany on May 30.

Outside

THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY	
High: 70	Low: 50s	High: 70s	Low: 60	High: 70s	Low: 60s
PARTLY CLOUDY		PARTLY CLOUDY		CHANCE OF RAIN	