

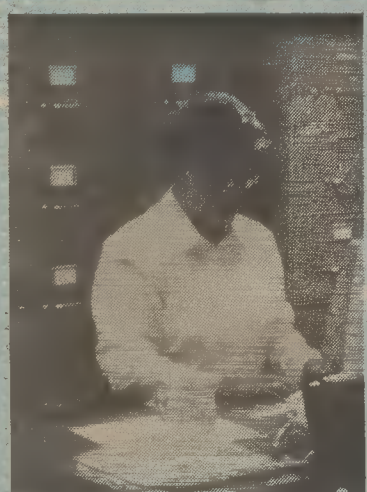
The Perquimans Weekly 35¢

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Perquimans County
an
All of Us
Community

September's theme:
Do Your Best



PHOTO BY BRIAN VANDERLIET, THE DAILY ADVANCE

The streets of Hertford took on the air of a county fair Saturday with Indian Summer Festival 1997. Booths featuring crafts, food and information lined Church and Market streets. On the courthouse lawn and at the waterfront park behind the Hertford town offices, entertainers sang and danced for appreciative audiences. The festival is organized and promoted by the Perquimans County Chamber of Commerce.

Festival 1997 is successful

By SUSAN R. HARRIS
Editor

Hundreds of people spilled into Hertford Saturday for the 16th annual Perquimans County Indian Summer Festival.

The day-long gala featured a kids olympics, pony rides, craft vendors, food and live entertainment in a street fair atmosphere.

Opening the event was the Perquimans County High School Marching Pirates Band, a perennial festival favorite. The group performed its 1997 competition show, "A 20-Year Celebration," along with the national anthem and

other favorites of the students.

Entertainment downtown continued with vocalist Jeanie Truesdale, the Dazzlin' Image Cloggers, soloist Eric Midgett, the Harbor Lites Square Dancers, the Rockin' Willie Band, Denim & Diamonds Dancers, and Margie Beals and the Dimestore Lovers.

This year's festival featured the PAL Alley Art Show and Sale. Members of the Perquimans Arts League reported having a good day displaying and selling their variety of fine arts.

Meanwhile, over at waterfront park, an area designed with children and youth in mind, the day kicked off with a

kids olympics sponsored by the Family Support Partnership. The contest featured beauty, crawling, slo-pitch, bowling, sounds and dance contests.

Joy Untold was also back with costumed characters, a petting zoo, balloon sculpture and a magic show.

Disc Jockey Mickey Phelps, the Inspirational Voices from Perquimans High School, Midgett, Spastik and Spacers also performed at the waterfront.

The event ended with a street dance in Missing Mill Park with music by Bill Deal and Ammon Tharpe, the original Rhondels. About 500 people

filled the venue.

"I think that by all measures, it was a great success," said festival chairman Robert Baker.

Baker said the event drew not only county residents, but many from outside the area who enjoyed their day.

The chairman credited volunteers for the festival's success.

Indian Summer Festival was begun in 1982 by the chamber. Although there have been changes in format over the years, the festival has continued to be an effort to showcase Perquimans County, bringing together both locals and visitors.

Harvest comes early for Chapanoke area pot farmer

By SUSAN R. HARRIS
Editor

An early harvest came for an unidentified Perquimans farmer on Sept. 10 when law officers pulled up 78 marijuana plants on a Chapanoke farm.

Sheriff David Lane, Pasquotank County-Elizabeth City Task Force Agent Max Robeson, and Pasquotank County Deputy Keb Burgess drove four miles down a dirt and rock farm road to a secluded spot where they yanked up the immature plants. Robeson said the street value of the marijuana at maturity would have been \$124,800.

The next day, the N.C.

Highway Patrol flew over the area, but found no more plants, Lane said.

The sheriff said an informant notified the Elizabeth City Police Department of the plants' existence. The task force was notified because it was initially thought the marijuana was in Pasquotank County. When it was found to be in Perquimans, Lane was called.

Robeson said no arrests were made in the case because officers did not see anyone tending the plants. The law requires that a person be observed watering, planting, harvesting or otherwise tending the plants before an arrest can be made. The landowner cannot automatically

be held liable, Robeson said.

Lane said the case is part of his department's ongoing efforts to deal with drugs in the area. Confidential information has played a vital role in drug cases, he said.

"If we don't have some information coming to us, it's really hard for us," Lane said. The sheriff added that secluded areas are difficult to patrol. He said many arrests and confiscations begin with information called in by concerned community residents. All calls are held in strict confidence, he said.

To report suspected drug-related or any criminal activity, call the sheriff's department at 426-5615.



Perquimans and Pasquotank law officers confiscated 78 marijuana plants from a Chapanoke farm recently. The estimated street value of the plants at harvest is \$124,800, or \$1,600 per plant

2-county chase leads to arrest

By SUSAN R. HARRIS
Editor

A Hertford man was arrested last Thursday night after a chase through Perquimans and Chowan counties involving Hertford police officers and the N.C. Highway Patrol.

William Edward Armstrong, 43, of 221 Dobbs Street, was arrested and charged with resist, obstruct and delay, assault on a handicapped person, carrying a concealed weapon, speeding in an attempt to elude arrest, failure to stop for blue light and siren, speeding 87 in a 55, and careless and reckless driving. His bond was set at \$1,000 secured.

According to Hertford's interim police chief Dale Vanscoy, the Hertford officers responded to an unknown type of disturbance call in the area of 209 King Street around 10:50 p.m. Thursday. They arrived to find a large male assaulting a small female. When officers attempted to apprehend the man, he resisted and fled in his vehicle.

Officers pursued the car down King Street onto Edenton Road Street and through the Bethel area into Chowan County, where the highway patrol took over the pursuit, Vanscoy said.

The chase continued until the car pulled into a residence in Chowan County, where Armstrong was charged with traffic violations by NCHP. He was brought to Hertford where he was arrested and charged.

A late August incident also led to the arrest of two Hertford men. George Lorse Moore, 19, of 319 Market Street and Scott Sylvester White, 22 of 123A Harvey Point Road, were arrested and charged with robbery with a dangerous weapon.

Vanscoy said Moore had allegedly gotten a ride to COA's Chowan County Center with another student on Aug. 27. When the unidentified student stopped on Market Street to drop Moore off after class, Vanscoy said White allegedly approached the vehicle with a handgun and forced the driver and a second passenger behind a house. The two were allegedly told to put their hands on the wall and threatened with the gun in response to some type of family incident.

The pair were allowed to return to the vehicle. They got back in, at which point Moore allegedly took the keys out of the car, took the gun from White and robbed the victims. Moore then reportedly gave the keys back and the two left the scene.

Please see **ROBBED**, page 8

JobReady Partnership plans business expo for students

By ANGELA FOREST
The Daily Advance

What will the workforce of the 21st century look like?

No one knows for sure, but members of the COA-Chowan-Gates-Perquimans JobReady Partnership are doing their best to ensure it will be highly skilled.

The partnership, which is made up of the counties systems in each of the counties and the community college campus in Edenton, is designed to pre-

pare students for employment while offering employers a capable, well-trained workforce. To those ends, the partnership will sponsor its first business expo Oct. 15-16 at the Edenton Cotton Mill.

Partnership officials announced the upcoming event during a Thursday morning press conference at the COA campus in Edenton.

Nearly 20 businesses have signed up for the expo so far, said Edenton-Chowan Chamber of Commerce

Membership Director Lisa Faulkenberry.

At the expo, ninth-grade students from all three counties will meet with area business people to talk about job opportunities. They'll also attend seminars designed to help them form career goals and learn what job skills employers are seeking.

"The educational piece of the expo begins on Thursday (Oct. 16)," said Lynn Hurdle-Winslow, dean of the COA Chowan Center.

"When students arrive they will be welcomed in a professional manner by chamber organizers. We want to make sure students visit at least three businesses. We want this to be a structured event."

Student activities will be followed by an evening program for parents of eighth through 12th graders designed to show them what the job market can offer their children, said Hurdle-Winslow.

Please see **EXPO**, page 8

Outside

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