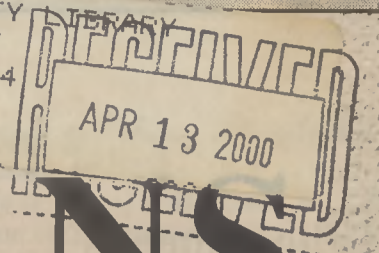


PERQUIMANS COUNTY
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HERTFORD NC 27944



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THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

35 cents

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Relay for Life nears

SUSAN R. HARRIS
Editor

Tots, teens, senior citizens and folks in between will join for the largest pajama party around on April 28 and 29 during the 2000 Chowan-Perquimans Relay for Life.

Friday, April 28 will see hundreds of walkers and runners from Chowan and Perquimans counties set up overnight accommodations on the grounds of the John A. Holmes Athletic Stadium. They'll drag tents, food, lawn chairs, sleeping bags, radios, tables, coolers and more onto team campsites where they'll spend the next 24 hours.

Around 3 o'clock that afternoon, representatives from each team will start walking, and someone from each team will be on the track for the duration of the Relay.

Special events during the Relay activity include a Survivor's Lap and a Luminary Service.

All cancer survivors in Chowan and Perquimans counties are invited to participate in the Survivor's Lap which honors those who have battled with cancer.

According to Brenda Newbern, a veteran Relay for Life Committee member, the Survivor's Lap tells the story of what Relay for Life, a fund raiser for the American Cancer Society, is all about. Through research, which requires tremendous amounts of funds, more and more cancer "victims" are becoming cancer "survivors."

All present and former cancer patients are invited to join for a reception and Survivor's Lap. Survivor Activities Co-Chair Sherry Harrell said survivors may contact her at 426-5145 or Shelby Strother at 482-8505 to pre-register. About 40 survivors have already registered, Harrell said.

Pre-registration is not required; however, it makes coordinating the 6 p.m. Survivor's Lap much less hectic, Harrell said. Survivors check-in at the Relay begins at 5 p.m. for the 6 p.m. lap. Survivors may enjoy the reception in their honor before the lap begins.

Claudia Bunch and Linda McDonald are in charge of the Luminary sales. Luminaries are purchased in honor or in memory of a cancer patient. They line the track during a ceremony that takes place after dark during Relay.

In addition, purple bows are available for sale at B.J.'s in Hertford. The Relay committee hopes that the two counties will be blanketed in purple ribbons during the Relay weekend indicating support for cancer research.

In the meantime, bake sales, car washes, auctions, concerts and more are taking place on a regular basis as teams in both counties raise money for the American Cancer Society.

Council wants safe streets

Speeding on bridge, sidewalk cyclists problem

ANNA GOODWIN MCCARTHY
Correspondent

Hertford Town Council Members want the streets of Hertford to be safe.

In a town council meeting Monday night, council members discussed the needs of motorists, cyclists and pedestrians.

Council member Jo Ann Morris asked Police Chief Dale Vanscoy about his efforts to control the speed of motorists coming over the S-bridge into Hertford.

Vanscoy said a monitoring system will be set up to track

the average speed of cars coming over the bridge, as well as other statistical information such as how many cars travel the bridge.

The speed limit on the bridge and on North Church Street is 25 mph.

During the meeting, Vanscoy also addressed the problem of cyclists on city sidewalks.

Vanscoy said that it is

unlawful to ride bicycles on the sidewalks.

People who ride their bicycles on the sidewalks could have to pay a \$10 citation.

However, Vanscoy said that often warnings are given instead of the citations.

If a person continues to neglect the warnings, then that is when there is a need to issue the citation, said Vanscoy.

Local charged with molesting child

RUSSELL G. HADDAD
The Daily Advance

A Pasquotank County grand jury has indicted a Hertford man for allegedly molesting a child living in his home.

Randol Gary Olah, 28, of Route 2, Box 58, Hertford, was arrested April 3 and charged with first-degree sexual offense and taking indecent liberties with a child. He is being confined at Albemarle District Jail in lieu of a \$60,000 secured bond.

Pasquotank County Sheriff Randy Cartwright said Olah's arrest stemmed from an investigation initiated after a school counselor alerted the Pasquotank County Department of Social Services that the girl, who is not the suspect's daughter, might be a sexual abuse victim.

When confronted with the allegations, Olah reportedly confessed to assaulting the girl on three separate occasions within the past year, Cartwright said.

Olah's wife, Michelle, who is currently living in Elizabeth City, was living with Olah in Hertford when the alleged sexual abuse took place.

As far as Cartwright is aware, Olah has not been previously charged with a similar crime. Only one child was subjected to the alleged abuse, the sheriff said.

Olah was indicted by March 27. No trial date has been set.

CONRAD BIRDIE AND HIS FANS



PHOTO BY SAM WOLFE, THE DAILY ADVANCE

Conrad Birdie, AKA Matt White, brought out the beast in his fans Ursula (Heather Harris, left) and the mayor's wife (Erin France). For a review of Bye-Bye, Birdie, turn to page 9.

Church opens arms to migrants

SUSAN R. HARRIS
Editor

It all started when a health department nurse shared with her church family the circumstances of some residents in a Camden migrant camp.

With low self-esteem, low income, a low expectation of ever having a better life, and no family close by, the farm workers' lifestyle touched the heart of the nurse. She shared her concerns with her church family at Emmanuel Pentecostal Church on U.S. Highway 17 South of Hertford.

The church family responded, and has now grown to include these "gentlemen from Camden," as they call their new-found friends.

There is a special place in the heart of church member Tammy Wynn for this outreach ministry.



Members of Emmanuel Pentecostal Church in Hertford are getting more than they're giving, they say, with an outreach program aimed at giving migrant workers a church family and church home. You can no longer tell the original church members in the congregation from their "adopted kin," and that's just how everyone likes it.

"Our main goal is to build their self-esteem and values (to help them) move beyond this point," she said.

At first, the church made provisions to take worship services to the men at their home. When it was suggested that the farm workers attend Emmanuel for worship services, some hesitated because

they felt they didn't have the proper clothing to attend church. Although it didn't matter to the Emmanuel congregation how their guests dressed for services, the congregation knew that it mattered to the farm workers. So they found some appropriate "Sunday" clothes for the gentlemen.

Please see MINISTRY, page 14

Congress draws fire from local officials

ANNA GOODWIN MCCARTHY
Correspondent

Actions taken in Washington, D.C. have displeased Hertford Town Council members.

Members have found fault with the Private Property Rights Implementation Act of 2000.

The act, sponsored by U.S. Rep. Charles Canady, is an attempt to make access to the federal courts easier and faster on appeal.

Currently legislation is pending in the Senate regarding its approval.

"That is a serious error," said Council member Jo Ann Morris.

Council members disapprove of the act because it would allow any developer to appeal directly to the federal courts, bypassing town planning and zoning officials.

The issues and land that would be discussed in the federal courts are more familiar to local and state officials, argued council members.

Last Monday, the town council adopted a resolution that states its opposition to the act proposed in Washington.

WEEKEND WEATHER

THURSDAY
High: 64
Low: 52
PARTLY CLOUDY

FRIDAY
High: 76
Low: 59
ISOLATED T'STORMS

SATURDAY
High: 81
Low: 60
ISOLATED T'STORMS