

Pirates go 2-1 on week

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THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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Burkett named Best in Show

"Tree Tunnell" by Pat Burkett captured Best in Show honors at the 6th Annual Members Art Show.

Guests enjoyed refreshments and quality artwork Friday evening at the show's opening reception at the county library.

Glenn Eure, owner of Glenn Eure's Ghost Fleet Gallery in Nags Head, judged the impressive show.

"There is a real variety here for such a small group," Eure said. "The watercolors are powerful. I'm intrigued by the intricate wooden boxes. It's obvious that many of the participants have formal training. There's a tremendous amount of energy evident in this show. I could easily have awarded more ribbons."

Other award winners were:

Drawing/Pastel
First Place: Sweet Gardenia by Janice Eure;
Second Place: Deep Breath by Margaret Duffield;
Honorable Mention: Flowers by Helen Piontka.

Fiber Art
First Place: Sunrise Surprise by Ena Lynn;
Second Place: Yellow Pear - Red Ant by Jimmie Hayes;
Honorable Mention: Windmill by Charlotte Bunch

Painting
First Place: Tree Tunnel by Pat Burkett;
Second Place: Walk in Woods by Audrey Orlikowski;
Honorable Mention: Garden House by Connie Stringer

Woodworking
First Place: Pods by Ken Avery;
Second Place: S Bridge Turtle by Erik VandeBogart;
Honorable Mention: Abstract Box by Ken Avery

Photography
First Place: February Mirror by John Matthews;
Second Place: Red Apple, Blue Sky by John Matthews;
Honorable Mention: Waiting for Residents by Eugene Zeiner

Artistic Jewelry
First Place: Silver in a Knot by Juanita Bailey;
Second Place: Rick Rack by Juanita Bailey;
Honorable Mention: Fish Tales by Juanita Bailey

Sculpture
First Place: Carolina Wild Turkey by Erik VandeBogart;
Second Place: Rock House by Connie Stringer;
Honorable Mention: Victorian Flowers Swan by Doris Reinheimer

Perquimans County Commissioners' Award: Blossom by Janice Eure.

People's Choice Award: Deep Breath by Margaret Duffield.

Purchase Awards were provided by Dr. and Mrs. Robert Earl Lane, Dr. and Mrs. Jack Boone, Captain Bob's, Centura Bank, Woodard's Pharmacy, Hertford Hardware, East Carolina Bank and Brian Center/Hertford.

The show is open through mid-April.

Calm returns to PCHS

Bomb threat interrupts class Friday

SUSAN R. HARRIS

Except for a couple of extra uniforms in the halls, it's been pretty normal this week at Perquimans County High School.

Uniformed officers continue to help school officials patrol the halls and grounds after the report of a gun on a school bus and a bomb threat within five school days put the school in what the school system terms a state of "high awareness."

The first incident occurred the morning of March 8, when several students reported seeing the barrel of a gun protruding below the pants leg of another student on a school bus. School officials tracked down the student reported with the gun, and searched his person, locker, personal belongings, and the bus on which he rode to school, but found nothing. They determined that he left the school building between getting off the bus and the time he was found for questioning.

In the meantime, witnesses were questioned, and told stories so similar that Emanuel Coston, 16, was arrested by Hertford



Certified public safety diver and PCHS teacher Harrell Thach dives in the murky waters of Jenny's Gut last week, looking for the gun a student reportedly brought to school on March 8. No weapon was recovered.

Police three days later and charged with possessing a gun on educational property, a Class I felony. He faces up to 15 months in prison if convicted.

No weapon has been found, even though a team from the Perquimans County Water Search and Dive Recovery Team searched Jenny's Gut, a large drainage ditch that

bisects school property, on two separate occasions.

This past Friday, the school was evacuated for less than an hour when a student left a bomb threat on a computer screen. No bomb was found, nor has the student responsible for the incident been caught.

Students were out of school for scheduled days off last Monday and

Tuesday. Most have been attending as usual since the incidents, although absenteeism has been somewhat higher.

PCHS principal Dwayne Stallings sent letters home to parents on the days of both incidents to let parents know exactly what was happening at the school. In addition, school officials have met with law

enforcement officers, and the PCHS Safe Schools Committee met last Tuesday to review emergency policy and any revisions that might be needed. That meeting was followed by a full staff meeting to discuss safety issues.

A public meeting to discuss the safe schools plan has been set for April 2 at 7 p.m. in the PCHS cafeteria.

\$40K to help juvenile justice program

SEAN JACKSON

The Daily Advance

Area juvenile advocates want to create a uniform program of services for the growing number of youths entering and exiting the judicial system.

More than 60 local elected officials gathered last week in Hertford for the awarding of a \$40,000 Governor's crime commission planning grant to the Albemarle Commission. The 1-year grant will create a planning project called United First. Project planner Nancy Barrows said a steering committee will propose a plan within the next year to ensure that all

at-risk youths and juveniles under court orders will receive equal services throughout the 1st Judicial District.

"There are gaps that exist in the 1st Judicial District," Barrow said Friday. "What we hope to accomplish is to even the playing field ... no matter where (the youths) are in the 1st Judicial District. We want a juvenile in Chowan County to receive the same services as a juvenile in Currituck County."

Barrow said the project should mirror the Far West Model currently used in western North Carolina.

"What the plan does is provide a continuum of

services to juvenile ... from the time they enter the system to the end of the court process," Barrow said. "Once it is planned and ready to go, I'll begin my job of looking for funding to put the project in motion."

Barrow said area Juvenile Crime Prevention Councils, probation services and various other youth-related judicial agencies will link together for the project.

District Court Judge J. C. Cole has urged the steering committee to focus on the positive impact the plan can have on area youths who, for whatever reason, find themselves in trouble.

"Make a dream list of what we can do for children in this district — not ... what we can't do," Cole stated in a press release.

Barrow said Cole should receive credit for spearheading the project.

"It's his vision that is fueling this effort," she said.

State Sen. Marc Basnight, D-Dare, also supported the project.

"I am a strong believer that by joining together in these kinds of regional, multi-agency partnerships, we can provide a range of services that would otherwise not be possible," Basnight stated in a press release.

School calendar approved

The school board okayed the 2001-2002 calendar Monday night.

Students will start classes on Aug. 9 and will be released on May 30, earlier than the usual June dismissal for summer holidays.

There will be holidays and/or teacher work days in every month except August. All two-day breaks are Monday-Tuesday or Friday-Monday pairs. The calendar includes Thanksgiving, Christmas and spring breaks.

BASEBALL BATTLES

The Pirates baseball team is back in action, jumping out to a 4-1 record on the season with wins against Northeastern (twice), Camden and Edenton, and a late-inning loss to Currituck. Head coach Richard Thach sees lots of positives in this scrappy team, and hopes for a winning season in the perennially strong Northeastern Albemarle Conference. See page 7 for baseball highlights.



WEEKEND WEATHER

THURSDAY
High: 67
Low: 52
RAIN

FRIDAY
High: 68
Low: 47
RAIN

SATURDAY
High: 63
Low: 42
PARTLY CLOUDY