

B3/S2*****CAR-RT LOT**C-001
 PERQUIMANS COUNTY LIBRARY
 110 W ACADEMY ST
 HERTFORD, NC 27944-1306

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

35 cents

Pirates feast on Wildcats

Page 9

Dealing with childhood stress

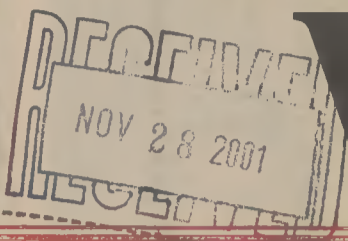
Page 8

Teachers get Bright Ideas

Page 8

November 28, 2001

Vol. 69, No. 38 Hertford, North Carolina 27944



Holiday events kick off Saturday

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas in Hertford — and several upcoming holiday events should make it feel like Christmas, too.

Saturday will bring the annual Christmas parade through the streets of Hertford. Themed "An American Christmas," the parade will leave the high school at 2 p.m., head north on Edenton Road Street, turn east onto Grubb Street, turn south onto Church Street, turn west onto Dobbs Street and turn south onto Edenton Road Street to end back at the high school. Entries should reach downtown 20-30 minutes after leaving the high school.

Leading the parade will be Sadot Mendez, grand marshal, and Janice Cole, honorary chairperson. Both Perquimans County residents have earned recognition for their outstanding contributions to the community. Mendez was selected as an Olympic torchbearer. Cole was presented with the highest civilian honor in the state, The Order of the Long Leaf Pine.

Participants include traditional favorites, Perquimans Middle and High school bands. Northeastern High School will also perform at the parade.

Floats of many descriptions, Scout groups, local officials, fire trucks and more are scheduled to appear in the parade.

Downtown, there will be a variety of craft, food and other vendors on the courthouse lawn from 11 a.m.—4 p.m.

In order to provide a safe environment for parade participants and Chamber of Commerce organizers, traffic will be monitored closely at the high school on parade day. The King Street gates to Cedar Wood Cemetery will close at 10 a.m. Traffic coming into the high school will enter Jimmy Hunter Drive and turn right onto Ainsley Drive to exit. Parking will be allowed on one side of Ainsley Drive only. No vehicles except those in the parade will be allowed in

the line-up area after 11:30 a.m. Judging will take place at 12:45.

Because of limited parking at the high school, runover parking will be at the school's King Street Annex.

The Band Boosters will be selling concessions on site.

The man of the season, Santa Claus, has confirmed his appearance in Hertford. He will leave his sleigh downtown to hear the wish lists of boys and girls on the courthouse lawn.

Questions about the parade may be directed to the Chamber office at 426-5657 or Susan Harris, co-chairperson, at 426-5728.

The town's Christmas lights will be turned on Saturday in conjunction with the parade.

Thursday also promises to bring holiday cheer to the county. The annual Extension Christmas Ramble, Caroling on the Green and Antique Dealers Ramble is set for Dec. 6.

The antique shops will get the evening started with an open-house atmosphere at each of the seven participating shops. Ramble hours are 4—9 p.m. Call 426-3640 or 426-8222 for information.

From 5—9, downtown will come alive with the Historic Hertford Business Association Caroling on the Courthouse Green and Treasure Hunt. Entertainment, including high and middle school groups, is scheduled every 30 minutes beginning at 6 p.m. and ending at 8:30 with community caroling. For information on caroling and extended store hours, call 426-2021.

The treasure hunt is set from 5—8 p.m. and will begin at Frankie's Hertford Cafe. For rules and information on the treasure hunt, call 426-5593.

Newbold-White House docents will be serving home-made cookies and warm apple cider on the courthouse lawn during the evening.

The Perquimans Extension and Community Association will host its annual Christmas Ramble from 6:30—9 p.m. Homes on tour include those of Shirley Wiggins of Winfall, Gary and Marchita Sawyer of New Hope, and Richard and Maggie Morris of Land's End Plantation. Also on the tour until 8 p.m. will be Pala Creations Porcelain Dolls & Ceramics. Refreshments will be served at Woodland United Methodist Church.

Four passes are \$3 for adults and \$1 for students. Tickets will be sold in advance and at the homes on tour night.

Proceeds will benefit youth programs and educational projects for the coming year.

Tourists should bring flashlights and wear low-heeled shoes.

For tickets, tour brochures and maps, contact the Extension Center at 426-7697.

WREATHS OF THANKS



PHOTOS BY SUSAN HARRIS

The PTAs and PTSAs of the county's four schools joined Wednesday afternoon on the courthouse lawn for a wreath ceremony in conjunction with the national PTA. Each school designed a wreath with a theme of thankfulness, peace, patriotism and/or hope.

Remembered in the prayers offered during the brief ceremony were those involved in the Sept. 11 attacks on the U.S. and their families, and servicemen and women fighting the war on terrorism. Each wreath is on display at the school at which it was made.



HGS music teacher Heather Webb leads a group of Hertford Grammar students as they sing patriotic songs.

Speaking to school board may get easier

SUSAN R. HARRIS

Those with something to say to the school board will find it easier to speak if the board approves a proposed revision to its policy.

The first reading of an additional subsection of policy 1326 Public Comment took place Monday night. The policy revision would allow the public to sign up just prior to the start of a board meeting and speak at the same meeting.

The addition to the policy, subsection 1326.6, reads, "A part of each meeting

will be set aside for citizens to address the board. A sign-up sheet will be available for any individual or group to indicate their desire to address the board. The chairperson will decide the time devoted to public comments. Board members will not respond to individuals who address the board except to request clarification of points made by the presenter. Those addressing the board concerning a non-agenda item will be informed that the board will receive the presentation, but will not take any action on a request or proposal at that

meeting." Presently, any person wishing to speak to the school board must call the schools central office before Friday at 9 a.m. prior to a Monday board meeting to get on the agenda.

In conjunction with the policy, a Citizen Comment Sheet was created so that those who wish to speak can give the question, comment or concern they plan to address. There is also space for a proposed solution to concerns raised.

The revised policy would give a speaker 3 minutes before the board to address

any issue that is not properly the subject of closed session discussions. Personnel and litigation issues, for instance, are allowed by state statute to be discussed in closed session.

The policy revision as proposed leaves it to the chairman to decide how much time overall will be devoted to public comment.

The second reading of the policy is set for Dec. 17. It is expected to be voted on at that time.

Board members asked that the policy be revised in order to be more responsive to the public.

School board approves policy revisions

Short-term suspension, internet rules get updated

SUSAN R. HARRIS

The school board approved revisions to two of its policies after second readings Monday night.

Policy 6515 Short-Term Suspension had a paragraph deleted. The paragraph read, "Decisions on short-term suspensions may be appealed to the Superintendent. The decision of the Superintendent may be appealed to the Board. The Superintendent may, in his discretion, post-

pone the disciplinary action during any appeals."

Superintendent Kenneth Wells said when proposing the revision in October that the policy as originally written took away the authority of principals to handle discipline at their sites. He said principals in the district suspend students only when they feel it is absolutely necessary and/or is mandated by discipline policies.

The board's full policy on student discipline still allows parents/guardians to meet with principals, the superintendent and finally the board if they have concerns about discipline matters. The policy revision does not take away those rights, Wells said.

However, the policy does mean that students sus-

ended for up to 10 days will not be allowed to attend school during the appeals process.

Also approved was an addition to policy 5450 Internet/Computer Network Acceptable Use Policy and Regulations.

In the section dealing with appropriate use of the technology, the following was added: As a further measure of protection against inappropriate materials from the Internet in the schools, computers will access the Internet using filtering technology which protects against access by adults and minors to language and visual depictions that are obscene, pornographic, or harmful to minors. The filtering technology may be disabled temporarily for

adults engaged in curriculum related research or other lawful, legitimate purposes. This filtering technology will enable monitoring of online activities by students.

While board members agreed that filtering technology is imperfect, they approved the policy because it does provide a safeguard against inappropriate use.

For instance, a health occupations student doing research on breast cancer might be blocked from searching for articles with the word "breast." However, in cases such as this technology specialists can disable the filter to allow the student to complete adequate research for his or her assignment, then restore the filter.

WEEKEND WEATHER

THURSDAY
 High: 74
 Low: 49
 PARTLY CLOUDY

FRIDAY
 High: 65
 Low: 42
 RAIN

SATURDAY
 High: 62
 Low: 40
 PARTLY CLOUDY