

## Hometown Heroes

Page 3

## Kick Butts Day observed

Page 6

## Easter tourney highlights

Page 7

April 30, 2003

Vol. 71, No. 18 Hertford, North Carolina 27944

# PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

RECEIVED  
APR 30 2003  
35 cents

## 9-year-old county boy dies in accident

SUSAN R. HARRIS  
BEN DECK AND  
RYAN BURR

"How" and "why" are words heard often over the past week in Perquimans County as family and friends of 9-year-old John Richard "J.R." Winslow try to cope with his tragic death.

The young man was killed last Wednesday afternoon when the all-terrain vehicle he was riding and a dump truck traveling on N.C. Highway 37 collided.

Winslow was approaching the highway from a private driveway around 3 p.m. when he struck the right side of the passing truck, said Trooper J.H. Blizzard of the state Highway Patrol.

The ATV was thrown



J.R. Winslow

into a ditch where it rolled over, and Winslow was thrown off the vehicle and onto the shoulder of the highway, Blizzard said.

Winslow, who was on spring break from Hertford Grammar School when the accident occurred, was pronounced dead at the scene of the accident. He was not

wearing a helmet, Blizzard said.

According to family members, Winslow was on the first of three vehicles on the private drive preparing to cross Highway 37. His sister, Jessica, was on a second ATV behind J.R., and the children's paternal grandfather, Johnny Winslow, was on a farm vehicle behind them.

Both Jessica and Johnny Winslow reported to other family members that J.R. had stopped his four-wheeler and was checking the highway for traffic before crossing it.

The actual accident happened so quickly that some details are not known.

Brenda Winslow, J.R.'s mother, said she wants people to know that the ATV was not on the highway, according to Jessica, nor

was J.R. run over.

The truck, a 1983 GMC, was driven by Andrew J. Brown of Como, Blizzard said. Brown was driving between 45 and 50 mph at the time of the crash.

No charges have been filed in connection with the crash, Blizzard said.

When students returned from spring break Monday, counselors from across the system and volunteers with the Ministers' Council were on hand to help students at Hertford Grammar School deal with having lost their friend, a third grader in Stacey Pierce's class, according to schools Public Information Officer Brenda Lassiter.

Lassiter said an announcement of J.R.'s death was made just after the school day began Monday. Most students

knew about the accident, and in fact, many had visited his family and attended his funeral Saturday afternoon. There were some, however, who had not heard the sad news.

Lassiter said the counselors and ministers were wonderful with the children, providing the support they needed to understand and deal with the loss of their friend.

Students were also concerned about Brenda Winslow, a cafeteria worker at Hertford Grammar School loved by all the students, Lassiter said.

Lassiter is a friend of the family and attends Up River Friends Meeting with them. She fondly remembers J.R.

"He was a perfect little boy. He looked for the best in everyone," Lassiter said.

"His family is very well-known and loved by the community. They are lifelong residents of Perquimans County.

"J.R. always had a smile on his face," Lassiter added.

J.R. had been busy lately, practicing with the Belvidere-Whiteston youth league baseball team coached by his grandfather, Richard Stallings, and getting ready to show his pig in the Albemarle 4-H Livestock show this week.

Last Tuesday night, J.R.'s bat finally came around and he hit a triple, a memory his grandfather will no doubt cherish.

Kyle Winslow, J.R.'s cousin, will show J.R.'s pig in the livestock show on J.R. behalf.

(Please find an obituary on page 3.)

## Termites, moisture damage N-W House

SUSAN R. HARRIS

Termites and moisture have played havoc at Perquimans County's Newbold-White House, the oldest standing brick house in North Carolina.

Gerald Zel, a member of the Perquimans County Restoration Association board of directors, said there has been a problem since the first of the year.

PCRA owns and oversees the operation of the Newbold-White House.

Zel said the house has been under a termite contract since 1987. It is unclear how the termites infested the house. Zel did not name the company with whom PCRA contracted, but said PCRA and the company are talking about each group's responsibilities.

The moisture problem is a result of water wicking up the thick exterior walls of the house.

The damage has forced PCRA to close the south room on the second floor of the house to the public, and to allow only two visitors at the time in the north room.

Zel said it will cost an estimated \$50,000-\$100,000 to restore the house.

A dehumidification system will be installed in the crawl space at the house in hope that the system will keep the moisture levels down, Zel said.

"That's the cheap part," Zel said. "That'll probably cost about \$2,000."

The expensive part will include tearing apart the second floor to access the extent of the damage. The floor and wall paneling will have to be removed to expose the joists and rafters.

Until that is done, how to repair the damage cannot be determined.

And that is where PCRA is stuck. The organization does not have the thousands of dollars it will take to fund the renovations.

PCRA is a private organization that seeks grant funds and private donations to fund the operation and programming at the Newbold-White House. The

organization purchased the house and restored it from 1974-1981, using grants and private donations.

Donations and grants have also furnished the house, built a barn that serves as a visitors center and gift shop, and purchased and renovated the David Newby House which once served as a site manager's home and is now administrative and meeting space.

PCRA worked with the state on purchasing property between the Newbold-White House and the Perquimans River. The state purchased the property and leases it back to PCRA. The group plans to add the importance of the river to daily life into its interpretation of the site.

Zel added that PCRA hopes to purchase the land on both sides of the site in the near future.

PCRA has asked the county to up its contribution to the house from \$6,500 per year to \$10,000 to help with the renovation expenses.

The historic property is also running without a paid site manager at present, which will save over \$35,000 per year, Zel said.

PCRA has formulated what Zel called a "bare bones" budget for fiscal 2003-2004 of \$60,000, which provides no maintenance funds and works only with board members taking on duties instead of paying to have them done.

PCRA raises funds with the annual garden party, membership drive, New and Bold Decorators, visitors, gift shop and biennial homes tour.

This year, Zel has contracted with Captain Bob's to cater dinner in conjunction with the June Summer Breeze concert and Tommy's for the July concert.

PCRA offers educational programs throughout the year. The site is open for the season March-October, Tuesday-Saturday, 10-4:30. The gift shop is open weekends in November and December.

## SHOT FOR CINNAMON



Cinnamon was the last of the 40 cats and dogs to receive a rabies vaccination from Dr. Rustin Howell of Chowan Animal Hospital at the third SPCA of Perquimans County Rabies Clinic on Saturday. Volunteers assisted with the clinic. For more information on the SPCA or animals who need homes, log onto [spca.inteliport.com](http://spca.inteliport.com) or email [spca@inteliport.com](mailto:spca@inteliport.com).

## School supply drive kicks off

Saturday will officially kick off the Community Makes It Happen project to provide school supplies to local children whose families may have difficulty providing the supplies required by the schools.

Communities in Schools, Perquimans County Social Services, Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Frankie's Cafe and Courtesy Ford have joined forces to provide supplies to county students.

Saturday, there will be chicken salad sandwiches,

cantaloupe, chips and drinks for sale on the courthouse lawn, along with entertainment, from 11-1.

Courtesy Ford will provide a 4 X 4 that organizers hope to fill with school supplies by June.

Communities in Schools' Barbara Gustafson said there are about 200 children served by the Angel Tree at Christmas, so organizers feel there is a need to help with school supplies.

Those who wish to apply to receive school supplies should complete an applica-

tion at social services by the end of May.

Those who wish to donate may do so Saturday or in barrels decorated by 4-Hers that will be distributed to participating businesses.

Contributions may also be made through social services or Communities in Schools.

For information or to donate, call Carlyn Brown at social services, 426-5478, or Gustafson at Communities in Schools, 426-3644.

## Life jacket rule in effect

Spring is here, and in Perquimans County warm weather takes boaters to area waterways.

Those who plan to enjoy the county's three rivers and the sound should remember that the United State Coast Guard's Life Jacket Rule went into effect Dec. 23.

In support of the ongoing efforts of the states and Coast Guard to improve boating safety, the Coast Guard requires that all children under age 13 wear Coast Guard approved life jackets while aboard recreational vessels underway, except when the children are below decks or in an enclosed cabin.

This rule was created to address the problem of childhood drownings while boating. Between 1995 and 2001, 210 children under the age of 13 died while boating, 121 of them by drowning. Most of these deaths could have been prevented if the child had been wearing a properly fitting life jacket.

Continued on page 8

## WEEKEND WEATHER

THURSDAY  
High: 78  
Low: 63  
PARTLY CLOUDY

FRIDAY  
High: 78  
Low: 58  
SCATTERED T'STORMS

SATURDAY  
High: 75  
Low: 51  
SCATTERED SHOWERS