

Garner earns top 4-H honor

Page 3

September Senior Center notes

Page 5

Pirate sports update

Page 6

September 1, 2004

Vol. 72, No. 35 Hertford, North Carolina 27944

# PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

35 cents

## PCHS student arrested Juvenile found with drugs on campus

SUSAN R. HARRIS

A high school student was suspended last week after being found in possession of prescription drugs and drug paraphernalia on the PCHS campus.

The student, a 15-year-old white male whose name cannot be released because he is a juvenile, will be dealt with in juvenile court, according to Sheriff Eric Tilley.

Tilley said the student was picked up and questioned by he and Deputy Shelby White after information was received from the school resource officer, Deputy Stacy Mitchell, and school administrators that the student was thought to be involved in drug trade at the high school.

A tip came in last Thursday that a student with narcotic prescription drugs in his possession was on his way to school in a blue Ford truck. Tilley and White waited in the school parking lot and followed the student inside the school, identified themselves, took the male to the principal's office and advised him that the sheriff's office had received information that he was bringing drugs onto campus. Tilley said the prescription pain killer Oxycontin and a pipe like those used to smoke marijuana were found on the student.

Tilley said juvenile petitions have been filed and the student was immediately suspended for 10 days in accordance with school board policy pending further investigation by school officials.

"I stand ready to do whatever I have to do to ensure a safe and drug-free environment for our students and for our staff," said PCHS Principal Hans Lassiter.

Lassiter added that those who "insist on doing drugs in that building will find that their days are numbered."

"We are going to find sources and we're going to find who's supplying them," Lassiter said.

Drugs are a problem in schools all across America, Lassiter said, adding that the problem touches all schools from inner-city to rural to exclusive private to suburban, and from small campuses to large.

Lassiter said parents, students and school officials can all help in the fight against drug use and distribution by talking to each other, and that parents and students should go to school officials with any information they have regarding drugs so investigations can take place.

"We are fighting and we're going to continue to fight (the drug problem)," Lassiter said.

## Migrant worker killed Friday

CHRIS WHIPPLE  
The Daily Advance

An autopsy was performed Monday on a man stabbed to death Friday night in Miller and Meads Mobile Home Park.

Jose Manuel Hernandez, approximately 23 years old, died of a stab wound to the chest. The medical examiner's preliminary report indicates the knife punc-

tured Hernandez's heart, liver and spleen before stopping at his spine.

Hertford Police Chief Dale Vanscoy said the emergency call came in at 11:03 p.m. Friday. When police arrived at 214 Meads Circle, they found Hernandez lying face down in a vacant lot next to the trailer. Emergency Medical Services was called, but Hernandez had no vital

signs, Vanscoy said.

Hernandez was transported to Albemarle Hospital, where he was pronounced dead on arrival.

Vanscoy said a crowd of about 35 people were at the scene of the stabbing when he arrived. The problem is, he said, most of the potential witnesses speak very little English. A Spanish-speaking deputy from the Chowan County Sheriff

Department provided assistance on the night of the killing.

Vanscoy said Hertford police are still conducting interviews with the assistance of interpreters to try and find out who stabbed and killed Hernandez. No arrests have been made.

"The investigation is proceeding very slowly due to the language barrier," Vanscoy said.

Vanscoy said they have not been able to locate any of Hernandez's family locally. He was employed by a Hertford landscaping company.

Vanscoy said an address in Mexico was found on Hernandez. He had a receipt for money he had recently wired to Mexico.

Vanscoy said the FBI has been contacted for assistance.

## MONDAY FIRE



Hertford firefighters responded to an outbuilding fire on King Street Monday morning. It took just a few moments to contain the blaze, but smoke continued to drift from the structure as firefighters worked to squealch hot spots. Those at the scene said there was no electricity connected to the building. One neighbor said people do walk near and even enter the outbuilding at night.

## Students not hurt in bus accident

SUSAN R. HARRIS

No students were reported injured when a Perquimans County School bus was rear-ended on the way to school Tuesday.

Schools Public Information Officer Brenda Lassiter said that a bus carrying four students, the driver and a monitor was traveling west on Harvey Point Road about three miles from its intersection with U.S. Highway 17 Bypass when it was hit from behind. The incident occurred around 7:30 a.m.

Lassiter said the bus monitor and a passenger in the other vehicle left the scene by ambulance. She said the bus monitor had reported a possible back injury.

The bus driver was taken from the scene by vehicle to Coastal Carolina Family Practice some time after the accident.

The parents of all four students were called from the scene, Lassiter said, and school administrators, including all four principals and a counselor, were on site when the students were transferred to another bus and taken to school.

N.C. Highway Patrol Officer Archer investigated the accident, but his report had not been filed at press time. Lassiter referred all other questions about the accident, including the names of the drivers, to the highway patrol.

## Dog fight tip leads to arrest

SUSAN R. HARRIS

A tip to Perquimans County Animal Control led to the arrest of a Tyner man now charged with dog fighting.

Morris Kee Jr. of Rt. 1, Box 606, Tyner was arrested on Aug. 23 and placed under a \$3,000 unsecured bond. Seven dogs were confiscated at the time of Kee's arrest.

Sheriff Eric Tilley said Animal Control Officer Thomas Stanton received a call about dog fighting at 1366 Beech Springs Road and notified the sheriff's department. When officers reached the scene, there was no fighting, but they found an enclosed area that appeared to be a fighting ring.

A search warrant was obtained and executed the next day. Because the actual pen and ring were on adjacent property, permission was obtained from that owner to search that property as well. Paraphernalia associated with dog fighting such as a bite stick and needles to treat the dogs' injuries with penicillin, along with a rag with blood on it and blood on a carpet inside the ring, were found. In addition, seven dogs were found, and Tilley said all but one had scars consistent with those found on dogs known to have been fighting.

Tilley said the dog thought to have been fighting most recently had puncture wounds on both front legs.

## Day of festivals approaches

There will be three festivals in one day on Sept. 11 when Historic Hertford, Inc. hosts the 23rd annual Indian Summer Festival in downtown Hertford, the Perquimans County Restoration Association hosts the Hearth & Harvest Festival at Newbold-White: A Quaker Homestead and Winfall celebrates a day in its Winfall Landing Park.

A highlights of the day will include the arrival of the periauger in Hertford at 10 a.m. at the Hertford municipal docks. The 18th-century workboat — the pick-up truck of the rivers — is making its way from its birthplace in Beaufort to Perquimans now.

The periauger will be escorted by a flotilla.

After the periauger arrival ceremony, which will include music by the Perquimans County High School band brass section, Wildriver Outfitters from Virginia Beach will lead guided canoe and kayak tours on the waterfront. There will be paddles for beginners and experienced paddlers. Rentals will be available.

Downtown, a wide array of arts and craft, information, food, fun and entertainment will await festival-goers.

Entertainers include the Senior Center choir and Snappers, Lacey Reames, singer-songwriter Kim Kalman, the Perquimans County High School Marching Pirates, Loose Change, the Harbor Lites Square Dancers, Hertford Grammar School Panther Percussion Team, Grace & Truth Community Church

Praise Steppers and the U.S. Atlantic Fleet Jazz Band.

In the Hertford Baptist Church Youth Pavilion, a petting zoo, pony rides, magic show, balloon art, face painting, paint-your-own-ceramics and more await the younger set.

A variety of food, including traditional fair foods, will be available in the food court.

Winfall's day will center around a patriotic program at 2 p.m. Entertainers will include Bagley Chapel Praise Dancers, D.J. Eugene Byrum, Melton Grove Youth Choir, Melton Grove Praise Team Dancers, Wild Streak Band and the choir and band from Perquimans County Middle School.

There will also be a Casting for Kids competition, an N.C. Wildlife Fisheries Commission fish tank, pony rides, the U.S. Coast Guard mascot and kids games.

Craft and foot vendors will also be on site during the day.

The periauger will leave Hertford at 2 p.m. and sail to Winfall.

The official program book will be inserted into The Perquimans Weekly next week and will be available at the Indian Summer Festival information booth in front of the Visitors Center on festival day.

While the deadline has passed for inclusion in the festival book, Historic Hertford, Inc. is still accepting vendor applications. Call or stop by The Perquimans Weekly for an application.

Sponsorships are also still available. Call Historic Hertford at 426-1425 for information.

## WEEKEND WEATHER

THURSDAY  
High: 83  
Low: 70  
PARTLY CLOUDY

FRIDAY  
High: 92  
Low: 70

SCATTERED T'STORMS

SATURDAY  
High: 82  
Low: 70

SCATTERED T'STORMS