

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



PIRATES GET SET FOR NEW SEASON, PAGE 8

"News from Next Door"

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50 cents

COUNTY SEES JUMP IN TOURISM SPENDING

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

Tourism brought in \$9.5 million last year to Perquimans County, according to a state report.

The local figure was up 5.4 percent over the year before. That mirrors the statewide increase in 2012.

Sid Eley, the director of the Perquimans County Chamber of Commerce, hailed the \$2.8 million increase in spending and a jump in sales tax receipts as great news.

"The state and local tax rev-

enues from travel and tourism amounted to \$1.44 million. This represents a tax savings of over \$105.42 for ever resident of Perquimans County."

There are 40 people employed in the county in tourism-related businesses. They draw a payroll of \$1.1 million, according to the state report.

Eley is in charge of the Jim "Catfish" Hunter Museum located inside the chamber building on Market Street. The chamber, Eley says, draws 500 visitors a month.

See SPENDING, 4

TOURISM IMPACT	EXPENDITURES (MILLIONS)	PERCENTAGE CHANGE 2011/12	PAYROLL (MILLIONS)	TAX RECEIPTS (MILLIONS)
CAMDEN	1.86	2.1	0.20	0.15
CHOWAN	18.13	5.5	2.58	1.117
CURRITUCK	131.15	8.1	23.61	6.05
PASQUOTANK	54.71	2.9	8.02	1.19
PERQUIMANS	9.52	5.4	1.10	1.05
STATE	19,409.81	5.4	4,391.25	579.38

ALL FIVE AREA COUNTIES SAW INCREASES IN TOURISM REVENUES IN 2012

SOURCE: NC DIVISION OF TOURISM, FILM AND SPORTS DEVELOPMENT

SUMMER SCHOOL AIMS TO GET KIDS PREPARED

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

More than 100 Perquimans County students got two weeks of additional help this summer thanks to a summer program at Hertford Grammar School.

Next year, failing third graders will get six weeks of summer school even if they don't want it. The program this year was voluntary, and open to a wider group than just struggling students.

The state now says students who can't pass the end of grade test at the end of third grade cannot move to fourth grade until they can pass the exam.

Perquimans Central School educates children from kindergarten through second grade. Then they transfer to Hertford Grammar School for grades three, four and five. Third grade is the first grade where testing plays a critical role.

"They're at Central for three years, then come here and we test them," said HGS Principal Linda White. "The accountability falls on HGS."



STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS

Teacher Carole Purser works with students during a special two-week summer program at Hertford Grammar.

The summer school program is held at the grammar school.

Coordinating teachers within the walls of a traditional school is one thing. Doing it with two separate campuses three miles away is another.

But principals at both

schools say they've been doing it and now will have to do it even better.

It was an issue before, but starting next year, it's a bigger one.

White used to be the principal at Perquimans Central and says she's got a strong relationship

with Melissa Fields, the principal there now.

Each school system has some freedom to run schools the way it wants. In Pasquotank County, students can stay at the same school from kindergarten through fifth grade. The

Edenton-Chowan system is similar to the one in Perquimans. In Camden, students attend the same school up through third grade so they'll take the same third grade exam in the environment they've spent their early years.

Plantation golf work finished

From staff reports

After operating on a reduced basis with temporary greens since June 10, The Sound Golf Links will officially reopen with all new greens on Thursday.

The renovated course will be formally unveiled at a members-only tournament starting at 9 a.m. In addition, to mark the occasion special rates are being offered to all golfers who book tee times between Aug. 23 and Aug. 31. The course is open to the public year-round and offers membership opportunities upon request.

"We are thrilled to reopen The Sound Golf Links after limiting our operations over the past few months as we have worked diligently to optimize golfing conditions for our patrons, said Kenny Saunders, the course's PGA professional.

"While the wet weather conditions certainly assisted with the replanting process, the bulk of the credit goes to Mike Hor-

See COURSE, 4

Local trucker puts safety first

BY REGGIE PONDER
Chowan Herald

Life on the road isn't for everyone, but it suits Stacy Boyce just fine.

The Rocky Hock resident has answered the call of the open road — and it has paid off with a recent recognition as Driver of the Year for Daily Express Inc. of Carlisle, Pa.

Boyce acknowledges matter-of-factly that he's on the road all the time.

He was only home four times last year, he said. When he was home it was for about a week, he added.

But what he enjoys most about being a long-haul trucker is "being somewhere different every day," he said.

As a long-haul tractor-trailer operator, Boyce has hauled cargo in all 48 contiguous states, and also has driven into Canada and Mexico.

Typical of some of his longer routes is one from Pennsylvania to Texas.



REGGIE PONDER/CHOWAN HERALD

Stacy Boyce has been recognized as Driver of the Year for Daily Express Inc. of Carlisle, Pa.

Among his favorite places to go — because of the scenery and wide-open vistas — are Wyoming and Montana.

When he does make it home to Rocky Hock, he's glad to be home, he said.

"But I'm constantly wondering 'What am I missing out

there?'" he said. "What am I not seeing today?"

The 47-year-old driver hasn't missed too much, though, since he logged 75,000 miles in 2012. That mileage, coupled with a clean safety

See TRUCKER, 4

Group wants to help with area Obamacare education

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

Between Medicare and the new Affordable Care Act, people are going to be seeing changes in the way they get health care assistance.

Jewel Winslow wants to be able to help them navigate that journey.

Winslow is an agent with the Perquimans County office of the N.C. Cooperative Extension service.

With new health plans come a flood of toll-free phone lines and Internet web sites. Winslow says they have a place, but they don't work for everybody.

"There is the premise that we're getting a 1-800 hotline and that's not going to cut it. Or we're going to have some-

body who presents on a Website, but that's not going to do it."

When faced with the choices offered under Medicare and the new Affordable Care Act — known by some as Obamacare — some folks are going to want to sit down and talk to another human being face to face, she said.

Winslow believes she and others in Perquimans County would do that. She's put in bid to help be a part of the implementation of the new healthcare law.

"I'm getting the same feeling as when Medicaid Part D just came in in 2005."

The law provided for the first time a nationwide system for people to make

See EDUCATION, 4

Medicare changes is meeting focus

From staff reports

A meeting will be held next month for area residents who would like to learn more about the Medicare.

The Medicare: 101 Health Insurance Workshop is scheduled for Sept. 28 at Woodland United Methodist Church. It is co-sponsored by the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service's

Seniors Health Insurance Information Program (SHIIP) and the Forestburg Ruritan Club.

There will be a 10 a.m. session to discuss basic Medicare updates and demonstrate how to navigate the Medicare website. A lunch will be provided followed by a 1 p.m. session to introduce

See MEDICARE, 4



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This home in Albemarle Plantation is loaded with many upgrades! Kitchen has stainless steel appliances, extensive cabinetry, gas cook-top, & solid surface counter tops. Hardwood floors, a large study/home office space, oversized garage, multi-purpose FROG, copious storage possibilities, and low maintenance features help complete your wish list.

NATIONAL MARKETING, LOCAL EXPERTISE

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