

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



See this week's Pets of the Week, 4

"News from Next Door"

WEDNESDAY, JULY 1, 2015

50 cents

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Schools to raise lunch prices by 10 cents

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

Perquimans County students will see daily lunch prices go up 10 cents next year based on action this week.

The increase doesn't impact about two thirds of students who qualify for free

or reduced-price meals. It would add \$5 a week to the budget for a family with two kids.

Donna Harris, the head of the school system's nutrition program, said it's the school system's first increase in two years. She said the increase was needed because federal rules require schools

systems narrow the gap between what they charge paying customers and what the USDA provides for those who get free meals.

Based on Monday's school board action, the daily lunch price at Perquimans Central School will go from \$2.25 to \$2.35. At Hertford Grammar School, Perquimans County

Middle School and Perquimans County High School the price will go up from \$2.50 to \$2.60.

Breakfast prices will also go up 10 cents, but Harris said the state shares that cost. A la carte prices will also increase.

Even with the increase, there is a gap between what

paying customers pay and what the federal government provides. Harris said last school year the USDA provided about \$3.06 for each free meal served and provided about 36 cents for every paid meal.

Raising the price of paid meals by 10 cents would narrow the gap except that

the federal government raises the amount it provides for free meals each year. Harris said the situation is like "chasing your tail."

"We'll never narrow the gap if they keep increasing their reimbursement," Harris said.

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Missing woman found

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

A 29-year-old woman who was reported missing from a Perquimans County nursing home last week was found safe in Virginia motel two days later, according to Perquimans County Sheriff Eric Tilley.

Tilley said Kelly Squires apparently called her ex-husband, Robert Squires, who came to Hertford Assisted Living on Two Mile Desert Road sometime about 10 p.m. June 23 and picked her up. They were located at a motel in Staunton, Va. on June 25.

Tilley said the ex-husband has a court order restricting him from being in

See FOUND, 2

Sheriff says scam continues

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

A scam involving telephone callers claiming they are from the IRS continues to be a problem, according to Perquimans County Sheriff Eric Tilley.

"We've been getting tons of them ever since April 15, tax day," Tilley said last week.

Vera Harrell said she was targeted by one of the scammers.

"I got the call on

See SCAM, 8



STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS
A tractor helps lift a boat out of the water behind Larry's Drive In in Winfall last week after a heavy storm.

Storms knock out power throughout

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

Storms Thursday night and Friday morning left hundreds of Perquimans County customers without power and drenched the area with about two inches of rain and more in some

areas. Tornadoes were reported, but none could be confirmed according to Perquimans County Emergency Management Director Jonathan Nixon. One photo sent to the Perquimans County Sheriff's office showed a funnel cloud near

the Perquimans-Chowan county line on U.S. 17. Nixon said he knew of no injuries, but lightning apparently caused a house fire at 114 Magnolia Trail.

Inter-County Fire Chief Bobby Swain said a bolt of lightning hit the air handler in the attic of the home

about 5:30 a.m. Friday. The fire department was able to limit the damage.

Another fire was reported on Creek Drive in Winfall, but that happened before the storm hit.

Hertford Town Manager

See STORMS, 8

Response team trains for tornado



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Members of the the Albemarle Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) participate in a field exercise at Albemarle Plantation on June 18.

From staff reports

The Albemarle Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) held its fifth annual full field exercise at The Albemarle Plantation on June 18.

This year's exercise had CERTs dealing with victims and damage from an EF-0 tornado with winds of 75 miles per hour.

The "mock" tornado hit the Albemarle Plantation Clubhouse at 8 a.m. on that

Thursday morning and was out of our area by 8:30 a.m. Neighborhood representatives were asked to assess the damages in and around their houses and neighborhood and report by radio to the Incident Command Post (ICP).

Based on a phone call to 911, Albemarle CERT was activated by Jonathan Nixon, the Perquimans County Emergency Services

See DRILL, 8

Events planned Friday

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

Perquimans County residents will get in the Fourth of July spirit a day earlier than some people.

A parade, fireworks and two concerts are all set for Friday, a day before the traditional holiday.

As of Monday, the committee that raises money to pay for the fireworks was still short on cash. They also are keeping an eye on the weather in case the event has to be postponed to Sunday or Monday.

The fireworks are scheduled to start once it turns dark. Michael Hurdle, a volunteer who is certified to set off the show, said weather could play a factor.

Atlanta Pyrotechnics, the company that provides the fireworks, is the same company Edenton uses to put on its display. Hurdle also works on the Edenton show.

"That's where it gets complicated," Hurdle said.

If Hertford can't do fireworks Friday and Edenton can on Saturday, then Hertford's display will take place Sunday. If both Friday and Saturday get rained out, then Edenton's display will be Sunday and Hertford's will be Monday.

Hurdle said the area might simply be in for the usual afternoon thunderstorm in which case, that shouldn't be a problem.

"If the ground gets wet that's not going to bother us, and if we get a break in the weather we can fire them off."

See EVENTS, 8

Student accepted to NCSSM

From staff reports

Perquimans County's top sophomore last school year will continue his high school career at the N.C. School of Science and Math.

Charles Maus, 16, has been accepted to the Durham-based school and will start in August.

"Although Charles is leaving Perquimans County Schools, we are excited

that he has the opportunity to attend the NCSSM," said Teresa Beardsley, the spokeswoman for the Perquimans County Schools. "We also look forward to continuing to follow all of his future accomplishments. We know that he will represent us well. He has been an asset to our school system and community through his leadership, volunteer work,



MAUS

See NCSSM, 8

Funds donated to historic endowment

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Beth Taylor and Becky Winslow present a check for \$4,000 to Philip McMullan for the Perquimans County Restoration Association (PCRA) and the Newbold White House Endowment. Also pictured are Diane Ivey, Dee Ponte and Bobbi Stevenson.

Funds left over from donations collected to create four rural historic districts were donated recently to an endowment fund to maintain the Newbold-White House.

Becky Winslow said it cost about \$40,000 in all to pay to do the historical research needed to gain Rural Historic District status for Old Neck, Belvidere, Hertford and Winfall. With four rural districts, Perquimans County has the largest number of rural districts of any North Carolina county, Winslow said.

There was \$4,000 remaining, and Winslow and Beth Taylor recently presented that to the Perquimans County Restoration Association (PCRA) for the Newbold-White House Endowment.

"We felt this was a good time to give this money," Winslow said. "They (PCRA) are trying to build up an endowment so they will have

See ENDOWMENT, 2



UPCOMING HOME GAMES

Historic Hicks Field | FMI Call 252-482-4080 | www.edentonsteamers.com

THIRSTY THURSDAY - 2 FOR \$3

JULY 1ST @ 7pm vs Martinsville Mustangs POLICE & EMS NIGHT

JULY 2ND @ 7pm vs Peninsula Pilots MILITARY APPRECIATION NIGHT - ACTIVE DUTY FREE, VETERANS CONTACT THE AMERICAN LEGION

JULY 6TH @ 7pm vs Morehead City Marlins

JULY 7TH @ 7pm vs Morehead City Marlins CLASSIC ROCK NIGHT

JULY 10TH @ 7pm vs Peninsula Pilots BATES COUNTY NIGHT

FRIDAY NIGHT FRANKS BUY ONE, GET ONE FREE