

# Tornado strikes Perquimans County

## Snug Harbor community hardest hit



A swarm of tornadoes that struck the eastern section of North Carolina on Wednesday night left 44 dead, more than 800 injured, and thousands homeless. Estimates are that property damages will total into the billions of dollars.

Locally one person was killed, and one injured as a result of the ravaging tornado that entered the county through the Yeopim River

and touched down in Snug Harbor. The tornado exited the Snug Harbor area by the Yeopim Creek and touched down again in the White Hat Community.

Teresa Ann Miller of Snug Harbor was killed when she returned to her mobile home to get a flashlight, after fleeing the premises with her fiance and children. Reports indicate that upon entering the home a tree fell onto the dwelling, causing the walls of the structure to collapse.

Bill Jester, Perquimans County Extension Chairman, and a member of the Perquimans County Emergency Board, reported that the estimated total of damages in the county would be \$2,260,000. Initial reports of property damage included 150 housing units (130 mobile homes) approximately 25 cars, 12 farm buildings, one seed operation, owned by Garland Eure in White Hat, including grain storage facilities, drying equipment and various other seed handling and drying equipment.

Reports from Snug Harbor indicate that less than 50 percent of the homes there were insured.

The Perquimans County Emergency Board is comprised of members from the local ASCS Office, the County Agricultural Extension Service, Soil Conservation Service and Farmers Home Administration.

Perquimans County Sheriff Julian Broughton stated on Tuesday that the clean-up was "coming along real well."

John Jennings, President of the Snug Harbor Property Owners Association, met with the Perquimans County Commissioners on Monday to ask for their help with

the clean-up campaign. Aid is being sought on the state level for vehicles to be made available to haul the debris out of the community. The county is searching for an appropriate place to discard the rubbish.

"Albemarle Electric Membership and the State Department of Transportation did a tremendous job in trying to restore order to the county," Broughton said. Broughton was one of several officials to comment on the "job well done" by utility and rescue personnel.

On behalf of the residents at Snug Harbor, Jennings is asking that individuals wishing to make donations please send their contributions to the Red Cross to help build up the funds that were depleted during this disaster.

