

# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



"News from Next Door"

MAY 9, 2012 - MAY 15, 2012



Sophomore Forbes sets new state rifle record, Page 7

50 cents

## Man charged for assault on EC woman

By CATHY WILSON  
Staff Writer

A 22-year-old Elizabeth City woman says she was strangled late Thursday night in a Stokes Street home. A Hertford man faces a felony charge of assault by strangulation in connection with the incident.

According to the Hert-

ford Police Department, Dakeem Sha-Mel Bond of the 300-block Stokes Street turned himself into police around 1:30 a.m. Friday morning and was released on a \$2,000 unsecured bond.

Brittany Nicole Nobles told police she went to Bond's home to pick up her young children when Bond

allegedly grabbed her by the throat and penned her against a wall. According to police reports, Bond reportedly continued to choke Nobles against the wall and as she slid down onto the floor, unable to breathe.

Police say Nobles managed to slap Bond in the face during the alleged assault which, she said,

caused her eyes to feel as they were "going to pop out of her head."

The assault ended when Bond's sister walked into the room and instructed him to let Nobles go, police reports state.

Nobles told police Bond's brother sat on the couch and watched the alleged assault occur did nothing to

stop it, police reports state.

Nobles grabbed her child and left. She called police and met them at a nearby intersection where police found her crying inside her vehicle.

Police say Nobles told them she was warned by Bonds earlier in the evening that he was going to choke her that evening.

She carried a friend with her when she went there to pick up her children because she feared Bond would hurt her, police reports state.

Police went back to the house later to serve a warrant on Bonds but he was not at home. He turned himself into the Sheriff's Office later that evening.

## SPRING INTO FUN



STAFF PHOTOS BY CATHY WILSON

With determination showing on their faces, Hannah Bergman and Hayley Tisdale try to throw plastic "sticks" through the rings during Saturday's Spring Festival at Perquimans Central School.

## New police chief hired

By CATHY WILSON  
Staff Writer

A veteran law enforcement officer with over 22 years of experience has been tapped as Hertford's new police chief.

Douglas L. Freeman, Jr., age 42, is scheduled to begin his new position on Tuesday. He currently serves as deputy chief of police for a 15-man police department in North Topsail Beach located in Onslow County.



Freeman

Hertford Town Manager Brandon Shoaf said Freeman was selected through a process that started with over 75 applications from all over the United States. Shoaf hired Freeman for the position following an interview process that not only included Shoaf and Interim Police Chief Mike Carver but a panel of other law enforcement professionals and town managers as well.

"We interviewed four good candidates," said Shoaf. "Freeman has lots of community policing experience and has run

See FREEMAN, 4



Local Board of Education member Ralph Hollowell (right) drives an ATV pulling students, parents and other fest-goers on a hayride during the Spring Festival.

## Foxes seen around school properties

Man was chased on Sunset Drive

By CATHY WILSON  
Staff Writer

School officials are alerting students and staff at Perquimans County High School to be aware of foxes in the area surrounding the school, bus garage, and maintenance shop. Residents living in the surrounding area should be aware as well.

The notification follows an incident Sunday evening during which a fox reportedly chased a man on Sunset Drive

which backs up to the wooded area adjacent to the school properties.

Brenda Lassiter, public information officer for the school system, said she actually saw three foxes run from the dumpster area adjacent to the schools' maintenance office late Monday night after a baseball game. The area was well lit at the time.

"They raced from the dumpster area and were right next to the maintenance office," she said. "We had gotten reports that foxes had been seen behind the bus garage, but what I saw was actually closer than we thought."

Lassiter said students and staff will be notified and encouraged to



STAFF PHOTO BY THOMAS J. TURNEY

Helen Hunter (in yellow), widow of baseball Hall of Famer Jimmy "Catfish" Hunter, helps unveil the sign renaming the Perquimans High School baseball field the Jimmy "Catfish" Hunter Park at the Perquimans County Veterans Memorial Field, Monday.

## Naming honors Hunter

By WILL HARRIS  
Sports Writer

HERTFORD — It seemed that the entire town of Hertford showed up at Perquimans' final home baseball game of the season on Monday. While they

were there to root on the Pirates, many attended to honor one of Perquimans County's favorites sons.

The school renamed the baseball field Jimmy "Catfish" Hunter Park at Perquimans County Veterans Memorial Field, pay-

ing homage to the Hall of Famer everyone just calls Jimmy.

"I think it's just a pleasure and a blessing that they wanted to name this after him," said Helen Hunter, Cat-

## It's time to Pig-Out

From staff reports

It's that time of the year again when the smell of savory barbecue smoking in a cooker wafts over the downtown area, drawing all who smell to follow their noses to the Pig-Out on the Green.

This year's popular event will be held Friday on the historic Perquimans County Courthouse lawn. This year's pig-out includes barbecue and fixins' along with the traditional Northeast North Carolina barbecue sauce and additional choices of hickory and mesquite sauces. In addition soda, water, and deserts will be for sale.

Lunch will be served from 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. with dinner following from 4:30-7 p.m. Tickets are \$8 and are available at the Perquimans County Chamber of Commerce and at Carolina Trophy. Advance ticket purchase is highly recommended.

The event is sponsored by the Historic Hertford, Inc. For more information, visit [www.historichertfordinc.org](http://www.historichertfordinc.org) or call 426-1106.

See CATFISH, 4

See FOXES, 4



6 89076 47144 2