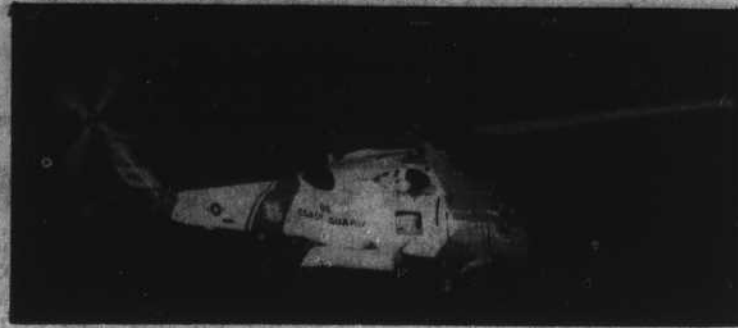


Food:

Tomatillos recipes offered to make appetizers: **Page 8**



Community:

U.S. Coast Guard's Jayhawk Helicopter is a top performer: **Page 7**

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

Volume 60, No. 30

Hertford, Perquimans County, N.C., Thursday, July 25, 1991

30 Cents

Briefs

Cotton balloting begins

Cotton growers have until Friday, July 26 to return their ballots in a referendum to determine whether they favor a uniform assessment program. The voting period began July 17.

Growers should have received ballots by mail. The ballots must be returned to the county offices of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service by July 26. Eligible voters who didn't receive a ballot may vote at the ASCS office, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture announcement.

Information is available from local ASCS and Cooperative Extension Service offices on the details of the proposals being decided by the referendum.

Comedy to be performed

The Bootstrap Acting Company will perform the comedy, "Love, Sex and the IRS" at Angler's Cove Restaurant on July 26, 27, 28 and August 2, 3 and 4. Tickets for the dinner theatre may be reserved by calling 426-7294.

Special board meeting set

There will be a special board meeting on Thursday, July 25 at 8 p.m. in the Administrative Building to discuss a maintenance matter.

All board members are urged to attend.

Spaces available

The "Indian Summer Festival" promoted by the Perquimans County Chamber of Commerce is scheduled for September 13 and 14. Entertainment and many events are being planned for both days including a street dance, with music provided by *Overtime*. This band is known for good music and is returning for the second year. Applications for arts, crafts, display and food booths for September 14, are available at the Chamber office or by calling 426-5657.

Practice to start

Football practice for both varsity and junior varsity teams will begin Thursday, Aug. 1 at 6:55 p.m. at Perquimans County High School. Athletes who have not turned in physical examination forms should bring a completed form to practice.

Following preseason scrimmages with Pamlico and Plymouth, Perquimans gridiron action will begin on Friday, Aug. 30 with the season opener against Camden in Hertford.

Workshop begins

Perquimans County Schools will offer the Effective Teacher Training Workshop on Monday and Tuesday, July 29 and 30 and Thursday and Friday, August 1 and 2. The workshop will be held at the Board of Education central office on Edenton Road Street and the hours will be 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

If interested, please call 426-5741 prior to July 29 to register.

AARP meeting set

The Perquimans Chapter 4118 of AARP Inc. will meet Monday, July 29 at 2 p.m. at the Senior Citizens Center. A board meeting will be held at 1 p.m.

William Meckins from Carolina Telephone will be the guest speaker. For more information, please contact Mona Sadler at 426-7044 or 426-5404.

DEADLINES FOR THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY ARE AS FOLLOWS:

NEWS RELEASES ... MON. 3 P.M.

RETAIL ADVERTISING ... MON. 3 P.M.

CLASSIFIED & LEGALS ... MON. 3 P.M.

PRIOR TO THURSDAY PUBLICATION PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

119 W. Grubb St.
426-5728

Hertford pair arrested in drug bust

By JULIAN EURE and SUSAN HARRIS

The Elizabeth City police arrested two Hertford residents last Friday, thanks to the nose of their aging drug dog, Dingo.

Arrested were Erma Lee Harris, 33, of 312 Market St., and Vernon Leon Ferebee Adams, 49, of Route 5, Box 96. Both parties were charged with possession with intent to sell and deliver cocaine and with transporting cocaine.

The couple was stopped by police on suspicion of being drug traffickers Friday at approximately 8:30 a.m. while traveling north on Hughes Boulevard in a

black 1988 Camaro. Then Dingo, Elizabeth City's aging police dog, went to work. It took the German Shepard about 10 seconds to sniff out a 300-gram stash of cocaine hidden in the car which was impounded by police Friday morning. The estimated street value of the drugs was \$70,000, according to police officials.

Elizabeth City Police Chief W.C. Owens said he suspects the cocaine was bound for distribution in Elizabeth City before the pair was apprehended.

Both Harris and Adams were jailed at Albemarle District Jail under \$50,000

bond. The investigation is continuing, however, because the car used to transport the cocaine was registered to another Perquimans native, Valerie Perry, of 922 Prospect Ave., Westbury, N.Y.

Owens said that police found a .25 caliber automatic pistol in Harris' possession when they searched her pocketbook. But the initial search of the car did not lead police to the drug cache until Dingo stepped in.

The dog began scratching violently at a plastic panel in the right rear interior of the car, giving police a clue as to

where the cocaine was hidden, Owens said.

"Once we got him up in the car it didn't take long. You can see where he started scratching the side of the car," said Corporal-Detective Randy Cartwright, who serves as Dingo's handler. Cartwright said drug traffickers typically stuff cocaine packets in the space between the exterior and interior walls of cars and underneath spare tire holders in a vehicle's trunk.



Photo by Gary Cosby Jr.

Dingo, the Elizabeth City Police Department's drug dog sniffed out a 300-gram cache of cocaine hidden in a car carrying a Hertford couple last Friday. The illegal drugs are worth about \$70,000, police said.

Thatch hearing is set next week

Hertford man charged with murder

From Staff Reports

William Lloyd "Hawk" Thatch, 42, of Meads Trailer Park, will appear in Perquimans County criminal district court July 31 for his probable cause hearing after being charged with the murder of Joseph Richard Rogerson Jr.

Thatch will retain his own lawyer for the case, a county court spokesman said Tuesday. Thatch is currently being held in Albemarle District Jail without bond.



Contacted Thatch Tuesday, Hertford Police Department Chief Aubrey Sample Jr. refused to discuss a possible motive in the alleged slaying.

Chowan County Sheriff Fred Spruill announced the arrest of Thatch July 18. Sample confirmed that Hertford Police Department officials arrested

Thatch at the Hertford Police Department.

A surveyor found Rogerson's body the morning of July 10 at the north end of Bear Swamp Road in Chowan County with a gunshot wound to the head. The gravel road lies off Center Hill Highway and straddles the Perquimans-Chowan County line.

Spruill said two abrasions to Rogerson's head were discovered along with the gunshot wound. Spruill said Rogerson had last been seen alive between 11 and 11:30 p.m. the night before he was found. No weapon was recovered at the crime scene, he said.

Rogerson's body was sent to Greenville for an autopsy but the state's medical examiner has refused comment. No official cause of death has been announced. The State Bureau of Investigation is continuing the investigation.

Bulletproof: Donor provides protective gear

Perquimans County deputies will be a little safer on the job, thanks to the generosity of a local citizen.

Last Thursday, four bulletproof vests arrived at the sheriff's office, Sheriff Joe Lothian said. Lothian described the vests as "top of the line, the best money can buy."

Until last Thursday, the Perquimans County Sheriff's Department had never had bulletproof vests.

Lothian said a private citizen approached him some time ago and asked how much it would cost to outfit the department with vests. The sheriff estimated the cost at \$2,500. The citizen, who requested anonymity, told Lothian to order the vests. They were delivered two weeks later.

Three of the vests are custom-tailored to be worn under uniforms on a daily basis. The fourth is a tact vest, which is worn on the outside of the uni-

form. Lothian said it will be worn by the first person in the door on drug raids.

"I'm really tickled that we have some people out here in the community that appreciate what my guys do," Lothian said. He said he appreciated a citizen donating between \$2,000 and \$3,000 "to make things a little safer for us out here."

Lothian said he has included vests in his budget several times, but they were not funded

by the county commissioners. "We've asked for them (vests) on occasion and been turned down," Lothian said. "Obviously the commissioners didn't feel like they were necessary items."

Lothian last requested the vests the year before last. He said he finds it hard to believe that while bulletproof vests were cut from the budget, the commissioners funded their share of the monies needed to provide color television sets at Albemarle

District Jail.

The sheriff said his deputies deserved the protection provided by vests.

"We're running into more and more weapons," said Lothian, whose department has confiscated assault rifles and small and large caliber handguns in the line of duty. Lothian said that his department most often encounters guns during domestic calls and on drug raids.

Group gives Hertford S&L favorable ratings

A local financial institution was listed recently in a national ranking of strong and profitable savings institutions for 1990, the N.C. Alliance of Community Financial Institutions reports.

Hertford Savings & Loan Association, was chartered in 1923, was ranked favorably.

According to the Alliance, while the problems of a segment of the savings institutions industry and its regulations have created an enormous burden for the industry and the American taxpayer, the majority of savings institutions have continued fostering the tradition of home ownership. The report noted that a significant portion of the savings industry remains adequately capitalized and is profitable.

Hertford Savings falls into that category. H. Gene Boyce, chief executive officer of the institution, said that remaining a community-based organization meeting the basic needs of local residents has contributed to the organization's continued success. Careful management has also helped.

"We try to watch our expenses number one," Boyce said. "We cut expenses wherever we can."

Boyce added that careful investment of the institution's funds is another factor in profitability.

Hertford Savings offers the traditional passbook savings, certificates of deposit, Christmas Club accounts and first mortgages.

"We don't have any of these sophisticated programs like some of these (financial institutions) have that have gotten into trouble. We try to just meet the basic needs of the area," Boyce said.

Long-term employees have also been a boost to Hertford Savings, Boyce said. He has served in his capacity for 17 years. Gail Baccus joined the staff 16 years ago and Bettye Winslow signed on seven years ago. In addition, longevity of the board members has also been positive," he added.

Hertford Savings and Loan reported assets of \$7,980,407 as of December 31, 1990. Boyce said the institution has approximately \$5 million in outstanding mortgages, most on properties in Perquimans County.

National Mortgage News, a weekly publication tailored to the savings and mortgages banking industries, compiled the



Photo by Anzie Wood

The Hertford Savings and Loan Association was listed recently in a national ranking of strong and profitable savings institutions for 1990, the N.C. Alliance of Community Financial Institutions reports.

list of strong and profitable institutions. The ratings were based on information provided by the office of Thrift Supervision. Office Thrift Supervision listed all institutions that had regularly capital meeting or exceeding that is required by the

Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery and Enforcement Act of 1989 and which posted a profit in 1990.

The Alliance is a trade association that represents 138 individually-chartered and federally insured community financial in-

stitutions in North Carolina. In addition to Alliance membership, Hertford Savings also participates in a consortium of savings institutions which comes together to fund low-income housing, Boyce said.