

The Perquimans Weekly 35¢

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Hertford, North Carolina 27944

Hertford woman convicted of embezzlement

A Hertford woman was convicted on eight counts of embezzlement in federal court in Greenville last week.

Carol Anne Elliott, 44, was found guilty following a jury

trial of embezzling approximately \$32,000 from the Holly Square Branch of the First Citizens Bank and Trust Company in Elizabeth City. Elliott was indicted by a federal

grand jury last October.

According to United States Attorney Janice McKenzie Cole, evidence presented during the trial indicated that Elliott, while employed as a

teller at the bank, pilfered commercial night deposits between Oct. 23, 1992 and Jan. 4, 1993. Witnesses testified that although the night deposits were in fact made, they did not

post to the customers' accounts.

U.S. District Judge Malcolm J. Howard will sentence Elliott in May. She could receive a maximum sentence of 30 years

imprisonment, a fine of \$1 million and a supervised release term of five years.

Investigation of this case was conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

RUNNING THE COUNTY



PHOTO BY SUSAN HARRIS

Fourth graders "took over" running the county last week when they learned from county commissioner Charlie Skinner (above) how county government works and what kinds of decisions commissioners

make. In addition to learning about the commissioners, the students visited county offices in the courthouse and courthouse annex to learn more about local government and its operation.

After-school program gives parents options

Working parents in Perquimans County will have another after-school care option next fall.

The Perquimans Cooperative Extension Service received a \$22,600 grant late last fall to provide support services for what should become a self-supporting after-school care program serving children in kindergarten through third grades.

The grant allowed the extension service to hire a part-time block grant manager to coordinate the program. Josie Wills, a Perquimans County High School graduate who received a bachelor's degree from N.C. Central University in May, was hired in January as program manager. Wills said she has spent the weeks since being hired attending curriculum conferences, writing a handbook for those participating in the program, and taking care of other administrative duties.

Although her degree is in political science, Wills worked in day care setting throughout her college career. One of her scholarships required community service, and she was assigned to a day care setting. She also worked with after school programs in Durham.

Wills said the program was initiated after the Perquimans Extension Service, in conjunction with the Pasquotank County Extension Service, conducted a survey to assess the child care needs for school-age children in the county. Of the 900 sur-

veys sent home with students at Hertford Grammar School and Perquimans Central School, 440 were returned.

The survey revealed that 29 children go home with other siblings after school. The youngest sibling caregiver was 9, the oldest, 19. Over 200 of the children go home to their parents. About 50 go to the home with another adult relative. Forty-five children go to the home of a relative or friend. Thirty-seven children are enrolled in a day care center or private child care provider.

Over 60 percent of the families responding said that lack of good child care keeps them or their spouses from working as many hours as they would like. Slightly over 50 percent said they would use supervised child care if it were available. About 75 said they would use it every day.

Wills said the cost of after-school care will be \$4 per day per child. There will be a discount for a second child in the same family. Wills said that a teacher was hired to start the program this school year, but left to accept a full time job, so she expects the after-school program to begin next year, probably based at Hertford Grammar School.

A full-day summer care program is planned for an eight-week period, but Wills said she does not know what the cost will be on that program.

There will also be a registration fee in both programs.

Coastal Carolina Medical Center opens for business Schools to host school-to-work forum

It's officially the Coastal Carolina Medical Center, but more than likely, it'll be known as "Dr. Lane's office."

The new medical center, dubbed the Coastal Carolina Medical Center by Chowan Hospital, building owners, opened its doors to patients on Monday.

Lane moved his practice from the office he owns on Market Street to the new Church Street Extended location last week. He is leasing the facility from Chowan Hospital.

At the new building, Lane actually has an office, as well as three examining rooms, a lab, an X-ray room, an emergency room, and a stress and cardio testing room. There are

also examining rooms and offices sufficient to house two more doctors. With an overwhelming patient list, Lane is actively seeking another physician to join the practice.

In addition to expanded offices, Chris Lane, office manager, said a new computer system has been installed which has a link with Chowan Hospital, allowing Lane and his staff quick access to patient records.

The Lanes said the move has been hectic, but both look forward to the opportunity to serve patients more efficiently in the new office.

The Perquimans County Chamber of Commerce sponsored a ribbon cutting during Sunday's open house.



Dr. and Mrs. Robert Earl Lane take a moment to relax in the hallway of their new offices on Church Street Extended. The new facility is known as Coastal Carolina Medical Center. The building was constructed by Chowan Hospital.

The Perquimans County School System will host a school-to-work forum on Monday, March 6 from 8-11 a.m. in the high school cafeteria.

The forum will feature a Model Youth Apprenticeship Program from Washington High School with panelists Jan Burnette, Apprenticeship Coordinator; Keith Norwood, National Spinning Corporation; a student currently working as a youth apprentice; and Barry Judge, Apprenticeship Consultant, North Carolina Department of Labor.

School officials will be seeking input from parents, teachers, students, business owners, business managers and others in the community on several issues involving the school to work transition for Perquimans County Schools

graduates. Questions addressed will be:

How can school-to-work programs make an essential contribution to every student's education as well as the well-being of the nation?

What is the connection between learning in the workplace and learning in the classroom?

How can school-to-work transition programs mutually benefit local industries, the school system and the community?

The school system offers opportunities through several programs for students to gain work experience. The work-school connection is recognized as an important component of education.

Those who would like to attend the forum should register by calling Brenda Lassiter at 426-5741. There is no fee to attend the program.

Trade Mart employees, company representatives, and local officials gathered for the grand opening of Trade Mart on Church Street Extended in Hertford Friday. A ribbon cutting was sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce. Trade Mart is owned by Trade Oil Company in Greenville. Co-owner and vice president Edwin Clark said the company has 33 locations in eastern North Carolina, and offers gas and convenience items. Trade Oil is an independent gas marketer.



Outside

| THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|--|--|
| | | |
| High: 50s Low: 40s CHANCE OF RAIN | High: 60s Low: 40s PARTLY CLOUDY | High: 50s Low: 30s PARTLY CLOUDY |