

013165 10/09/1999 \*C20  
 PERQUIMANS COUNTY LIBRARY  
 110 W ACADEMY ST  
 HERTFORD NC 27944

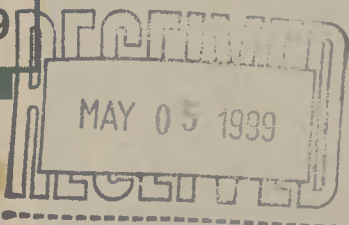
Sports.....Page 6  
 Student celebrations.....Page 8  
 Senior Center calendar.....Page 5  
 Schedule of events for Old Timers Day.....Page 9

# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

35¢

May 6, 1999

Vol. 67, No. 18 Hertford, North Carolina 27944



## Hunter family ready for big day

By SUSAN R. HARRIS  
 Editor

Ask Taylor Hunter what he's going to do Saturday and he's quick to answer: "I'm going to throw the ball."

The 3-year-old grandson of Baseball Hall of Famer Jim "Catfish" Hunter is all set for the day's activities, which will see him throw out the ceremonial first pitch before the 7 p.m. Old Timers Game. He was even practicing his batting at his grandparents' home Sunday evening, perhaps in preparation for a surprise entry in the afternoon's home-run derby. He's pretty good with a bat and has a strong arm. The toddler may indeed have the gene which led his grandfather into national stardom and both his father and uncle into college on baseball scholarships.

While Taylor was practicing, the adults in the family were trying on official ALS foundation shirts and hats like those that will be sold Saturday at Memorial Stadium during the activities. Golf shirts, t-shirts, baseball shirts and hats in a variety of colors will be available under a tent behind the home dug out. Prices range from \$15-\$35.

Saturday's events at PCHS get underway at 6:30 a.m. and



Helen and Jimmy Hunter (front) relax with grandson Taylor (center) and children (standing back) Kim Layne and husband, Larry; Paul; Todd and wife, Joanna. The family is sporting the official Jim "Catfish" Hunter ALS Foundation shirts and hats which will be on sale at Memorial Field during the Old Timers Day activities Saturday. The foundation logo (closeup, below) appears on all the shirts and hats. The Historic Hertford Business Association will also be selling shirts downtown with both the foundation and association logos.

will last until about 10 p.m. Entertainment and other events are also planned for downtown Hertford.

Over 5,000 barbecued chicken plates have already been sold, so organizers recommend that people allow plenty of time for pick-up at the high school. Because the gates will close at 4:55 for the 5 o'clock ceremony honoring Hunter and kicking off the foundation, it is also recommended that those who wish to attend arrive at the high school early.

For a schedule and other information, please see page 9.



## Highway Patrol commander visits Hertford

By JEREMY DESPOSITO  
 The Daily Advance

The new head of the North Carolina Highway Patrol says he's committed to ensuring the public's trust in the agency and also wants to recruit more minorities and women to serve in the Patrol.

Colonel Richard Holden, along with the Secretary of the state Department of Crime Control and Public Safety Richard Moore, traveled here Thursday on the invitation of Winfall Mayor Fred Yates. Both state officials addressed a crowd of about 50 local officials and residents at the Albemarle Commission building in Hertford.

Holden, the first African-American commander ever appointed to head the N.C. Highway Patrol, said the force needs more minorities and females, and doing the right thing will ensure public trust.

He said there are a little more than 20 females currently on the force. They're doing an outstanding job, and should be given an opportunity if they can do the job, he said.

Before the next highway Patrol application test is given - they are usually given twice a year - Holden wants to implement a new recruiting plan targeting minorities and women.

"We are aggressively recruiting minorities and females. We have a lot of females on the force but we need more," he said. "Recruiting should be inclusive of everybody, (officers) should be representing the population they serve."

Holden, in his 30th year on the force, was appointed to the Patrol's highest rank by Gov. Jim Hunt. He was sworn in March 3. Prior to that, he was Director of Internal Affairs.

He grew up working on the farm with his father in Wendell, just northeast of Raleigh. He entered the Highway Patrol as a trooper,

the lowest rank on the force. It's a great feeling, he said, to know you can start at the bottom and proceed through the ranks. He attributed the building blocks of his success to the great work ethic of his mother and father.

His work ethic guides him through rough times.

"(Highway Patrol) has had a few (negative) things happen," he said. "But if you don't fix the problem, it becomes a problem."

"Even though we have to do a job that's not very popular sometimes, there's still a way for people to thank you for your (respectable) attitude and not a ticket," Holden continued. "Nobody wants a ticket, but they want you to be fair. As a leader, I believe you have to treat people fair and make sure you don't take advantage of anyone. You have to take the oath seriously. When you lose public trust and integrity you lose everything."

Holden has put about 1,400 miles on his car visiting different parts of the state.

"I'm listening to the troopers, but I want to hear from citizens as well," he continued. "I need some help to run this organization. I can't do it myself. And I would encourage our people to get involved. I want to listen to citizens and try to correct some things."

Also during the meeting, Richard Moore described the state's latest initiative to address youth violence.

He told the group that he lives next door to the 11-year-old twins who killed their father and shot their mother and sister. For him, the incident hits real close to home, he said.

"We have to focus on juvenile behavior in general, not just in schools," he said.

"Where is it coming from? Every parent and grandparent ought to have the feeling that their kids are going to be on that bus at the end of the day."

## McMahon opens Covent Garden Inn

By SUSAN R. HARRIS  
 Editor

There's a sense of welcome once you hit the sidewalk in front of the Covent Garden Inn owned and operated by Jane McMahon.

The wide front porch beckons with benches and chairs, and the stained glass sign proclaiming the name of the business fits into the ambiance of the deep, cool porch.

Also known as the Ruth Toms-Newby House, the ca. 1916 dwelling features the Colonial Revival style. Guests may choose a private or semi-private bath and one room even features a private second-floor porch.

The rooms are furnished with vintage antiques complimented with handmade quilts and linens.

The front parlor is graced with a grand piano beside the fireplace. Guests may enjoy music, cable TV, VCR, Books and games next to the formal dining area.



Jane McMahon bought her home on Covent Garden, and has done much of the restoration and renovation over the past two years. She now shares the beauty of her restored Colonial Revival home with guests at the Covent Garden inn. Last week, she celebrated the grand opening of her business, asking some good friends to share the task with her. The ribbon cutting was sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce.

The kitchen is warm and inviting, with cobalt blue countertop tiles installed by McMahon herself, as well as a blue and white tile floor.

Quite the do-it-yourselfer, McMahon has spent hundreds of hours renovating the house which had been empty for some time before she moved in. From climbing ladders to installing floors to finding and restoring light fixtures and

furnishings, McMahon has literally put herself into the home's renovation.

A native New Englander, McMahon lived for many years in Florida before finding her jewel in Hertford.

McMahon enjoys crafts and shares her talent through the Perquimans Arts League.

Through PAL, she met her partner in a business opened earlier this year, Blue Door

Gallery, and antiques and gift shop in Winfall. She and Linda Morris operate that business in the front parlor of Morris's historic home in front of the county softball fields. The home was at one time owned by the county and housed the indigent and sick.

For information about her businesses, call McMahon at 426-5945, the Covent Garden Inn, 107 Covent Garden Street.

## Byrum hits double at livestock show

Earlie Byrum Jr. won't likely forget the 54th annual Albemarle 4-H Livestock Show and Sale. The 15-year-old Perquimans youth earned grand champion awards for both his steer and his hog during the two-day event in Elizabeth City last week.

According to show records housed at the Pasquotank County Extension Office, the feat was a first. Brent Jennings of Camden showed the grand champion hog and lamb in 1997, but there is no record of any youth showing both the grand champion steer and hog in the same year.

"It's extremely rare for a person to show the grand champion pig and steer in the same show," said Jeff Copeland, Area Specialized Agent, Livestock.

Last Wednesday, Byrum prepared to show his animals much like he has for the past

11 years. Make that final inspection, taking care to have the animal looking its best. Talk soothingly and encouragingly to the animal. Hope for the best.

At 8 a.m., the official judging of hogs got underway. Byrum was all smiles by around 10 a.m. when it was announced his animal was named grand champion.

The fitting and showmanship competition for hogs them got underway, followed by the fitting and showmanship of steers. At 2 in the afternoon, Byrum was ready for the official judging of steers. Unbelievably, the youth would learn soon that he had pulled off a first.

Byrum started out showing lambs and pigs before graduating to a steer. His 6-year-old brother, Collin also shows, both following in the footsteps. Please see **Livestock**, page 9