

Lady Pirates win big

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Library receives donations

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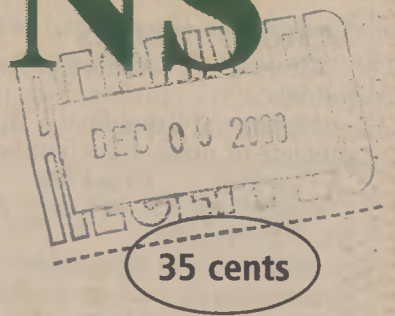
Senior Center news

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# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



## Teen cruises on crime spree

SUSAN R. HARRIS  
Editor

A local juvenile's alleged crime spree landed him in the county detention center.

Sheriff Eric Tilley said Monday that a 14-year-old awaits trial on three counts of breaking and entering a motor vehicle, larceny of a motor vehicle, and breaking and entering of a residence. Other charges may be filed.

The male was apprehended by deputies on Nov. 21 after his alleged involvement in two incidents in Perquimans. The first incident that day happened in the early morning hours when a house on Burgess Road was entered and keys taken from a vehicle at the residence. The owner's dogs apparently chased the suspect, running him into an electric fence.

At 4:45 a.m., the sheriff's department was called to investigate a car stolen in Snug Harbor. On the way to the scene, the deputy on duty met the vehicle reported stolen, and chased the car to Winfall near the water plant. There, the driver jumped from the car and fled on foot into a grassy area. Chowan County sheriff's officials answered a call to bring a dog over to help search for the suspect. The dog lost the scent at a road. The suspect was picked up later after deputies received a report that he was walking down the road. Tilley said the youth confessed to the crimes when officers questioned him.

The juvenile had been released into the custody of a relative in Elizabeth City awaiting trial on charges that he stole a motorcycle in that jurisdiction at the time of the incidents here. He allegedly stole a motorcycle in Elizabeth City and led police there on a high-speed chase before his first arrest.

The juvenile is suspected of other incidents in Perquimans and Pasquotank, including stealing a gun and a four-wheeler. Tilley said other charges against him are pending.

Had the teen not gone on his latest spree, Tilley said his previous clean record would probably have helped him to get probation if found guilty of the crimes with which he has been charged. Now, the sheriff said, the suspect faces the possibility of being sentenced to reform school.

His case was remanded to juvenile court after an appearance before Judge J.C. Cole.

## Snow blankets county

SUSAN R. HARRIS  
Editor

The Christmas parade ushered in something besides holiday cheer: snow.

After rain and freezing rain fell on the annual holiday kick-off event Saturday afternoon, a major storm front brought snow. From reports received by Perquimans County Dispatch Director Homer Jeanette, she estimated that 4-6 inches of the white stuff accumulated throughout the county. Snow fell from late Saturday night into Sunday night.

No major traffic incidents were reported by Hertford Police Chief Dale Vanscoy or Sheriff Eric Tilley, although slippery roads sent numerous vehicles into ditches. No serious injuries or major property damage was reported.

"People here did well," said Vanscoy. "A lot of folks just stayed at home. We were lucky that we didn't have any major problems."

Tilley said N.C. Highway Patrol troopers called for assistance from his department Sunday night as they navigated roads piled with ice and snow to answer accident calls. Tilley said NCHP reported investigating about 50 incidents in the area.



Sonia Davenport and her son, Jeremy, build a snowman in their front yard Monday. Warmer temperatures Monday threatened to melt all the snow, but the evening's freeze protected Frosty from demise.

N.C. Highway Patrol spokesperson Fay Gray said Monday that troopers stayed busy, but no major accidents were reported. Most calls involved cars sliding in ditches and other minor accidents.

NCDOT employees were out throughout the weekend making slick highways navigable. The major thoroughways were cleared and in good condition by Monday, although many secondary roads and streets had icy patches for much of the day as temperatures rose dramatically.

But Monday evening brought below-freezing temperatures and puddles on roadways and sidewalks again turned to ice during the night.

Most residents in Perquimans had electricity throughout the weekend, although there was a short outage in Hertford, and N.C. Power reported some scattered outages.

Perquimans public school students got a long weekend courtesy of the weather. School was cancelled Monday, and students and staff were on a 2-hour delay Tuesday.

Some business owners chose to close Sunday and Monday due to the weather. There were also church services cancelled Sunday as snow fell furiously.

## Ward named chair in split vote

SUSAN R. HARRIS  
Editor

The guard changed for the Perquimans County Commissioners Monday.

Commissioners Archie Miller and Bert Hayes were bid farewell, and Mack Nixon and Wallace Nelson welcomed.

In its first order of business, the new board chose Charles Ward as chairman and Ben Hobbs as vice chairman.

Mack Nixon nominated Ward to serve as chairman when county attorney John Matthews opened the floor for nominations. Commissioner Evelyn Stubbins nominated sitting chairman Shirley Wiggins. Nixon, Hobbs and Nelson supported Ward, while both Stubbins and Wiggins voted for Wiggins. Ward abstained.

Stubbins then nominated Wiggins for vice chair, and Nixon nominated Hobbs. The vote was split the same on that issue. Nixon, Nelson and Ward supported Hobbs; Stubbins and Wiggins voted for Wiggins.

Later in the meeting, committee appointments were approved. Commissioners indicated their preferences, and most were approved. Ward will sit on the Albemarle District Jail Commission; Hobbs on the Albemarle Commission and Northeastern N.C. Film Advisory Committee; Nelson on the Recreational Advisory Committee; Nixon on the Perquimans/Chowan/Gates Landfill, Albemarle Regional Landfill Authority and Health Department Board; and Stubbins on the Communications Advisory Board and Social Services Board. Wiggins was appointed to the Communications Advisory Board. See Board, page 9

## Santa comes to town

Santa Claus came to Hertford Saturday when the annual Christmas parade made its way through town.

Hundreds of people lined the parade route and braved icy rain to view the holiday kick-off event sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce.

Chamber president Gay Murray said the parade went extremely well, especially in light of the foul weather.

Chappell Hill Baptist Church claimed the first See Parade, page 9



The Chappell Hill Baptist Church float was named Best in Parade Saturday when the Chamber of Commerce Christmas parade made its way through Hertford along with icy rains and wind.

## Keep holidays safe

SUSAN R. HARRIS  
Editor

One ingredient of a happy holiday season is taking precautions to avoid involvement in a crime and traffic accidents.

Hertford Police Chief Dale Vanscoy and Sheriff Eric Tilley said taking extra care during the season can lead to a safer holiday.

The officers recommended that shoppers keep vehicles locked and keys in pockets to avoid theft of vehicles and items in them. Purchases should be locked in the trunk or otherwise hidden from view.

Cash should be carried in the front pockets of clothing. Wallets in back pockets or handbags are easy targets for criminals. Also, all credit

cards, debit cards and receipts should be carried in a safe place. Some criminals look for credit card receipts that have been carelessly tossed aside or in trash cans, Vanscoy said. The numbers can be taken from the receipts and used for purchases. Lost or stolen cards should be reported to the issuing company immediately.

Shopping alone, especially at night, can be dangerous. Women are particular targets for criminals. All shoppers should park in well-lit areas.

Homes and businesses should be secured, with both doors and windows locked. Those leaving town for the holidays should not give that information out freely, and should ask neighbors to

See Safe, page 9

## Yule log highlights event

Gather around the Yule Log and enjoy Christmas musical performances by local musicians and singers during the historic Newbold-White House's annual Christmas Open House, Friday, Dec. 15 from 6-8:30 p.m. The event is free - a gift to the community from the Perquimans County Restoration Association.

Candlelight, music, beautiful decorations and delicious goodies will mark the evening. The evening will be highlighted by musical performances by numerous local talents including The Perquimans Pipers, grandfather-granddaughter duet of Skip Jones and Stephanie Brittle, The Dyson Family Singers, violinist Hannah and Courtney Lane (ages 14 and 12), member of the Albemarle Sounds, and singers from Beacon Academy. Strolling carolers will add to the festive atmosphere and

guests will be encouraged to join in the jovial celebration.

Abraham and Judith Sanders, the eighteenth century residents of the Newbold-White House, will be on hand to welcome you to their 1730 home. Their home will be decorated in the eighteenth-century style and candlelight will fill the house. Storyteller Ann Carol White will read Christmas stories and set the mood for the holiday season.

A new addition to the Christmas Open House at the Newbold-White House will be the presentation of the Yule Log. The Yule Log is an early tradition that evolved from several European cultures. In early days, a great tree was cut and dragged, with great merriment, to the main fireplace. Each person who helped to move the log received good luck for the New Year.

See Yule, page 9

## WEEKEND WEATHER

THURSDAY  
HIGH: 48  
LOW: 29  
PARTLY CLOUDY

FRIDAY  
HIGH: 50  
LOW: 38  
MOSTLY CLOUDY

SATURDAY  
HIGH: 53  
LOW: 38  
MOSTLY CLOUDY