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THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

35 cents

Scooter hits ambulance

Accident emphasizes scooter dangers

SUSAN R. HARRIS

An EMT was one of two people taken for treatment when a motorized scooter hit a Perquimans County ambulance in Hertford last Thursday around noon.

According to Hertford Police Chief Dale Vanscoy, James Davenport, the driver of the ambulance, and Steven Elliott, the driver of the scooter, were both taken to Albemarle Hospital for treatment of minor injuries.

Vanscoy said Davenport was turning east onto Dobbs Street at the stoplight when Elliott, of 304 S. Church Street, apparently ran a red light on Edenton Road Street and slammed into the left side of the ambulance.

Davenport was alone in the ambulance, having gone to assist another EMS crew on a call.

Vanscoy said the department has received numerous complaints about the operation of scooters, which resemble small motorcycles. He said he has checked local and state regulations, and as long as the drivers are 16 years of age or older and wear a helmet, officers can not stop the drivers from operating the vehicles. Because they are classified as scooters and not motorcycles under the law, drivers do not have to be licensed.

"The majority of people who ride scooters don't have a license or some have lost their driving privilege because of prior traffic incidents," Vanscoy said. "They are inexperienced or show a pattern of not following the law."

Vanscoy said the lack of state laws regulating scooters is contrary to the state's efforts over the past few years to improve highway safety through such initiatives as the graduated driver license and highway safety programs.

"They made it harder for kids to get their license through this progressive license program and yet you can go buy them a moped or a scooter and put a helmet on them and (they can) run it," Vanscoy said.

"It doesn't make the roads safer," he added.

WALK TO D'FEET ALS



Participants in Saturday's annual Walk to D'Feet ALS stop to place flowers at the grave of Jim "Catfish" Hunter in Cedar Wood Cemetery. Among those participating in the fund raiser were Hunter's granddaughter, Jensen (center) who places her flowers with help from her aunt and uncle, Heather and Paul Hunter. Hunter's widow, Helen (bottom), and her brother were also among the walkers.

Annual event funds research, patient support

SUSAN R. HARRIS

Friends and family of the late Jimmy Hunter walked through Hertford Saturday for the annual Walk to D'Feet ALS, a fund raiser for the Jim "Catfish" Hunter ALS Foundation.

Although final numbers are not available, thousands of dollars were raised to help fund research for ALS, the disease that took the life of the Baseball Hall of Famer, and for support services for ALS patients.

Participants began at Perquimans County High School and made a loop downtown before coming back to the high school through Cedar Wood

Cemetery, where long-stemmed flowers were given to each walker to place at Hunter's grave.

The morning was cool and windy, but sprinkles held off until the last walkers were making their way down the final stretch.

Helen Hunter, who each year helps to organize the walk, said the number of walkers could not be determined because some did not register. Funds continue to be received from the event.

Back at the high school, T-shirts were given to walkers, and Helen Hunter gave out hugs of thanks, while PCHS principal Hans Lassiter provided fruit trays for the walkers.



Food Lion robbed

SUSAN R. HARRIS

For the second time in less than 60 days, an early-morning robber hit Food Lion last week.

Hertford Police Chief Dale Vanscoy said officers responded to the second alarm on Sept. 14 at 5:37 a.m.

Once on the scene, Vanscoy said the clerk told officers that a black male wearing coveralls with a white T-shirt wrapped around his face came in the store through the front doors, pushed the clerk over to a cash register and forced her to open the register. When she had opened the register, the clerk said the man grabbed and undetermined amount of money and ran back out of the store. She told police she did not see a weapon.

An officer was patrolling on Church Street Extended near the Albemarle Commission Building when the call came in, and sped to the scene, but could find no sign of the perpetrator.

The first incident occurred on July 27 in much the same manner, Vanscoy said. The robber entered the store around 5 a.m. wearing coveralls with a white T-shirt covering his face, forced a clerk to open a cash register, took the money and ran. The clerk reported seeing a weapon on that occasion.

Vanscoy said in both instances, officers had just left Food Lion making a routine check when the incidents occurred. The first time, the officer had made his way back to the stoplight at U.S. 17 and Harvey Point Road when the call came in. The officer had gotten back to the Albemarle Commission Building before receiving the call for the September incident.

Vanscoy said both robberies are still under investigation. Anyone with any information about either incident should call the police department at 426-5587.

Unclaimed Freight looks to expand to Hertford

SUSAN R. HARRIS

Mike White opened Unclaimed Freight in Sunbury in January, has already expanded that store, and is now considering expansion into Perquimans County.

Located at the corner of Highway 185 and Highway 32, White said Unclaimed Freight carries everything for the home and at reasonable prices.

"We specialize in being cheaper than anybody else," White said.

From living room suites, which start at \$399, to



Mike White cuts the ribbon at Unclaimed Freight in Sunbury last week.

accessories, customers can decorate their entire homes at Unclaimed Freight. The store carries furniture, mattresses, bar stools, lamps, rugs and more.

White said he welcomes everyone to come and look around at the variety of styles offered at the store in a low-pressure environment.

Delivery and financing are available through the store.

Mike and his wife, Julie, live in Belvidere, and Mike has a wealth of experience in retail sales.

The Perquimans County Chamber of Commerce

welcomed the Whites into the business community with a ribbon cutting last week.

Store hours are 8 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. on Saturday, and noon-4 p.m. on Sunday. White understands work schedules, and wants to offer customers the opportunity to shop when it's convenient for them. The long showroom hours allow ample time for shopping.

Call 465-8356 for more information, or stop by the store and walk to White about your home decor needs.

WEEKEND WEATHER

THURSDAY
High: 88
Low: 63
SUNNY

FRIDAY
High: 80
Low: 62
PARTLY CLOUDY

SATURDAY
High: 81
Low: 62
PARTLY CLOUDY