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THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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Don't forget to change
your clocks this weekend.
Eastern Standard Time returns
early Sunday morning.

October 27, 2004

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Wreck claims lives of three

ERIN RICKERT

A Perquimans County woman and her two children were killed on impact when their vehicle failed to stop for a tractor-trailer Sunday evening.

Around 8 p.m. that night, Lynette Bloodworth, 29, and her daughter Bobbi, 7, and son Steven, 5, were traveling across US 17 from Woodland Church Road toward their home on Chapanoke Road.

Bloodworth failed to stop as she turned in front of a Monarch Foods tractor-trailer driven by Wilma Dollins, 47, of Hertford.

Authorities said Dollins saw the vehicle but was unable to stop the tractor-trailer before it crashed into the right passenger

side of Bloodworth's vehicle.

"It was a real bad one," said Sgt. Tom Griffin with the North Carolina Highway Patrol. "The family was killed on impact as best we can tell."

Perquimans County Schools Public Information Officer Brenda Lassiter said that six ministers were on-call Monday at Perquimans County Central School where the children had attended to assist teachers and students with the loss.

Dollins sustained only minor injuries in the accident.

Funeral arrangements for the Bloodworths are being handled by Twiford's Funeral Home, Elizabeth City.

HOMEcoming TIME OF YEAR



PHOTO BY ERIN RICKERT

PCHS seniors were the loudest section at the homecoming pep rally Friday afternoon. The rally offered about an hour of activities and cheering in preparation for the game later that evening. For more pep rally photos and a game wrap-up, please see page 10.

Park honors long-time Authority chairman

SUSAN R. HARRIS

The dedication of a new park off White Street in Hertford earlier this month proves what can be accomplished when agencies, government units and civic groups work together.

The Henry C. Stokes Jr. Rotary Centennial Park was dedicated with recognition given to all those involved in making access to the waterfront a reality: Hertford Housing Authority, Albemarle RC&D, N.C. Department of Environmental and Natural Resources, Hertford Rotary Club, College of The Albemarle and the Town of Hertford.

The park features a pier with a covered area that even before the park's dedication was drawing people to it every day. There is a

launching area for canoes and kayaks, a parking lot, picnic tables, a basketball area, a memorial plaza and landscaping.

The Town of Hertford has for years sought to open waterfront areas to the public. Using public access grant funds, areas such as Missing Mill Park and the municipal park have been developed. The long-range town plans included expanding parks for public access.

Working with the Hertford Housing Authority, Albemarle RC&D and the Department of Environmental and Natural Resources, the town secured a grant for the development of a park off White Street.

The Hertford Rotary Club became interested in the project as a way to note the work of long-time



Henry Stokes, a Rotarian and long-term chairman of the Hertford Housing Authority Commission, cuts the ribbon at the new Hertford park dedicated in his honor by several local agencies. With Stokes are his wife, Bettie (left), Hertford Housing Authority Executive Director Rhonda Waters and Hertford Mayor Sid Eley.

Rotarian and chairman of the Hertford Housing Authority Board of Commissioners since its inception in 1961, Henry Stokes.

The Rotary is a worldwide service organization that will celebrate 100 years of service in early 2005.

Local members sold bricks in the park's memorial plaza to help raise funds for the park. During the dedication, the last brick was laid, with Stokes inserting a gold brick in the last open spot on the plaza.

Continued on page 7

Halloween options available

Family fun offered in county

ERIN RICKERT

Though our calendars tell us Halloween lands on a Sunday this year, residents celebrating the holiday have several choices that will allow area youngsters to enjoy the festivities without staying out too late.

Little ghosts and goblins interested in the traditional door to door trick-or-treating around their neighborhoods should expect to head out a little earlier this year.

Hertford Police Chief Dale Vanscoy said the town will celebrate Halloween from 5-8 p.m. on Sunday to ensure a safer holiday.

Trick-or-treating in Hertford's downtown with area merchants, however, will take place from 3-5 p.m. on Saturday. Parents and children are encouraged to bring the little ones to this safe and less scary Halloween option.

Those who want to keep out of the cold and reserve their weekend for other activities should attend the annual Safe Trick of Treat on Thursday from 6-8 p.m. at the Brian Center on Don Juan Road.

Children up to sixth grade should come dressed in their costumes and ready to participate in a variety of activities like crafts, a costume contest and other games.

Cathy Johnson, Brian Center administrator, said children who attend also have the opportunity to trick-or-treat and collect candy from residents at the center.

"We thought it would be a good thing to do in the community," Johnson said. "We feel it will be beneficial to the residents."

And if you are looking

for a Halloween alternative all together, well The Holy Ghost Party hosted by New Hope United Methodist Church and Cale Retreat and Conference Center will take place at the center Sunday from 3-9 p.m.

The event will feature costume contests open to all ages and will be held at 3:30 and 7 p.m. — scary costumes are requested not to attend the event.

JoAnne Jones, who has helped coordinate the event, said contest prizes will be awarded to individuals in several different categories.

Games designed for youth to preteen participants will be available for prizes.

Hotdogs will be served at 6 p.m. and a hayride and campfire will take place after dark.

"It [the party] is just a safe alternative to Halloween," Jones said. "We really want this to be very family oriented."

She said this is the third year the event has been held at the conference center and the group hopes at least 100 children attend.

Beechtree Inn adds fine dining restaurant

ERIN RICKERT

The fruits of three years of labor finally paid off for Beechtree Inn owners Jackie and Ben Hobbs last week, when their 10-year dream of opening a restaurant finally became a reality.

The fine dining restaurant that sits next to the Inn provides seating for 48 guests for what Jackie calls "American cuisine with a historical setting."

The building's 1800s charm was restored and Jackie's husband Ben handcrafted the majority of the furniture in the building.

The restaurant is currently open Wednesday through Saturday, but the Hobbses said they plan to add on Monday and Tuesday once things are in full swing.

"We're going to add days as we grow," Jackie said. She said the restaurant



PHOTO BY ERIN RICKERT

Ben and Jackie Hobbs cut the ribbon for their new restaurant on the grounds of their bed and breakfast, Beechtree Inn.

opens at 5:30 p.m. but they request guests have reservations, because the number of people who reserve a seat determines closing time.

Elizabeth Jones, their chef from Raleigh, will ensure no visit to the

restaurant is the same with a newly prepared menu each night.

The restaurant's first course featured: Chevre salad, pan roasted cod, she crab soup, grilled choice rib-eye steak, Caesar salad, peanut soup and chocolate

grand Marnier cake or Knobbs Creek bourbon pecan tart, both with vanilla bean ice cream.

Although right now their restaurant serves only two salad and three entree choices, the Hobbses said they plan to add three more entree choices and one more salad to their nightly menu.

Ben is also finishing the upstairs of the restaurant, which will add two rooms and offer guests more seating.

The Chamber of Commerce welcomed the restaurant to the business community with a ribbon cutting last Thursday.

To make a reservation, call 426-7815. The Hobbses suggest reserving a table a day in advance for those who are diabetic, lactose intolerant, vegetarian or who follow strict diets like Atkins. Jackie said they would try to accommodate these individuals if enough notice is given.

WEEKEND WEATHER

THURSDAY
High: 66
Low: 52
FEW SHOWERS

FRIDAY
High: 69
Low: 56
MOSTLY CLOUDY

SATURDAY
High: 78
Low: 60
PARTLY CLOUDY