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Hertford man arrested for EC robbery

Incident similar to Hertford break-ins

ERIN RICKERT

Police arrested a King Street man in Elizabeth City recently who may have ties to a string of robberies

in Hertford.

Devon Emmanuel Thatch, 19, of 113 King St. was charged with attempted armed robbery after Capt. G.F. Koch with the Elizabeth City Police Department said he tried to rob the Food Lion on West Ehringhaus Street May 27 — a robbery attempt Hertford Police Chief Dale Vanscoy said resembles two successful robberies that occurred at the

Hertford Food Lion and another at the former Frankie's Hertford Café last year.

In the May incident, Koch said Thatch entered Food Lion in the early morning, around 1:46 a.m., and approached one of the store's cashiers disguised in a hooded sweatshirt with what appeared to be a weapon demanding money. "We found something that may have resembled a

weapon," Koch said. "He was carrying a metal object wrapped in cloth."

Yet before Thatch could collect any money something happened that caused him to flee the grocery store on foot.

Though Koch could not comment on what forced Thatch to leave empty handed, he said police were able to radio Thatch's description to on-duty officers in the vicinity.

A short time later, a Pasquotank County deputy on patrol in the area spotted Thatch in the Southgate Mall parking lot and after a brief foot chase, Koch said Thatch was apprehended and taken into custody behind JC Penney — a series of events very similar to the Hertford robberies in 2004.

Vanscoy said last year, during the early morning Continued on page 7



Devon Thatch

County lifts Dec. development halt

ERIN RICKERT

Though the six-month moratorium county commissioners passed last December on subdivisions two lots and larger was lifted Thursday, new regulations and a more formal review process will now designate how developers may construct subdivisions in Perquimans County.

Perquimans County Manager Bobby Darden said commissioners originally implemented the moratorium to provide time to deal with the rapid growth occurring across the county.

During a public hearing last Monday evening, commissioners agreed to pass changes to the regulations, fees and the review process

in an attempt to deal with the rise in development.

Darden said new rules now state a subdivision's preliminary plan may not be approved unless adequate public facilities such as law enforcement, schools, water, fire and rescue are available.

Developers must also make sure cul-de-sacs and dead end streets are no longer than 1,000 feet to help prevent, as Darden said "long runs of dead end water lines."

Rules also state all subdivisions, major or minor, must connect to the county's water system and the number of road front lots included in subdivision plans is now limited based on acreage.

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Hertford man will not face murder charges

DA: Harvin acted in self-defense

CHRIS WHIPPLE
The Daily Advance

A Hertford man acted in self-defense when he shot and killed a female friend of his ex-wife in April, the district attorney said Friday.

Thomas Harvin III was ambushed on the morning of April 7, shortly after arriving at his ex-wife's house, according to an investigation by J. Winslow of the Camden County Sheriff's Office.

Harvin had apparently

come to Dawn Teachey's house, at 261 Ivy Neck Road in Camden County, to take their child to an appointment, District Attorney Frank Parrish said. While walking toward the house, Harvin noticed movement in some nearby foliage. Then a shot rang out.

"It appeared there was some disturbance in a brushy area near where this occurred," Parrish said, "which would suggest to anyone looking and exerting common sense that someone was perhaps lying in wait."

The bullet fired from the brushy area struck Harvin in the mouth, severely injuring his jaw, Parrish said.

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Forum looks at economic development in area

ERIN RICKERT

Even though guest speaker North Carolina Representative Howard Hunter (Dem.-Hertford) failed to show, close to 70 elected officials and other guests gathered for the first annual Regional Community Forum at Perquimans County High School Saturday.

Sponsored by the Restoration Community Development

Empowerment Initiative, Inc., the event, with the theme "The New Paradigm: from Poverty to Prosperity," featured music and a panel discussion focusing on issues surrounding past and future economic growth in the area.

Rev. P.F. Smith, founder of RCDEI, said even though Hunter got the time wrong for the event the turnout was still a success.

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ARE WE HAVING FUN YET?



PHOTO BY ERIN RICKERT

Don Williams, Deb DeWeese and Carol Klasing work together Saturday morning to construct a tunnel — just a portion of the nearly \$10,000 playground going up off Navajo Trail at the Snug Harbor waterfront park (above). Scott Evans (below) dons mud boots to help measure for the foundation of the new equipment. Several Snug Harbor residents came out to help construct the playground Saturday.

Playground component of ongoing community upgrades in Snug Harbor

SUSAN HARRIS

A group of Snug Harbor residents worked Saturday to begin setting up about \$10,000 in new playground equipment in the community's waterfront park.

Purchased with donations and the proceeds of ongoing fund raisers, the equipment replaces the original park equipment that was outdated and no longer safe.

The treed park also has picnic tables, a pier, a swimming area, restrooms, and a shuffleboard court.

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Dallas faces habitual felon charges

ERIN RICKERT

A Holiday Island man who has committed more than a dozen crimes in the area was taken into custody recently, Sheriff's officials said Monday.

Christopher Allan Dallas, 44, of 116 Windward Drive was arrested May 28 and charged as a habitual felon in connection with three prior felonies dating back to 1995.

"The Sheriff's office has been dealing with him at least since 1990," said Perquimans County Sheriff Eric Tilley. "It's almost on a monthly basis unless he is incarcerated."

Tilley said deputies picked up Dallas in April on an obtaining property by false pretense charge, but he was later bonded out.

In history, Tilley said deputies discovered three past felonies, which include forgery of an instrument in 1995, a felony probation violation in 2001 and a felony larceny charge in 2003 — making him eligible for the habitual felon charge.

When deputies spotted Dallas, Tilley said they were able to bring him in and hopefully end his criminal wrongdoings.

After reviewing his criminal record, Tilley said "I would say Chris Dallas Continued on page 7

WEEKEND WEATHER

THURSDAY
HIGH: 83
LOW: 67
ISOLATED T'STORMS

FRIDAY
HIGH: 82
LOW: 66
ISOLATED T'STORMS

SATURDAY
HIGH: 83
LOW: 68
PARTLY CLOUDY