

EMC announces new clean-air energy program

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Jesus teaches through parables

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THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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Third man convicted of 2003 burglary

ERIN RICKERT

The third of four individuals arrested in connection with a 2003 burglary and attempted armed robbery was sentenced in Perquimans County Superior Court Monday. The son of Winfall

Mayor Fred Yates, 18 year-old Quinton Porter of 118 Wynn Fork Court was sentenced to a minimum of 51 months and a maximum of 71 months in prison by Honorable Judge Jerry R. Tillett.

Porter joins Rashie Quintell Bellfield, 21, of Lot

8 Dogwood Mobile Home Park, Edenton who is serving more than nine years and Christopher Omar Hinton, 22, of 1109 Poplar Neck Road who is serving the same sentence as Porter. The sentences were based in part on any prior criminal history the men

may or may not have had.

The Perquimans County Sheriff's Department still has warrants out for the arrest of a fourth teen, Andrew Jermaine Jordan, 18, of 123 Wynn Fork Court, who failed to show for his last court appearance.

The men were arrested

in December 2003, according to Sheriff's reports, after the group visited a Chinquapin Road home the evening of Dec. 12.

According to reports, the men entered the residence dressed in black and wearing ski masks after knocking down the front door.

Once inside, the men were alleged to have held four adults and an infant at gunpoint. The men were said to have entered the home looking for a man named "Peanut" who had killed one of the men's fam-

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Two men face drug charges

Residents arrested on drug charges
Erin Rickert

Two Hertford men were arrested within a week of each other after it was discovered the two were in possession of marijuana.

Perquimans County Sheriff's deputies arrested Steven Bernard Bailey, 27, of 577 Burnt Mill Road and charged him with possession with intent to maintain/sell/deliver a controlled substance and maintaining a vehicle/dwelling/place for the purpose of selling/delivery a controlled substance after he was found in possession of 5 ounces of marijuana July 6.

Nearly a week later on July 13, Wille Garcia Warren, 25, of Lot 54 MHP was charged with possession of up to 1/2 ounce of marijuana and three counts of driving while license revoked after he turned himself into sheriff's deputies.

Perquimans County Sheriff Eric Tilley said on the afternoon of July 6, deputies attempted to pull over the 1994 Chevrolet Bailey was driving near the intersection of Edenton Road Street and Hwy 17. Continued on page 2

HEAT WAVE



PHOTO BY ERIN RICKERT

Haywood Cofield, 19 (left) and George Perry, 16, prepare to put crates of sweet corn into the hydrocooler at the C. Tommy Harrell Farm in Bear Swamp to keep it at its freshest. With last week's heat, the two had the coolest job on the farm with the air from the cooler escaping their way as they slid in the crates.

Heat wave hits county

ERIN RICKERT

While individuals across the county were escaping the recent streak of scorching heat splashing in backyard pools, sipping Kool-Aid near a fan or retreating to air-conditioned offices, many people were stuck

working in last week's dangerously hot conditions.

Hundreds working jobs in the construction, landscaping and farming industries endured hours under the summer sun as the heat index rose to nearly 115 degrees several days recently — causing heat

advisories to be issued in the area.

At one Perquimans County farm on North Bear Swamp Road, more than 50 individuals worked tirelessly in the heat's haze to finish up their nearly four-week corn harvest. Continued on page 6

Sentencing delayed for habitual felon

Judge okays psych exam

ERIN RICKERT

A psychological evaluation may be sought for a Holiday Island man believed to have committed several crimes in the county, the public defender for the case said Monday.

The assessment would come before 44 year-old Christopher Allan Dallas, who family members say battles with bipolar disorder and paranoid schizophrenia, appears in the court's administrative session Aug. 26.

David L. Credle, the assistant public defender representing Dallas, said Dallas was already indicted on the habitual felon charge. Several other indictments handed down by the grand jury Monday afternoon, along with questions surrounding Dallas's competence, forced the case to be heard next month.

Mary Dallas, Dallas's wife of 14 years, said since the two moved to Perquimans County 12 years ago Dallas has had close to 25 convictions — causing him to be in and out of prison.

Mary attributes his behavior to his battle with bipolar disorder and paranoid schizophrenia, which

he was finally diagnosed with less than five years ago.

"It [the behavior] is a result of these disorders," Mary said after her husband's appearance in Perquimans County Superior Court Monday. "He evidently can't control himself. The court has done nothing to help."

Dallas's mother Iris Dallas said the family is tired of the system ignoring her son's need for medical treatment.

"They just keep sending him back to jail," Iris said. "All I ever asked for is help, but no one will give him treatments."

The family, Iris said, has struggled with Dallas since he was a young boy — when his health problems first became evident.

"It was never anything big, but what you call 'always getting into trouble,'" Iris said.

Perquimans County Sheriff Eric Tilley said Dallas's criminal history is lengthy and includes several driving while impaired charges, communicating threats, injury to personal property and assault charges.

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

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Local dogs, owners participate in search and recovery cases

ERIN RICKERT

As they walk the perimeter of the area they are about to search at the Currituck airport, a brightly colored vest that reads

"recovery" fastened to her mid-section, Dakota trails only feet from him on the end of a leash.

The air is cool and the breeze coming off the field is light as she is given her

scent item.

"Check it," Dakota's owner Steve Lane commands — alerting the dog to take in the scent of the object.

"Find the man," Lane voices sternly as Dakota's nose hits the ground and she begins searching out the scent, a practice now almost ritual to the 7 month-old Weimaraner puppy.

But that was nearly two months ago when Dakota, now 9 months old, was being tested for her certification as a search and recovery dog.

Since then Dakota, her owner Steve Lane and back-up trainer Tammy Britton have been called and put on standby close to six times for searches. Most recently the team returned from their second call to help locate the missing 4 year-old boy in Hampton, Va.

On the other side of the county another team is in



PHOTO BY ERIN RICKERT

Owner Steve Lane and Tammy Britton train Dakota, a search and rescue dog.

the same place Dakota was a few months ago.

Sandy Sperry, a member of the Perquimans County SPCA, and her dog Brownie are now working to obtain their certification — making them the second of these unusual teams to live in Perquimans.

Sperry rescued Brownie, a German short-haired pointer and pit bull mix, from certain death nearly four years ago after she

found the dog abandoned — flea bitten, covered in ticks and malnourished.

The two teams had both been searching for a way to share their animal's talents with others and had thought about training them as therapy dogs.

That is until each got involved with Margie Spencer's dog obedience classes and later joined nearly seven other pairs Continued on page 6

Sixth mobile home burns

ERIN RICKERT

A fire that demolished a mobile home in Snug Harbor last week is said to have no connection to the Continued on page 8



PHOTO BY ERIN RICKERT

Sandy Sperry and Brownie answer when law enforcement agencies need help finding a missing person.

WEEKEND WEATHER

THURSDAY

High: 93

Low: 76

SCATTERED T'STORMS

FRIDAY

High: 89

Low: 74

SCATTERED T'STORMS

SATURDAY

High: 87

Low: 73

THUNDER SHOWERS