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PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

35 cents

Gas pumping back to normal after scare

MARGARET FISHER

Lines of vehicles backed up into the streets as rumors flew last week that gas stations would be closing Thursday afternoon.

Both Hertford and Winfall police were directing traffic by the Red Apple and Trade Mart gas stations. That may have provoked further panic that gas stations were really closing as drivers saw other cars being turned away.

One woman, Theda Everett of Perquimans County, was urgently telling someone on her cell phone around 4 p.m. that the Trade Mart on Church Street and U.S. Highway 17 had already closed. Everett was waiting in line at the One Stop on Church and

Grubb streets when she heard from another customer that the Trade Mart had closed. The Trade Mart was, in fact, open, but had run out of regular gas.

"This is ridiculous," she said about the gas price increases. "I'm barely making over minimum wage."

As a personal care aid, Everett uses her car on the job driving to different parts of three counties, she said.

Lionel Jones of Hertford was also waiting in line at the One Stop. He received a call from a relative saying that the stations in Raleigh had closed and that the trend would soon hit Hertford.

"I've got to get gas before they close the store," Jones said.

People at the One Stop were not only filling up their vehicles, but containers, as well, said owner Julian Winslow.

Around 5 p.m., the One Stop shut down its pumps. On Thursday, the station had received a split load, which is half the usual amount of fuel they normally get, he said. Winslow had left town for the weekend, but he said that his employees had decided to conserve fuel so it would last through the holiday weekend.

"There's somewhat of a shortage," Winslow said Monday. "We're not getting all that we want."

He attributes the shortage to damage done by Hurricane Katrina to the pipeline and oil rigs.

Getting a split tank is working out better for him, he said, because of the higher price of fuel and the fact that few people are buying the higher priced fuels.

"I think that's going to be a trend ... that people aren't going to buy the mid-grade or premium gas."

Both the Trade Mart and Red Apple get deliveries every couple of days, their managers stated. However, the loads are not full ones.

Last Thursday, Carl Bateman of Bateman's Amoco predicted there would be a shortage this week. But on Monday he said he had plenty of gas. Bateman has several suppliers that he deals with in order to keep a steady supply. Continued on page 11



PHOTO BY MARGARET FISHER

Motorists waited in lines to get gas last Thursday as rumors of gas station closings leaked around the county. Prices soared to well over \$3 per gallon before day's end.

18th century tastes are festival feature

MARGARET FISHER

There's nothing like a slice of green pea pie with sweet icing or chicken and noodles with a little cinnamon and sugar sprinkled on top. Or so was the thinking of many well-to-do folks living in the 18th century, said Donna Seale, former foodways interpreter at Colonial Williamsburg in Virginia.

Seale will be cooking up some unique fare over an open outdoor fire at the Hearth and Harvest Festival this Saturday at the Newbold-White House.

Seale earned a bachelors degree in history in 1990 and performed culinary magic at the historic Virginia site for three years. There, and from reading, she learned about the foods, implements and cooking techniques that were common in the colonial period.

"I've been cooking since I was a kid," Seale said.

"It's a matter of learning by doing."

For interpreters such as Seale, that requires understanding the lifestyle and thinking of the people who lived around 1730.

Abraham Saunders built the Newbold-White House and lived there with his wife, six children and two slaves. This Quaker family was likely wealthy because they lived in a brick home, she said. So Seale plans to cook up some foods that may have been eaten by a family with money to spend on the longed-for foods not commonly eaten by poor families.

Seale plans to cook three dishes - one boiled, one baked and one roasted, she said. The boiled dish will be chicken over a bed of noodles. Wheat flour was more expensive than cornmeal, so only the wealthy would likely have it, she said. The English called it vermicelli, although it's not certain

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A BREAK FROM LABOR



PHOTO BY SUSAN HARRIS

Holly Brickhouse (seated left) enjoys visiting with family and friends after a Labor Day cookout at her Church Street home. The smoke from the grill in the background was waning, and a guest on the porch was eating another helping of the banana pudding the group, which at one time numbered over 20, had for dessert.

Piping project nears end

MARGARET FISHER

Construction crews near the town's manholes are becoming less noticeable as the sewer lining and repair project nears its end.

Tri State Utilities, a company based out of Chesapeake, Va., has been repairing about 11,000 feet of sewer piping in Hertford.

The more than \$352,000 project, funded by USDA Rural Development, is expected to be completed no later than the end of this month.

Funds remaining, estimated at approximately \$25,000, are being used now to line the piping under Pennsylvania Avenue, work on Edenton Road Street where sand was found to be in the lines, and recheck existing repairs.

Pennsylvania Avenue is one of the worst streets for sewer problems and that's why it hasn't been paved, said Hertford Town Manager John Christensen. The project hasn't corrected all of the town's sewer problems, though.

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Burr visits PCHS social studies classes

MARGARET FISHER

Sen. Richard Burr, R-N.C., spoke to Perquimans County High School social studies students last Wednesday as part of a three-day series of visits through the Albemarle.

Burr focused on Hurricane Katrina and the war in Iraq before opening up the discussion to students' questions.

Burr's stop was followed by a visit to Perquimans County Central Grammar by Eastern Representative Janet Bradbury from Sen. Elizabeth Dole's office. Bradbury came last week to observe how the \$1.3 million IMPACT grant was being spent on technology for Pre-K to second grade students, said Brenda Lassiter, public information officer of Perquimans County Schools.

Burr talked to students in criminal justice, civics and history classes who met together in Chuck Whedbee's classroom.

Burr said he chose to

talk to students in the classroom, rather than the auditorium or gym, not only so students can have their own questions answered, but so Burr can find out what subjects are being discussed around the dinner table at home.

Before asking for questions, Burr discussed Hurricane Katrina and Iraq.

"You are truly living through an historic event," he said about last week's hurricane. "This is the most devastation that our country has ever faced, domestically."

He stated that it will be the largest humanitarian effort that this country has ever done, domestically. He spoke of the generosity predicted to help the more than 100,000 people who lost nearly everything. He told students that they would also see the flaws in the local, state and federal governments' ability to respond.

"It will be, and hopefully it will never happen again,

the largest health outbreak in the United States, with the exception of the pandemic flu that none of us lived through," he said. He was referring to the toxic products that are in the standing water that has permeated the hurricane-hit region.

Back from a trip to Iraq two weeks ago, Burr offered students advice about the troops and what they face daily.

"What I never want you to never forget," he said, "is that there are 135,000 Americans every day in Iraq that get up and put on their fatigues and strap on 40 pounds of body armor, ammunition belt with an M-16 over their shoulder, and they patrol neighborhoods throughout Iraq trying to make sure that individuals in Iraq have the right to vote."

Burr continued with the thought that nothing could display freedom better than this except the idea that here have the freedom to Continued on page

Sex abuse victims fight offender's home visits

SUSAN HARRIS

Some of the victims of a convicted sex offender from Perquimans County are not happy that his placement in minimum custody could result in his participation in programs that would put him back in the community before his release date.

According to information from the North Carolina Department of Correction web site, Jack Hardy Dail, 64, formerly of 329 Hunters Fork Road, Tyner, has been placed in minimum custody in Tillery in Halifax County, and could be granted participation in community-based programs.

"This placement could possibly result in participation in community-based programs such as

community volunteer passes, home leave, study release, community work programs, and work release," said a form letter sent to victims who request notification of actions regarding the offender. "Please be assured that before an offender is placed in such programs, the Division of Prisons conducts and evaluation to assess the possible impact on the community."

And the thought that Dail might be granted home leave, said a source close to more than one of Dail's victims who spoke on the condition of anonymity, has the victims and some of their family members both nervous and angry.

"It was understood that he was going to be in prison for 10 years, that's Continued on page

WEEKEND WEATHER

THURSDAY
HIGH: 88, LOW: 67
MOSTLY SUNNY

FRIDAY
HIGH: 88, LOW: 68
MOSTLY SUNNY

SATURDAY
HIGH: 88, LOW: 69
MOSTLY SUNNY