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PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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Fire destroys Snug Harbor home

MARGARET FISHER

A fire started in a vacant Snug Harbor mobile home last Friday morning completely destroyed it. It's the third residence in that community to be set on fire intentionally.

The fire broke out at 109 Walnut Street around 1:30 a.m. in the vicinity of the home's front door. A neighbor called Central Communications sometime before 2 a.m., said Perquimans County Sheriff Erik Tilley.

"We were able to determine that the fire started at

the front door just inside the front entrance of the home," Tilley said.

The home was fully engulfed when Bethel Volunteer Fire Department responded, said Fire Chief Jeff Proctor.

Because the home had been vacant since July and there was no electricity hooked up to it, arson was suspected, he said. An arson K-9 unit was brought in from the City of Elizabeth City Fire Department.

The canine indicated multiple times that a flammable agent was present

near the front door of the home, Tilley said.

"We pretty much can determine that it was set," Tilley said. After that determination, the fire department turned the investigation over to the Perquimans County Sheriff's Office.

Samples of the flammable material were sent to the State Bureau of Investigations lab in Raleigh.

The property is owned by Michael and Eve Clark of Juniper Street in Snug Harbor. The last resident was their son, Michael

Jesse Clark, whose whereabouts are undetermined.

The younger Clark has experienced problems with some people in the neighborhood while he was living in the mobile home and has been involved in several court appearances, Tilley said.

"(Clark) has had problems with several people in the community," Tilley said, "and due to this problem, those people are of interest to the police department."

Six fires in nearby Holiday Island are also under investigation.



PHOTO BY MARGARET FISHER

The first that destroyed this vacant mobile home in Snug Harbor last Friday was intentionally set, officials said. A canine unit was brought in from Elizabeth City, and the dogs hit on several suspicious areas. The investigation continues in the case.

Get ready for Ophelia

MARGARET FISHER

Singer Natalie Merchant referred to Shakespeare's Ophelia as a tempest cyclone and a hurricane. Residents of the Carolinas likely hope tropical storm Ophelia doesn't go mad as it nears the coastline.

The storm has been an unpredictable one, fluctuating between a Category I hurricane and a tropical storm.

"At this time it is (a tropical storm)," said Harry Winslow, emergency management coordinator for Perquimans County, "but it's possible that it could be upgraded as it gets closer to the North Carolina coast to a Category I."

On Tuesday, maximum sustainable winds were at 70 miles per hour, just four miles per hour short of a hurricane, Winslow said.

The storm is moving north-northwest and is expected to hit land near Wilmington. From there, it is expected to move north-northeast and brush along the Outer Banks, Winslow said.

The winds that are banding about 50 to 60 miles from the center are the strongest, according to the National Weather Service. Continued on page 10



PHOTO BY MARGARET FISHER

The Kiddy Kopter was one of the popular children's rides provided by Brooks Amusements at the Hertford Baptist Church/Chowan Hospital Youth Pavilion at the Indian Summer Festival.

Weather perfect for festivals

MARGARET FISHER

The weather couldn't have been better for Indian Summer Festival participants and the attendees on Saturday. Cool breezes gave relief from a sunshine of a day.

Foot traffic had a slow start, but by lunch, lines had formed at several of the food booths. "The Jack Lady" Wilhelmina Boone sold out of most of her popular fried turnovers by noon, leaving just the sweet potato jacks after lunch,

she said.

"I done sold out," she said. "I sold out of my apple and peach jacks."

The pigs feet were selling well, too, according to Linda Pettaway of Mama Nae's Child Care Center booth.

"They're going good," Pettaway said. "Some people haven't heard of them before so they're trying them."

Food was a center of attention at the Newbold-White House, where Continued on page 10

Towns mull policing

Winfall may contract Hertford to patrol there

MARGARET FISHER

Officials from the towns of Hertford and Winfall recently met to discuss the feasibility of Hertford providing police protection for Winfall.

Winfall currently has one full-time police officer, Police Chief David Shaffer. The town relies on additional assistance from Perquimans County Sheriff's Office and, when necessary, Hertford Police Department, said Winfall's Mayor Fred Yates.

"We're looking for 24-hour coverage," Yates said.

The issue is in the preliminary stage as Winfall seeks to find funding to either add an additional officer or pay the Town of Hertford for 24-hour protection.

"At this particular time, we don't have the resources for one officer full-time," Yates said. "We're looking for grants. That's the only way we'll be able to do it, which, right now, is hard to come by."

Hertford Town Manager John Christensen said that Continued on page 10

Camden woman charged in ex-husband's shooting

Victim reunited with daughter

CHRIS WHIPPLE
The Daily Advance

A woman involved in a double shooting in Camden last April has been arrested on charges of conspiring to have her ex-husband murdered, officials said Monday.

The Camden County Grand Jury on Monday indicted Dawn Renee Teachey, 33, of 261 Ivy Neck Road in Camden, on

charges of conspiring with a friend to have Thom Harvin killed. The friend, Stacey Bayles, 39, died in the shooting. Harvin is from Hertford.

Teachey turned herself in at the Camden County Sheriff's Office at about 2:45 p.m. shortly after the true bill of indictment was handed down. She was being held Monday night at Albemarle District Jail on a \$275,000 bond. She is charged with conspiracy to commit murder and solicitation to commit murder.

Investigators have said that Bayles was hiding near the driveway of Teachey's home, waiting for Harvin to arrive for a scheduled

visit on the morning of the shooting. After being shot almost point blank in the face by a .22 caliber pistol, Harvin said he wrestled Bayles to the ground, got control of the pistol and shot Bayles in the forehead.

Harvin said three bullet fragments - which doctors decided not to remove - remain lodged in the bones of his face.

Monday's indictment also resulted in a reunion between Harvin and his daughter. Judge J.C. Cole signed an order giving Harvin custody of his six-year-old daughter on Monday.

Harvin has not seen his daughter since April 18.

That was the day Teachey took out a restraining order against Harvin, accusing him of assault.

Harvin has maintained for months that his former spouse not only conspired with Bayles to have him killed, but faked the alleged assault in front of the Hertford Police Department.

Harvin has said that it has taken this long to see his daughter because no judge has heard his case on the assault charge or restraining order. Harvin said hearings on the case were bumped to later dates every time they came up on the docket.

Harvin also blames the

Department of Social Services in Camden for the extended separation from his daughter. He said Camden DSS never tried to learn his side of the story.

Harvin alleges that his former wife wanted him killed because she knew he does not condone her lesbian lifestyle, and was going to fight for primary custody of their child because of it.

In a warrant taken out by Camden County Sheriff's Investigator Jay Winslow shortly after the shooting, Bayles and Teachey are described as lovers.

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WEEKEND WEATHER

THURSDAY
HIGH: 85, LOW: 70
HEAVY RAIN/WIND

FRIDAY
HIGH: 85, LOW: 65
ISOLATED T'STORMS

SATURDAY
HIGH: 82, LOW: 64
PARTLY CLOUDY