

HUMC bell to ring again

Page 3

Schools release honor rolls

Page 4

Pirates sweep Columbia

Page 7

P7/C4  
PERQUIMANS COUNTY LIBRARY  
110 W ACADEMY ST  
HERTFORD, NC 27944-1306

2/13/2006

# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

RECEIVED  
FEB 15 2006

35 cents

February 15, 2006

Vol. 74, No. 7 Hertford, North Carolina 27944

## Couple charged with child sex abuse

SUSAN R. HARRIS

A Hertford couple was charged with the sexual abuse of a 13-year-old family member.

Wayne Arthur Foberg, 37, and his wife Krista Renee Foberg, 23, of 120 New River Drive, were charged last Wednesday for

their roles in the alleged abuse of the child, according to Perquimans County Sheriff Eric Tilley. The pair voluntarily surrendered themselves at the sheriff's office, Tilley said.

Wayne Foberg is charged with statutory rape, crimes against nature and two counts of indecent liberties. His wife is charged

with statutory sex offense, crimes against nature and two counts of indecent liberties. Secured bonds of \$72,000 were set for each by Magistrate William Winslow.

The couple also had a hearing before the Honorable Amber Davis in Perquimans County District Court after their

arrest to seek bond reduction. Davis upheld Winslow's original order.

Tilley said his department was initially contacted by the 13-year-old's parents by telephone on Jan. 10. The family traveled to Hertford on Jan. 12 to file a formal report.

The parents told Tilley that their family had visit-

ed the women's father, with whom the Fobergs resided, in Albemarle Plantation during the holidays, and that several days after returning to their home in a small North Carolina town, they learned of the alleged sex abuse.

The mother told Tilley she found condoms in the daughter's bedroom and

talked to the child about sexual activity. The daughter allegedly confided in the mother incidents that occurred in a bedroom of the Hertford home involving her and the Fobergs. At that time, the parents contacted Tilley.

Tilley said a probable cause hearing has been set for Feb. 27.

## Facility damaged in teen caper

SUSAN R. HARRIS

The pro at Sound Golf Links at Albemarle Plantation opted not to press charges against three teens whose alleged Friday night caper damaged a golf cart and facilities there.

Sheriff Eric Tilley said his department was called on Feb. 11 to investigate when golf course employees found a damaged golf cart, putting green and grass area near the pool that morning. Tilley said the damage reportedly took place either late on Feb. 10 or in the early morning hours of Feb. 11.

A security guard at the gated community provided a license tag number, which officials used to determine that the perpetrators were Christopher Bass, 16, William Harrell, 16, and Brandon Wallace, 18. One of

Continued on page 10

## A ROSE IS A ROSE



PHOTO BY MARGARET FISHER

Gregory Bass puts the finishing touches on one of about 500 Valentine orders that owner Stephen Bass estimates that Dozier's Florist will fill. The floral shop's truck and cooler were filled with flowers on Monday afternoon. Dozier's sold more roses this year than last year, Stephen Bass said.

## Primary filing period opens

SUSAN R. HARRIS

The filing period for the May primary election opened Monday at noon, and two local incumbents became the first to file for election.

Sheriff Eric Tilley and Clerk of Superior Court Todd Tilley both filed to keep their jobs soon after the filing period opened.

In addition to sheriff and clerk of court, there are three seats on the board of county commissioners and three on the school board up for grabs.

The seats held by commissioners Ben Hobbs, Tammy Miller-White and Charles Ward are up for election. Like the sheriff and clerk of court, there will be a primary for these partisan seats, and Republicans and Democrats will choose their contenders who will then go head-to-head in November's general election.

The school board, however, is non-partisan and those chosen in the May primary will be seated in June. Presently holding the seats up for election are Walter Leigh, Gloria Mason and Gary Saul.

Under an election plan approved by the U.S. Justice Department to insure minority representation on the board of county commissioners and school board, all seats are at-large. Each registered voter may vote for only one candidate.

Continued on page 10

## Gay membership divides Methodists

CHRIS WHIPPLE  
The Daily Advance

North Carolina Methodists who oppose extending church membership to gays and lesbians say it's unfair to characterize them as homophobes or bigots.

They claim their stance, which is in defiance of their own church's doctrine to admit anyone who professes a belief in Jesus Christ, is based on biblical

law that teaches homosexuality is wrong.

"This is not a hate-filled thing," says Allen Morris. "But we don't want to love someone straight into hell by never confronting them" about their sin.

Morris, head of Concerned Methodists, a Fayetteville-based group, was the keynote speaker the night of Wednesday, Feb. 8, for a discussion on the United Methodist Church's policy on admit

Continued on page 4

Calvin Johnson delivers mail to downtown businesses, as well as residential neighborhoods in Hertford. As the first African-American letter carrier in the town, Johnson has been delivering mail for nearly 32 years. Read more about Johnson and other black history-makers on page 4.

## HISTORY MAKERS



## Accounting firm grows into new office

SUSAN R. HARRIS

When Rhonda Gregory opened her accounting firm in November 1989, she and a secretary held down the fort. She did not dream then that in just over 15 years she would take on two partners, have a full staff of 14, build a bigger office to handle a growing client base, and add satellite offices in Columbia and Moyock.

But all that has happened, and Rhonda

Gregory, CPA is now Gregory and Associates, firm with partners Gregory, Rube Blanchard and Tammy Proctor.

Gregory bought and renovated the Market Street building that first held her business. With it practically bursting with more staff than it was designed to hold, Gregory and Associates built a new, roomier office with expansion capacity in the Perquimans Commerce Centre on Harvey Point

Road. The staff kicked off the tax season by moving into the building just after the holidays.

Last year, the celebrated the new year by opening their satellite offices.

Gregory said the new facility has 11 individual offices and several common areas, including a conference room, file room and more, and also has an unfinished second floor that can facilitate future growth needs.

Continued on page 10



PHOTO BY MARGARET FISHER

Hertford CPA Rhonda Gregory explains how the accounting firm she started as a two-person office in 1989 has grown to include two additional partners and 14 employees at three locations. The firm opened its new main office in the Perquimans Commerce Centre recently with a ribbon cutting sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce.

## WEEKEND WEATHER

THURSDAY  
HIGH: 69, LOW: 51  
PARTLY CLOUDY

FRIDAY  
HIGH: 68, LOW: 40  
MOSTLY CLOUDY

SATURDAY  
HIGH: 47, LOW: 28  
FEW SHOWERS