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Mary Chappell White turns 100

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Church helps Katrina victims

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Sea Tow plans benefit boat show

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THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

35 cents

Woman backs into RBC bank

MARGARET FISHER

It looked like a drive-in cash heist when a woman backed her car through the front doors into the RBC Centura last Friday.

It was a near-perfect parking job if it had been planned, except that Doris Spellman Felton, 70, didn't plan to park her car in the bank's foyer.

Instead, the resident of 353 Chinquapin Road in Tyner was attempting to parallel park in front of the bank. As she was backing into a parking space, her accelerator pedal seemed to have stuck, she said. The engine revved and the brakes wouldn't stop her four-door 2005 Toyota Camry.

"She backed around and hit the corner (of the curb) with enough force that it knocked the car straight," said Hertford Police Chief Dale Vanscoy.

When the car hit the curb, it jolted the vehicle perpendicular to the sidewalk. Tire marks on the sidewalk at the right side of the bank's doorway appear to show that the right side took most of the impact and the tires were spinning

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PHOTO BY SUSAN HARRIS

Doris Spellman Felton of Tyner said her accelerator stuck, sending her car backing through the front doors of RBC Centura Bank Friday afternoon and into the lobby. No one was hurt in the accident.

Town seeks bigger sewer

MARGARET FISHER

The Hertford town council approved a revision to the new wastewater treatment plant which will increase capacity by 300,000 gallons per day. It will also make the town better prepared to handle increasing development requests.

The present wastewater plant can treat 400,000 gallons per day. The new plant would treat 700,000 gallons of which 100,000 gallons have been requested by the town of Winfall.

The town is seeking an additional 1-foot width to the aeration basins, which would increase the capacity to 1 million gallons per day, said

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Hertford looks to save money

MARGARET FISHER

Most everyone is looking for ways to save money, and the town of Hertford is no different. The town has hired a consultant to search for purchase overpayments. If he finds any, the town will save money.

Robert S. Segal, a certified public accountant from High Point, has been hired to study the expense reports to find ways for the town to reduce costs.

Some of those expenses include long distance and cell phone services, heating fuel and chemicals for water treatment.

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PHOTO BY MARGARET FISHER

A four-vehicle accident on U.S. Highway 17 and Church Street temporarily disrupted traffic, but resulted in no major injuries.

Faulty brakes may have caused 4-vehicle wreck

MARGARET FISHER

A Virginia man who ran a red light caused a four-vehicle wreck on U.S. Highway 17 and Church Street last week.

At about 12:45 p.m., David Johnathan Janes, 21, of 517 Shakespeare Dr. in Virginia Beach, was driving south on the highway when he drove his green 1998 Ford F-150 company truck through a red light.

At the same time, Thomas Harry Winslow, 62, of No. 2 Marina Village No. 14-B in Hertford, was driving his silver 2006 Ford F-150 pickup from Harvey Point Road straight across to Church Street.

When Winslow got in the middle of the intersection, Janes' truck hit the passenger side doors of his truck and spun Winslow's vehicle around 180 degrees, said Hertford Police Chief Dale Vanscoy.

Winslow's truck then backed into two other vehicles that were stopped and waiting to turn right from Church Street onto the highway. The two vehicles were driven by Jessica Jay Johnson and Anna Maria Mallory, both of Elizabeth City.

Mallory was transported to Albemarle Hospital, and later released. Janes suffered an injury to his head when the airbags in his truck deployed, Vanscoy said. No additional injuries were available.

Janes was charged with failure to stop at a red light and is to appear in Perquimans County District Court on April 26. Janes said that he was heading to a job at Harvey Point Bombing for his employer, Virginia Restaurant Service, when the brakes stopped working.

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Fire threatens five homes

MARGARET FISHER

An out of control fire that came close to destroying five houses last Thursday underscores the need for residents to be careful when burning trash and yard debris.

The fire got out of control when Raleigh Felton of 200 Bethany Church Road in Belvidere was burning limbs on his property. Armed with a bucket of

water, Felton couldn't contain the fire as weather conditions proved ideal for spreading it.

This time of year is particularly windy and, coupled with low humidity and warmth, causes dry air and vegetation, said Perquimans County Fire Marshal John Long.

While there is currently no ban on burning trash and debris, state residents are cautioned to be careful

when burning this spring.

"Right now, North Carolina officials are asking to please not burn anything as long as the wind is blowing and things are dry," Long said. "Dry is the key word."

Just like the clothes on a line dry faster on warm and windy days, fire burns faster, too, Long said.

Spring frosts kill the tops of grass, making them

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Schools earn national recognition

SUSAN HARRIS

Perquimans County Schools' use of technology and its integration of the community in the process earned the system a national award.

Superintendent Dr. Kenneth Wells and 13 other employees who have played significant roles in the integration of technology into the schools and community traveled to Washington, D.C. earlier this week to accept the honor.

The TEAM Award recognizes a team in a school district or consortium of school districts and education agencies whose impact on technology's role in transforming learning has been significant. While any team could apply, those applicants with teams consisting of key leadership, such as the superintendent, chief technologist, chief curriculum leader, teachers, parents, students and others were considered the ideal team. Perquimans' team did consist of all those resource people.

School systems from across the country submitted documentation of their

system's use of technology to their respective state education agencies.

Perquimans was chosen by the North Carolina State Department of Public Instruction as the state winner, and the submission was forwarded to the national committee. Perquimans was chosen the school system in the United States best meeting the parameters of the technology award.

Award criteria included: Leadership: Providing leadership in the application of information technologies to increase opportunities and accessibility for student learning.

Building community: Creating communication vehicles that help parents, teachers and educational leaders form a partnership to engage students in the learning process.

Innovation: Using technology to provide solutions that are based on best practices and can be replicated to meet challenges such as using data to improve decision-making, providing increased access to education through such media as online learning, linking

homes to schools and to the broader community, and providing access and solutions for all segments of learners in order to bridge the digital divide that separates the affluent from the poor.

Impact: Making a difference by creating major change in the district or agencies.

Public/private partnerships: Developing important effective public and/or private sector partnerships and policies that provide connectivity to learners in schools.

The local school system has placed a high priority on using technology to overcome the barriers of isolation and poverty, according to school officials. Because the system operates in an economically depressed county, the district has obtained grants, donations and state and federal funding to provide computers in classrooms and media centers in all county schools.

Local funds have provided technology facilitators to work with teachers and students and ensure that

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WEEKEND WEATHER

THURSDAY
HIGH: 71, LOW: 58
PARTLY CLOUDY

FRIDAY
HIGH: 76, LOW: 57
THUNDERSTORMS

SATURDAY
HIGH: 73, LOW: 59
PARTLY CLOUDY



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