

## Newbold-White opens art exhibits

Page 2

## Companion planting guide

Page 4

## Pirates avenge loss to NHS

Page 7

RECEIVED  
MAR 29 2006  
P11/C6  
PERQUIMANS COUNTY LIBRARY  
110 W ACADEMY ST  
HERTFORD, NC 27944-1306

# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

March 29, 2006

Vol. 74, No. 13 Hertford, North Carolina 27944

35 cents

## Woman dies in accident

CHRIS WHIPPLE  
The Daily Advance

A Hertford woman was killed and her husband injured after their car overturned on a rural road in Perquimans County late Thursday night.

Kimberly Ann Sheetz, 44, of 149 Willow Street, died in the accident, which occurred at a sharp turn on Poor Hill Road at about 10:30 p.m. Thursday, state Trooper K.R. Briggs said.

Edward Sheetz, the woman's 48-year-old husband, reported the wreck from a residence just over a

mile away at approximately 3:20 a.m. Friday, about five hours after the accident happened, Briggs said.

Sheetz told N.C. Highway Patrol accident reconstruction team members in Greenville Friday that, because of his injuries and the position of the vehicle, which was upside down in a ditch, it was difficult for him to seek help.

Edward Sheetz was transported first to Chowan Hospital then airlifted to Pitt County Memorial Hospital in Greenville. He suffered a

Continued on page 10

## HPD checkpoints yield arrests

MARGARET FISHER

Hertford Police Department conducted four checkpoints in high-complaint areas and cited or apprehended about six people on Saturday.

Three checkpoints were conducted between 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. at 300 Market Street, Dobbs Street and

Hyde Park, and King Street and Stokes Drive. Another checkpoint occurred at Wynn Fork Apartments at 8 p.m. Winfall Police Department also assisted.

"All of this stemmed from citizens' complaints and the town council's concerns," said Hertford Police Chief Dale Vanscoy.

Continued on page 11

## Commerce Centre road paving set for this week

MARGARET FISHER

Rose Brothers Paving has announced that they will begin paving the road leading to the recreation center this week if the weather allows.

The Murfreesboro company, contracted by the N.C. Department of Transportation, must finish the job at the Commerce Centre by September. But they have agreed to move

up the work so the road can be paved before the Northeastern North Carolina Boat Show.

The boat show will be held at the Perquimans County Recreation Center on April 29-30.

The paving is expected to begin today or Thursday if it doesn't rain and could take approximately three days to complete it, said Frank Rose, co-owner of Rose Brothers.

## Johnson reaches military goals

MARGARET FISHER

From the start of his military career, Cpt. Jay Johnson wanted to be an intelligence officer, but it took more than six years for him to finally reach that goal.

Johnson never lived in Perquimans County, but his parents, Don and Virginia Johnson, moved here after Jay Johnson left home.

Johnson grew up in Decatur, Ill. While attending the University of Texas at Austin, he joined ROTC. But his grades didn't allow him to get into his career choice - military intelli-



Cpt. Jay Johnson, a military intelligence officer, poses in January by a chapel at Camp Victory in Iraq. Usually, Johnson did not wear body armor unless there was an elevated threat. Behind him is the Al Faw palace which was dedicated to certain Iraqi soldiers who died. On occasion, Saddam Huissan and his sons used the site as a hunting reserve and party spot. The palace now serves as the Multi-National Corps Commanders headquarters where Johnson's soldiers worked.

gence. Officer Candidate School wasn't an option for him. The slow job market made

OCS too competitive. So his recruiter suggested that he enlist in the U.S. Army and

Continued on page 11

## LOAN CHECK



Senator Richard Burr presents an \$11 million ceremonial check to Perquimans County High School Principal Melvin Hawkins. The check represents the proceeds of a USDA Rural Development loan that will be used for the new gymnasium and renovations at the school.

## Burr presents loan check at PCHS

MARGARET FISHER

Sen. Richard Burr presented an \$11 million ceremonial check from USDA Rural Development to Perquimans County High School for expansions and renovations.

The check is a low-inter-

est loan the school obtained to complete the facilities work currently in progress. The loan will fund a new 1,000-seat gymnasium, media and technology center, heating and air conditioning system, classrooms and administrative offices. It will also include renovations to the auditorium.

Burr used the opportunity to sign and present the check as part of a tour of speeches he is conducting through northeastern North Carolina during the March Recess.

"Through USDA, we're able to leverage federal resources in a way that no

Continued on page 10

## Hertford gets wastewater grant, borrows for pump

MARGARET FISHER

The town of Hertford received a \$3 million grant to upgrade and expand the town's wastewater treatment plant.

The grant comes from the High-Unit Cost Grant Account through the N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources' N.C. Clean Water Revolving Loan and Grant Act of 1987.

Upgrades to the wastewater plant are to include a reclaimed water system and spray irrigation system. The Brinn House is expected to be moved in April from the town's property on Grubb Street where a spray field will be located.

Currently, the town is waiting on a permit to allow for modifications of the treatment facility. An additional 1-foot width is to

be added to the aeration basins to increase capacity to 1,000,000 gallons a day.

Once the permit is obtained from the state, the project will be bid out, said Hertford Town Manager John Christensen.

"We should be hearing something pretty soon on that," Christensen said. In a second wastewater matter, the town council approved borrowing \$13,000 from East Carolina Bank for two extra wastewater collection pumps. The town has been renting pumps regularly because of a new state requirement that came out in July 2005.

"We're finding that we're renting them so often that it's cheaper to buy them," said Town Manager John Christensen.

It costs about \$2,800 a month to rent the mobile

Continued on page 10

## Felon leads chase

MARGARET FISHER

Police from two counties chased a man on Thursday from Edenton to Hertford where he fled on foot and escaped. Monday night he turned himself in.

Edenton police stopped a blue Cadillac driven by Sheray Williams, 23, of 200 King St. for a traffic viola-

Continued on page 10

## Work to begin on PCMS project

MARGARET FISHER

The long-delayed Perquimans County Middle School heating, ventilation and air conditioning project will begin during spring break on April 14.

The Perquimans County School Board of Education approved a contractor, Baker Mechanical, to begin the work for a cost of about \$1.9 million, said Superintendent Kenneth Wells.

The project was originally planned in 2002 to include a new HVAC system and roof. In the fall of

Continued on page 10

## Time changes Sunday a.m.

MARGARET FISHER

It's time to spring forward this weekend when Daylight Saving Time begins. It's a good idea to set clocks ahead one hour on Saturday night as the time officially changes on Sunday at 2 a.m.

In addition, Perquimans County Fire Marshal John

Continued on page 11

## WEEKEND WEATHER

THURSDAY  
HIGH: 69, LOW: 5-  
SUNNY

FRIDAY  
HIGH: 73, LOW: 57  
PARTLY CLOUDY

SATURDAY  
HIGH: 72, LOW: 55  
SCATTERED T'SHOWERS