

Spring Weekend set

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PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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PHOTO BY MARGARET FISHER

A fire destroyed a residence on White Hat Road and sent two family members to the hospital. The fire started in a utility room off the garage when possibly lint under the dryer heated up and caught fire.

Sunday fire destroys home

MARGARET FISHER

A fire, believed to have been started by lint that overheated under a dryer, destroyed a home causing the roof to collapse and two members of the household to be treated for burns.

On Sunday afternoon, Douglas and Brenda Sawyer, their daughter Kim Cartwright and two grandchildren were at their home at 479 White Hat Road preparing for the week ahead. All five were in either the kitchen or living room and some were peri-

odically attending to the laundry in a utility room located off the garage.

It might have been a typical Sunday evening, until Kim Cartwright's daughter, Keely Cartwright, went to check on the clothes and spotted flames coming up from underneath the dryer.

She called for help while trying to pull away a load of sheets that were lying on the floor in front of the dryer. In the process, she suffered second-degree burns, she said. Her mother arrived and tried to pull the load away, as well, but bigger flames came out

from under the dryer.

Kim Cartwright called 9-1-1 at about 4:35 p.m. Her father tried to grab the laundry to get it outside. The flames had grown larger and extended up the wall behind the dryer.

A neighbor came with a water hose and 61-year-old Doug Sawyer continued to battle the fire. But eventually, the smoke overtook him and he had to retreat outside. He and Keely Cartwright were taken to Albemarle Hospital. Later, Doug Sawyer was flown to Sentara Norfolk General where he is being treated

for burns and smoke inhalation, Kim Cartwright said. His granddaughter was treated and released.

Fire Chief Jimmy Spivey of Durants Neck Fire Department said firefighters just happened to be at the station when the call came in. It took them a minute to head out and within six minutes, they were at the scene.

"(The fire) was fully involved coming out of the gable end of the house," Spivey said. The roof above the garage caved in and

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On-site utilities OK'd by town

MARGARET FISHER

The town of Hertford approved an amendment to its subdivision regulations at a public hearing held on Monday night. The amendment allows new residential developments in the extraterritorial jurisdiction -- certain areas outside the corporate town limits -- to install on-site water and wastewater treatment systems.

In addition, the town also approved a preliminary plat for Jakob's Landing to develop in the ETJ with its own wells and septic systems.

Perquimans County Planning Board member Ed Nixon voiced concerns about on-site utility systems having the potential to cause problems such as where backwash water ends up and reduced life span of pumps and household appliances. No other concerns were raised by the public.

Jakob's Landing was the

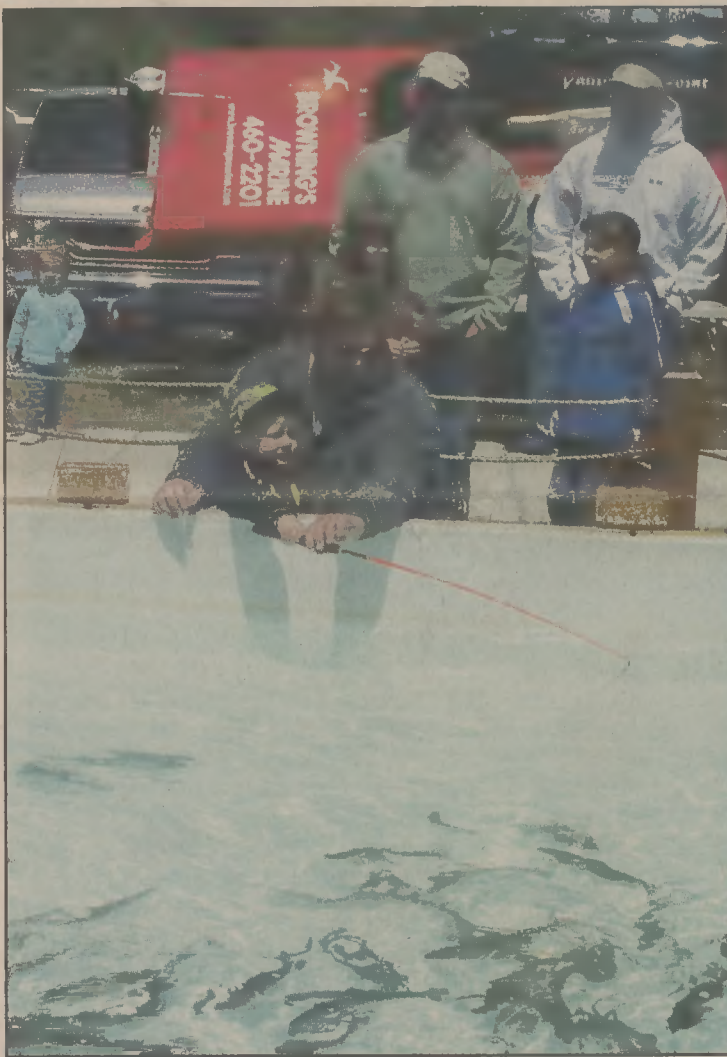
only subdivision that had been approved by the planning board to develop in the ETJ prior to the town discovering a conflict in its ordinance that prohibited it to develop.

On the surface, the ordinance seemed to allow on-site water and sewer systems in the ETJ, but also stated that developments must be hooked up to the town's systems. The stricter of the two conflicts would apply, meaning that developments have to hook up to the town's utilities, said town attorney, Ike McRee.

The town had tabled Jakob's Landing's request until Monday's amendment resolved the conflict. Then councilors approved the preliminary plans for Phase I of the development.

An extension and modification to the town's wastewater moratorium last month now restricts any new residential developments, including those in the ETJ.

ME AND MY DAD



Tanner Thach enjoys fishing with his dad, Richard, at this weekend's Northeastern N.C. boat show.

Boat show draws big crowd

Sunny skies and the opportunity to browse through a sea of nautical equipment, related items and information brought hundreds to what is hoped to have been the first Northeastern North Carolina Boat Show this weekend.

Held at the county recreation facility off Harvey Point Road, the show was sponsored by Sea Tow of the Albemarle to benefit Perquimans County Communities in Schools.

Sea Tow owners John and Lenore Mohr spearheaded the regional event because of their commitment to the community, and to highlight the county's miles of shoreline, pristine trails and woods, dozens of peaceful creeks and rivers, and wide-open spaces -- perfect for those who enjoy spending time on waterways.

Election results

7 of 7 precincts reporting

Clerk of Court

Sheila Onley 1087
Todd Tilley 1132

Sheriff

David Layne 730
Eric Tilley 1492

School board

Walter Leigh 487
Gloria Mason 356
Wallace Nelson 1126
Gary Saul 166
Vivian Winslow 353

These were the totals available at press time. Vote totals do not include provisional votes. Numbers are incomplete and will not be certified until all votes are tallied and the county canvass is held later this week.

Billy's Auto opens

MARGARET FISHER

Ever since Billy Boblit started pre-school, he was interested in mechanics. He spent hours at his granddad's service station in Grandy until he was about 10 years old. Now he owns his own full service repair shop.

Boblit opened Billy's Auto on the corner of

Church and Dobbs streets on March 20 and celebrated his grand opening with a ribbon cutting last Thursday.

"I just always loved to work on anything mechanical," he said. His friends would bring him their bikes, go-carts or anything else mechanical to fix, he added.

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PHOTO BY MARGARET FISHER

East Carolina Bank celebrates its grand opening at its new location in the Commerce Centre on April 20. The bank now offers drive-up services and night deposit at its 3,600 square-foot building. As part of the ceremony, ECB donated \$500 to the Perquimans County Recreation Center.

ECB relocates office

MARGARET FISHER

After five years in the old Be-Lo shopping center, the East Carolina Bank moved to its new building in the Commerce Centre and celebrated its grand opening on April 20.

"We are absolutely

delighted to have a branch at this location," said Arthur Keeney III, president and chief executive officer of ECB Bancorp headquarters in Englehard.

The 3,600-square-foot colonial style building offers full service banking and mortgaging with new

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Legion won't sponsor 4th of July fireworks

SUSAN HARRIS

There may not be any rockets red glare over the Perquimans River this 4th of July.

American Legion Post 126, sponsors of the fireworks show for the past few years, announced Monday that the group will no longer sponsor the event.

Post Commander Ken Rominger said that sharp dips in bingo revenues have forced the organization to adjust operations.

"This cancellation has been a great disappointment for the Post, but the decision was necessary to the survival of the Post," Rominger said.

According to Rominger revenues from bingo began dropping drastically last fall. Beginning in November, Rominger said the Post suffered through about six weeks of negative balances from bingo games. Even adjusting winner payouts at the first of this year has only resulted

in revenues of about one-third what the Post used to generate from its operation.

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PHOTO BY MARGARET FISHER

Employees, family and friends celebrate the grand opening of Billy's Auto on Church and Dobbs streets on Thursday. The full service auto repair shop, owned by Billy Boblit, offers new and used tires, computer diagnostics and minor and major repairs at affordable prices.

WEEKEND WEATHER

THURSDAY
HIGH: 84, LOW: 62
SUNNY

FRIDAY
HIGH: 79, LOW: 62
SCATTERED T'STORMS

SATURDAY
HIGH: 78, LOW: 59
THUNDER SHOWERS



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