

Schools honor retirees

Page 5

Snakes in the garden

Page 6

Pirates top PYL tourney

Page 7

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Two hurt in wreck

MARGARET FISHER

Speed played a role in a one-car accident that injured two people Saturday.

Kianoosh Dastan, 18, of Ashburn, Va., was driving north in a 1998 Honda on U.S. Highway 17 about five miles north of Winfall when he lost control of his speeding car. According to N.C. Highway Patrol Trooper E.D. Goodwin's report, the vehicle collided with a rise in the median and overturned a number of times. It came to rest in the southbound lanes.

Dastan was flown to Sentara Norfolk General Hospital and released the following day. A passenger, Michael Edens, 18, of South Riding, Va., was taken to Albemarle Hospital. No information was available about his condition.

Dastan was charged with reckless driving to endangerment and is to appear in Perquimans County District Court on Oct. 18.

SAILING THE ALBEMARLE



The 11th Annual Osprey Challenge Regatta was held at the Albemarle Plantation Marina on Saturday in choppy waters, overcast skies and rain. There were 21 boats from four area yacht clubs competing in four different classes. The Osprey Yacht Club hosted the event. The final winners of the four regattas will be determined in October.

21 vie for regatta titles

From staff reports

With overcast skies and sporadic rain, the 11th Annual Osprey Challenge Regatta took place at the

Albemarle Plantation Marina on Saturday.

The Albemarle Plantation Marina along with its home-based Osprey Yacht Club hosted

the regatta for the Albemarle Sound Sailing Association, made up of four yacht clubs. The other three include the Pasquo-
Continued on page 10

4 plead guilty to property damage

MARGARET FISHER

Four Perquimans County residents pleaded guilty Friday in Superior Court for damaging property in October 2005.

Brandon Callahan was charged with injury to personal property. Three others, Robert Matthews, Jerod Winslow and Anthony Overman, were charged with injury to real property. All charges are misdemeanors.

The defendants received a 45-day suspended sentence and were placed on probation.

The four individuals were indicted on Dec. 12 on charges of breaking and entering, larceny after

breaking or entering, possession of stolen goods or property and burning a building.

In a plea bargain agreement those charges were dropped, said Perquimans County Sheriff Eric Tilley. The plea arrangement was discussed with property owner Patricia Calderwood of Connecticut, who was not opposed to the agreement.

On Oct. 22, a call was made to central communications that a shed located on Lots 2 and 3 on Rocky Street off of Muddy Creek Road, which was also used as an apartment, had been burned down. Investigators linked the crime to the four defendants.

Crime story sparks awareness forum

MARGARET FISHER

Was there a beating at Wynne Fork Apartments or was it just a story made up by someone who had too much to drink? That's what police and the housing

authority want to know. They also hope that high crime areas become safer.

Whether or not a fight took place, Waters is concerned about rising problems within the complex.
Continued on page 10

Locals among returning Guardsmen

MARGARET FISHER

A Hertford resident and former resident came home from Iraq on June 7 along with the rest of the 725th Quartermaster Company of the North Carolina Army National Guard. The 160 soldiers in the unit put in 175,000 man-hours during their 18-month deployment.

Spc. Charles Taylor and Cpl. Corey Sylvester had been doing their weekend a month and two weeks a year when they received notice that they were going to Iraq.

Taylor, a resident of Perquimans County since 1997, had spent six years in the U.S. Army, ending his stint in 1996. The next year he moved here from Hampton Roads. In 2000, he joined the National Guard.

Taylor said that when he found out he was being called to duty, it wasn't a shock. He had served in Desert Storm and provided humanitarian service in the African country of Somalia.

"I guess it was a little bit easier for me, just hard on my family," Taylor said. His loved ones include his mother, girlfriend and sisters.

Taylor reported to the National Guard Armory in Williamston in March 2005. There, he learned about what to expect and received roadside training to pre-



Hertford resident Spc. Charles Taylor is one of about 160 National Guard members who returned to Coast Guard Base Elizabeth City after 15 months in Iraq. Taylor drove a supply truck he nicknamed "Matilda" about 25,000 miles while deployed there. The 725th Quartermaster Company of the North Carolina Army National Guard, headquartered in Edenton, experienced no casualties or serious injuries during their overseas stint.

pare him for transporting supplies.

Sylvester, 28, joined the National Guard in 2003. The Elizabeth City native used to live in Perquimans County and now resides in Chowan County. He left behind his wife and three young children who had mixed feelings about his deployment.

"In one sense they were proud, and in another sense, they were really hurt - fearful, I guess," he said.

The unit arrived at the Qayyarah West airfield, known as Q-West or "Key West," in northern Iraq in June of last year. The base is situated about 60 miles south of Mosul, a major trade center linking Persia and the Mediterranean, and near the Assyrian border.

Sylvester's first reaction was confusion. He had heard the news reports

about the Iraqi people, but his experience turned out to be different.

"I found out, once I was there, that all the people there aren't bad people like the media portrays them to be," he said.

Sylvester drove a tractor-trailer type vehicle for nearly two months. Later, he provided protection at the front gate during second shift. Sylvester would not talk about his experience in providing force protection at the gate.

"Iraq was very dangerous," Taylor said. Mosul is known as "RPG Alley," he said because of the danger of rocket-propelled grenade attacks there.

Taylor drove a supply truck. Half of the unit drove in convoys, trucking fuel, equipment and supplies to bases as far as 300

Continued on page 10

Committee mulls corridor survey

MARGARET FISHER

Poll results on the future appearance of the area around U.S. Highway 17 and Harvey Point Road paint an attractive and inviting welcome to Hertford.

Called the U.S. 17 Corridor, it's one of a number of corridors that have been designated for study by the Hertford Corridor Project Committee. The committee is looking at land use, transportation and future development potential for thoroughfare corridors and gateways into Hertford.

The committee's goal is to develop a plan to protect and improve the appearance of the roadways through Hertford and into the Historic District. The physical attractiveness, signage and inviting nature of the first corridor have been evaluated and an official report will be made available to local officials.

The first phase within the town limits and its extraterritorial jurisdiction includes the area from Castleton Creek south to U.S. Highway 17 and includes Church Street Extended, Ballahack Road and Edenton Road Street. It also extends from the highway to the Commerce Centre and includes Harvey Point Road and Wynne Fork Road.

A recent public open house and visual preference survey was held to gather ideas on what residents hope to see along one of the main gateways into the downtown.

Susan Suggs, planner

and landscape architect for the N.C. Division of Community Assistance under the N.C. Department of Commerce, headed the presentation.

About 80 people rated an assortment of pictures categorized as parking areas, commercial signs, pedestrian facilities, business developments, streets, condominiums and detention ponds. Points were counted up with some areas having negative points, while others had positive points.

The committee reviewed the scores and public comments and came up with preliminary recommendations. Further study about the area and final recommendations will be given to town and county managers, commissioners, planners and other officials in the fall, Suggs said.

"The general comments of the public were in sync with the committee," she said.

The public highly rated images of parking, pedestrian and street areas that included trees, landscaped medians, buffers and islands, well-maintained walkways, roundabouts with green areas, benches and decorative lighting.

Residents gave high ratings to commercial buildings with interesting entrances and varied facades, though similar in scale and character. Developments higher than three stories and large warehouse-type buildings received low ratings.

Participants rated commercial signs with unified colors and designs high. Too much information and

were rated low. Larger signs were discussed as being more appropriate on U.S. Highway 17 than on other streets in the corridor.

Citizens were concerned about over-development of condominiums in the area.

"(Condo development is) a developing trend in the region. It's happening in other counties," Suggs said. In addition, she said that there is a need for desirable, low maintenance forms of housing for the elderly.

Attractive landscaping, buildings with interesting architecture and textures and two or less stories high with varied footprints and multiple rooflines were rated high. Streets lined with garages and parking areas rated low.

Detention ponds that look like natural ponds with landscaping and decorative fencing were rated

Continued on page 10

WEEKEND WEATHER

THURSDAY
HIGH: 86, LOW: 72
SCATTERED T'STORMS

FRIDAY
HIGH: 87, LOW: 70
ISOLATED T'STORMS

SATURDAY
HIGH: 84, LOW: 70
PARTLY CLOUDY