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THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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Fugitive wanted in Perquimans County

MARGARET FISHER

A man who stole a deputy squad car and escaped in Currituck County is wanted in Perquimans County for a break-in that occurred last Wednesday, said Perquimans County Sheriff Eric Tilley.

Johnnie Ray Mizelle, 33, of Edenton, is wanted in Chowan County for numerous counts of breaking and

entering.

A sheriff's deputy in Moyock stopped to help Mizelle, whose 1995 Chevrolet S-10 pickup was disabled last Thursday. When the deputy realized Mizelle was wanted in Chowan, he arrested him.

While waiting in the squad car for the deputy to assist with the wrecker driver, Mizelle was able to work his handcuffs to the front of his body and climb

through the barrier cage to the front seat of the patrol car.

The 2007 Ford Crown Victoria patrol car was pursued by law enforcement after being spotted on U.S. Highway 168.

That same day, Mizelle entered a residence where he was discovered by the resident. The Lou Sawyer Road resident came home and found Mizelle eating pizza in her kitchen and

drilling off one of the bracelets of the handcuffs. Mizelle left the home without incident.

Also on Thursday, the squad car was found submerged at the Poyners Road boat ramp where Mizelle was spotted by a news crew and disappeared. Mizelle had apparently gained access to the trunk and removed a shotgun.

Mizelle has remained a

fugitive since then as law enforcement and canines searched wooded areas of Currituck County on foot and by air. Extreme heat hindered the search.

On Monday, officials reported that Mizelle is no longer in the Currituck County area. The search continues, although not concentrated in that area, states a report issued by the Currituck County Sheriff's Office.

Evidence found in his 1995 Chevrolet S-10 pickup included firearms stolen from 613 Four Mile Desert Road, Tilley said. Cocaine and other stolen property were also seized. Mizelle has warrants issued for felony larceny of a motor vehicle, felony possession of a firearm by a convicted felon and felony possession of cocaine.

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HPD foot chases result in one arrest

MARGARET FISHER

Hertford police chased potential theft suspects in two separate incidents and apprehended one man.

In the first incident on July 16, police received a call at about 2 a.m. that a black man dressed in black was looking through cars in the Woodland Circle vicinity, said Police Chief Dale Vanscoy. The suspect was discovered opening a vehicle door and attempting to go through personal belongings.

While on foot, officers Kevin Worster and Larry Chamblee saw the man

running through backyards along Pennsylvania Avenue to Dobbs Street, where the officers lost contact with the man.

After searching the area, they found the man, Lorenzo Hurdle, 45, sitting inside a vacant house on West Railroad Avenue.

"He was in the process of changing clothes out of the clothes the complainant had described," Vanscoy said.

Hurdle, who resides at 102 Wynn Fork Court, was charged with breaking and entering a motor vehicle.

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New DSS chapter donates to elderly

Margaret Fisher

The Department of Social Services' new association chapter organized its first event, Christmas in July, to help needy residents of local nursing homes.

The Perquimans County N.C. Social Services Association's goal is to assist community members in areas that typically are not addressed by the agency's programs and promote a positive image of social services.

"The goal is to promote social services employees and also to support the community and their needs other than the services we offer here (at DSS)," said Rebecca Corprew, vice president of the association chapter and Medicaid

case worker.

Corprew and the 23 other DSS employees donated funds to purchase personal hygiene items, rag dolls and games such as crossword puzzles and placed them in gift bags for residents at Russell's Rest Home and South Haven Manor in Woodville. The event was held last Friday.

The event was a surprise to Carolyn Russell, one of the supervisors in charge at Russell's Rest Home. The residents, ranging in age from 57 to 96, can't always afford personal care items, she said.

"They don't have a whole lot of income left over, so this (event) is good," Russell said.

Marilyn Gregory established the chapter in

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PHOTO BY MARGARET FISHER

Zebria Booker gives a resident at Russell's Rest Home a gift bag of personal care items. Booker and 23 other employees of the N.C. Department of Social Services have formed a new association chapter in the county to meet some of the local needs not met by DSS.

PLAYING WITH "THE TIN WHISTLE"



PHOTO BY MARGARET FISHER

Nita Coleman gives a premiere performance of Hertford resident and composer Charles Jones "The Tin Whistle." Coleman was introduced to the wind instrument while visiting Ireland and was inspired to teach herself how to play it.

Concert gets standing ovation

MARGARET FISHER

At least 150 people came to hear the Elizabeth City State University Albemarle Strings play at the Summer Breeze concert at Perquimans County High School on Sunday.

The highlight of the evening was Nita Coleman's premier performance playing a tin whistle accompanied by 12 string musicians.

The piece "The Tin Whistle" was composed by Hertford resident Charles Jones for Coleman to perform.

Coleman, a pediatrician from Coastal Pediatrics in Elizabeth City, played a flute about 30 years ago, she said. But she had forgotten how to read music when she approached Jones to take recorder lessons.

Coleman, who has been practicing medicine for 26 years, developed an interest in Irish music when she took a trip with friends to Ireland in 2004.

"I really loved Irish music and loved the sound of the tin whistle," she said.

The Pasquotank County resident bought the simple

6-hole instrument, teaching books and compact disks.

Then she proceeded to teach herself how to play.

"It's not that difficult to learn," she said. "I'm just drawn to it, and it has such a happy sound."

Coleman reminisced

about a man she saw playing a tin whistle in an Irish pub as his young daughter danced. "It was such a sweet sight," she said.

About four months ago, Coleman met Jones and his wife Nancy, concert master and violin player. When she went to Jones for recorder

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Wake man linked to thefts

MARGARET FISHER

The sheriff's office has announced that a man arrested in Raleigh is linked to break-ins and thefts occurring in Perquimans, Pasquotank and Camden counties since June 1.

Maurice Bright had moved from Elizabeth City to Raleigh when he was apprehended by Raleigh police around July 17.

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Tearry on PCHS staff

SUSAN HARRIS

There's a new team in town, and the three-some is putting plans in place for a successful year at Perquimans High School.

James Bunch took the helm as the school's principal in July, filling the position left by the departure of Melvin Hawkins, who accepted an administrative post in Camden.

Now, Larry Tearry has joined Bunch and assistant principal Randy Martin to complete the high school's administrative team. He will also serve as athletic director.

Tearry comes to Perquimans from

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County prepares for emergencies

SUSAN HARRIS

Perquimans County is in the process of identifying persons with special medical needs so that they can be served in the event of a hurricane strike or other disaster.

County Emergency Management Coordinator Jarvis Winslow said this week that a roundtable composed of the local health department, social services, senior center, Albemarle Commission and Albemarle Regional Health Services represen-

tatives have met to determine how best to identify and serve special needs residents in the event of a disaster. The group is presently concentrating on identifying those persons. Registration forms are available at doctor's offices, local businesses, the health department, social services and emergency management. The registration forms will be reviewed and validated for need by a committee of health care representatives, Winslow said.

Composing a plan for

persons with special medical needs is a new emergency response requirement. In addition to having an overall plan for evacuation and public shelter, the new requirements specifically address persons with special medical needs.

Winslow said he has already made contact with residential facilities housing those with special medical needs and learned their plans for emergencies. Now, he is trying to identify individuals and

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WEEKEND WEATHER

THURSDAY
HIGH: 98, LOW: 80
PARTLY CLOUDY

FRIDAY
HIGH: 94, LOW: 77
SCATTERED T'STORMS

SATURDAY
HIGH: 87, LOW: 73
SCATTERED T'STORMS