

Stallings earns state award  
DOT hears causeway concerns  
School curriculum change  
Cotton pickers catch fire  
Trooper hit by car

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# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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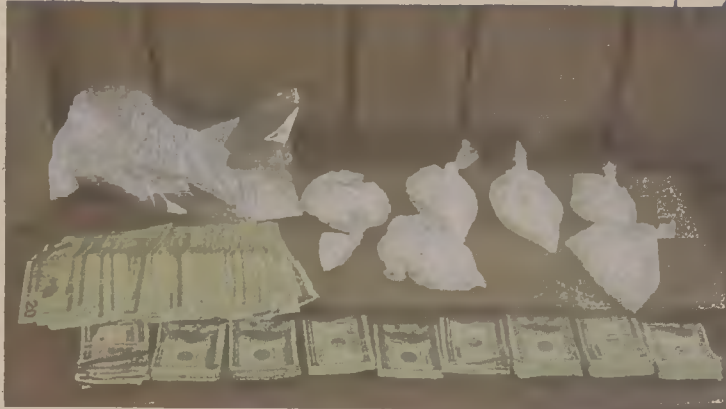


PHOTO COURTESY HERTFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT

Police seized nearly a kilo of uncut cocaine and almost \$10,000 when they nabbed two men at a routine traffic stop. Police retrieved the drugs out of a bush after the two tried to flee and dump the goods. Both were apprehended and arrested on drug charges. The rental vehicle in which they were riding was also seized.

## Cops seize cocaine

MARGARET FISHER

More than three quarters of a kilo of cocaine and about \$9,700 were confiscated by Hertford police during a traffic stop on U.S. Highway 17 last Friday.

At about 8:15 p.m., officer Jeff Thomas clocked a vehicle traveling southbound at 68 miles per hour in a 50-mile-per-hour zone, said Police Chief Dale Vanscoy.

Thomas pulled the vehicle over in front of Captain

Bob's restaurant. He asked the driver for identification and also asked him to step out of his car and go over to the police car.

The driver, Toriano Marcellus Cave, 36, of 1305 N. Centennial St., High Point, stepped out of the car and took off running. The one passenger, Willie Garcia Warren, 27, of Lot 27 in Dogwood Mobile Home Park, jumped out of the car and ran, as well.

Both men ran across the highway to the McDonald's

parking lot where Thomas apprehended Warren. Officer Kevin Worster arrived as backup and caught Cave behind the restaurant.

Just prior to being caught, Cave threw a sizable bag into the bushes. Officers retrieved from the bushes 784 grams of powder cocaine estimated at a street value to be as much as \$50,000, Vanscoy said. Officers also confiscated \$8,130 from Cave and \$1,590 from Warren.

Cave was charged with trafficking cocaine, possession with intent to deliver, resisting arrest and speeding. His bond was set at \$19,000 secured.

Warren was charged with resisting arrest and placed on a \$500 secured bond. Both men were taken to Albemarle District Jail.

The vehicle they were riding in was found to be a rental out of Durham. It was seized and will be turned over to the rental agency, Vanscoy said.

## Cocaine arrest made in Winfall

MARGARET FISHER

A man on probation for possessing marijuana and resisting a public officer was arrested on Thursday for alleged possession of cocaine.

Police entered the home of Todd Burke, 44, of 307 King Ave., Winfall, with a warrant at about 7:30 p.m., said Police Chief David Shaffer.

A search of the house turned up a quantity of cocaine and a crack pipe.

Burke was charged with possession of a schedule II controlled substance (cocaine) and possession of drug paraphernalia.

He was taken to Albemarle District Jail and placed on a \$6,500 secured bond. A preliminary court date is set for Jan. 31.

## Holiday welcome



PHOTO BY SUSAN HARRIS

The foyer of the historic Charles and Holly Lewis home on Front Street welcomed tourists on the annual Perquimans County Extension Ramble with a display of red and white poinsettias on a lovely sideboard. Five beautifully decorated homes and a church opened their doors to tourists.

## Stallings to retire as Central principal

SUSAN HARRIS

Perquimans County Schools will lose a longtime on Jan. 31 when principal Billy Stallings retires.

A 30-year educator, Stallings took over the reins at Central School in August 2000, and is credited with playing a vital role in the school's success during his tenure.

"Great leadership is about experiences," said Superintendent Dr. Kenneth Wells. "For Principal Billy Stallings, leadership has not been a formula; but rather actions from his heart as he considered the hearts of others, always seeking the best for those he served.

"Stallings' exemplary leadership has been guided by his positive and optimistic attitude which has led his Pre-K - 2 school to numerous recognitions at the local, state and national levels."

When the school board accepted Stallings' retirement in special session last Thursday, the group also moved to hire Mary Nixon as interim principal effective Feb. 1. She will serve until the end of the school year on June 30.

Wells said the system will take applications for a permanent replacement for Stallings this spring with the hope of naming a principal to serve at Central beginning July 1.

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## Town Council limits King Street parking

MARGARET FISHER

In an effort to keep drug dealers from congregating in specific areas around town and decrease citizen complaints, Hertford town councilors agreed to limit parking in one high-complaint area.

Police have been successful in decreasing drug activity in the areas of Edenton Road and Market streets, King Street and Stokes

Drive and Wynn Fork Apartments. But more recently, drug activity has increased in the 200 block of King Street between Covent Garden and Brace Street.

Based on numerous complaints

from a business and residents in the area, councilors approved four street parking spaces limited to customers of a barbershop owned by Washington and Barbara Lyons

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## Hertford Restaurant & Bakery opens with a flair

MARGARET FISHER

Business has been jumping since Chris and Jennifer Brooks opened Hertford Restaurant & Bakery, formerly Doty's Café, in October.

So much so that it surprised the two who have no formal culinary training and have never owned a business, let alone a restaurant, before.

The couple celebrated their grand opening with a ribbon cutting on Dec. 1. Chris Brooks does much of the cooking, while his wife does all the baking. Their daughter, Jamie Grossnickel, 22, waitresses there.

"I've always watched my grandma in the kitchen and I started cooking at about seven," Chris Brooks

said. The Norfolk, Va., native would have dinner ready for his mother when she came home from work. He enjoys reading cookbooks and watching the Food Network cable television channel.

Jennifer Brooks, a native of Oakland, Calif., would sit on the floor and decorate her Barbie doll birthday cakes each year. In her late teens, she began working at a bakery in a grocery store. For about 12 years, she has worked in a deli or bakery.

The two met in Virginia Beach while working at a store. Their culinary interests led to them purchasing the local café. The couple is in the process of moving from Elizabeth City to Hertford.

"Everything about the restaurant here and the

people here is my dream come true," Jennifer Brooks said.

The restaurant blends southern fare with northern tastes using family recipes and experimenting with local preferences. The bakery case is always filled with an assortment of cakes, pies and other delights. The couple has produced a new menu and they offer daily specials.

Future plans include some light remodeling, adding a deli case with Boar's Head meats, cheeses and salads sold by the pound, selling their own line of gourmet foods and providing racks of fresh-made breads and rolls. The couple plans to create a baking area in a building behind the restaurant by next fall.



PHOTO BY MARGARET FISHER

The Brooks family and friends celebrated a ribbon cutting on Dec. 1 to announce the opening of Hertford Restaurant & Bakery on Church Street.

Hertford Restaurant & Bakery at 107 Church St. is open 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday

and 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sunday. Breakfast is served all day on Sunday. Call 426-3688 for take-out orders.

## WEEKEND WEATHER

THURSDAY  
HIGH: 64, LOW: 44  
PARTLY CLOUDY

FRIDAY  
HIGH: 66, LOW: 41  
SUNNY

SATURDAY  
HIGH: 65, LOW: 44  
PARTLY CLOUDY