Two businesses open in Hertford

Page 2

Basketball update

Page 7

Students receive golden keys

Page 8

February 14, 2007 Vol. 75, No. 7 Hertford, North Carolina 27944

PERQUIVANS YDRINA

35 cents

Two airlifted for help after ATV accident

Woman hits boyfriend

MARGARET FISHER

A woman driving an allterrain vehicle ran into her boyfriend, causing injuries to both on Saturday.

Angela Viera of 161 Pinewood Trail was riding the ATV in her yard around 5 p.m. when she lost control of the off-road vehicle, said Perquimans County Sheriff Eric Tilley.

She ran into James Camp of 521 Lawton Road in Hilton, N.Y.

When deputies Thomas Reid and Gary Riddick arrived, Camp was laying in the yard complaining of pain in the hip and lower abdomen area and was bleeding from his head. He was taken to Albemarle Hospital by Emergency Medical Services and airlifted to Sentara Norfolk General Hospital

Viera was lying on the couch inside her home and said that her left arm and leg were in pain. She was airlifted to Pitt Memorial Hospital in Greenville. Bethel Fire Department set up a landing zone for the helicopter.

There was evidence that the ATV had been spinning around in the yard, Tilley

"At this point, we do not have any indication that anything that was done was intentional," Tilley said.

Viera was not wearing a helmet. Helmets are required when riding an ATV. No charges have been filed at this time.

At long last, love



PHOTO BY SUSAN HARRIS

For Laura White and Hayward Spruill, it was love at first sight and the third time around when a mutual friend gets them together after 10 years of trying. They each bring three sons into their family and White's two grandchildren. Read their story on page 4.

Faulty electricity causes fires

MARGARET FISHER

Two fires occurred in Hertford residences over the weekend.

The first happened on Friday at about 9:10 p.m. at the historic George E. Major House at 131 Market Street. Steve and Tammy Lane were walking near the unoccupied house when they began to smell a heavy odor of kerosene, Steve Lane said.

When they realized that more than a usual amount of smoke was coming from the chimney and no one was home, they went to their car and reported it to Central Communications.

When Hertford Fire Department arrived, there was smoke around the whole block area, especially around the house and furnace chimney, said Bob Reed, fire chief.

Firefighters were able to get into the house after contacting the real estate agent. They found that the furnace had malfunctioned. When it didn't ignite, fuel kept being pumped in, eventually spilling over into the furnace room, located in the basement. When it finally

lit, it pushed the smoke through the vents and into the rest of the house and attic, Reed said.

Firefighters were able to put the fire out in the furnace room with a fire extinguisher, he said. They ventilated the building with fans until about 11 p.m.

The home, owned by Sydney Jessup, is listed for sale. The home isto be used by the Newbold-White House for its International Wine Tasting and Food Pairing, put on by the Friends of the Vineyard.

The home is not damaged, but needs cleaning from smoke, Reed said. Jessup was out of town at the time of the fire.

Another fire occurred at 706 W. Grubb St. on Saturday at about 10:45 p.m.

Tenants Jacqueline Thatch and her son were not at the home, owned by Erie Haste, when the fire broke out.

A neighbor said that one of the tenants was visiting him. When he returned home, he found that the house was on fire. Thatch's son was reported to have Central called

Communications to report Continued on page 9

Police seize drugs

MARGARET FISHER

In two separate incidences, drugs were confiscated during a traffic stop.

On Sunday at about 11:15 p.m., Officer Kevin Worster of the Hertford Police Department saw a vehicle traveling north at 70 miles per hour in a 50-mile-perhour zone along U.S Highway 17. The officer pulled the driver over north of the high rise bridge.

While obtaining the driidentification, Worster thought he smelled marijuana, Hertford Police Chief Dale Vanscoy said.

The driver, Jeffrey Lynn, 18, of 3619 Trotters Drive, Wilson, and a passenger consented to a search. A plastic bag containing eight smaller bags of marijuana was found under the passenger seat. Another bag containing 11 smaller bags of marijuana was found under the driver's seat. A total of 12 grams of marijuana was confiscated.

Lynn, an Elizabeth City State University student, was charged with possession with intent sell/deliver marijuana, speeding and careless and reckless driving. He was placed in Albemarle District Jail under a \$1,000 secured bond.

At about 1:10 a.m. on Monday, Officer Jeff Thomas observed a vehicle driving in a suspicious manner on Edenton Road Street. He stopped the vehicle on Dobbs Street and detected the odor of marijuana.

After a pat down of the driver, Thomas found three grams of crack cocaine and one and a half grams of marijuana in the driver's pocket. A smoking pipe was found in his jacket.

The driver, Tokura of 2017 24, Pepperstone Point, Apt. D, Greensboro, was charged with possession of crack cocaine, possession of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia. White, who told police he was visiting his mother, was taken to Albemarle District Jail and placed on a \$,1000 secured bond.

Utility poles split in two separate wrecks last week

MARGARET FISHER

Two utility poles were hit in two consecutive days last week requiring their replacement.

On Feb. 6 at about 5:50 p.m., a utility trailer being pulled by a Dodge Durango traveling east on Dobbs Street began to sway, said Dale Vanscoy, Hertford police chief.

The swaying caused the truck to veer to the right in the 700 block and strike a basketball goal, trash can and utility pole, effecting the integrity of the pole.

The force of the truck hitting the pole caused a water line to rupture underground and water to bubble up.

Although no charges were pressed, the driver, Michael Fitzhugh, 51, of 224 Woodland Circle, is responsible for the replacement of the utility pole. No power outages or injuries occurred. As of Monday

said Chris replaced, Wharton, public works director.

On Wednesday at about 3 p.m., James Blake Call, 17, of 203 Church St., was driving a Thunderbird west on Grubb Street with a friend after leaving the high

He lost control of the vehicle and veered off to the left at Covent Garden Road. He drove up the curb past a fire hydrant while missing a parked van and drove along the yards and sidewalk. The car flattened the handrails of a set of steps at 128 W. Grubb St. It hit a garbage can sending it sliding up the road and a utility pole in front of 124 W. Grubb Street.

"I was stepping on the brakes and it did not work," Call said. "...I just cut it (towards the curb) so I wouldn't hit the van.'

The pole snapped about 10 feet up and caused a

night, the pole hadn't been power outage at four residences. Though the pole moved in the ground several inches, the car didn't show a dent.

The town's public works department set a new pole and restored power by 5:30 p.m. On Thursday, wires were transferred to the new pole and the old pole was removed.

Call was charged with unsafe movement and possession of an open container of alcohol. A breath test did not reveal any alcohol consumption, Vanscoy said. No injuries were reported.

The cost for both replacements of utility poles was not calculated before press time.

PHOTO BY MARGARET FISHER James Call, 17, said his brakes did not work when his vehicle hit and snapped a utility pole on Grubb Street last week.



WEEKEND WEATHER

THURSDAY High: 42, Low: 22 PARTLY CLOUDY

FRIDAY HIGH: 60, Low: 26 SUNNY/WINDY

SATURDAY HIGH: 51, Low: 33 **PARTLY CLOUDY**