

Annual Progress Edition
Section B

Find out what local government
agencies offer

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THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

35 cents



Will the peace of rural Perquimans County be shattered by a Navy outlying landing field? The county chapter of North Carolinians opposed to the OLF fears that the county is the navy's No. 2 choice for the site.

Residents fight OLF

Leaders say county may be No. 2 choice

MARGARET FISHER

About 200 people turned out in Belvidere on March 13 at the Community Awareness Meeting presented by opposers of the U.S. Navy's proposed outlying landing field.

Stan Winslow, organizer of North Carolinians opposed to an OLF, County Manager Bobby Darden, County Commissioner Chairman Mack Nixon and Brian Roth,

Plymouth mayor and former Navy pilot, were some of the speakers. Other county commissioners present included Sue Weimar and Ben Hobbs.

"I think we generated a lot of support," Winslow said.

The meeting raised \$944 to pay for No-OLF signs, stickers and newspaper inserts.

Both Roth and Nixon said that environmental issues may push the Navy out of the preferred site at Washington County and into the proposed site in Belvidere.

"There may be more potential now for them looking at Perquimans County, with all the push against the

environmental issues in Washington County," Nixon said.

Roth said that the draft supplemental environmental impact study's rationale for eliminating four out of five sites leaves Perquimans rising to second choice.

"I'm very concerned," Roth said. "From the Navy's perspective, they may be looking at Perquimans County as a fallback position."

Nixon said the county is looking at land value figures that may be higher than what the Navy said that farmland is worth. Additionally, not only is Perquimans an economically-
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County supplying water to Winfall

MARGARET FISHER

Perquimans County has agreed to an interim arrangement to sell water in bulk to the town of Winfall until the county can tap into the new Pasquotank County water system, expected to be completed in about two years.

Perquimans County has been providing water to the town since Winfall experienced a failure in their water plant's system a few weeks ago.

"Winfall approached us to operate their plant or sell them water," said County Manager Bobby Darden.

Commissioners decided to sell them water at the current cost of \$6 per 1,000 gallons up to 20,000 and \$5 per 1,000 gallons for more than 20,000 gallons a month.

In addition, the county could operate the plant in high-usage times, such as periods of hot and dry weather during the summer, Darden said.

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Slide on down



PHOTO BY MARGARET FISHER

Brandon Robinson, 10, urges Marinea Patrick, 6, to go down the slide at Missing Mill Park on Monday afternoon. The children make a visit to the park just about every day after their mother picks them up from school.

Fake cop caught

Prison officer pretends to be undercover drug cop

MARGARET FISHER

A Tyrrell County corrections officer asked for all \$1 bills for a \$50 bill at Food Lion Saturday. Then he flashed his identification at an employee and allegedly said he needed the ones because he was an undercover officer working on a drug sting.

Raymond Jernigan, 56, of 1309 Paradise Road, Edenton, walked into the Food Lion shortly before 3 p.m. and asked to speak to the manager.

He quickly flashed his N.C. Department of Corrections identification to the cashier and said that he was a police officer with the police department and he needed all ones for a drug sting.

The store manager didn't recognize Jernigan as a local police officer so he refused to change his \$50 bill. He then called police and took down the man's vehicle tag number.

When officer Kevin Worster arrived, Jernigan had left. So Worster checked out who owns the car. Later, Worster spotted the vehicle at a local restaurant where the owner said she had given her relative \$50 and asked him to get her some change for the cash drawer.

Later, Jernigan was arrested for impersonating a police officer and was released on a written promise to appear. His court date is set for April 25.

Family homeless after Sunday fire

MARGARET FISHER

A mobile home, owned by County Commissioner Charles Ward and occupied by a family of seven, was completely gutted by fire on Sunday afternoon.

Shalonda Leary, 26, was sleeping in a bedroom while James Foster, 26, and the children were in the living room at 137 Dogwood Trail when smoke began drifting from the kitchen.

Foster went to inspect the kitchen and Leary woke up to hear one of the children say that something was burning.

Foster grabbed a child's car seat that was on fire, intending to throw it out the door, Leary said. But he wasn't able to because it was so hot it burned one of his fingers, she said.

"So we just grabbed the kids and left," Leary said. The children range in age from one to 10 years.

They went to a neighbor's house where someone called 9-1-1 at about 3:30 p.m.

When Hertford Fire



PHOTO BY MARGARET FISHER

A Hertford family was left homeless after a Sunday afternoon fire at this Dogwood Trail mobile home, in which James Foster, Shalonda Leary and five children lived.

Department arrived in five minutes after the call, smoke was billowing out the doors, with the heaviest smoke and fire in the middle part of the home where the kitchen is located, said Fire Chief Bob Reed.

"We got the fire knocked down pretty quick once we made entrance into the mobile home,"

Reed said.

Bethel Fire Department arrived as a backup. Reed said that the fire started in the area of the stove top. Leary said that the family was not cooking, but that the oven was on at the time the fire broke out.

Perquimans County Rescue Squad treated Foster and then took him to Chowan Hospital. Leary said that there is a possibility that Foster could lose his finger.

Leary said on Sunday that she did not know what she was going to do. Jarvis Winslow, Perquimans County emergency management coordinator, was in Greenville at the time, but was contacted to make plans with the Red Cross to provide temporary accommodations for the family.

Stoltenhoff named Main Street Champ

Charlene Stoltenhoff was recognized as a North Carolina Main Street Champion at the state organization's annual meeting in Morganton earlier this year.

Stoltenhoff was nominated for the honor by Historic Hertford, Inc., Hertford's Main Street Program.

"Charlene Stoltenhoff has been an active member of Historic Hertford, Inc. for more than five years, having been on the Board of Directors for those years as well as being involved on a number of committees," stated Stoltenhoff's nomination. "She was chairwoman of the Board from July 2004 through June 2006. Through her efforts the Board solidified its organization structure and she has brought many capable people onto the Board and committees. Charlene continues to be active on the Board, and has served as chair of the Membership Committee."

She was credited with giving leadership to projects to benefit the appearance of downtown
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WEATHER

THURSDAY
HIGH: 72, LOW: 51
PARTLY CLOUDY

FRIDAY
HIGH: 76, LOW: 55
MOSTLY SUNNY

SATURDAY
HIGH: 79, LOW: 52
PARTLY CLOUDY