

# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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"News from Next Door"

35 cents

## Beaten man left for dead on church grounds

CATHY WILSON  
Staff Writer

A Snug Harbor man is charged with attempted murder in connection with the beating of an Elizabeth City man who, police say, was "left for dead" in a church parking lot.

Perquimans County Sheriff Eric Tilley said James C. Lee, 24, of 207 Dogwood Trail, is being held in Albemarle District Jail under \$150,000 bond on a charge of attempted first degree murder.

The victim, Gregory Charles Hayes, 43, of Elizabeth City, suffered extensive injuries including head and facial wounds, an injury to the throat, seven broken ribs, lacerations to the body, and groin area injuries. He was transported to Chowan Hospital and later flown to Greenville.

"The medical folks said if he (Hayes) had stayed there (parking lot) for another two hours, he probably would have died," said Tilley.

The sheriff's department received a report of a suspicious vehicle parked at Bethel Baptist Church located on Burnt Mill Road in the Bethel area just before 1 a.m. on July 23. When a deputy arrived, he found Hayes lying on the ground, severely beaten.

"At the time, he (Hayes) responded to EMS and said the beating was over a woman," added Tilley. "He said James Lee beat him and left him there."

Following an extensive investigation, Investigator Marlo Reel charged Lee with attempted first degree murder because of the way Hayes was left at the scene with no attempt to get medical treatment.

"Basically, he was left for dead," said Tilley.

Hayes is out of the hospital and is recovering from his wounds, police said.

## SUMMER BREEZE



Perquimans Weekly photo by CATHY WILSON

THE FINAL SUMMER BREEZE concert of the season was held Sunday, and for the first time this summer, it actually was held outside. Inclement weather forced concerts in June and July indoors, but last weekend's weather was perfect for the large crowd that attended on the lawn of the historic Newbold-White House. Children played, others tasted wine and cheese, and many sang along with the various gospel groups that performed. The concert series is sponsored by the Perquimans County Restoration Association, the Perquimans Arts League, NC Arts Council Grassroots Program and Summer Breeze FANS.

## School bells to chime Monday

SUSAN HARRIS

The days of staying up late, sleeping in and playing in the sun are coming to an end Monday for the about 1750 students registered for the 2008-2009 school year in Perquimans.

Buses will begin running Monday, after having been rerouted by transportation employees to allow students from Central and Hertford Grammar schools to ride on the same buses this year. The middle school will continue to run its own fleet of buses, as will the high school.

Drivers have been notified of their routes and are in the process of calling students with expected pick-up and drop-off times.

Schools Public Information Officer Brenda Lassiter said Monday that superintendent Dr. Dwayne Stallings has announced that due to poor road conditions on the causeway, buses will use the U.S. 17 Bypass high rise bridge, not the S-shaped bridge, until further notice. This, Lassiter said, may mean having to adjust bus schedules and the school day schedule at the elementary schools.

"Dr. Stallings consulted with local and state officials on this situation, and decided that because there is a concern with the roadway caving in again, buses would use the high rise bridge," Lassiter said. "It is a safety issue for our students. Their safety comes first."

Both the middle school and Central School have st open houses for tomorrow night (Aug. 21), 5-6:30 p.m.

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## Stolen vehicle recovery helps clear burglaries

CATHY WILSON  
Staff Writer

The recovery of a stolen vehicle by the Perquimans County Sheriff's Department helped clear several burglary and larceny cases in neighboring Elizabeth City.

Steven Dale Miles, 24 of Sandy Cross Road, Belvidere, was arrested Aug. 12

and faces charges of felony breaking and entering, breaking and entering of a motor vehicle, larceny of a motor vehicle, and injury to real property. He is being held in Albemarle District Jail under \$3,000 secured bond.

According to the Elizabeth City Police Department, other charges are pending further investigation.

Perquimans County Sheriff Eric Tilley said he and Investigator Shelby White recovered a white four-door SUV Aug. 8 that was left at an abandoned house on Riddick Grove Church Road. Both law enforcement officers are familiar with the house and knew a vehicle didn't belong on the property. A check on

the vehicle tag determined the car was reported stolen from Elizabeth City on Aug. 6.

Tilley said they contacted the Elizabeth City Police Department which sent out a crime unit and determined that the vehicle was involved in two break-ins in Elizabeth City including the Board Room on Tanglewood Parkway and A&A In-

surance on Halstead Boulevard Extended on Aug. 7.

Further investigation utilizing the city's crime cameras linked Miles and the vehicle to several break-ins of area vehicles during the same time period.

Miles, Tilley said, lives less than a mile from the abandoned house where the stolen vehicle was found.

## Curves helps women stay on the straight and narrow

It only takes 30 minutes, but the results can last a lifetime.

Curves International, Inc., the world's largest fitness franchisor, opened its newest Curves location in Hertford last week.

The Perquimans Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting Aug. 15 for the facility in the new MCS Shopping Center at 220 B. Ocean Highway South. The club hosted a Business After Hours and open house.

"We are excited to become part of the Hertford community," said Tracy Franklin, owner. "We look forward to helping women in the Hertford community



Perquimans Weekly photo by CATHY WILSON

MEMBERS OF THE PERQUIMANS Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting last week at the new Curves located in the MCS Shopping Center, 220 B. Ocean Highway South.

reach amazing results, both physical and emotional, through our Curves workout program and support network."

Curves brings a supportive environment, offering a 30-minute fitness program with a common sense weight loss program that helps break the cycle of yo-yo dieting. Cardio and strength-training is performed in 26 stations, surrounded by upbeat music and hot pink walls.

With the average person gaining three pounds a year, a reasonable workout regimen that can fit into today's busy lifestyle of work and family is critical-

The Curves workout allows women of all ages and fitness levels to perform all five of the components of a complete fitness program, combining strength and cardiovascular training through safe, effective hydraulic resistance.

"We look forward to providing women in this community a complete workout in only thirty minutes, ensuring they can stick to the program and sustain a healthy weight," said Franklin.

Curves is open Mon.—Fri. 8:30 a.m.—2 p.m. and on Sat. 8:30—11 a.m. For more information call 426-1066 or visit [www.curves.com](http://www.curves.com).

### WEEKEND WEATHER

THURSDAY  
HIGH: 84 LOW: 68  
MOSTLY SUNNY

FRIDAY  
HIGH: 84 LOW: 69  
PARTLY CLOUDY

SATURDAY  
HIGH: 85 LOW: 68  
PARTLY CLOUDY

