

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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"News from Next Door"

35 cents

Blount guilty of assault with deadly weapon

CATHY WILSON
Staff Writer

Tice Blount pleaded guilty to two charges of assault with a deadly weapon recently in Perquimans Superior Court.

As a result of a negotiated plea bargain, Judge Jerry R. Tillett sentenced Blount to two 25-39 month jail terms, suspended both, and placed him on supervised probation for 60 months. He was also ordered to pay a \$250 fine, and perform 100 hours of community service. The two convictions will run consecutively.

Blount must serve an active jail term of 75 days.

Blount must also have no contact with the victims in the case, Marvin or Tara Moore.

Four other charges were dismissed.

Assistant District Attorney Linda Shields summarized the case saying Blount and Marvin Moore have had an ongoing argument that had been "boiling for a long time."

On June 20, Shields said Blount was involved in a traffic accident and "went after Moore," striking him with his vehicle, throwing Moore onto the hood of his car. Moore, she added, suffered no broken bones, but did go to the hospital.

Then, on Sept. 16, Blount and Moore got into another argument, and this time Blount struck Moore with his car while Moore was riding on a moped.

Blount was ordered by Tillett to remain at least 300 yards away from Moore except at athletic events where their children play on the same ball field.

"If you go into Food Lion and you see Mr. Moore, what do you do?" Judge Tillett asked Blount.

"Move 300 yards away from him," Blount responded.

"No," Judge Tillett warned. "You leave. Stay away from him."

CHRISTMAS PROPOSAL



ANDREW ALMADOVA PROPOSES TO Kathy Link on Memorial Field on Christmas Day as family members look on. Almadova and Link met in the very spot he knelt six years ago. The prospective groom thought it would be the perfect place to ask Link to be his wife — and a perfect Christmas surprise.

Couple engaged at the place they met

CATHY WILSON
Staff Writer

While other folks were opening presents under a Christmas tree on Christmas Day, Andrew Almadova was organizing quite a surprise at the Perquimans High School football field.

Cars and pick-up trucks lined up outside the fence surrounding the football field. Family members and friends hustled onto the field and made their way over to the stands. They stood or sat on the stands and giggled, talked, and watched as he showed them a special "rock" that sparkled in the December sunlight.

At 3:15 p.m., everyone on the stands stood silent as Kathy Link was led onto the football field by Almadova's parents. She had been blindfolded at the house in Hertford and told that Andrew had one additional Christmas present for her. She was driven, blindfolded, around town and then to the field so she wouldn't know where she was.

She was led to the stands where she turned towards the rows of

metal bleachers. Behind her was Almadova, kneeling on one knee in the muddy spot where he first met her six years ago. When her blindfold was lifted, she turned to see the love of her life reaching for her hand and proposing marriage.

"After six years, Kathy, will you marry me?" he asked, holding a 1.5 kt. diamond ring that featured three diamonds. Family members grinned from ear to ear as Link's hand automatically flew to her mouth in surprise and the tears flowed from her eyes.

"Yes!" she answered as they melted into each other's arms.

The Christmas day surprise proposal was the highlight of a day filled with celebrations, eating, and sharing Christmas joy.

"We had celebrated Christmas very early that morning with our daughter, Anaiya (age 2) and he had already given me my gifts around 3 a.m.," Link said. "We had enjoyed the morning, eaten dinner, and was winding down when he said he had to go out on an errand."

That errand was meeting other

family members at the football field, including Grandma in her "cooking clothes."

Almadova's parents explained to Link that he had one more Christmas surprise for her, but that she had to be blindfolded and taken to it.

"When the blindfold went on, there were two things that went through my mind," she said. "It was either going to be a proposal, or he had bought us a house! I really didn't expect the proposal, though, because he had already told me that he couldn't get the ring that I wanted. Whatever it was, I knew it had to be big."

She was truly surprised, she said. She didn't have any idea she was at the football field, or that he was proposing.

"I was on cloud 9," she grinned.

Almadova admitted he was a little nervous at first, but those nerves left the moment she lifted the blindfold and he saw her face radiant with happiness and joy.

"This will be a Christmas we'll all remember," he said.

Wanted youth caught here

Is suspect in armed home invasion

CATHY WILSON
Staff Writer

A 17-year-old youth, wanted in connection with a violent Newport News, Va. home invasion, was apprehended by a federal marshal and the local sheriff on Meads Circle Dec. 23.

Sheriff Eric Tilley said he was contacted by the United States Marshall Fugitive Task Force regarding the whereabouts of Hector Alexis Pabon, wanted on numerous felony charges stemming from a Dec. 6 home invasion during which one man was shot. Pabon was believed to be staying at 205 Meads Circle.

Tilley accompanied Agent Kelly Jones to the Miller and Meads Mobile Home Park around 9 a.m. to conduct what Tilley called a "knock and talk."

"We knocked on the door, talked with the subject who opened the door, and told them we believed Pabon was staying in the residence," Tilley said. "We received consent to search the home, and found him in the back bedroom."

Pabon was taken into custody without incident, he added.

The teenager was arrested on a fugitive warrant and held under a \$200,000 secured bond.

Tilley transported Pabon to Chowan County for an appearance before Judge Edgar Barnes. Pabon waived extradition and was transported back to the Hampton Roads area immediately.

Newport News police say Pabon is one of three teens involved in a morning home invasion on Christian Street in Newport News on Dec. 6. According to news accounts, one of the five people inside the apartment answered the door and was forced back into the apartment at gunpoint.

The suspects demanded money, and when the men said they didn't have any, one suspect opened fire, shooting 22-year-old Irineo Castillo-Salazar in the stomach. The other persons in the apartment were not hurt.

The three teens then left the scene, taking nothing.

Castillo-Salazar was treated and released from an area hospital.

Police later arrested a 14-year-old and a 16-year-old in connection with the incident. They face charges of attempted robbery, use of a firearm to commit a felony, conspiracy to commit burglary, possession of firearm, minor abduction, aggravated malicious wounding, conspiracy to commit robbery and armed burglary.

According to police, both teens remain in juvenile detention.

The same petitions have been obtained for Pabon.

WEEKEND WEATHER

NEW YEAR'S DAY
HIGH: 43 LOW: 32
SUNNY

FRIDAY
HIGH: 57 LOW: 36
SHOWERS

SATURDAY
HIGH: 46 LOW: 32
SUNNY

New fire truck here

Volunteer firefighters in Winfall are benefitting from a new, more efficient fire truck.

The Rosenbauer truck with a 1250 gallon-per-minute pump and a 1500 gallon tank will enable the Winfall Fire Department to improve response time, efficiency and possibly their insurance rating. An improvement in insurance rating could mean insurance premium reductions for the 554 residents in the fire district.

USDA Rural Develop-

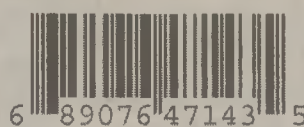


ment provided a \$222,950 low-interest loan and a \$27,027 grant for the purchase of the truck.

USDA Rural Development's mission is to increase economic opportunity and improve the quality

of life for rural residents. The agency provides equity and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in home ownership, business development and critical community and technology needs.

For information on rural programs, stop by the local office in the Albemarle Commission Building off Church Street, Extended or visit USDA's website at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>.



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