

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

"News from Next Door"

OCTOBER 27, 2010 - NOVEMBER 2, 2010



Lady Pirates win playoff game, 9

Q&A with sheriff candidates, 2

RECEIVED
OCT 26 2010
90-cents

Early voting in county is brisk

One-Stop attracts 900 voters so far

By CATHY WILSON
Staff Writer

As of late Monday afternoon, nearly 900 voters had cast their ballots in Perquimans County during One Stop early voting that began Oct. 14.

"We've been busy," said Perquimans Board of Elections Director Eula Mae Forbes earlier.

In addition, 19 new voters registered during the same-day registration/voting process.

One Stop voting continues until Saturday at 1 p.m.

The regular general election will be held next Tuesday, Nov. 2, with the polls opening at 6:30 a.m. and

closing at 7:30 p.m.

Four candidates are seeking three seats on the Perquimans Board of Commissioners. Challenger Ed Muzzulin (D) is taking on three incumbents: Tammy Miller-White (D), Ben Hobbs (R), and Charles Ward (D).

For the position of sheriff, incumbent Eric Tilley (D) faces a challenge by newcomer Jody Cohee (R).

Superior Court Clerk Todd Tilley (D) is also seeking re-election. He is unopposed. Julian Baker and Charles H. Mathews are seeking two positions as Soil and Water Conservation District supervisors.

Also seeking re-election this year is District Attorney Frank Parrish who is also unopposed.

On the state level, voters will have the chance to

vote for District 5 House of Representative. Incumbent Annie Ward Mobley (D) is being challenged by Perquimans County resident Matthew Peeler (R).

In the state senate race for District 4, incumbent Ed Jones (D) faces a challenge by Rich Halbert (R).

On the national level, incumbent House Representative G.K. Butterfield (D) faces challenger Ashley

Woolard (R) while incumbent Richard Burr (R) faces a challenge from Elaine Marshall (D) and Michael Beitler (L) for the U.S. Senate seat.

Other races include seats for supreme court associate justice, Court of Appeals, two positions for superior court judge District 1 (JC Cole of Perquimans County and Jerry R. Tillett), and district court judge.

Police seek stabbing suspect

By CATHY WILSON
Staff Writer

Police are looking for Duane Michael Lyons, 24, in connection with a stabbing that occurred Monday night while two men played a video game at a Brace Avenue residence.

Chief Joe Amos of the Hertford Police Department (HPD) said a warrant for felony assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injury has been obtained for Lyons, who resides on Edenton Road Street in Hertford.

Law enforcement officials were called to 100 Brace Ave., around 9:20 p.m. when Adam Leroy Perry, 38, of 600 Swamp Road in Perquimans County, reported he had been stabbed with a knife one time in the leg. Amos said the attack occurred when Lyons became angry because he was losing the game.

Perry was taken to Chowan Hospital where he was treated for his injury and later released.

The suspect fled on foot before officers arrived on the scene.

Officers responding included Sgt. Worster, Sgt. Swindell, and Chief Amos with HPD along with Deputy David Murray and Sgt. K. Harrell of the Perquimans County Sheriff's Office. As of press time, Lyons remained at large.

Anyone with information may call HPD at 426-5587 and callers may remain anonymous.



Lyons

Trucker takes a plunge



STAFF PHOTO BY CATHY WILSON

North Carolina Department of Transportation employees work to repair a 30-foot section of concrete bridge railing destroyed Saturday morning when the driver of a truck lost control on the U.S. Highway 17 bridge and crashed through the railing into the Perquimans River.

Truck runs off high-rise bridge into river

From staff reports

The N.C. Highway Patrol charged a Norfolk, Va., man with failure to maintain lane control after the vehicle he was driving ran off the high-rise U.S. 17 bridge and into the Perquimans River on Saturday morning.

Paul Gibbard, 52, apparently fell asleep while at the wheel of a 1994 Toyota sport utility vehicle, Patrol Sgt. T.C. White said.

Hertford Police Chief Joe Amos said the vehicle first struck the right side of the southbound bridge, then overcorrected, and the vehicle hit the

left side of the bridge sideways, broke through two sections of concrete bridge railings and tumbled over into the water below. The vehicle landed on the passenger side in about 1-2 feet of water, Amos said. Gibbard managed to free himself from the submerged vehicle and crawled back to the roadway where he was waiting for law enforcement officers when they arrived. He was treated and later released from a local hospital, said Amos.

White said Gibbard maintained he was wearing a seat belt at the time of the accident. Police say Gibbard was

traveling to Bertie County to go hunting when the accident occurred around 6:20 a.m. on the Winfall side of the crossing. Gibbard also returned to the scene to retrieve his rifle and hunting gear, police said.

A wrecker, parked on the bridge, lifted the vehicle out of the water. The vehicle was a total loss, police said.

A temporary guard railing was installed at the site where the vehicle broke through the railing. The southbound bridge was shut down for approximately five hours with traffic detoured along Business 17 over the historic S-bridge.

Trooper J.F. Bray responded, along with Hertford police, local fire and rescue personnel, and the N.C. Department of Transportation.

North Carolina Department of Transportation employees were busy installing a new bridge railing Monday morning. Randy Williams, with NCDOT, said this is the first time he has heard of a vehicle running off the bridge in the last 28 years.

Perquimans Emergency Management also responded to the incident after fuel from the truck apparently leaked into the water. A boom was put in place to contain the spill.

WEEKEND WEATHER

FRIDAY
HIGH: 64 LOW: 43
SUNNY

SATURDAY
HIGH: 66 LOW: 48
SUNNY

SUNDAY
HIGH: 72 LOW: 54
MOSTLY SUNNY

Walkers raise awareness of S-bridge

By WILLIAM F. WEST
The Daily Advance

The Rev. Charles Stanley has to use a motorized chair to get around because of health problems, but he did not miss the chance to join others Saturday for a procession calling for saving the 1929 "S" swing bridge.

"We don't want the state to come in with their promises of improving and destroy what we've got here," said Stanley, 71, who was carrying an American flag.

The gathering started about 2 p.m. at the Perqui-

mans County Courthouse, with citizens walking or riding to the northern edge of the bridge and returning to Hertford.

Harriette Woodard, 63, organizer of the effort, said she hoped to raise awareness of the beauty and distinctiveness of the crossing over the Perquimans River and what the community stands to lose. "It's part of our identity," Woodard said, noting the bridge inspired the song "Carolina Moon."

"It's part of who we are," Woodard said. "Nobody



STAFF PHOTO BY THOMAS J. TURNEY

