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# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

"News from Next Door"

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50 cents



Girl wants Santa to help sick kids, Santa Letters

Role players help keep Pirates hot, 7

## Hertford man rescued from burning home

By CATHY WILSON  
Staff Writer

A Hertford man is in critical condition at a Norfolk hospital after being pulled from a burning home early Tuesday morning.

Burrel Roary Jr., 64, was burned when his home located at 325 N. Market Street caught fire around midnight, police said.

Hertford Police Officer Allen Peterson first ar-

rived on the scene and tried to enter the home but was driven back by heavy smoke.

Hertford firefighters arrived within minutes and heard Roary screaming from inside the home. Through an open front door, firefighters saw Roary lying on a hall floor surrounded by flames.

Hertford Fire Chief Bob Reed said firefighters Brian Chappell, Rob Holmier, and Robbie Reed

rushed into the burning house and dragged Roary to safety.

"That's their job," Reed said of his firefighters' heroic efforts. "That's what they are trained to do."

Members of Perquimans EMS transported Roary to Albemarle Hospital in Elizabeth City where they were met by a Nightingale helicopter and flown to Sentara Norfolk General Hospital's burn trauma unit.



Amos

The fire was brought under control with 20 minutes. Hertford and Winfall firefighters fought the blaze in frigid temperatures.

Hertford Police Chief Joe Amos, who investigated, determined that the fire was caused by an overturned space heater in the bathroom. The heater's exposed wires were lying against a section of PVC pipe leading to the bathroom sink, Amos said.

The cause of the fire has been determined accidental, caused by the space heater being left on in the bathroom, he added.

According to Perqui-

mans County tax records, the two-story frame house was built in 1966 and is owned by Riverview Investments, Inc. of Hertford.

Reed urged residents to be extremely careful when using space heaters.

This makes the third fire in the area in the last few weeks in homes where space heaters were being used. A fire destroyed a

See FIRE, 2

## Design eyed for athletic complex

Boards to discuss hiring design firm

By CATHY WILSON  
Staff Writer

Board of Education members and county commissioners will hold a joint meeting next month to discuss hiring a design firm for the school system's proposed new athletic complex at Perquimans County High School.

A proposal submitted by Albemarle and Associates, LTD of Elizabeth City was ranked earlier this month at the top of a list of three firms that sought the job. AA has indicated the firm will do the design work in 5-6 months for \$33,900.

"We have reviewed the projected scope for the project and the work required to develop a set of viable conceptual design documents for this endeavor, one that can be supported by the community," wrote James L. Overton, Sr., president of AA in a letter to board members.

"Our initial efforts will be directed and concentrated on achieving the highest and best utilization of the project site to fulfill the recreational requirements, provide conformity with governmental regulations, and to present cost-effective

See DESIGN, 4

## Baking fresh cookies



STAFF PHOTO BY CATHY WILSON

Daniel Pierce, 5, cuts up with his sister, Della, while the pair make Christmas cookies at the Perquimans center of the Cooperative Extension Service, Monday.

## Baking cookies a Christmas tradition

By CATHY WILSON  
Staff Writer

They may not have had visions of sugar plums dancing in their heads, but the children who learned the holiday tradition of baking Christmas cookies Monday morning certainly engaged in the Christmas spirit.

Little ones, age 5-8, took part in a Christmas cookie/cupcake

decorating workshop hosted by the Perquimans Extension Service.

The smell of sugar cookies baking in the oven filled the building as children learned how to roll out the dough, cut out various shapes, and decorate with frosting after cooling.

"I love making cookies," squealed five-year-old Daniel Pierce, who attended the workshop alongside his 6-year-old

sister, Della.

He rolled the cookie dough between his little hands as if shaping a blob of Play Dough. Instead of rolling out the dough with a roller, the children mashed the dough into paper plates, then cut out shapes using shiny cookie cutters.

Little Daniel selected a star cookie cutter, and worked diligently to make his the perfect shape.

Often times, however, he'd joke with his sister, and even managed to carry on a conversation with other children attending the workshop taught by Jennifer Ferrell, Extension Agent.

The children shared Santa tales, and talked about enjoying their experiences in 4-H. "Don't eat the dough,"

See COOKIES, 2

## Amos asks SBI to probe missing cocaine

Cocaine missing from evidence room

By CATHY WILSON  
Staff Writer

Hertford Police Chief Joe Amos has requested a state probe after the disappearance of a pound and a half of cocaine from his department's evidence room forced the delay recently of a drug trafficking trial.

District Attorney Frank Parrish said last week that

Carlton Simpson's drug trafficking case was continued in Perquimans Superior Court after prosecutors discovered that the cocaine needed for their case is missing.

Hertford police seized the three quarters of a kilo of cocaine when Simpson was arrested in December 2006 on three counts of trafficking cocaine.

Parrish said prosecutors in his office discovered that the cocaine was missing about two weeks ago.

The case has been continued while law enforcement tries to locate the evidence.

Amos said he has asked the State Bureau of Investigation to investigate the matter since most of the employees who were involved in handling the evidence in Simpson's drug case are no longer employed by his department.

"They're not under my jurisdiction anymore," he said. "My internal investigation can only go so far because of that."

According to the Dec. 13, 2006 edition of the Perquimans Weekly, Simpson was one of two men arrested during a traffic stop on U.S. Highway 17 by then police officer Jeff Thomas. Simpson, who at the time was driving a rental vehicle, and gave police a fictitious name and address when he was stopped.

Both Simpson and a passenger in the vehicle, Willie Garcia Warren, ran from police. Both men were

captured by Thomas and officer Kevin Worster, now a sergeant with the Hertford Police Department.

Prior to capturing Simpson, police saw him throw a bag into nearby bushes. Police later found the bag to contain 784 grams — more than three-quarters of a kilo — of cocaine. Police also confiscated nearly \$10,000 in cash from two men.

Police charged

See COCAINE, 4

**WEEKEND WEATHER**

**FRIDAY**  
HIGH: 44 LOW: 36  
MOSTLY SUNNY

**SATURDAY**  
HIGH: 45 LOW: 30  
SHOWERS

**SUNDAY**  
HIGH: 38 LOW: 29  
PARTLY CLOUDY



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Chowan Hospital.

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