

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



Pirates finally break into the win column, P. 7

"News from Next Door"

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50 cents

County seeks lottery funds for schools

By CATHY WILSON
Staff Writer

It's usually the other way around. Instead of local schools asking county commissioners for money, Monday night County Manager Bobby Darden asked the Perquimans Board of Education for permission to draw down state lottery

funds that are earmarked for capital school projects.

BOE members quickly agreed for the county to draw \$400,000 from lottery distributions to help pay this



Darden

year's loan payment for the high school addition and renovation completed in 2008.

County commissioners are expected to approve the same measure at their Oct. 3 meeting.

Darden explained that in years past, the county has only drawn lottery funds twice since the North Carolina Education Lot-

tery began in 2006: once to complete the high school renovation, and a second time to help pay for the HVAC installation at Hertford Grammar School.

"We have drawn down Lottery funds for projects on an 'as needed' basis in the past," Darden added. "Historically, we have used the revenue from the land transfer tax to pay

the debt payment for the school addition and renovation project. This year, commissioners propose to use the Lottery funds for that payment instead."

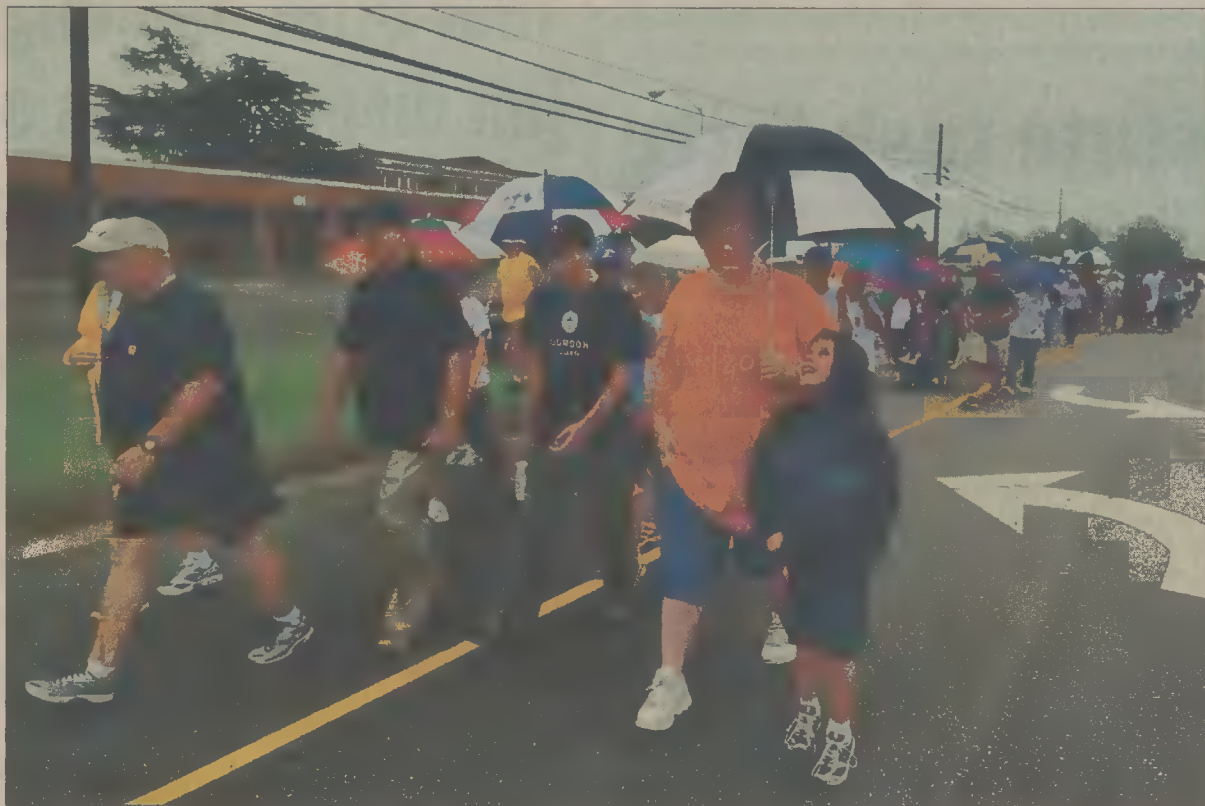
Darden pointed out that a few years ago the state withheld Lottery funds designated for counties when the state found itself in a budget crunch.

"We realized we can't

always depend on it...the state can withhold it from us again. We learned in the past that those funds are not as safe as we thought" he added. "We're worried about the volatility or future access to those funds. It takes about 60 days to process, so we're starting the process now."

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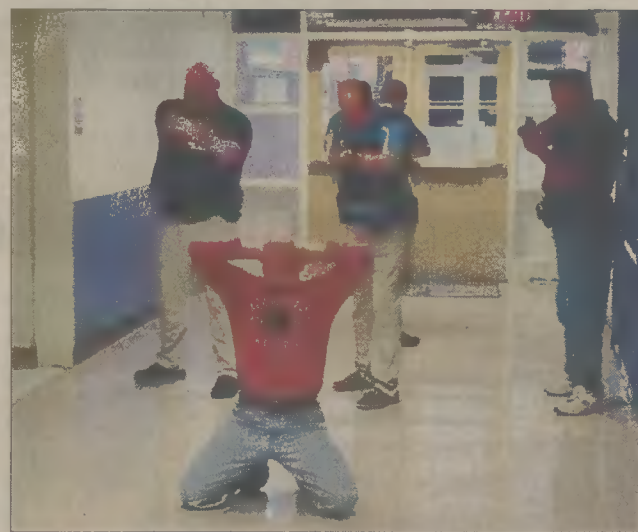
REMEMBERING JIMMY, FIGHTING ALS



THOMAS J. TURNEY PHOTOS/THE DAILY ADVANCE

Despite the morning's rain, about 115 people participated in Saturday's annual Jimmy "Catfish" Hunter Walk for ALS. The walk raises money for the research on the disease amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.

Sarah Stevenson, 17, (left) and Amber Stallings, 14, place flowers at the grave of baseball Hall of Famer Jimmy Hunter after completing Saturday's Jimmy "Catfish" Hunter Walk for ALS.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Hertford and Winfall police held a training exercise last weekend at Hertford Grammar School that involved a "gunman." Participating in the training are (l-r) Hertford officers Kevin Worster, Glen Needham, Allen Peterson, Chris Firkel and Winfall Police Chief David Shaffer.

Training teaches rapid deployment

By CATHY WILSON
Staff Writer

With far too many business and school-related shootings occurring across the nation over the last few years, local police departments are training how to handle such a situation should one ever arise in town.

For the past two weekends, members of the Hertford and Winfall police departments trained in rapid deployment for active shooter situations both in the classroom and in scenarios at Hertford Grammar School.

Hertford Police Chief Joe Amos said 13 officers from both departments took the training to complete state required 24 hours of annual training.

"This type of training

actually evolved from the Columbine High School shooting in Denver in 1999," explained Amos. "It can be used in a business, building, or school setting."

Officers received training involving two teams that would be deployed if an active shooter was discovered in a building or school.

One team, the contact team, would enter the building, locate and isolate the shooter, then either prevent the shooter from escaping or take the shooter into custody.

The second team, known as the rescue team, escorts medical staff into the building safely or removes the injured victims from the building without any

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Hodges is AL Post 126's first female commander

By CATHY WILSON
Staff Writer

Short grey hair — check. Red jacket — check. Smartly creased black American Legion cap — check. Lipstick...what?

When you compare the new American Legion Post 126 commander with those of the past, one trait definitely stands out. This one wears a slight hint of lipstick.

Dorothy Hodges, 71, is the first woman chosen to lead the local veterans group. It is an honor she cherishes deeply.

"I am actually surprised by all the support I have received from fellow veterans," said Hodges. "They are the ones who elected me. It has been just great."



STAFF PHOTO BY CATHY WILSON

A member of American Legion Post 126 for five years, Dorothy Hodges is the first woman to serve as Post Commander.

A member of Post 126 for the past five years, Hodges served 15 years in the military: four years as a medic in the Air Force and 11 years as an administrator in the Army. All of her duty was served stateside.

"Back then, women in the military served in areas of support only," said Hodges. "Today, it is a whole different story."

She is proud of the role women play in the nation's military and is working to draw more women veterans into American Legion, the largest veterans' organization in the country. Currently, there are five women veterans who hold membership in the local post and Hodges encourages them to become

See HODGES, 8

JURIED SELECTION



THOMAS J. TURNEY PHOTOS/THE DAILY ADVANCE

This past weekend's arts and crafts show, which was sponsored by the Perquimans Arts League, featured more than 40 juried artists and craftsmen from throughout the region.



Craftsman John Keilwein (left) discusses his work with Jean Corbett at the Perquimans Arts League's Arts and Crafts Show held Saturday at the Perquimans County Recreation Center.



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