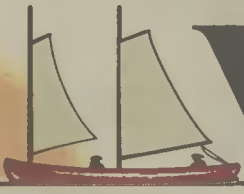


# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



"News from Next Door"

MARCH 21, 2012 - MARCH 27, 2012

50 cents



Junior Woman's Club holds poetry contest: Read this and other school news on pages 12-13

## Mother of murder victim coping day by day

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Vicki Colson (right) is shown with her late son Chad, who was found beaten and stabbed to death in a roadside ditch last month.



By CATHY WILSON  
Staff Writer

When her son didn't return home that Monday after being away all weekend, Vicki Colson knew something was wrong.

Call it mother's intuition. Call it knowing her son well as most mothers do. Something just didn't feel right.

She knew her son Chad would need and want clean clothes after a weekend of

partying - if that's what he had done.

Plus, he knew she was planning to make him his favorite cake - a pig picking cake - for his upcoming birthday. In fact, she bought the ingredients for the cake that Sunday after work. He was looking forward to it.

When he didn't show up at her Holiday Island home to get a shower and clean clothes to start off the new week, alarm and concern began gnawing in

her belly.

She left her doors unlocked that Monday night, expecting him to walk in as if nothing had happened. Monday came and went. The gnawing in her belly grew.

Early Tuesday morning, she found out Chad's grandmother had died. She wondered how she would tell her son that the grandmother he loved so much was gone.

See MOTHER, 11

## Liquor store is robbed at gunpoint

By CATHY WILSON  
Staff Writer

Two males robbed the Hertford ABC store at gunpoint shortly before closing time Monday night.

Interim Chief Mike Carver said two men entered the store around 8:43 p.m. demanding cash. One suspect pointed a handgun at the two employees while the other suspect took the cash drawer out of the cash register. An undetermined amount of cash was taken, police said.

Witnesses told police both suspects fled the scene in a green mini van.

Detective Chris Firkle found a van matching the description provided by witnesses about 30 minutes later parked in the parking lot at the Wynne Fork Court apartments, said Carver. Police have impounded a green Ford Winstar van registered to a resident of Stokes Drive, he added. The State Bureau of Investigation has been called in to process the van.

Police say the van's owner reported the van stolen just after the robbery occurred.

The suspects are described as two black males, about 6 feet tall, wearing white tee-shirts and black pants. As of Tuesday morning, no arrest has been made.

This makes the third robbery or robbery attempt around local businesses in the past 28 days. On March 11, two suspects attempted to rob the Ming Hing Restaurant at gunpoint as workers were closing for the night.

In that incident, one of the suspects stood lookout at the door while the other put a black semi-automatic handgun to the head of the cook. The robber demanded money and forced the cook to the ground.

Another restaurant employee reportedly frightened off the robbers by waving a stapler in the air as if it were a gun. Both suspects fled out the back door.

No money was taken and no one was injured in the incident, police reports state.

The would-be robbers were described as black

See ROBBERED, 4

## A Cinderella Story



STAFF PHOTOS BY CATHY WILSON

The Perquimans County Community Angels sponsored a Cinderella Ball at the Perquimans County Recreation Center Saturday night. The contestants vying for King/Prince and Queen/Princess danced a waltz during the colorful ball. See more photos from Cinderella Ball, page 14.



RMon Hodges is cool in his shades.



Contestants make their grand entrance during the Cinderella Ball, which raised money to help the Perquimans Community Angels attend a cheer/dance camp in Myrtle Beach this spring.



The Queen of the Ball was Asia White.

## Extension reaching out to help

By CATHY WILSON  
Staff Writer

For years Scott Maxwell tried desperately to work his way through a maze of paperwork following family illnesses.

First, his wife suffered a stroke and needed therapy and long-term care. Then his adult son was injured in an accident and later diagnosed with ALS. The paperwork starting piling up into what almost seemed an insurmountable mountain to climb.

Enter Jewel Winslow, family and consumer science agent with the Perquimans County Cooperative Extension Center. She helped pave a way through the mountain of paperwork, saving Maxwell time and giving him peace of mind.

"I found an angel that day," Maxwell told members of the county board of commissioners who attended a breakfast meeting at the Extension Center last week. "All that paperwork was very dif-



STAFF PHOTO BY CATHY WILSON

Perquimans County commissioners and other local residents enjoyed breakfast Thursday during a meeting hosted by the Perquimans County Extension Service.

ficult to handle properly. The paperwork was monstrous! Her help to this old guy was invaluable."

Several folks spoke positively about all aspects of the Extension programs during the annual breakfast. Like Maxwell's account, additional testimonies were

heard praising the works of 4-H, Expanded Food & Nutritional Education Program, aquaculture, and assistance for field crops and livestock.

Grower Burt Eure said farmers throughout the region depend on the Extension Service for help in research in order to

grow the operations.

"Farmers need the extension agent's help," said Eure. "I'm not a NC State graduate, but I've gotten my education through Extension."

The local Extension service helps farmers, with

## Eure seeking election petitions

By CATHY WILSON  
Staff Writer

A fifth person is circulating petitions seeking to be placed on the November ballot for county commissioner.

William L. Eure, better known as "Chicago", has until June 29 at noon to present petitions bearing four percent of the county's qualified registered voters to the Perquimans County Board of Elections for his name to join four others seeing three seats on the county commissioners' board. He seeks to run as a candidate unaffiliated with any political party.

Eure, 45, says he just wants to be part of the community.

See PETITIONS,

See EXTENSION, 4



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