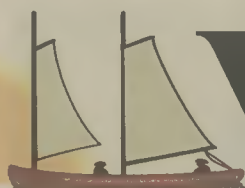


# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



How to keep a hot dog cool in the summertime! See photos, Page 4

"News from Next Door"

JULY 4, 2012 - JULY 10, 2012

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50 cents

## Suspect sought in Woodville rape

SUBMITTED PHOTO

The suspect reportedly has a tattoo similar to this on an inside wrist.



Public help sought to solve June crime

By CATHY WILSON  
Staff Writer

The Perquimans County Sheriff's Department is seeking the public's help in finding a suspect wanted in connection with an

alleged June 11 rape in the Woodville area.

Sheriff Eric Tilley said his department has spent the last three weeks trying to track down the suspect without success.

"We have no leads at this time," he said.

According to Investigator Shelby White, the alleged attack occurred

around midnight at a Woodville-area residence just after the 30-year-old victim arrived home from work. Police said she had entered the shower where she was grabbed from behind, pulled out of the bathroom to the floor, and raped.

Once the attack was over, investigators said

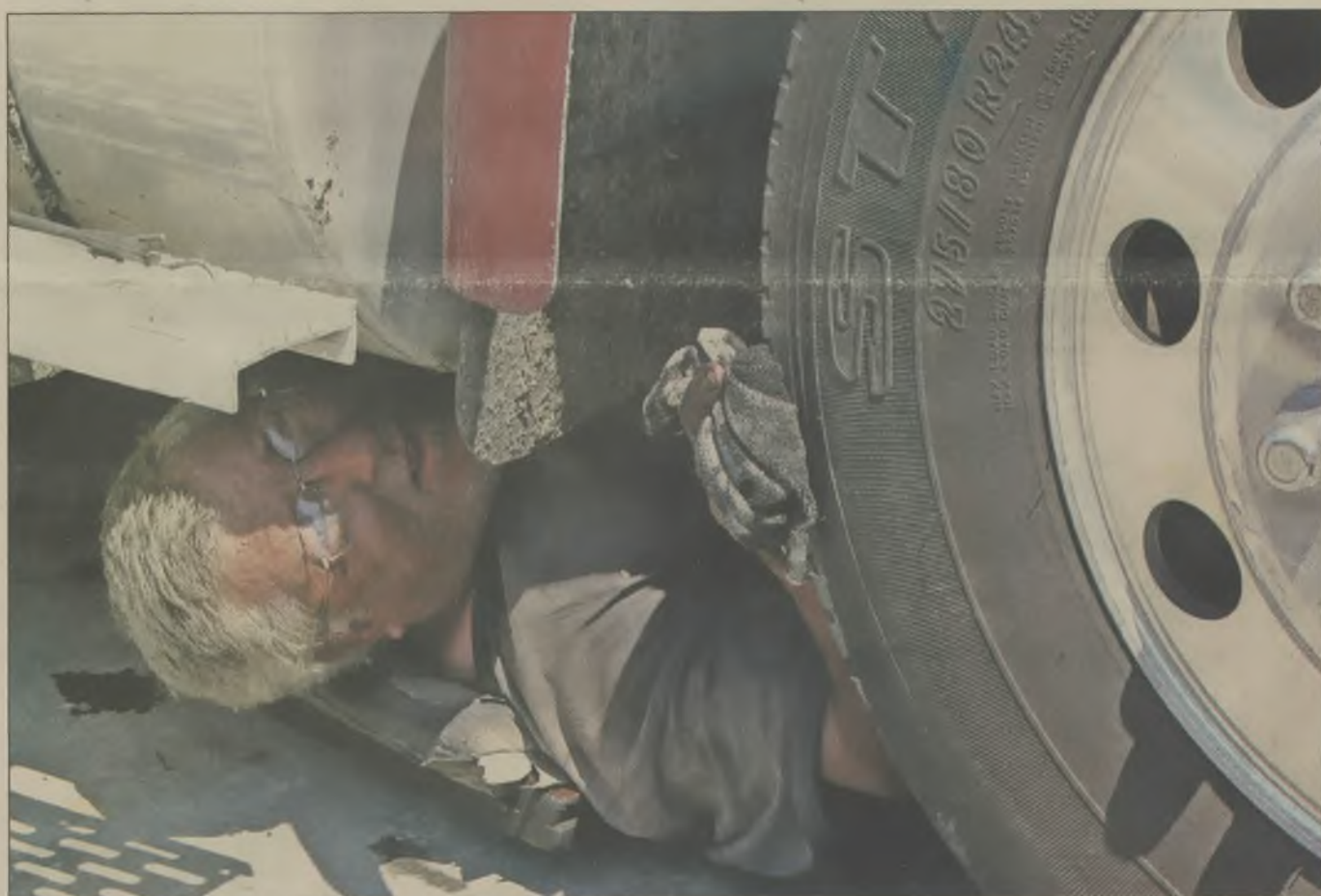
the victim ran back to the bathroom and called police after the suspect fled the scene. The victim was threatened by her alleged attacker that he would kill her if she called the authorities, according to the sheriff's department.

The victim, who

See SUSPECT, 5



Wow,  
It's  
Hot!



PHOTOS COURTESY C. PAGELS

Temperatures in the upper 90s and a heat index in the 100s made working outside very unpleasant for local folks last week. Despite the heat and humidity, these fellas kept on working and doing their jobs. Percy Davis Sr. (lower photo), of Davis BP in Hertford, changed the oil underneath a big rig, while Billy Mulhearn, of Mulhearn Lawns (top), trimmed the grass outside Hardee's. The National Weather Service predicts temperatures will reach the lower 90s for the remainder of this week.

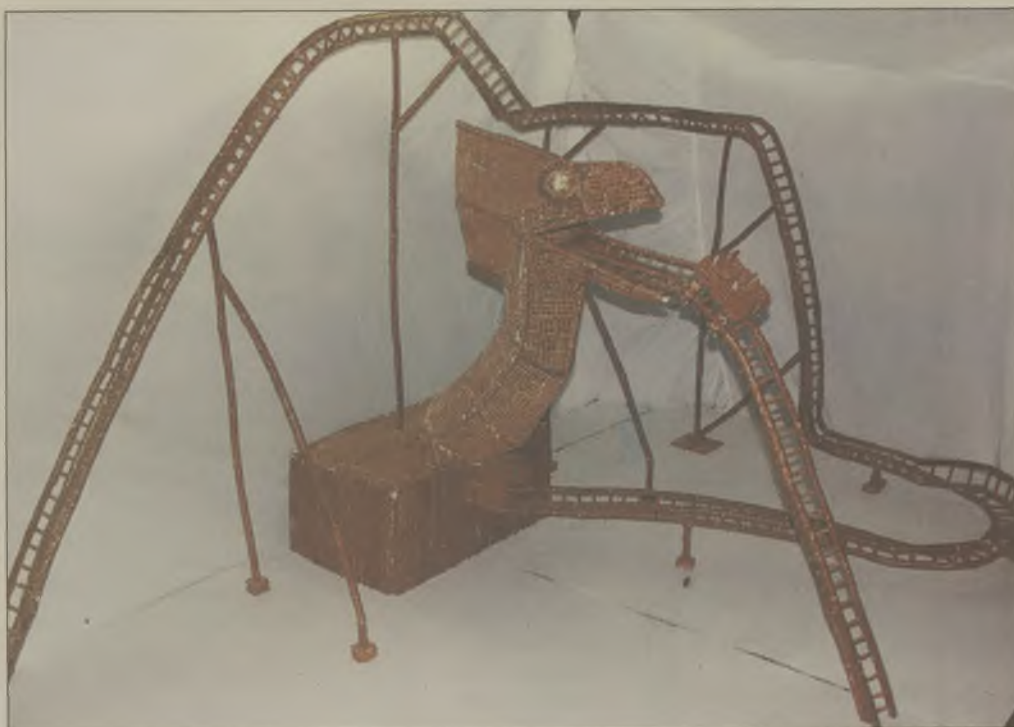
## Local is finalist in pretzel coaster contest

By CATHY WILSON  
Staff Writer

A Hertford man is one of six finalists nationwide to compete in the Pretzel Coaster Build-Off at Busch Gardens on July 10.

Brandon Venery of Hog Neck Road will head to Williamsburg next week for the final round of competition. His creation made earlier in his Perquimans County home was deemed the fan favorite in the online competition sponsored by Snyder's of Hanover and Busch Gardens.

He constructed a "Dive-style roller coaster" completely out of pretzels with a "Hydra" head as the main focal point. It took him about three months to build it although he admits about 80 percent of the project was completed in the last week.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Brandon Venery of Hertford built a replica roller coaster out of pretzels and is one of six national finalists who will compete for the grand prize at Busch Gardens in Williamsburg on July 10.

He used 10-15 bags of pretzels and lots of hot glue!

"I'm very excited for the contest, but there is going to

be some tough competition," wrote Venery in an email. "I have been doing my research

and I believe I'm ready. I am

very nervous though. The time frame is what I fore-

See COASTER, 5

## Process to tap Pasquotank water begins

By CATHY WILSON  
Staff Writer

County commissioners are taking the first steps to connect to the reverse osmosis water plant currently operating in Pasquotank County.

Monday night, commissioners approved a resolution giving the go-ahead to begin the process of financing a waterline that will eventually provide Perquimans with up to 150,000 gallons of water per day.

The project actually began five years ago when the county was growing in housing developments and before the economy turned sour. The county originally sought up to 350,000 gallons of water per day from the plant that just began operating earlier this summer.

But, after housing development growth in the county slowed, commissioners reduced the number of gallons sought, and in fact, have still not actually signed the contract to buy the water from neighboring Pasquotank. But that signing is expected to take place next month.

Once the contract is signed, Perquimans will begin paying for water one year later.

Bill Diehl, the engineer handling the water project for the county, presented bid recommendations to commissioners Monday night for the four-mile waterline, county water plant improvements and upgrades, laying waterline pipe underneath a railroad crossing on Chapanoke Road, and necessary computer software.

The entire project is projected to cost around \$1.5 million and will be financed entirely by county funds.

"The board approved a resolution authorizing borrowing up to \$1.8 million for the project, so we are a lot better off than we thought," commented County Manager Frank Heath.

The county has requested proposals from eight lending institutions seeking the best financing package. Those proposals are due to be returned to Heath next week. In addition, the county is applying to the state's Local Government Commission for approval to borrow the money necessary for the project.

Once that is obtained, county commissioners expect to sign on the dotted line with Pasquotank and begin constructing the four-mile waterline from the intersection of Hurdletown

See WATER, 5

## Winfall signs off on budget

By CATHY WILSON  
Staff Writer

Winfall Town Council has approved a \$460,700 general fund budget for 2012-2013 that includes no tax hike or rate increases, according to town officials.

A sewer fund budget was also approved totaling \$184,300 for this fiscal year.

According to the town's budget ordinance approved last month, the town's general fund is expected to receive almost \$187,000 in revenues from property taxes, almost \$100,000 in sales tax, and \$36,000 in solid waste fees this fiscal year.

Expenditures for 2012-2013 include \$181,825 for general government, \$172,325 for public safety (police and fire), and \$70,550 for roads/grounds. Sanitation costs are predicted at \$36,000.

The town's sewer fund is projected to bring in \$180,000 in sewer receipts and over \$4,000 in sewer penalties.

