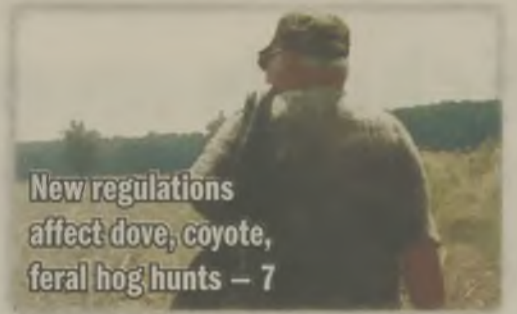
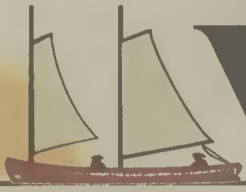


THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

AUG 08 2012



"News from Next Door"

AUGUST 8, 2012 - AUGUST 14, 2012

50 cents

Commissioners OK Minzies Creek sewer district

By CATHY WILSON
Staff Writer

Before she left the meeting Monday night, Holiday Island resident Annie Gavin walked up to county commissioners and silently mouthed the words "Thank you."

While her voice was quiet, her eyes held hope, appreciation, and excitement after commissioners agreed to form a sanitary sewer district in Holiday Island

that will give residents in the subdivision's camping section a chance to save their homes. The petition was made by Minzies Creek Village, an unincorporated nonprofit association of residents like Gavin who are served by an aging sewer system. Their request, made last March, followed an earlier decision by the Holiday Island Property Owners Association to seek permission from the state to close the sewer system that has been plagued by

high-cost maintenance problems over the years.

Closing down the sewer system would mean no sewer for the residents whose individual lots are too small to support individual septic tanks. In an effort to keep their homes, residents are trying to take over the sewer system and seek grants/loans to make needed repairs in order to keep the system running. Creating a sanitary sewer district would allow the group the opportunity to

seek those grants and loans.

"We are very pleased with the board's decision," said Lloyd C. Smith III, the attorney representing Minzies Creek Village. "There were new options presented tonight that we are going to examine. There is a lot of work still to be done. We thank the commissioners for their hard work and for giving the people of Holiday Island an opportunity."

Commissioners voted 4-1 to approve the petition with Commis-

sioner Mack Nixon casting the single no vote. Commissioner Sue Weimar did not attend the meeting.

Holiday Island residents told commissioners during a public hearing Monday night that they support forming the sanitary district, that paying whatever cost is needed to create their own sewer system would be less than the cost of moving, and not to

See DISTRICT, 4

STUFFED BUS: DONATED SCHOOL SUPPLIES



PHOTOS COURTESY PAMELA HADDEN

Students load donated school supplies into an empty school bus during the "Stuff the Bus" school supply drive held Saturday on the Food Lion Parking lot. Over \$300 in cash was collected in addition to the boxes of donated school supplies. The project was a collaborative effort between Chapel on the Sound and the Perquimans County Schools.



Jeff Pitzer of Holiday Island fills a box with his donations.



Area students celebrate the "Stuff the Bus" school supply drive on Saturday.

Pot plants seized

From staff reports

Sheriff's deputies seized 19 marijuana plants in the Holiday Island area last Thursday morning.

Police estimate the street value of the plants at \$38,000.

Investigator Shelby White said deputies con-

fiscated the plants around 7:15 a.m. after watching the area for several days. The plants, some mature and about six feet tall, were found growing in pots on an empty lot.

In addition to White, deputies Tom Reid and James Fowden participated in the raid.

STAFF PHOTO BY CATHY WILSON

Deputies Tom Reid, James Fowden and Investigator Shelby White with the Perquimans County Sheriff's Department harvested 19 marijuana plants from the Holiday Island area during a raid last week.



'Dynamic Duo' plays Sunday's Summer Breeze

From staff reports

"Dynamic Duo" will present this month's free concert on the grounds of the Newbold-White House this Sunday evening beginning at 6 p.m.

The third and final concert of the season features an evening of classic rhythm and blues and

jazz.

Bring a lawn chair or a blanket and enjoy the evening sponsored by the Perquimans County Restoration Association, the Perquimans Arts League, the North Carolina Arts Council Grassroots Program, and the Summer Breeze FANS (local merchants). Inclement or extremely hot weather will move the concert indoors at the Perquimans Recreation Center.

The two members of "Dynamic Duo" are mem-

bers of a much larger group called The Monitors which has played for over 50 years for such greats as Ray Charles, Roberta Flack, Milton Bullock, and Sara Glover.

Robert "Dick" Knight is on trumpet/alto sax/flugel horn/vocalist. From Kingston, he has taught music in North Carolina and Florida holding a bachelor's degree from Florida A&M University and a master's degree from the University



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Dynamic Duo will play jazz and blues Sunday at the Summer Breeze Concert at Newbold-White House.

See BREEZE, 4

Apartment damaged in blaze

By CATHY WILSON
Staff Writer

A small child playing with a lighter accidentally started a fire in a Hertford Housing Authority apartment on Stokes Drive Sunday afternoon.

According to the Hertford Police Chief Doug Freeman, only one room of the apartment was damaged by fire at 317 Stokes Drive around 3 p.m.

Hertford firefighters quickly extinguished the blaze in a mattress found in an upstairs bedroom, added Emergency Management Coordinator Jarvis Winslow. The rest of the apartment suffered extensive water and smoke damage, he said.

Family members were at home at the time of the fire, said Winslow. No injuries were reported.

Hertford Police reports state the mother told Patrolman Vincent Dunn that her son was playing with a lighter when his bed sheet caught on fire. The boy told police it was an accident.

The American Red Cross is providing shelter for the mother and two young children for three days.

In addition to Hertford Fire Department, other departments responding included Winfall Fire Department, Bethel Fire Department, Perquimans EMS, Perquimans Sheriff's Department, Hertford Police Department, and Emergency Management.

Bridge meeting is Monday

From staff reports

The N.C. Department of Transportation will hold a public meeting Monday evening regarding proposed improvements to the Causeway between Hertford and Winfall and replacement of the historic S-bridge over the Perquimans River.

NCDOT proposes to build a new bridge to replace the swing-span bridge and the existing road between the swing-span bridge and the U.S. 17 Business/N.C. 37 split. The project in 0.4 miles in length and is currently scheduled for construction to begin in 2017.

These improvements are proposed in order to improve safety.

The meeting will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Perquimans County Recreation Department meeting room, located at 310 Granby St.

NCDOT representatives will begin a formal presentation at 5:30 p.m. and citizens are invited to stop by before or after

See MEETING, 3

