

# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



PCMS Tigers roll in win over ... this and more sports, pages 7-8

"News from Next Door"

OCTOBER 24, 2012 - OCTOBER 30, 2012 OCT 24 2012

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## Juvenile detention center to close Nov. 15

Youth have been transferred out

By CATHY WILSON  
Staff Writer

The Perquimans Juvenile Detention Center will close its doors Nov. 15.

State officials have confirmed that all juveniles formerly housed at the Winfall facility were moved to Pitt Regional Juvenile Detention Center in Greenville earlier this month. Staff members were notified Oct. 10 that their employment will end

next month.

Pamela Walker, with the Communications Office of the North Carolina Department of Public Safety, said only four juveniles were housed at the 24-bed facility when the move to Greenville occurred Oct. 12.

The local center employs 23 people.

Walker explained that the state has one other juvenile detention center this year because of reduced number of juvenile crimes committed and because the state and localities have made huge strides in

working with the youth in community settings as opposed to confining them in detention centers.

Edgecombe Youth Development Center, located in Rocky Mount, transferred 28 youth to other facilities in the state back in August and closed its doors to 57

employees on September 30.

Walker said "It's bittersweet news," admitted Walker. "It's good news that the numbers are down, but difficult news for employees."

See CENTER, 9



STAFF PHOTOS BY CATHY WILSON

A three-bedroom home on Woodland Church Road burned last Wednesday, killing the homeowner's three dogs and a cat. Firefighters from InterCounty, Durants Neck and Winfall kept the fire from spreading to the rest of the home that was heavily damaged by smoke and water.

## Woodland Church Road home burns

Four pets perish in afternoon blaze

By CATHY WILSON  
Staff Writer

A fire last Wednesday afternoon on Woodland Church Road destroyed a home and killed the residents' four pets.

Firefighters from InterCounty, Durants Neck, and Winfall fire departments responded to the 12:30 p.m. blaze that destroyed the three-bedroom home of Corlis L. Askew in the 500-block of Woodland Church Road.

InterCounty Fire Chief Bobby Swayne said the fire apparently began in one of the three rooms that burned on one end of the home. Askew was home at the time the fire started, he said, but she told firefighters she did not know how the blaze started.

"She managed to get out of the house, but there were three dogs and a cat lost in the fire," said Swayne.

Perquimans Sheriff Eric Tilley said his department is investigating the cause of the fire.

"We have not determined



Homeowner Corlis Askew (second from right), supported by family and friends, watches her house burn as firefighters work to contain the blaze.

the cause of the fire at this point, but there are questions that need to be answered," he said.

Tilley said a minimum of four persons lived in the house including a handi-

capped daughter who was already hospitalized at the time of the fire.

About 26 firefighters from three departments fought the blaze that burned one end of the

home. Smoke and water damaged the rest of the residence. Oxygen tanks were found inside the home at the time of the fire, said Swayne, and firefighters were able to remove the

tanks without incident.

Swayne said the American Red Cross provided shelter immediately afterwards for Askew and several others who lived in the house.

## Town set for street paving

By CATHY WILSON  
Staff Writer

Paving and patching of various streets in Hertford is expected to begin later this week and continue for about two weeks, provided the weather cooperates.

Manager Brandon Shoaf said the street-paving project will cost about \$100,000 and will be funded through the state-provided Powell Bill funds received annually by the town and designated for street improvement projects.

"We will try to keep the street closings to a minimum," said Shoaf. "The last time we paved roads was about four years ago, but we have done patching every year."

C&L Contractors of Camden will perform the street work which will begin with the paving/overlaying of Jimmy Hunter Drive from King Street to the end of the bus garage.

Other streets to be paved include:

- Covent Garden from Dobbs Street to past King Street South.
- East Railroad Ave. from Grubb to Dobbs streets.
- Grubb Street from Front Street to the water's edge.
- Market Street from West Academy to Edenton Road Street.
- Punch Alley from Church to Front streets.
- Walters Lane from Church to High streets.

The patching will repair

See PAVING, 9

## Creswell teenager faces drug charge

From staff reports

An 18-year-old Creswell man faces three felony drug charges after Hertford police found a large amount of a substance believed to be marijuana in the vehicle he was driving.

According to the Hertford Police Department, Charlie Steve Spruill, Jr., of Newland Road, faces felony charges of possession of marijuana, possession with intent to sell or distribute marijuana, and maintain vehicle/dwell-

ing place for a controlled substance. He is also charged with four counts of misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia.

He was held under \$8,800 secured bond.

Police say Spruill was driving a dark-colored Jeep Cherokee with a broken vehicle tag light when he passed officers checking traffic Friday afternoon on US 17 near the high rise bridge. Officers stopped the vehicle for the broken



Spruill

See BUSTED, 9

## Old Fashioned Expo on tap this weekend

From staff reports

More than 30 vendors will display their information and offer assistance this weekend during the Old Fashioned Business Expo sponsored by the Perquimans Chamber of Commerce.

The event opens Friday evening at the Perquimans Recreation Center with a Sneak Peek. That event includes a Chef's Challenge and a Sweets Challenge in addition to about 35 vendors from 5-8 p.m. Area restaurants and caterers will show off their creations that will be available for sampling. Tickets for the sneak peek are \$15 each and available at the Chamber of Commerce.

On Saturday, vendors will offer a variety of activities from 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m. including Kids ID by the local sheriff's department, Adopt-A-Thon by Tri-county Animal Shelter, trucks from Morgan's Corner Pulling Park, a dragster from Northeast Dragway, a fashion show, health screenings by Vidant Chowan, and plenty of good food.

There will be drawings for door prizes as well. Admission is \$1 on Saturday.

The event is sponsored by the Perquimans County Chamber of Commerce, COA Small Business Center, CenturyLink, Vidant Chowan Health, and the North Carolina Electric Cooperatives.

## Pay attention when voting

By CATHY WILSON  
Staff Writer

Pay attention when you cast your vote — especially if you select the straight party voting option on election ballots.

Voters are reminded that straight party voting on election ballots does not include the presidential/vice presidential contest, county commissioners' race, or election of judges.

According to the State Board of Elections, straight party voting is a vote for all candidates of that particular party in partisan offices which, locally, only include US House of Representatives seats, state elections, and Deborah S. Reed-democrat running for Perquimans County Register of

See VOTING, 9



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**ROCKY HOCK Opry** FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30<sup>TH</sup>, 7:00PM E.A. SWAIN AUDITORIUM  
 Tickets \$10.00 SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1<sup>ST</sup>, 7:00PM EDENTON, NC  
 Sponsored by the Rocky Hock Ruritan's Relay for Life Team  
 Tickets Available at various locations or call 252-221-4875 or 252-340-3438. Email rockyhock opry@live.com