

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

"News from Next Door"

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JV CALLUP HELPS PIRATES REBOUND FROM LOSS, PAGE 6

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Schools hoping for help with safety, mental health

By PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

Perquimans school officials are hopeful that state and federal measures to increase school security will open a financial pipeline that can sustain efforts that are already underway.

State officials, including top officials of the N.C. Department of Public Instruction, met in Edenton last week with local leaders to discuss school security.

Perquimans Superintendent Dwayne Stallings was one of those who attended.

"We really appreciate that the folks from Raleigh are interested in comments from all the stakeholders," Stallings said.

Perquimans has a stake in what's decided in Raleigh and Washington D.C. Some state and federal lawmakers have proposed

spending money to beef up school security and improve psychiatric services in schools.

Perquimans is a step ahead of them.

The school system hired a second school resource officer this year but had to take the money from a

serve account to pay for it. That's not something the system can afford to do if wants to keep the cop there next school year.

Perquimans is also a step ahead when it comes to psychiatric services in the schools. Thanks to grants from the Kate B. Reynolds

Trust and Eastern Carolina Behavioral Health.

An \$185,000 grant from ECBH is at the end of its three-year cycle and can't be renewed. It has paid for a staff psychologist. The school system got a second

See SCHOOLS, 2

CHILDREN LEARN ABOUT 'SNOOTY FRUIT'

STAFF PHOTO
BY PETER WILLIAMS

Master Gardener Elaine Grosjean teaches children about "snooty fruit" and seeds Saturday during a garden show at the Perquimans County Recreation Center. Hundreds of visitors and dozens of vendors attended the event.



Auction climbs to \$4.1M

By PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

The bidding war continues in earnest for 1,500 acres of property in and around Albemarle Plantation.

As of Monday, the total price was at \$4.1 million. The original auction held in March garnered about \$2 million and started a 10-day upset bid process.

And upsets continue.

At about 10 a.m. Monday Hank Griffin was in town to raise the bid on a number of the parcels. Griffin is a native of Perquimans County who lives in Manteo now. He was bidding on behalf of Thomas Miller, another Perquimans County native who lives in West Palm Beach, Fla. Earlier in the day Griffin had been turkey hunting and came straight from the fields to the courthouse.

Griffin acted as the agent for Miller last year on another auction for 586 acres on the other side of the Perquimans River.

See AUCTION, 2



SUBMITTED PHOTO

A young boy takes a close look at replica snakes on display at last year's Week Of The Young Child event in Hertford. This year's event is Saturday.

Partnership celebrates young child this Saturday

The Chowan/Perquimans Smart Start Partnership will host its annual Children's Festival on Saturday to celebrate the Week of the Young Child. The event will take place at the Perquimans County Recreation Center from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and there is no admittance fee. Activities will take place inside the gym and the surrounding grounds.

Co-hosts this year will be Safe Kids Chowan County.

More than 30 educational, health and safety instruction booths are currently confirmed. Parents and their children can visit and get information about first aid, fire safety, children's health insurance, asthma,

See YOUNG CHILD, 3

Illness keeps Gill from Marathon

From staff reports

If Jerry Gill's doctor hadn't advised him to sit out this year's Boston Marathon, the 72-year-old very easily could have been among the large group of runners trying to finish the race Monday when two bombs exploded, killing three people and injuring more than 130.

Gill, of Hertford, had qualified for Monday's Boston Marathon, completed the paperwork for entering the race and was all set to make the trip to Boston when he got a call from his physician about 10 days ago.

"He told me I had colitis and that my blood pressure was elevated," Gill said. "He said, 'You can't run like that.'"

So instead of competing in his fourth Boston Marathon — he previously competed in the 26.2-mile race in 1995, 1996 and 1999 — Gill decided to stay home.

He was obviously disappointed. And then he

"I almost took it personally. I know what it's like to be out there. ... It was just so sad."

JERRY GILL

Who has run in 3 Boston Marathons and had planned to run in Monday's event

switched on the news Monday afternoon.

Gill said he was in shock as he watched video footage of the twin blasts near the race's finish line. He saw runners he likely would have been sharing the course with lying on the ground, many screaming in agony. He saw the huge crowds on hand to cheer on the competitors, screaming and running from the finish line, terrified by what they had just witnessed.

"I almost took

See MARATHON, 2

Two students to attend NC math and science school

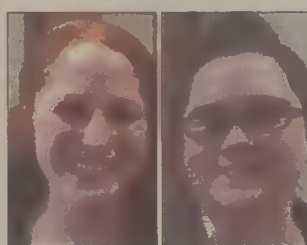
By PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

Two Perquimans County teens will take an unconventional step when class-

es resume this summer.

Both have been accepted to the N.C. School of Science and Math in Durham.

Gwyn Phelps is taking the traditional route and will be living on campus. Kelly Hoeltzel was accepted to an on-line program that will allow her to remain in Hertford and still do advanced coursework



Phelps

Hoeltzel

and make regular visits to Durham.

Annually about 1,200 high school sophomores in North Carolina apply to the residential school and about 350 are accepted. The school was established in 1980 to serve the best and brightest science and math students. The on-line component was added in 2008.

The ones who are accepted are in a pipeline that has

produced some top scholars in the state. Sixty-three NCSSM students, from the 30 graduating classes since the school's inception, have won the Morehead-Cain Scholarship at UNC-Chapel Hill. Fifty students have been named Park Scholars at N.C. State University since the program began 15 years ago. The

median SAT score for students in Durham is 1,360.

Phelps learned of her acceptance in the most mundane way. Last week she went on-line to the school's web site to check her status. It had changed from "applicant" to "finalist."

Phelps got interested in

See NC MATH, 2



United Country Realty & Auctions, LLC
Forbes Featured Property of the Week
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Albemarle Plantation
109 Cape Fear Dr, Hertford

3 Bedrooms, 2.5 Baths
Large Dining Room

Wrap Around Porch
First Floor Master Suite

Walk-in Storage
Great Room w/Built-ins & Fpl.

Screened-in Porch
Listed at \$310,000

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