

# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



Perquimans Middle wins Albemarle Bowl - 7

"News from Next Door"

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50 cents

## SERVICE DOG MAKES HERTFORD HOME

BY PETER WILLIAMS  
News Editor

When it comes to Atlanta — look, but don't touch. The golden retriever born in June 2012 was just one of litter named after cities that have hosted the Olympics.

And Atlanta is a dog is on a mission. She's been trained to detect tiny changes in a person's blood sugar level.

That's just what 11-year-old Caroline Robertson needs. She's had to deal with the disease since she was three years old and now she's a student at Perquimans County Middle School.

Getting a treat from a stranger or a rub on the head will distract Atlanta from her mission and protecting Caroline is job one.

So before Atlanta set foot in the middle school the entire student body and the staff got a lesson on how deal with her. Atlanta classifies as a service dog — the same as seeing eye dogs who help the blind. That means anywhere Caroline can go, Atlanta can go too. Federal law says so.

The rules aren't that complicated. Atlanta always wears a red vest that sets her apart from other dogs.

Rule One: People are urged to ask before touching the dog.

It's fine to compliment Caroline on her well-behaved partner and it's OK



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Caroline Robertson runs with dog Atlanta close behind in October. The golden retriever is more than a companion to 11-year-old Caroline, as it can detect small changes in the girl's blood sugar level. Caroline has diabetes.

to ask her if she's OK if the dog is behaving strangely like pawing, barking or circling. People are urged not to be offended if Caroline asks them not to pet her dog. People with pets are urged not to allow their pet to interact with Atlanta because it would distract her. People are asked not to make noises, offer food or other things that would distract the dog. Others are also urged not to ask what the handler's disability is, but her mother speaks openly about it because she wants the public to be aware.

Leah Robertson works at the media center at Perquimans Central School and said so far it's gone

See ATLANTA, 2



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Caroline Robertson and Atlanta check out Perquimans County Middle School, where Caroline attends.

## Air Force chaplain to speak at service

From staff reports

U.S. Air Force Reserve Chaplain Lt. Col. Carol Yeager will be the guest speaker at the Perquimans County Veterans Day observance set for Monday at 11 a.m.

Members of Hertford's American Legion Post 126 will host the program with participation of Hertford American Legion Post 362.



YEAGER

Yeager is currently is the co-pastor of the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Elizabeth City. She is a former active duty line officer as a weapons director and has more than 10 years of service as an Air Force air battle manager. She served with both U.S. Air Force's southwest and western air defense sectors and with the 552nd and 961st AWACS units which provide airborne surveillance and command, control and communications functions.

In 2011 Yeager was named the The Reserve Officers Association of the United States Chaplain of the Year for 2010.

The Reserve Officers Association is the 60,000-member professional association

See CHAPLAIN, 4

## Donation, investment may give former business new life

BY PETER WILLIAMS  
News Editor

A building that once served as the business hub for neighborhoods around Edenton Road and King Street could take on new life by late next year as an adult day care.

On Wednesday, the Town of Hertford presented a \$6,500 check to help make it happen. The money is coming from state funds made available through a STEP grant.

Annette Grimsley and her husband Louis have been working for several years on the project and invested \$12,000 already on the project.

The property was originally developed by Joseph Spruill and his wife Dora in the 1940s.

Mayor Horace Reid remembers it when he first went to

high school.

"I was about to say it's been here since I was knee high to a duck," Reid said. In the 1940s black students attended a Rosenwald School that was just across King Street from the business. He remembers once a week Dora Spruill could be seen hanging laundry on the line on the roof behind the main building.

Over the years, the footprint of the building expanded down King Street.

At one point it was home to a propane company, beauty salon, teen center, coin laundry and a tire dealership.

Joseph Spruill died in the early 1970s and the building began a slow decline.

The last tenant, Ann's Beauty Parlor, moved out within the past year. Today some of the



STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS

Hertford Mayor Horace Reid (left) presents a check to Annette Grimsley last week to help toward the rehabilitation of a building at Edenton Road and King streets. The money was provided through a grant from the STEP program. Also pictured are Councilwoman Lillian Holman, Town Manager Brandon Shoaf and Louis Grimsley.

A rapidly aging population underscores the need for a senior day care center. A study released by Albemarle Regional Health Services this year shows Perquimans County has a significantly higher number of older residents.

People 65 years of age or older composed 21.5 percent of the population in Perquimans

See NEW LIFE, 4

## Hertford, Winfall voters head to polls

From staff reports

More than 10 percent of Hertford voters cast a ballot early for Tuesday's town election.

Just one voted early in Winfall.

Due to the print deadline of The Perquimans Weekly, results of the balloting won't be

available until the Nov. 13 edition.

As of the close of early voting on Saturday, 155 people had voted in Hertford and just one in Winfall.

Seven of the Hertford voters came in on the last day.

There are 1,445 people eligible to vote in Hertford. Winfall has 416 voters.

See ELECTIONS, 2

## Man, 29, shot: Schools locked down

BY PETER WILLIAMS  
News Editor

A 29-year-old man was shot Thursday morning on King Street in Hertford, causing a brief lockdown of both Hertford Grammar School and Perquimans County High School.

The incident happened about 10 a.m. in the area of Stokes Street. Larry Hunter was taken to Albemarle Hospital where he was in stable condition. According to Hertford officials he was released on Saturday.

Police arrested Jeffray Privott, 28 and charged him with assault with a deadly weapon

inflicting serious injury. He was placed in Albemarle District Jail under a \$30,000 bond.

"At this time we feel that all assailants have been apprehended and there is no reason to believe that any other shooter(s) are involved," said Police Chief Douglas Freeman Jr. in a press release.

When police arrived, Hunter was at the intersection of King and Stokes streets surrounded by a large crowd.

Brenda Lassiter, a spokeswoman for the school system, said the lockdown was precautionary. The area of King Street where the shooting occurred is

within blocks of both the grammar school and high school.

"We went on lockdown for about 15 minutes to ensure suspect was in custody," Lassiter said. "We had been called and informed that suspect was in custody, but there was speculation as to whether others were involved. So as we were waiting to verify, schools went into lockdown as precautionary for both HGS and PCHS."

Lassiter said the lockdown was lifted about 10:40 a.m.

Parents were alerted via ConnectEd, a telephone calling system and Facebook. Staff was notified via e-mail.



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132 New River Dr, Hertford \$359,000 Wonderful floor plan with a large downstairs master bedroom & master bathroom, a second downstairs bedroom with a Jack & Jill bathroom adjacent to the office, a dining room, great room, laundry room, screened porch, and a very large kitchen with breakfast nook. Upstairs includes two additional bedrooms & a Jack and Jill bathroom. Home includes beautiful hardwood floors throughout most of the house, tiled bathrooms, and carpet in the master bathroom.

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