

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



Perquimans soccer refuses to quit, 9

"News from Next Door"

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50 cents

ALS walk finds new supporters

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

Dottie Hueb has never participated in an ALS walk before, but she and her team from Elizabeth City will be doing it in Hertford Saturday.

Hueb is part of a new following for people who have been battling to find a cure for Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis as well as help those who have it.

Some of the upsurge is credited to the viral spread of people taking the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge. It not only raised money for ALS efforts, it spread the awareness to people who had never heard of it before, according to local officials.

Hueb knows the disease

Tournament raises thousands

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

From modest beginnings in 1999, the Jim "Catfish" Hunter ALS Softball Tournament has grown to be a major local fundraiser and a season finale for some slow-pitch

softball fans.

Guy Webb has grown up around the tournament. He was 20 years old and the recreation director when Joan Hunter first pitched the idea of having the event.

"Of course Jimmy knew about it, he supported it,

but he never got to see it," Webb said. "The first one happened two weeks after he passed away. I think we raised \$800 or \$900 and last year we raised \$24,000."

The softball kicks off

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all too well. Her brother Shannon lives in Texas and has suffered from ALS for nine years. He's 51 with a wife, Vickie, three daughters, one son and five grandchildren. He's now confined to a wheelchair.

"I've always wanted to do

a walk, but I haven't done it before," Hueb said last week. Hueb works at both Lowe's and Big Daddy's in Elizabeth City.

"I've wanted to do something because of the way they've been helping my brother. I wanted to show

my support and hopefully raise money to help find a cure."

Helen Hunter and her friends in Perquimans County have been doing just since 1999 when the first

See WALK, 2



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Shannon McGee and his wife Vicky pose for a picture in Texas recently. Shannon has ALS and this Saturday his sister Dottie plans to participate in the Jim "Catfish" Hunter ALS Walk in Hertford to help those like him.

ANOTHER LOOK



SUBMITTED IMAGE

A site plan shows the proposed athletic complex. It's located across Edenton Road Street from Perquimans County High School.

Schools rekindle athletic complex plan

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

With time running out, the Perquimans County School Board agreed last week to ask the county to reconvene an advisory board with the goal of raising money for a new high school athletic complex.

In 2010 Dr. William Nixon offered to give the school system 33 acres across the street from Perquimans County High School for an athletic com-

plex. In doing so, he set a five-year deadline during which he wanted to see progress made toward building it.

That deadline is up in February and to date, \$12,000 has been raised toward the \$6 million goal. The only development on the site is a sign with a rendering of what the complex could look like.

"The timeline is getting closer," said Superintendent Dwayne Stallings told school board members in a retreat

last week at Camp Cale. The athletic complex was just one of the issues discussed.

Susan Cox, the chairman of the school board, said she would approach Perquimans County Commission Chair Janice McKenzie about restarting the fundraising effort.

There were 12 people on the original fundraising committee including three ex-officio members to represent the schools — Cox, Superintendent Dwayne Stallings and

Brenda Lassiter, the school's public information officer. Cox said she'd ask for the commission to replace the late Charles Ward who died in early September and chaired the committee. The school board also wants the committee to start meeting again.

Nixon, Wilmington nephrologist, has been a long time supporter of athletic programs. He graduated from PCHS in

See COMPLEX, 3

Two PCHS football players suspended after charges

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

Two Perquimans County High School football players have been suspended from the team indefinitely over an incident where they were charged with assault and battery and simple assault and the school administration was never notified. A meeting is planned with the coaching staff for Tuesday afternoon.

One of the two students had an electronic bracelet on his ankle, according to James Bunch, the assistant superintendent. Both students are 18-years-old but their names were not released because they are students.

"We have two major concerns regarding this matter," Bunch said. "One is the failure to inform the principal by the coaching staff. If you've got a kid who is playing football and has a bracelet on his ankle you should know it. The other is failure to follow procedures in our athletic handbook."

Bunch said Principal Chante Jordan was just notified of the situation Tuesday morning by an outside source. Football coach Elvin James could not be reached for comment.

The assault apparently happened in April. Bunch understands that the pair had a court date in July and are on probation.

The crimes are misdemeanors under North Carolina law and both of the students remain enrolled at the high school. Had the crimes been felonies, Bunch understands that the football team would have to forfeit any games the students played in. The Perquimans football team has a record of two wins and three losses this season. It has an open date this Friday night.

Bunch admits he was still sorting through the details of how the situation unfolded, but he said it involved "outside sources" telling the school system about it.

See PLAYERS, 2

Teen charged in fatal accident

From staff reports

A 17-year-old Perquimans County resident was charged last week in connection with the death of another teen in a moped wreck late last month.

Hertford Police Chief Douglas Freeman said an arrest warrant was issued for Trevon Moore on charges of misdemeanor death by

vehicle and misdemeanor unsafe movement. Freeman said the warrant was served the same day and Moore was released under his own recognizance. Moore lives in the 1700 block of Harvey Point Road.

The warrant states Moore allegedly caused the death of 14-year-old Mustafa Holley, who was a passenger on the moped Moore was driving Aug. 30.

According to an accident report, Moore was driving south on Edenton Road Street about 3 p.m. when he

See FATAL, 2

Incentives offered through workforce plan

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

A program offered through the Albemarle Commission is using small cash rewards to encourage at risk youth and adults to earn a high school degree, get a GED or reach other goals.

"It's not really about money, but money is involved," said Lora Aples, the youth program coordinator for the Northeast Workforce Development Board (NWDB). "It's about telling youth 'good job' for their accomplishments. If we can do just that little thing to get them going, it's good."

The program is offered throughout the 10 counties that the commission covers.

There are about 75 people age 16 through 21 involved at present and another 25 to 30 that have moved on to a follow-up phase.

The program is open to individuals who fall into a low-income status. They also must have at least one other factor, like the lack of basic skills, pregnancy or homelessness.

Aples said it's possible the program can be expanded, but she's focusing more on quality, not quantity.

"We're trying to ensure

that we don't just have a bunch of youth but that it's a good group and we're offering quality services."

For youth looking to earn a GED, the program offers gift cards as a reward.

"They can get a \$20 gift certificate for passing the first test, \$30 for the second test, \$40 for the third test," Aples said.

There are four tests in all and youth can earn up to \$140.

For students earning the most basic career readiness certificate — the bronze — there is a \$25 reward. For silver the amount increases to \$50 and for gold, it reaches

\$75. People interested in joining the program can contact the Albemarle Commission or their local high school or social service agency.

Five of the youth involved currently are Perquimans County residents.

There are 18 in Pasquotank, seven in Camden, 16 in Chowan and one in Currituck.

The money to pay the students is provided through the federal Workforce Investment Act of 1998.

The incentive policy was adopted by the NWDB board in September.

