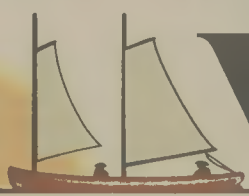


THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



Members of God's Anointed Singers sing at library, 5

"News from Next Door"

FEBRUARY 18, 2015 - FEBRUARY 24, 2015

50 cents

Pair arrested for string of burglaries

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

A tip from a neighbor in Woodville helped law enforcement capture two Elizabeth City men wanted for breaking into homes across a three county area and stealing televisions and jewelry.

On Thursday Pasquotank County deputies arrested

Rodney Randall Wentz, 34 of the 1700 Nixonton Road and Lester Urbanske-Donnelly 29 of the 900 block North Poindexter Street outside a pawn shop in Elizabeth City.



WENTZ



URBANSKE-DONNELLY

Two were in the Woodville area on Feb.

Perquimans County Sheriff Eric Tilley said the pair were also charged with three burglaries in Perquimans County. Two were in the Woodville area on Feb.

11 and one was in Parkville Feb. 8.

"Pasquotank deputies were checking the pawn shops," Tilley said. "They noticed one individual walking toward them and when he saw the deputies he went away, back to a vehicle that matched the description of one used in the one of the Woodville burglaries."

Tilley said a neighbor

in Woodville saw the men breaking into a house there, but instead of calling law enforcement, they called the homeowner.

"That delayed law enforcement getting there," Tilley said.

Sheriff Cartwright said Pasquotank lawmen already suspected Wentz and Urbanske-Donnelly were involved with the rash of

crimes and the vehicle identification was part of the solution.

"We had some information already," Cartwright said.

Tilley said the men apparently just knocked on doors of homes and if nobody answered, they forced their way inside. Mostly they took

See BURGLARIES, 2

Jordan to head crisis agency

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

A Perquimans County native has been named the new executive director of Albemarle Hopeline, a six-county crisis response agency.

Melanie Jordan, the daughter of Rudolph and Shirley Perry, grew up in a house on Goodwin Mill Road.



JORDAN

"It wasn't downtown Belvidere," she joked. "We were about two or three miles from Layden's Store."

Jordan's mother had roots in Chowan County and her father had farmland there so Jordan attended schools in Chowan. From there she earned bachelor's degrees in history and psychology from Meredith College.

"I guess I just sort of morphed into it," she said of her job. "I started with the judicial system as a probation officer in 1987."

She then worked for the District Attorney's office for years doing child abuse cases.

Hopeline staff provides preventative services to victims of family violence, sexual assault, and teen dating violence for Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Gates, Pasquotank and Perquimans counties. The agency also runs a shelter for women and children who have left abusive homes and need temporary shelter to rebuild their lives.

The group was formed 33 years ago and for 32 of those years, was headed by Patricia Youngblood. Youngblood recently retired.

Over the last 26 years, Jordan worked as an adult probation officer, a child abuse coordinator in the District

See HOPELINE, 2



Sarah Marriner (left) hugs father Tommy Marriner while mother Candy cheers after scoring her 1,000th point in a game against Gates County.

PHOTO BY CHUCK PAGELS

Perquimans pair top 1,000

From staff reports

Out of the four area basketball players who have topped the 1,000-point career mark this season, two are from Perquimans County High School.

Tahjee Elliott hit the 1,000-mark in January in a game against John A. Holmes. Sarah Marriner reached that mark last week in a game against Gates County.

The last female Perquimans player to hit 1,000 points was Quinyotta Pettaway who did it in 2009 as a junior. She went on to play at Clemson University and graduated in 2014.

The last male player was Mikel Harvey who hit 1,000 points in January 2012 playing Northside.



Tahjee Elliott was honored recently at a Perquimans County High School basketball game for reaching 1,000 career points. Pictured are his brother Devon Riddick, father Andre Riddick, Tahjee Elliott, brother Nahjee Elliott and mother Lokita Elliott.

PHOTO BY CHUCK PAGELS

Lady Pirates coach Brandon Young, has seen all of this year's

1,000-point players and notes their similarities in running the floor well on

offense and defense.

See 1,000, 7

At 86, Roberts is still playing

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

Frank Roberts' musical program doesn't have the reach it once did.

When he worked at one radio station in Texas, the broadcast signal could be heard all the way from Mexico to Canada.

Now his Friday afternoon program reaches about half a block in downtown Hertford.

That doesn't bother Roberts, an 86-year-old veteran of radio, television and print journalism. He just likes to be working again.

"I hate retirement," Roberts said. "I hate it."

The current effort is collaboration between Roberts and Steve Lane, the owner of Inteliport. It's an Internet service provider with an office on Church Street next door to Woodard's Phar-

macy. Roberts' "studio" is a chair in the front window of Inteliport. The sound equipment is a computer program. Instead of a transmitting tower, the program goes out over a few speakers mounted under the awnings in front of the two businesses.

In some ways, the musical program is a throwback to a time long ago when some radio stations had studios that were visible to anybody

See ROBERTS, 2



STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS
Frank Roberts looks out onto Church Street from his "studio" at Inteliport. Roberts does a weekly musical program from the location.



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