# FROUIVIANS DIDIKINY



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

"News from Next Door"

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50 cents

## Pair arrested for string of burglaries

BY PETER WILLIAMS News Editor

A tip from a neighbor of the 1700 in Woodville helped law enforcement capture two Road and Elizabeth City men wanted for breaking into homes across a three county area and stealing televisions and

jewelry. County deputies arrested in Elizabeth City.

Randall Wentz, 34 Nixonton Lester Urbanske-Donnelly 29 of the

900 block North Poindexter On Thursday Pasquotank - Street outside a pawn shop



**URBANSKE-DONNELLY** 

County

mans County. Two were in Woodville burglaries." the Woodville area on Feb.

P e r - 11 and one was in Parkville in Woodville saw the men crimes and the vehicle idenquimans Feb. 8.

"Pasquotank Sheriff Eric were checking the pawn Tilley said shops." Tilley said. "They pair noticed one individual walkwere also ing toward them and when forcement getting there," charged he saw the deputies he went with three away, back to a vehicle that burglaries matched the description of in Perqui- one used in the one of the

breaking into a house there, tification was part of the deputies but instead of calling law enforcement, they called the homeowner.

> "That delayed law en-Tilley said.

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

solution.

"We had some information already," Cartwright

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 Perguimans 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 hadroots 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.

## Perquimans pair top 1,000

From staff reports

ut 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

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 Drevon Riddick, father Andre Riddick, Tahjee Elliott, brother Nahjee Elliott and mother Lokita Elliott.

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

## Storm brings trouble

BY PETER WILLIAMS News Editor

The first major storm of the winter brought many Perquimans County activities to a halt Tuesday.

The storm brought a mix of snow and ice to the area starting Monday night and continuing through Tues-

Chris Powell, a spokesman for Albemarle Electric Membership Corp. said they were dealing with a few hundred outages scattered around its service area. The company serves about 12,500 customers in Chowan, Perquimans, Pasquotank, Camden and Currituck counties.

'Most of the outages are due to tree limbs weighed down with ice falling on lines," Powell said.

Dominion Power reported 3.000 customers in northeastern North Carolina were without electricity. According to Bonita Har-

ris, a Dominion spokeswoman, the Albemarle area escaped a lot of the problems. Tuesday morning Harris reported one outage in Perquimans, 16 in Camden, eight in Chowan, 13 in Currituck and six in Pasquotank.

The trouble spots included Williamston, N.C. Highway 94, James, Columbia and Creswell.

"We have crews working to make repairs and more bucket trucks on the way," Harris said.

The Red Cross was urging donors to donate blood. Three blood drives had to be canceled because of the weather. The next event in Perquimans County is March 5 from 2-7 p.m. at the Perquimans County Recreation Center.

Perquimans County **Emergency** Management Director Jonathan Nixon said the county brought in a third EMS crew Monday afternoon in anticipation of ice and snow.

Nixon said the N.C. DOT

See WEATHER, 2

#### At 86, Roberts is still playing

BY PETER WILLIAMS News Editor

Frank Roberts' musical ford.

program doesn't have the reach it once did.

broadcast signal could be be working again. heard all the way from Mexico to Canada.



Now his Friday afternoon macy. program reaches about half a block in downtown Hert- chair in the front window

erts, an 86-year-old veteran When he worked at one of radio, television and print radio station in Texas, the journalism. He just likes to goes out over a few speak-

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

The current effort is colservice provider with an office on Church Street next door to Woodard's Phar-

Robert's "studio" is a of Inteliport. The sound That doesn't bother Rob- equipment is a computer program. Instead of a transmitting tower, the program ers mounted under the awnings in front of the two businesses.

In some ways, the musical laboration between Roberts program is a throwback to a and Steve Lane, the owner time long ago when some of Inteliport. It's an Internet radio stations had studios that were visible to anybody

See ROBERTS, 2



**Frank Roberts** looks out onto **Church Street** from his "studio" at Inteliport. Roberts does a weekly musical program from the location.