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Senior Night, 7

"News from Next Door"

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2017

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NOV 01 REC'D

Man charged with credit card theft

BY LINDELL JOHN KAY
 Rocky Mount Telegram

Authorities have charged an Edenton man with using a credit card last known to be in the possession of a Perquimans County woman reported missing more than two years ago.

Thomas Edward White Sr., 62, of the 700 block of Johnston Street, was charged Oct. 3 by the Perquimans County Sheriff's Office with obtaining property by false pretense and attempting to obtain property by false pretense.

White was released on a \$10,000 unsecured bond. He is scheduled to make an appearance in Perquimans County District Court in December.

White is accused of using a credit card belonging to Arlene Murin, the mother of Karen Rae Bosta. Bosta, 39, was last seen May 31, 2015 shopping at a Food Lion store formerly located at North Broad Street and Coke Avenue in Edenton.

Bosta's 1997 Lincoln Continental was found in a parking lot behind an Edenton apartment complex a few days after her disappearance. The locked car was found in a parking space. Her keys, which she kept on a butterfly key ring, were not with the car.

Murin said she gave her credit card to her daughter to use purchasing a carton of cigarettes. Bosta left for the store and never returned.

White allegedly used the card the day after Bosta vanished. Warrants charge him with using the card to purchase gasoline from a convenience store. Warrants allege he again tried to use the card at a grocery store, but the card was declined.

According to investigators, Bosta knew White, who has a long criminal conviction record. In the 1990s he served time for breaking and entering. He was convicted a decade later of financial card fraud, fraud of special identification and violation of vital records laws, according to the N.C. Department of Public Safety.

White's statements to police about how he came into possession of Murin's credit card changed over the course of the investigation into Bosta's disappearance, authorities have said. He first told deputies he found the card in his girlfriend's car. He later said he found it on the front porch of his mother's house, according

See BOSTA, 2

BELVIDERE DAY



STAFF PHOTOS BY
 PETER WILLIAMS

A tractor pulls a hayride trailer full of people past a line of antique cars Saturday during Belvidere Day. Right, crowds applaud a performance Saturday at the fifth annual Belvidere Day celebration.



PCMS teacher named finalist for award

BY PETER WILLIAMS
 News Editor

Kaley Kiffner, a teacher at Perquimans County Middle School, is one of two finalists for Regional Teacher of the Year.

If Kiffner makes it, she will follow Amy Parker, another Perquimans teacher who won the regional award last year. Parker teaches at Hertford Grammar School. That same year, Jason Griffin, the principal at HGS was named both regional Principal of the Year as well as N.C. Principal of the Year. There are 15 school systems in the



KIFFNER

"Considering you have so many school districts in the region, it would be an amazing fete to have another Regional Teacher of the Year," said Superintendent Matthew Cheeseman.

region.

The next step in the selection process is an on-site visit at PCMS on Nov. 21. Observers will talk to Kiffner's classroom, as well as parents and administrators.

The northeast region includes Dare, Camden, Currituck, Chowan and Pasquotank.

To make "NC Teacher of the Year" would mean that the winner would be the best out of some 90,000 teachers in the state, the superintendent said.

"Mrs. Kiffner is the best science teacher in the state," said Laura Moreland, the principal at PCMS. She pointed to the fact that 86 percent of Kiffner's students last year rated as proficient on the state exam.

"Her continuous efforts to ensure science comes alive in the hands of our students is extraordinary,"

Moreland said. "I feel privileged to work with her every day and am so proud of her accomplishments."

Cheeseman said the people who visit in November will look at Kiffner's classroom environment, her interaction with students and conduct fact finding.

It's not an idle exercise. The point of the Teacher of the Year effort is to find out what is working best in North Carolina schools and help spread it to other schools.

"She is remarkable at what she does," Cheeseman said of Kiffner.

See TEACHER, 2

Grant funds help improve sidewalks in Hertford



STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS

Crews work on creating a wheelchair ramp on a sidewalk on Grubb Street near the Perquimans County Library last week.

BY PETER WILLIAMS
 News Editor

Federal funds are allowing the N.C. Department of Transportation to upgrade some of the sidewalks in Hertford so they are more accommodating to those with disabilities.

David Otts, a local spokesman for DOT, said the state is using \$87,000 in federal funds to upgrade sidewalks in Hertford, Edenton, Gatesville and Elizabeth City to Americans with Disabilities Act

(ADA) standards. In all, 23 ramps will be built in Hertford. Otts had no breakdown on what the dollar figure for Hertford is. The town made the application to get the funds, said Town Manager Brandon Shoaf.

At the end of a traditional sidewalk where it reaches an intersection there may only be a steep curb between the sidewalk and the pavement. The sidewalk project underway now creates a sloped area that is easier for a wheelchair to traverse. There are also

raised dots in the pavement of the ramp to alert someone who is blind and using a cane will know they are at an intersection.

Otts said some ramps built in the past were probably too steep for someone in a wheelchair, and those are being replaced under this program.

All of the Hertford work will take place on Grubb from Church Street to Railroad Avenue.

Otts said NC DOT can

See GRANT, 2

Families invited to resource fair

BY PETER WILLIAMS
 News Editor

A group of agencies that help families will hold a resource fair Nov. 9 at the Perquimans County High School gym.

The event will run from 3:30 p.m. until 6 p.m., said Susan Nixon, the executive director of the Chowan/Perquimans Smart Start Partnership.

The Perquimans Community Collaborative is not new, she said.

"It is spear-headed by Trillium Health Resources by their System of Care Coordinator, Tracey Webster, for our region. This group is composed of mental health personnel, school personnel, community agency personnel, Department of Social Services, and court counselors who work with children up through age 18."

Webster said this fair will focus mostly on behavioral health issues, mental health and substance abuse. Based

on the input they get, next year another fair may be held for other issues.

"It will depend on the needs of the stakeholders," Webster said.

The collaborative meets every other month in Perquimans County.

"As part of our work-plan for this year we are trying to get information out to families about resources and services available to them," she said.

The event in November will be open for anyone to come hear about local re-

See FAIR, 2

STATE CHAMPS HONORED



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Perquimans Union High School 1965 team captains Forrest Skinner and Harry Spellman, (left) and offensive left end Melvin Feltoh (right) pose with Perquimans Superintendent Matthew Cheeseman and the state football championship trophy. For more, and results of the Pirates' win over Camden, please see page 8.

