



COA prepares for trip, 6

"News from Next Door"

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75 cents

Jackson charged with punching Eley

BY PETER WILLIAMS
 News Editor

Hertford Town Councilman Quentin Jackson was scheduled to be in court today on charges he punched another council member after a recent meeting.

Councilman Sid Eley, the victim of the alleged assault, would not comment Tuesday morning.

"I have been advised by law enforcement to only say



JACKSON

ELEY

that the matter is under investigation," Eley said.

Court documents show Eley claimed that on Oct. 1 Jackson hit him on his left

temple with a closed fist.

District Court Judge Edgar Barnes is scheduled to hear the case, which starts at 9:30 a.m.

District Attorney Andrew Womble said his office is looking into the alleged assault.

"We are aware of the incident and there is an ongoing investigation into the events at the Town of Hertford board meeting."

Jackson claims it was

self-defense.

"It was unavoidable," Jackson said Tuesday. "It was self defense. It was after the meeting and I just asked the man a question."

Jackson said he asked Eley if it was true he was not going to support the Democratic Party because it supported both he and Councilman Frank Norman in the last town election.

"He just blew up," Jackson said of Eley. "He got up

in my face and was spitting and butting on me and I asked him 'please get out of my face.'"

When he said Eley was spitting on him it was not "like he hocked one on me." "He had been eating and his food was getting on my face."

"I begged the man for two minutes and he wouldn't get out of my face."

Jackson claimed Eley had him boxed in and he

couldn't get to the door.

"I begged him. I didn't want to hit him. He is my former teacher and my former football coach. But everybody knows he doesn't like me or Frank Norman being on the board."

Jackson said magistrate George Long asked him if he wanted to file cross charges against Eley.

"I come from an era

See JACKSON, 4

Davison to step down

BY PETER WILLIAMS
 News Editor

The executive director of the Albemarle Commission has resigned, advising the 10-county agency's Board of Delegates that she plans to leave early next month.



DAVISON

A press release from the Albemarle Commission said Cathy Davison's resignation Oct. 2 on Nov. 2. The

release said Davison's resignation was voluntary and not requested by the Board of Delegates. Davison's contract with the commission required her to provide 30 days notice to the board if she intends to leave.

"I am sorry to see Ms. Davison leaving the Albemarle Commission," Board of Delegates Chairwoman Marion Gilbert said. "On behalf of the board, I wish Ms. Davison the best of luck in all of her future endeavors."

Gilbert, a county commissioner in Currituck, declined Wednesday to dis-

See DAVISON, 4

PAL SHOW



STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS

Top, the Perquimans Arts League held their annual show and sale Saturday both inside and outside the Perquimans Recreation Center. Right, a vendor gives a customer a hug Saturday Perquimans Arts League show in Hertford.



Sheriff candidates talk policy

BY PETER WILLIAMS
 News Editor

The two candidates for Perquimans County Sheriff agree the drug problem is the biggest one facing the county but simply arresting people alone won't cure it.

Sheriff Shelby White and challenger Jim Bray agreed that drugs are the underlying cause of crime.

But rehabilitation has to play a role.

"An aggressive law enforcement strategy that includes saturation patrols and surveillance techniques combined with uncover officers can be an effective way to address the rising drug problem in this county," Bray said. "I plan to implement a traffic unit that focuses on high crime

See SHERIFF, 2



WHITE



BRAY

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Katie Miller rides her horse, Wildwynn Wesley, during a recent competition.



Miller, Wesley excel at Dressage

BY PETER WILLIAMS
 News Editor

Picture yourself as a 4-foot-10 woman with a dance partner that weighs 500 pounds and has two left feet. Yet you two can still dance to "Dirty Dancing" songs and win in national competition.

Katie Miller can.

This summer she and her partner Wesley won national honors at a competition

near Chicago out of a field of 300 entries.

Despite his size, and that he has two left feet, Wesley also has two right feet. Wesley, or more accurately Wildwynn Wesley, is a Welsh gelding. A pony.

They compete in a sport called Dressage which dates back to classical Greek horsemanship in 400 BC. It became an Olympic sport in the 1912.

Miller, a 39-year-old trans-

planted Belvidere resident, likens Dressage to a dance. Both rider and horse perform together. Picture a ballet with two dancers, but one is sitting on top of the other and the bottom one has four legs and a tail.

Miller came late to the sport, but not horses.

"I think I started in youth in second or third grade and went on and competed with the collegiate team at N.C. State when I was in college,"

Miller said.

But then she was doing western and hunter-jumper. And for about 18 years, she didn't ride. She focused on a nursing career and succeeded.

But when her husband A.J. said they needed to move from her native Raleigh to Perquimans County, Miller said she knew she wanted

See MILLER, 2

Storm expected this week

From Staff Reports

Emergency officials were keeping an eye on Hurricane Michael as it approached the panhandle of Florida on Tuesday.

"We continue to monitor the forecast very closely and will begin communications with NC Emergency Management today," said Jonathan Nixon, Perquimans County's emergency management director.

The National Weather Service office in Wakefield, Va. issued a report

Tuesday morning saying Michael should become a major hurricane in the Gulf of Mexico late Tuesday or Tuesday night.

It is expected to weaken to a tropical storm as it moves inland.

It was expected to hit northeastern North Carolina with wind and rain Thursday afternoon and Thursday night. By Friday morning, it was expected to be off the coast of New York state.

Tropical storm force winds and locally heavy rain are expected across portions of the local area late Thursday night into Friday.

Michael was expected to be a fast moving system, which would limit the risk of prolonged heavy rains.

BATTLE OF THE BANDS



PHOTO BY CHRIS DAY

The Perquimans County High School Marching Pirates compete in the 43rd annual Battle of the Bands on the football field at John A. Holmes High School in Edenton, Saturday. The band got in the Halloween spirit by dressing in costumes and playing the theme song from the popular 1990s show, "Tales from the Crypt." In the 1A division, Perquimans finished in first place, second in percussion; second place for drum major; third place for color guard, third place for effect, third place for music and third place best overall band.

PCHS football season to move on

BY PETER WILLIAMS
 News Editor

The Perquimans County High School varsity football program will go on as scheduled this season, Superintendent Matthew Cheeseman said Friday.

Cheeseman meet with coaches and school officials Friday to consider the options they had. Just a day before one of those options was forfeiting the varsity season because there aren't enough players.

After the meeting Cheeseman said he is convinced that the season should go on and the program can be maintained while protect-

ing student safety. Student safety, he said was and is his top priority.

"We're going to field a varsity team and continue on without season," Cheeseman said. "In our mind there isn't really a question of player safety and we can sustain our program and complete our season."

He said the shortage of varsity level players was an "unintended consequence" of creating a junior varsity team this year.

"If we did not offer a jay-vee program, it's unlikely we would have this situation," Cheeseman said. "The

See FOOTBALL, 2

