

CHOWAN HERALD



Fishing tournament for wounded warriors coming to town - 6B

482-4418

Wednesday, February 3, 2016

50¢

Ervin is new Historical Commission director

From staff reports

The Edenton Historical Commission has identified Mike Ervin as its new executive director.

Mike Ervin originally moved to Edenton with his family in 1962, and has always considered Edenton home, even when he has lived elsewhere. He began his work at the Penelope Barker House Welcome Center on Monday

Ervin follows Gregg Nathan, who has served as executive director for the past six years.

Sally Francis Kehayes, chairman of the Edenton Historical Commission, said, "We hate to lose Gregg but think we have found an equally qualified successor."

Ervin will be responsible for continuing the growth



ERVIN

of the Commission's historic preservation and education efforts on behalf of Edenton and Chowan County. He has years of experience in the community college system and in nonprofit and governmental agencies. He holds bachelor of science and master of business administration degrees from East Carolina University.

In addition, he is completing the nonprofit management program through Duke University. As an active volunteer with many organizations such as the Boy Scouts of America, Habitat for Humanity and the Eastern North Carolina Food Bank, Ervin understands the value of volunteers to the Penelope Barker House.

"I'm happy to begin work at the Edenton Historical Commission," Ervin said.

"I will enjoy working with a large and diverse team to reach a common goal of preserving, and sharing, our valued history."

Nathan is relocating to Florida.

"We are grateful for the years of leadership Gregg Nathan has provided to the Commission and the Penelope Barker House," Kehayes said. "During his tenure the organization has expanded services to our community

and to visitors from around the world; saved the light-house; opened the Penelope Barker House seven full days a week; and maintained our fiscal responsibility to our stakeholders and donors."

The public is invited to wish Gregg Nathan goodbye and welcome Mike Ervin on Sunday, Feb. 28 from 4 to 6 pm at the Penelope Barker House Welcome Center, 505 South Broad Street, Edenton.

AG MUSEUM GROUP PLANS HERITAGE EVENT

BY REGGIE PONDER
Editor

The nonprofit working on an agricultural heritage museum for northeastern North Carolina is planning to hold a traditional farming demonstration on a site in rural Chowan County in October.

With that event on the horizon, the Chowan County Board of Commissioners has received a request from the Northeastern North Carolina Rural Heritage Museum Inc. to use three acres off Virginia Road near the Boys and Girls Club center for the heritage demonstrations.

During the public comment period at the board's Jan. 4 meeting, Ron Cummings said museum organizers would like to use a three-acre plot the county owns near the site of the Boys and Girls Club of Edenton-Chowan for the museum organization's Heritage Days event in October.

Cummings, who is running as a Republican candidate for the 1st District county commissioner seat currently held by Commissioner Emmett Winborne, also updated the board on the progress toward establishing the museum.

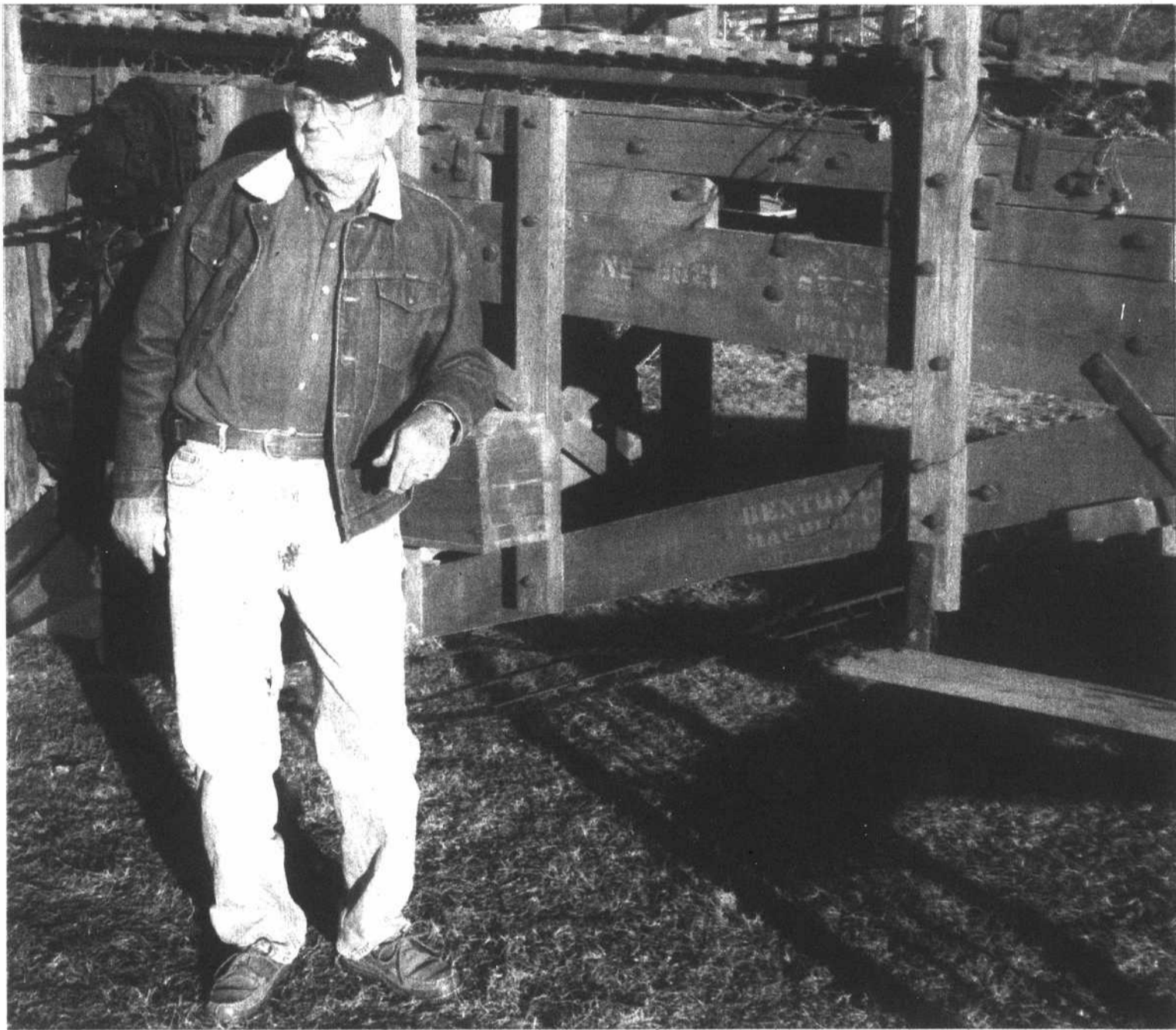
Commissioner Greg Bonner said he would like to see the commissioners do what they can to bring the Rural Heritage Museum to the county.

Bob Harrell has been collecting early 20th Century farm equipment for two decades. Harrell's collection includes horse-drawn plows, cultivators, planters, mowing machines, disc plows, carts and wagons, peanut pickers, hay balers and tractors.

"He has been diligent, over the past two years, in organizing a group of local citizens to assist with the location of a site on which a suitable museum building could be constructed for the purpose of housing this equipment and providing a wide range of appropriate educational programs," according to a document Cummings distributed to the county commissioners as part of his presentation. "Central to program activity will be demonstrations on how farming has progressed from horse and mule days to our modern age."

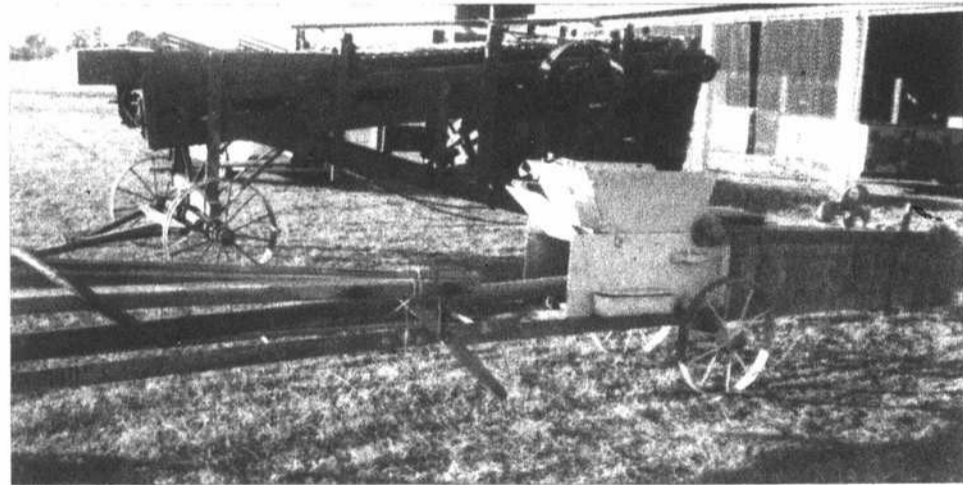
Plans also include incorporating the history of forest products and commercial fishing for shad and herring.

Longer term plans for the museum call for at least 45 acres and a full-time manager.



STAFF PHOTOS BY REGGIE PONDER

Bob Harrell (above) stands beside an old-time pea picker — one of many pieces of farm equipment he has collected during the past two decades.



Harrell describes this mule-operated hay baler (left) as "my most prized possession."

Byrum acquitted of voluntary manslaughter

BY WILLIAM F. WEST
The Daily Advance

A Chowan County jury last week acquitted a Chowan Beach man charged with voluntary manslaughter in the fatal shooting of a man at his home two years ago.

Jurors deliberated just under an hour before returning with a not



BYRUM

guilty verdict Jan. 26 against Josh Byrum. Byrum, 23, had been on trial in Chowan Superior Court this week for the fatal shooting of 21-year-old Dylan Burton at Byrum's home on Dec. 22, 2013.

Byrum, who appeared stunned when the verdict was announced, declined to comment as he left the Chowan County Courthouse.

Byrum's defense attorney, Andy Gay of Zebulon, said following the

Trillium gives \$300K for playground

From staff reports

A new, accessible playground at the Northern Chowan Community Center will be built in the coming year, funded by a grant from Trillium Health Resources.

Chowan officials received \$300,000 on Jan. 19 after applying for the agency's Play Together Construction Grant for Accessible Playgrounds.

The county is one of 28 locations receiving playground grants from Trillium, a local government agency that manages mental health, substance abuse and developmental disability services in a 24-county area of eastern North Carolina.

Funding for the Play Together grants is a result of savings from

operating as a Medicaid 1915 [b](c) waiver site.

"At the heart of our mission is making a difference in the lives of those we serve, and investing in our communities is a critical part of that mission," said Amy Corbitt, Trillium's project manager in research and development. "Trillium is able to reinvest savings in innovative programs and services for supports for the betterment of our communities."

Reinvestment dollars were allocated to help communities across Trillium's service area develop accessible playgrounds that allow people of all abilities to come together.

"We strive to provide services to the individuals in our communities and our communities at

large that help create productive, meaningful lives," Corbitt said. "These playgrounds will bring our communities' children and parents together without many of the difficulties they face in their lives every day."

Additional grants have been awarded in the Town of Dover, New Hanover County, Town of Nags Head, Pender County, Carteret County, Havelock, Onslow County, Wrightsville Beach, Pamlico County, Brunswick County, Washington County, Northampton County, Ayden and Swansboro.

In September, during the agency's first phase of Play Together Construction Grant for

See TRILLIUM, 4A



©2009 The Chowan Herald
All Rights Reserved

See BYRUM, 4A



GREAT MUSIC!!! LOTS OF LAUGHS!!!
Hee Haw Show featuring the **Rocky Hock Opry Band** and the **Whole Hee Haw Gang**

FRIDAY NIGHT FEB. 5TH 7PM | SATURDAY NIGHT FEB. 6TH 7PM with Special Guests

Whole Hee Haw Gang

ROCKY HOCK COMMUNITY CENTER

TICKETS \$10.00

Sponsored by the Rocky Hock Ruritan Club - TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED FROM ANY RURITAN MEMBER OR CALL 252-221-4875 OR 252-340-3438