

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

Volume 40, No. 10

USPS 428-080

Hertford, Perquimans County, N.C., Thursday, March 8, 1984

25 CENTS



Early Bloomers

The latter days of February and the early days of March heralded the arrival of spring-like

weather with daffodils blooming throughout the county. This lovely spring bouquet was found on the

lawn of Mr. and Mrs. Fenton Britt on Pennsylvania Ave. in

Hertford last weekend. (Photo by Edward Leicester)

Survey validates need for school facilities

(Editor's Note: The following is the first in a nine-part series of articles that have been compiled by the Perquimans County School Administration staff. These articles are being provided in an effort to educate the general public of the needs facing the county today.)

On March 30, 1983, Superintendent James P. Harrell requested that the Division of School Planning update the school facilities survey conducted in 1973. In response to this request, Dr. Lacy Presnell, director of the division, assigned a committee to this study. The result was a report that includes the committee's recommendations based on data collected and the visit to Perquimans County.

The Perquimans County High School main building was constructed in 1924. This is a two-story building of ordinary construction (interior wood walls and structural system).

The Division of School Planning has classified this building in Category IV. On the scale of 0 to 5, 0 is the most adequate and 5 denotes

immediate evacuation. Category IV means that replacement or approved renovation begin in the near future.

Many classrooms in this building are inadequate in size. This two-story building has unprotected wood stairs with storage underneath; the finishes in this building, including wood paneling, are non-code.

The second floor consists of a hallway with two dead end corridors. Because of the number of small teaching spaces, the optimal capacity of this building has been reduced.

The major deficiencies of the high school include special spaces for special programs. For example, five remedial classes are housed in the 1924 building. The high school presently houses a Trainable Mentally Handicapped program for students ages 13-21.

These students are housed in a regular classroom which does not have facilities, space and special equipment to serve these students.

The art room is located on the second floor of the 1924 building. This

program adds to the fire hazard of this building due to the volatile and combustible materials used, the ceramic kiln, the limited work space and the use of three adjacent rooms for this program.

The overcrowded band room is located behind the stage; the stage and auditorium areas used for instruction are not appropriate for individual and group activities. A portion of the stage area is also used to store textbooks.

A confined classroom space and the difficulty of moving equipment has greatly limited the efforts of the chorus program.

Makeshift improvements for the science program and lab facilities do not meet the ever increasing need to update and expand on this very important area of instruction.

Additional space for the proper storage of lab equipment and materials is needed. What was once classroom space now serves as an annex eating area for the school cafeteria.

The two-story building with all its inadequacies falls far below the standard of a 1980's learning center.

The Perquimans County Board of Education has planned well for their students. The conversion of the King Street School to a vocational facility has enriched and enhanced the vocational program.

The recent construction at the high school is well-planned and functional. However, not all students receive the benefits that they should be afforded from these changes.

In the following weeks, specific articles on certain aspects of the high school program or details on buildings for the proposed high school will be published.

It is our desire to provide the citizens of Perquimans County with the pertinent information about our present high school facilities and what will be possible with a YES vote for the school bond on May 8.

Religious service chosen to highlight 400th Celebration

By JEANNE C. WHITE
Perquimans Four Hundredth Anniversary Committee

July 13, 1984 marks the beginning of Four Hundred years of English-speaking civilization in our New World. It also is a time for renewing our faith and dedication which made us prosper as a Nation.

When Amadas and Barlowe reached Roanoke Island four hundred years ago, Arthur Barlowe wrote a glowing account of the event and we quote: "And after thanks given to God for our safe arrival thither, we manned our boats and went to view the land next adjoining, and take possession of the same, in the right of the Queenes most excellent Majestie."

This tribute and trust in a Divine Being established the precedent for recognition of the Grace of which followed in other English settlements in the New World. The Mayflower Compact of 1620 began "In the name of God, Amen"; the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution's First Amendment guaranteed religious freedom.

This has led to the growth of many religions in the United States of America.

The Perquimans County Four Hundredth Anniversary Committee has planned as one of its major programs each year of the celebration, a religious service by different denominations.

The churches will be given the leadership role in the order that they became active in Perquimans County. According to Raymond A. Winslow, Jr., historian, this order would be as follows: 1984, Society of Friends or Quakers; 1985, Episcopal (Anglicans before the American Revolution); 1986, Baptists; and 1987, Methodists.

All other denominations are encouraged to commemorate their beginnings during the commemorative period and their services will be published. That State Four Hundredth Committee has suggested that "A mighty Fortress is Our God" be sung on July 15, the first Sunday in the commemoration.

On October 12, 13 and 14 the Perquimans Four Hundredth Anniversary Committee will join the Perquimans County Restoration Association and the Eastern Quarterly Meeting of the Society of Friends in programs at the Newbold-White House celebrating history as the only surviving meeting place of the Proprietary Period and the site of the beginning of organized religion in North Carolina when George Fox preached there in 1672.

An invitation has been extended to all Society of Friends members in the United States through their magazine, Quaker Life, to visit us for this celebration.

D. Elton Trueblood, nationally known Quaker minister, author and lecturer, will conduct a religious service on October 14 at the very place that George Fox preached 312 years before.

He will be assisted by Billy M. Britt, Superintendent of the North Carolina Yearly Meeting of Friends. An old-fashioned "dinner on the grounds" will be shared.

We will need cooperation from all churches in the county to provide "bed and breakfast" accommodations for our invited guests and food for the dinner at the Newbold-White House on Sunday, October 14.

We solicit your assistance in making this an outstanding occasion by urging everyone to join in this renewal of our faith and fellowship as a State and Nation.

Hunt to attend ball

Governor Hunt has accepted the local area Democrats' invitation to attend the Second Annual Albemarle Democrats Ball, according to Billy Owens, chairman of the Pasquotank County Democrats. "Also," Owens added, "most of the members of the Council of State have indicated that they too would attend."

Congressman Walter B. Jones has not yet indicated whether he will be able to attend, but local politicians are confident that the Congressman will be here if at all possible. Congressman Jones did attend the First Annual Ball.

The Ball has become the primary fund raising event for the group as well as a festive gathering for the

party faithful. Owens also stated that this year's dance promises to be even bigger if ticket sales are any indication.

Tickets are available through each county chairperson and are priced at \$35 for couples and \$20 for singles.

Anne Young, Perquimans County ticket chairman, encourages interested persons to attend the ball. It is not a black tie affair, although it is an opportunity to dress up and go out for an evening of fun with friends.

We want Perquimans County to be well represented. Call the people listed for tickets by Friday noon.

Anne Young, 426-5275 (nights)
Bill Cox, 426-7805
Pete Broughton, 426-5494

C.O.A. receives recognition

College of the Albemarle is one of eight community colleges in the 58-institution community college system to receive special recognition as a Small Business Center this week by Robert W. Scott, state president of the Department of Community Colleges.

As a result of the action by the Department of Community Colleges, the college will receive up to \$50,000 to expand its existing Business and Industry Services Office into a practical, grass roots, direct-delivery center for small business people in the Albemarle area.

The COA BIS office was initiated last year in November. Lucy S. Gordon, office coordinator, said her program already has begun to provide courses, workshops, and other continuing education opportunities that are geared toward the needs of small wholesale, service and manufacturing businesses through an affiliation with the Small Business Administration.

"The state resources will give us the means to provide a complete center where small business people will have access to professional advice, computerized data bases and many other sources of information,"

Gordon said.

She said that in addition to supplementing the COA library's collection with business materials, journals, audio and video tapes, computer equipment will be purchased with software packages designed specifically for hands-on use by businesses.

The coordinator said she plans to work closely with the chambers of commerce in the college's seven-county service area. "Local chamber offices best know the needs of the business community," she said, "and can give us invaluable assistance in doing a more effective job."

She said that this year, particularly, the center will place special emphasis on helping area business people to find solutions to problems that might arise with the expected influx of tourists during the 400th Anniversary Celebration.

Dr. J. Parker Chesson Jr., COA President, said that the announcement from Scott is an action in keeping with the goal of the College to promote a positive and productive relationship within the business communities in the Albemarle area.

"We intend to develop our Small

Business Center into an exemplary site for other schools who may want to implement one," Chesson said.

The eight schools designated as centers this week are the forerunners of a strong business assistance network that will be developed throughout the 58 institutions within the next six years.

During a February conference in Raleigh, Governor Hunt, announced his intention to expand the program throughout the system within that time span.

The meeting, attended by 380 small business representatives from across the state, was sponsored by the governor's office and the Commerce Department in conjunction with the North Carolina Small Business Advocacy Council.

Hunt assured those present that the state will support the plan financially.

The other institutions that were recognized as centers include Guilford Technical Community College, Roanoke-Chowan Technical College, Gaston College, Carteret Technical College, Central Piedmont Community College, Davidson County Community College and Lenoir Community College.



The 31st Annual Albemarle Conservation Poster Contest, sponsored by Albemarle Electric Membership Corporation in cooperation with the Albemarle Soil Conservation District, was held last week at the Albemarle EMC Auditorium.

Winners of the contest were: (Back row, left to right) Susan Lavezzo, 4th grade, second place; Denise Moye, 5th grade, second place; Jonathan Morgn, 6th grade, second place; (Front row, left to right) John Johnson, 4th grade, first place, Charity Cartwright, 5th grade,

first place; and Renee Aydlett, 6th grade, first place.

Local winners on the county level were: Fourth grade, Rustin Howland; Susan Lavezzo; Fifth grade, Charity Cartwright and James Gard; Sixth grade, Jennifer Lewis and Shelton Davenport.