

Find

Continued From Page 1-A

According to Eure, workman Bill Lessarde discovered the bottle contained inside the soffit under the eaves on the side of the courthouse that faces the County Office Building.

"We could tell it was an early bottle," Eure said, both because of the label design and the way the bottle was created.

"The glass was blown into a mold. Then, once it was in there, a pontil (scar) was left there. There was still residue visible."

Eure said the find has created questions about exactly how the bottle ended up tucked away and forgotten.

"We've imagined the workmen building the courthouse having their snuff bottle up there with them while they were working, then using it and sitting it in there and forgetting about it. It's like finding a pack of cigarettes from the 18th century, to me," she said.

Ferguson, who works for Progressive Contracting Company, Inc., headquartered in Sanford, NC, said that since the bottle was found at the old courthouse in between brick and soffit, there was "no way

for it to have come from the attic and dropped down in there. It was laid in there."

He added that Lessarde and others on the work crew who were present when the bottle was discovered realized right away that it was a significant find.

"The workmen were pretty excited," he said. "They brought it right up here to my office."

Eure said that once word of the discovery reached designer Don Pendergraft at the Museum of the Albemarle in Elizabeth City, he came over to see it for himself. After seeing the bottle and other

artifacts unearthed during the renovation, he decided the items were significant enough to warrant the design of a new temporary exhibit at MOA that will open May 15, 1999 in conjunction with National Historic Preservation Week and remain open through Jan. 2, 2000.

"The snuff bottle will be one of the things we plan to loan Don for the exhibit," Eure said. She said the items would be returned to Edenton once the exhibit closes, for use in a permanent museum room upstairs at the renovated Chowan County Courthouse. "I truly believe that it's al-

ways good to have items remain in the place they came from," she said. "People seem to get so much more out of seeing things in their natural setting, I think."

Ferguson said that other items recovered so far during the restoration included original nails, and shingles from the original roof.

"We even found a handful of nails up there that were brand new at the time, that were never used. They were just laid up there. Finding stuff like that, clues about how they built the courthouse originally, helps us immensely. We're very diligent

about recording everything we find," he said.

Ferguson added that as the process moves forward, he is preparing daily field reports detailing events relating to the project.

"Having a record like this should help any other restorers who come along after us," he said.

Eure praised Ferguson and his workmen for the "very professional manner" in which they are carrying out the restoration project.

"We're thrilled they're doing this job," she said.

Plan

Continued From Page 7-A

visits to a hospital Emergency Room. There is no charge for well child and other preventive health visits to a physician.

Both Harris and Rose said that eye care is another plus, since most families strapped for available cash put eye care on the back burner.

"Eye care is kind of a luxury for families on a limited income," said Rose, noting that the county school system identifies uninsured children with eye care needs.

Vitaglione praised the county's current participation rate, but said that the program's goal is to cover every available child.

"This is a very good start," said Vitaglione. "There are 182 Chowan County children eligible for the program, and we want to enroll every one of them."

Rose said that the local coalition behind the insurance program has embarked on an outreach program to reach the families with eligible children concerning the availability of low-cost insurance. Through flyers posted at local businesses, DSS, the county health department and school system, the coalition hopes to eventually cover every eligible child.

"It's a continuous program, so anyone can apply at any time," he said.

For more information about NC Health Choice for Children, contact the Chowan County Department of Social Services at 482-7441 or the Chowan County Health Department at 482-6003.

Grants

Continued From Page 1-A

the top, said High.

"We felt the \$100,000 asset level was important because at that level our assets begin earning a significant amount of interest," he said, "and there is something about that figure which gives our supporters and Board (of Directors) a morale boost."

Founded in 1992, the agency aims to meet the greatest needs of the Edenton and Chowan County communities. In past years, the foundation has been involved in funding college scholarships and grants for such causes as the prevention of teen pregnancy, compiling a

survey on affordable housing needs in Edenton, and supporting programs designed to assist at-risk pre-school children.

The foundation's board also recently renewed its annual Dana Lea Darnell Memorial Nursing Scholarship to a deserving student in the nursing field. The foundation is currently seeking deserving grant proposals, and plans to make an announcement regarding a new grant in upcoming months, as well as the awarding of the Dr. Edward G. Bond Memorial Scholarship.

"The foundation continues to strive to be a conservative steward of the funds contributed to it, and will continue to make small and regular contributions to deserving projects, programs and groups in our community in an effort to one

day have a sufficient base of assets to significantly increase the quality of life for all citizens of Chowan County," High said, adding that the foundation welcomes and encourages any size contribution.

The agency also funds scholarships to local college and high-school students through monies it receives.

"The end of the year is an excellent time, for tax reasons, to give to a worthy charity," said Ollin Sykes, foundation treasurer.

For more information on the Edenton-Chowan Community Foundation, contact any board member - including High, Sykes, Hood Ellis, Livy Goodman, Alan Summerford, and Bill Whichard. Contributions may be sent to PO Box 1050, Edenton, NC 27932.

Okay

Continued From Page 1-A

Councilman Jimmy Alligood stated that the subdivision will

be an asset to the town.

"It sounds like ... it will help raise property values out there," said Alligood.

Councilman Willis Privott concurred with Alligood.

"We (Privott and Brooks) talked about everything," said

Privott. "I couldn't see anything it wasn't compatible with."

Notary public training class is scheduled

College of the Albemarle's Continuing Education Division will offer the class "Notary Public Training" this spring at the Elizabeth-City campus.

This class will be held Jan. 13 or Feb. 10 or March 10 or April 14 or May 12, from 7-10 p.m. The class will be taught by Lillian Holman, in room B-202.

The cost of the course is \$35. A notary manual is required, and costs \$12.72. A social security number is required to register. Students may register the first night of class.

For more information about call 335-0821, ext. 2250 or 2302.



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