

Women's history program previews at BHS

BY LESLIE BEACHBOARD
Bertie Ledger-Advance

WINDSOR - Tea anyone?

Students from Bertie High School were presented a portion of "Tea with Mrs. Stone" on Friday, March 24.

This sneak peek was a preview of an all day event hosted the following Saturday, March 25 as Historic Hope House's first Women's History Month program.

Hope House Education Coordinator David Serxner welcomed students.

"Welcome to our first ever event like this. The theme of the event is food traditions and foodways in Northeastern North Carolina," he said.

The two speakers were Museum Educator at the Center for Civil

and Human Rights in Atlanta, GA. and owner of Interpreting Slave Life, Nicole Moore, and Founder of the Roanoke Chowan Native American Association, Devonya Chavis.

Moore explained the importance of slave life on living history sites.

"I was raised in Hawaii and came back to the east coast to go to college and my interest was sparked," she said.

According to Moore, people would go to living history houses to admire the architecture, but not the importance of the slaves and other people who built the house and made the houses function.

Moore began performing at living history homes in third person and not in first person.

She became a cook

on the plantation. "The first thing I did was build a garden, because there were no stores in the 1820's," Moore added.

According to Moore, each slave received a ration of a pound of bacon and some corn meal each week.

"The cook would get up early and feed an average family of four toast, eggs and country ham. After the house family is fed, then the food is cooked and taken out to feed the slave population on the farm," she added.

According to Moore, after breakfast the cook does not get a break because it's time for lunch.

The mistress would come in and let the cook know what is planned for lunch. Because it is illegal to read, we have to memorize the serv-

ings, ingredients and recipes because the cook cannot send the family in the house a burnt meal.

Then after lunch it is time to prepare for dinner.

"The cook will always continue to increase her skills and therefore her value as a cook. But if the cook has a daughter, then she will teach her skills to her daughter. I will have a decreased risk of her being sold," she added.

"Just always remember when learning about this history, there are always two sides. Kitchen culture goes a long way still to this day," closed Moore.

Next, Chavis, a member of the Choanoke Tribe, explained she was working on reorganizing the tribe, and the best way to regather a tribe is with food.

"American Indians have been labeled as hunters and gatherers but they were also strategic farmers," she added.

According to Chavis, corn was a staple in their diet and the women were a staple to their corn crop.

"The women planted, harvested, cooked, stored and made the pots to store the corn in. Corn was the most plentiful food. It was stored from harvest through the winter," she added.

The women maintained small family patches without assistance. The large corn patches were communal. "They would plant a row for two to three feet and then leave a space and then plant more. They would plant beans and melons between the corn.

The beans would climb the corn and the melons would cover the ground underneath the corn to prevent weeds," she added.

They had several ways to store the corn. They had plenty of corn. In 1586 Ralph Lane documented he had enough corn from the Indians for himself and 40 more persons throughout the winter.

"In our culture, beans, corn and squash are known as the three sisters.

This area was also plentiful with berries and nuts," she added.

After Chavis spoke the students had an opportunity to ask questions of the speakers.

"I think overall the event went well and I look forward to bringing more events like this to the local schools," closed Serxner.

Drugs

From A1 March 29.

(marijuana). Magistrate Davis placed Forbes under a \$12,000 secured bond and he had his first court appearance on

"Officer Lanier did an excellent job on the arrest. He utilized his training and a proactive attitude to seize the illegal drugs," said Windsor Police Chief

Festival

From A1

Agriculture was celebrated by having a T-shirt contest with students from West Bertie and allowing them to draw what he or she thought of as agriculture.

All pictures were displayed at the event and the winner was Kydra Brown whose design was on the T-shirts.

The Farmer 5K and Fun Run encouraged the participants to dress as farmers.

There were also chickens and mini-horses on with which festival patrons could interact.

"We look forward to Ag Fest as part of Roxobel for many years to come," she added.

"We are pleased with everything. There is always room to grow and improve. Everyone is excited and we hope to be able to have an Ag Fest in Roxobel for many years to come," she said.

The goal of the event was to get people from the community and surrounding areas involved, happy and enjoying a day together.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Bertie EMS received 4 new ambulances to support paramedic emergency medical services.

Ambulance

From A1

posals. having submitted pro-

On Jan. 3, the Board

approved the contract Apparatus in Falkland, NC.

Turkey

From A1

Dream Team member Rickie Leggett said he began this adventure in the early 90's when North Carolina Wildlife Officer Rodney Jack came to him about a disabled child who dreamed of going hunting. Years later the group has grown, and each year they take different groups of children hunting for various game including deer and turkeys.

Saturday morning just before daylight, the children met with his or her guide to set up at their location for the hunt.

According to Stalls, Booth harvested a bearded hen and these are somewhat rare.

"It takes a lot of running to get a child on a bird. The guides have agreed to bring the children who did not harvest a bird back during turkey season to try again," added Stalls.

Stalls wanted to thank

the landowners, who let them use their land and to Joey Ray for his hard work for scouting the turkeys.

"It was hard to get them on a gobbler because of the gobblers being with hens already," he said.

Roanoke/Cashie



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Gavin Booth, 11 of Manteo harvested a bearded hen on the hunt. This was the only turkey harvested bearded hens are somewhat rare.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Availability of the 2016 Collection Performance Annual Report

The Collection Performance Annual Report is available for the public viewing at the Office of the Town Clerk, in the Aulander Municipal Building, 124 W. Main Street, Aulander, North Carolina. The public is welcome to stop by the Town Hall during regular business hours (which are 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. weekdays) to review the report.

Renee' B. Benton
Town Clerk

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