



Flag waving day

Tuesday was Veterans' Day, a veterans lie in the town time to honor all American cemetary, some of whom died veterans. A great many in combat, according to

groundskeeper McCarthy Ivan Laverne West, a Navy veteran who died in 1964. Mitchell. The small flag in the foreground is a memorial to

# Welfare rolls

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parents because of death, disability, or continued absence from the home for other reasons. One adult is usually included in the grant, and in the vast majority of the cases it is the mother, according to Ward.

Each adult member applying for or receiving assistance must either be registered for the work incentive program or registered for employment with the Employment Security Commission, unless they qualify for exemption.

To be exempt the adult has to be either ill or incapacitated, age 65 or over, required in the home to care for another

member of the family who is ill or incapacitated, or responsible for the care of a child under the age of 6.

According to Ward, most AFDC recipients are not what some call "government freeloaders," but have been forced to rely on assistance because of lack of opportunity.

"In January 1980, over 26 percent of the mothers registered for the WIN program were exempt (from work programs) but they volunteered anyway," said Ward. "This indicates that AFDC recipients want to work if given the opportunity but their biggest problem in finding a job is lack of education and job skills."

He said among the biggest obstacles facing the unemployed were "lack of opportunity and lack of job skills," citing that in 1979, only 38.9 percent of AFDC recipients were high school graduates.

Assistance for dependent children must also be sought from the offspring's absent parent. Unless the adult family member can show just cause, they must also agree for the child support enforcement worker to seek child support payments from the absent parent.

County social service departments determine eligibility for the AFDC program based on state and federal eligibility requirements.

# Imprisoned

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Beach, Va. was charged with entering a Perquimans County Sheriff's Department vehicle on Aug. 14 and stealing a .357 magnum pistol as well as a can of mace, but plead guilty to breaking and entering of an automobile after larceny

and theft of a firearm charges were dropped.

A mistrial was declared in an accessory after the fact to breaking, entering and larceny charged against Joseph Michael Bivens.

Bivens was alleged to have transported

goods stolen following the Pitt Hardware break-in but a jury could not decide whether the defendant was guilty or innocent of charges.

Bivens is expected to be tried again during the February Superior Court term.

# Man charged in cocaine bust

The Hertford Police Department has arrested a New York resident and charged him with possession of a small amount of cocaine and intention to sell or distribute the substance.

The first offense is a misdemeanor, the second, a felony.

Vernon Ferebee Adams of Amityville, N.Y. was stopped just before he reached the causeway bridge on U.S. 17 business, north of Hertford.

A search revealed three small tin-foil packets of what is believed to be cocaine, according to Hertford Police Chief Marshall Merritt.

Adams was returned to the

police station and strip-searched, but nothing further was turned up, Merritt said.

He said, however, that \$564 was confiscated from Adams, most of it in \$20 bills and believed to have been generated by drug sales.

Merritt said that it is standard procedure to also

seize money in a drug arrest.

Adams was released Saturday evening from the Albemarle District Jail under \$5,000 bond. He is expected to be tried on the misdemeanor charge during the Nov. 19 term of District Court, and is scheduled to have a first appearance hearing at that time.

# ERA debate slated in Hertford

A pro and con debate on the as yet unratified Equal Right's Amendment will be held in Hertford on Thursday, Nov. 20, at 7:30 p.m. in the courtroom of the Perquimans County Courthouse, located on

Church Street.

Speaking in favor of ERA will be Winnifred Wood, educator, of Camden, and Frank Sellers, chemist, of Chowan.

Representing opposition to the amendment will be Alice Wynne Gatsis, chairperson for North Carolinians Against ERA, of Rocky Mount, and Rev. Scott Barber, pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church, of

Elizabeth City.

A question and answer session will follow the debate.

The event, sponsored by the Hertford Business and Professional Women's Club, is open to the public.

# Insurance overpayments are recovered

RALEIGH — The North Carolina Employment Security Commission recovered \$146,921 in unemployment insurance overpayments during September according to figures released by the commission's anti-

fraud unit.

The unit investigated 204 persons who have claimed or currently are claiming unemployment insurance benefits. Of that number, 134, or 66 percent, were found to have been overpaid \$35,831.

The commission classified 67 of those cases, representing \$40,705, a fraud and 67, representing \$15,126, as non-fraud.

During September, 23 persons were tried in state courts for unemployment

insurance fraud and all were convicted.

Of the overpayments recovered, \$34,412 was recovered through refunds to the commission and \$112,509 was recovered by withholding new benefits to claimants.

# Political paraphernalia is a collector's treasure

GREENVILLE — Campaign lapel buttons, posters and bumper stickers were recently familiar sights, but most of us relegated these items to the trash can after Nov. 4.

Put for political paraphernalia collector Donald Collins, owner of 500 campaign buttons, the ephemeral tokens of politics are bits of history that should be preserved and enjoyed in future years.

An interest in history sparked his enthusiasm for campaign materials 20 years ago. An associate professor of library science at East Carolina University, Collins has a PhD in history from the University of Georgia in addition to his library science degrees.

Collins has assembled a staggering array of brochures, posters, pins and medals, matchbook covers, banners, old prints and even rare candidates' "giveaways" — an eyeshade, a hat, a paper fan, some tie clasps, a mug, emery boards, coins and even a thimble. His collection includes not only political memorabilia, but also tokens of various social and reform movements since the late 1960's.

Some of his things are quite valuable on the collectibles market; he owns several historic lithographs and

posters, including two rare propaganda posters used by Vichy France during World War II and a dollar certificate given long ago to contributors to the Jeff Davis Memorial.

He did own a woman's suffrage banner found in a student's attic, but traded it for a detailed depiction of the Battle of the Crater from "Leslie's" magazine. A Collins ancestor died in that Civil War battle.

Other items are common and easy to come by now, like the large "Iran: Let Our People Go" button, but may someday be eagerly sought as a curiosity of 1980.

He has a few special favorites: an Elizabeth Ray button, a 1904 Teddy Roosevelt watch fob, a "Governments Make War" button personally given to him by feminist-pacifist Jeannette Rankin and a bronze button used for Progressive presidential candidate Robert LaFollette in 1924.

"I don't really have enough of these things to be considered a serious collector," Collins says. "Serious collectors will buy buttons to complete a series; I stopped buying buttons a long time ago."

Scarcity, rather than age, dictates a button's value; some of the 1976 Jimmy

Carter campaign buttons are more valuable than a cloth button from the 1888 Benjamin Harrison Campaign.

Many "pressings" of different Carter buttons, and relatively few of each, were made for distribution by independent manufacturers. To collect them all would be quite a task.

Collin's bronze LaFollette button is less valuable than a cheaper tin one, because the tin button is scarcer.

Fake buttons are a major pitfall for new collectors. While recent fakes are required to have "Reproduction" stamped on them, counterfeits do turn up to plague the unwary hobbyist.

Buttons are a method of "advertising" one's political beliefs, and they invite discussion with the wearer, Collins believes. "Some collectors dislike bumper stickers, but I think of a political button worn on a car," he said. His earliest bumper sticker is a fragile piece dating from an FDR campaign.

Collins is a liberal Democrat, but in the true spirit of collecting, he does not discriminate in his acquisition of mass-produced propaganda pieces. Besides numerous

Democratic and Republican items, dozens of lesser-known political and social groups are represented in his campaign.

Among them are the Ku Klux Klan, the Young Americans for Freedom, the John Birch Society, the American Independent Party, the American Nazi Party, Zero Population Growth, the Theocratic Party, the Socialist Workers Party, the Young Socialists Workers, and for fun, the "Pat Paulsen for President" campaign and the Sen. Sam Ervin Fan Club.

Presidential candidates of the past — some nearly forgotten — are recalled among his button displays; Landon and Willkie share equal space with Coolidge, Taft and Hoover.

Of prime interest to a collector is Collins' series of buttons hurriedly pressed in 1976 before President Carter picked Mondale for his running mate: "Carter-Jackson," "Carter-Muskie," "Carter-Church," "Carter-Stevenson," and "Carter-Glenn." Collins also has pre-Carter buttons in 15 languages.

Another fascinating part of his collection are pamphlets from the "dirty politics" campaign of Frank Merriam who opposed Upton Sinclair in a long-ago California

gubernatorial race. "This wasn't just dirty politics; it was filthy," said Collins.

Some of the slogans printed on Collins' memorabilia use clever word play to catch the eye. Notable among these are the anti-Nixon items: "Impeachment with Honor," "Richard the Lying-Hearted," "De-Elect the President," "Nixon Has a Staff Infection," and "Nixon Bugs Me."

Some are grandiose, like the large laminated plastic mug with George Washington's portrait on one side and George Wallace's on the other. Dr. Collins had the mug autographed by Lester Mattox.

Some elicit nostalgia. "Give 'Em Hell, Harry!" "I Like Ike," "Beautify America: Get a Haircut," "Make Love, Not War," and "Free Angela Davis."

Some are vicious. "Get Us out of the United Nations," "Where is Lee Harvey Oswald Now That We Really Need Him?," "Bomb Hanoi," "Kill a Commie for Christ," and "Save Our Land; Join the Klan."

Among the oddest of Collins' cherished pieces are a pair of "gold water" beverage cans used by Barry Goldwater in 1964 and protest items distributed by reform and boycott organizers. An

**EMT classes are scheduled**  
The Perquimans County Rescue Squad is sponsoring courses that provide emergency medical technician certification on Tuesday and Thursday nights at the squad building in Hertford.  
Classes last from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. and registration is tonight (Nov. 13).  
The general public is invited to participate.

**CHARLES H. WARD**  
would like to thank all of those persons who elected him to the Perquimans County Board of Commissioners. He pledges to work for the betterment of the county.

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