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Volunteers dish out barbecue during the Ed Nixon Benefit Supper last Sunday. More than 2,000 persons attended the affair.

U.S. census figures for county available

Of the 9,486 persons living in Perquimans County, the median age is between 30 and 34, nine persons are of Greek ancestry, 6,057 are living in the same house they lived in in 1975, 12 are veterans of World War I, and 180 walk to work.

These statistics and more, compiled during the 1980 national census, were recently released by the federal government and are now available at the Register of Deeds office at the Perquimans County courthouse.

The census statistics, which cover age, occupation, sex, race, marital status and size of household, among

other things, range from the surprising to the mildly interesting to basically boring.

A quick glance at the figures shows that five persons in this county are surviving under the burden of \$750-plus mortgages, 2,345 cook with electricity, and 214 go to work jammed into carpools of five or more persons.

A 12-page computer printout summarizes the findings for Perquimans County of the U.S. Census Bureau. The statistics give an accurate and interesting profile of

the county.

For example, 5,905 persons in this county are white (84 of them of Spanish origin) and 3,581 are black. Of the 3,280 households, about a third of them are of two persons, and families here have an average of about two children.

More than 8,000 persons here were born in North Carolina. Of the total labor force, 513 are employed in farming, fishing or forestry, and 524 in precision production, craft and repair. They received an average yearly income of \$3,611, and an

average family income of \$12,804. Of the work force, 1,485 leave the county to work, and 261 commute out-of-state for a job.

Of the adult population, 1,986 have completed high school, and about 1,100 have some college. Of the entire population, 2,280 persons live below the poverty level. Of the 3,864 year-round housing units, 1,112 were built before 1940, and the average number of rooms is 5.6. Five hundred ten of them have no bathroom or only a half bath, while 675 have two or more bathrooms.

New director to fill rec post

By TOM OSTROSKY

Bobbi Veon admits to having a few sleepless nights since she was notified that she will become the new director of the Perquimans County Parks and Recreation Department.

She's ready to tackle the responsibility of the new job, but the thought of what may lie ahead for her does make her pause and think a bit. "I'm looking forward to it," she said, "but I am kind of scared and nervous."

The bubbly 23-year-old will replace Mac Sligh as the director beginning December 1. At present, she wears several hats at the Elizabeth City Parks and Recreation Department, where she has worked full-time for a little more than a year.

Along with doing the secretarial work, she is senior citizens coordinator, activities specialist and district senior citizens advisor. Her experience has put her in contact with everyone from the youngest girl's softball team right up to the oldest senior citizens. "I do a little bit of everything, that's the good part of the job."

The closest thing to an Elizabeth City native as one can get, Veon was born in Pennsylvania and has lived in Elizabeth City since she was about two weeks old.

A graduate of the University of North Carolina in recreation administration, she originally went to college to become a pharmacist. Then it occurred to her just what a pharmacist does. "I would have had to stay inside, and I didn't like that. I love the outdoors and sports."

Reared in a sports-loving family, both as participants and spectators — "if you didn't watch baseball or basketball or football on Sunday, you didn't watch anything," she said — studying for a job in recreation was just natural. The only girl in a neighborhood of boys, she took up sports at an early age.

Once she had decided on her



Veon

major, she spent her summers working at the Elizabeth City Parks and Recreation Department on a work-study program, and when she graduated, she found a job there full-time.

Working in Elizabeth City has been a thrill. "I've never had to prove myself," she said. "Whatever I had to say was just as important as what anyone else had to say. I've always been treated as an equal."

She may have to do a little proving here though, taking over a program that only a few weeks ago was put up for a referendum vote. But the referendum's passage gives her confidence that people here do support her work: "I'm glad people realize that you do need recreation," she said. "It's something that you think you won't miss, but you'll miss it when it's gone."

Her own agenda for the program includes two major features: recruiting more volunteers for the program, and getting more young teenagers involved. "There's not much a 12- to 15-year-old can do in Hertford," she said. "I want to get some new things started."

House receives donation

By VAL SHORT

When the Newbold-White House opens its doors for the annual Extension Homemaker tour December 8 — the Christmas Ramble — visitors will notice something old.

It's a William and Mary pine chair, dated around 1690, which has been donated to the Newbold-White House. This is another step toward the goal of furnishing the state's oldest house.

Purchased by the Guild of Museum of the Albemarle Friends for \$364, the lightening back chair with arms will remain in the great hall or main room. The chair joins a growing collection of period furniture including another chair, andirons and a desk.

John Smith, who is chairman of the furniture committee for the Newbold-White House, does not know the origin of the chair but he said it was purchased in Edenton.

Also recently donated to the Newbold-White house collection is a

circa 1680 book of the Lord Chancellor's Court Records of England. The book was donated by George Gilback of Edenton.

A New England pine table which dates around 1720 is now on loan to the Newbold-White House from an antique dealer. Smith said a donation of \$1500 would purchase the table for the house.

According to Smith, the committee is searching for donations of furniture, iron, brass, pewter, glass, and cookware — as long as it is from the period before 1750. Reproductions will not be used in the house.

"We would love to get the fireplace fixed," said Smith, which will require andirons, griddles and cooking utensils. A court cupboard, candlesticks, and cruiser lamps are also among Smith's "want list" for the Newbold-White House.

"We will take donations of money or furniture and will give appraisals for tax purposes," Smith said.

Built around 1685, the Newbold-White House has served as a meeting place for government bodies and church congregations. The house was purchased and restored by the Perquimans Restoration Association.

The Newbold-White House will be featured again this year during the Extension Homemakers Christmas Ramble December 8. The house be adorned with traditional decorations of live greenery, fruits and candles.

Perquimans' historic courthouse will also be included on the tour along with the Three Bears Day Care and Preschool in its new location on Pennsylvania Ave. Other tour stops include the Archie Miller home in Belvidere, the Thurman Whedbee home at Billy's Beach and the Ben Wolverton residence on Market Street in Hertford. Refreshments will be served at the Pool House of the Joe Meads on Grubb Street in Hertford.



Mrs. W.M. Knight, left, and Mrs. Ray Godfrey present a check for \$364 to Newbold-

White House furnishings chairman John Smith for the antique chair at right. The table, dating from the early 18th century, is on loan to the Newbold-White House.

Happy Thanksgiving

