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THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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Hertford, Perquimans County, N.C., Thursday, April 2, 1992

35 Cents.

Briefs Locals work to improve economy

Ceramics offered

Ceramic classes are beginning at the Perquimans Senior Center on Fridays from 9 a.m.-12 noon, April 3-June 19. Instructor is Dorothy Coates and class fee is \$30. Anyone 65 or older may enroll free. Interested persons should register during the first two weeks of class. For more information, call the Center at 426-5404.

Sign-ups in progress

Registration for girls softball and T-Ball has begun at the Perquimans Co. Recreation Department. All interested youth ages 5-8 for T-ball and 9-15 for girls softball should come by or call the recreation department at 426-5695 to register. The cost for T-ball is \$5 and for softball is \$7.

Legion to meet

The American Legion will meet on Thursday, April 9 at 7:30 p.m. at the Legion hut on West Academy Street. Officers for the coming year will be installed.

Candidates' forum set

The Hertford Business and Professional Women's Club is sponsoring "Meet The Candidates" on Tuesday, April 21 at 7 p.m. at the Perquimans County Courthouse. Candidates for county and state offices will attend.

Concert planned

Christ Episcopal Church in Elizabeth City will be the scene of College of The Albemarle's Spring Concert at 4:30 p.m. on Sunday, March 29. The Albemarle Community Chorus, College of The Albemarle Choral, Christ Episcopal Church Choir and Collegium Musicum Orchestra will perform.

April clinic schedule

The April clinic schedule for the Perquimans County Health Department is as follows: 4/2 - 5-7 Immunization clinic for working parents; 4/3 - General p.m., WIC all day; 4/6 - Prenatal a.m., Family planning p.m.; 4/8 - Child health all day, WIC all day; 4/10 - General p.m., Family planning follow-up; 4/14 - Prenatal p.m.; 4/15 - Child health a.m., Dr. Slade p.m.; 4/16 - Adult health all day; 4/17 - Holiday; 4/20 - Prenatal a.m., Family planning p.m.; 4/21 - WIC all day; 4/24 - General p.m., Teen clinic a.m., Family planning follow-up p.m.

Nutrition menus

Nutrition site menus for the week of March 30-April 3 are as follows:

Monday: Ham slice, 3 whole potatoes, steamed cabbage, biscuit, margarine, orange/pineapple juice and milk.

Tuesday: Cheeseburger on bun, coleslaw, baked beans, pineapple upside down cake and milk.

Wednesday: Fried chicken, dried pinto beans, marinated tomatoes, roll, margarine, spiced peaches and milk.

Thursday: BBQ Pork, stewed potatoes, coleslaw, cornbread, margarine, orange juice and milk.

Friday: Tuna salad - 1/2 hard boiled egg, potato salad, red jello with pineapple, 4 crackers, margarine, sugar cookie and milk.

•Present state failing to bring self-sufficiency

Perquimans County is going to work toward changing its economic course, which, like that in many eastern North Carolina counties, is failing to bring economic self-sufficiency to its people.

A planning group of 60 citizens is being recruited to launch an attempt to change the economic growth process in the county. Four evening sessions have been scheduled for May 7, May 14, May 18 and June 4 at the Albemarle Commission building.

The effort was initiated by Hertford Mayor John Beers, Perquimans County Manager N. Paul Gregory and Hertford Town

Manager W.D. "Bill" Cox.

Cox called on the Eastern North Carolina Chamber of Commerce and the Center of Rural and Coastal Living at Elizabeth City State University to assist the county with this intense strategic planning effort. These two organizations have assisted local agencies with strategic planning in many other eastern locations.

ECSU Chancellor Jimmy Jenkins has encouraged Regional Economist Philip McMullan, who heads the ECSU Center for Rural and Coastal Living, to participate in this important process. Because he is a Perquimans County resident himself, McMullan said he hopes to contribute to the substance of the discussions as well as the planning of the sessions.

Dick George, assistant director of the Albemarle Commission, has offered his services in the planning process.

Stephen L. Medlin of Roanoke Rapids, vice chairman of economic development for strategic planning for the Eastern North Carolina Chamber, said that the regional Chamber will provide a planning coordinator to work with the planning group at no cost to Perquimans County.

Six years ago, Branch Banking and Trust Co. completed a comprehensive evaluation of the economic factors in the 43 counties of eastern North Carolina. Based on those factors, the BB study determined that the region could never reach economic self-sufficiency if it continued down its present path. It was at that time that the Eastern Chamber determined that county-by-county strategic planning was required to change the present economic course and to reach self-sufficiency.

Twenty-five eastern counties have already undergone plan-

ning with the assistance of the Eastern Chamber.

The Center for Rural and Coastal Living has also studied the economic indicators in the area, and reached a conclusion similar to the outcome of the BB study in 1989. At that time, strategic planning was initiated in three northeastern North Carolina counties, including Perquimans. Rural leaders teams from each county were trained at ECSU to help plan in their communities.

The Center and the Eastern Chamber will now join forces with Perquimans County to compose a plan of action to carry the county and its people into the 21st century on solid economic footing.

Citizens interested in receiving more information about the sessions can contact Cox at 426-7805.



John G. Beers

Spring blooms with fashion flair



Photo by Susan Harris

Laura Matthews, Emily Christensen, and Amanda Christensen are ready to step into spring with these outfits from Darden Department Store. For a forecast of fashion and a sampling of the new spring looks, please see our special spring fashion section beginning on page 7.

COA enrollment continues upward trend

•Perquimans increase 'tremendous'

College of The Albemarle has been riding a wave of increase enrollment over the last three quarters. After an increase in the 1991 Fall Quarter, COA continued its upward trend with a 17.9 percent enrollment increase in the 1991-1992 Winter Quarter as compared to the same quarter last year.

Preliminary 1992 Spring Quarter enrollment figures have COA at 25 percent above last spring's enrollment. The college could have as many as 330 more students than in the spring of 1991.

Spring enrollment at the Dare County Campus has also increased dramatically - approximately 40 percent over last year.

COA enrolled 1,655 students for the 1991-1992 Winter Quarter as compared to 1,404 for the 1990-1991 Winter Quarter.

The 17.9 percent increase is the third highest among North Carolina's community colleges. Only Brunswick Community College (21 percent) and Halifax Community College (18.8 percent) had higher gains.

Ray Scaffa, COA's acting dean of student development, attributes the increase in attendance to several factors, including the poor state of the economy, an improved follow-up effort by the college, and an ever-changing job market.

"A depressed economy means that some people who would be in the work force are not," Scaffa said. "People who have jobs are upgrading their

skills."

Increasing computer skills is popular among students this spring. Scaffa said that three Introduction to Computers classes were filled within the first four days of spring registration. Scaffa added that evening counselors have been calling students who have left school to see if they want to come back.

"We've also been getting people who had gone away to school and finished their first semester and they either didn't like it, or they felt they needed to reassess their career goals," Scaffa said. "We're finding that in higher education people are choosing schools that are going to give them more value, like a community college."

Scaffa said that workers today need more training.

"The job market requires that you go to college," he said. "Blue collar jobs that used to be available in this country are disappearing everyday."

Wallace Nelson, a Perquimans County resident and vice chairman of the Board of Trustees said, "The percentage increase of students coming out of Perquimans County is higher than that seen for the College as a whole." For the fall of 1991, 184 Perquimans County residents enrolled in curriculum classes at the COA Campus, a 23 percent increase over last year.

"We saw a 33 percent increase for the winter quarter with 169 Perquimans residents attending," said Nelson, also a

candidate for Perquimans County Board of Education.

Continuing education class enrollment for Perquimans County has also seen a tremendous increase, up 48 percent for the Fall quarter and 40 percent for the winter quarter, said Nelson.

Most of the increases have been seen in pre-nursing and other developmental classes, Scaffa said.

COA President Parker Chesson said he has never seen the school's enrollment so brisk. "I suspect we've closed out more classes for the spring quarter than I've ever seen before. We've turned students away," Chesson said. "The average enrollment increase for the system is 5 percent to 9 percent," he said.

"College of The Albemarle has a high presence in Perquimans County," said Nelson. "Continuing education classes are held at Perquimans High School, Snug Harbor Community Church, Perquimans Senior Citizens Center, Perquimans EMS Building, Bevidere, Bethel, Hertford, and Winfall fire departments and Toler's Shop."

Literacy education classes are also held in Perquimans County, Nelson said. "COA must work with the public schools to reach out to adults who need literacy education."

Wanted: Children with special educational needs

An effort is underway in the Perquimans County Schools to identify children and youths ages 0-21 who are handicapped and need special education and other services.

Project Child Find is looking for children and youth who have special needs and are unable to benefit from regular classroom experiences.

child (individualized education program) and a referral to other agencies which provide special services.

Project Child Find is looking for children and youth who have been diagnosed

or are suspected to be mentally, physically or emotionally handicapped and are unable to benefit from a regular school program without special assistance.

Harris and Dr. Randall Henion, local superintendent of schools, encourage anyone who knows a child or youth who may be handicapped and is not in school or receiving special assistance to urge the parent/guardian to contact any of the following: Dr. Henion, Program Administrator for Exceptional Children Brenda Terranova, a school principal or the State Department's Division of Exceptional Children's Services.

For more information, call Mrs. Terranova at 426-5741 or the Division of Exceptional Children's Service at (919) 733-3004, CARE-LINE 1-800-662-7030 or Family Support Network 1-800-TLC-0042.

and other state and community agencies.

Help is available for children with special needs, according to Lowell Harris, Director of the Department of Public Instruction's Division of Exceptional Children's Services. This help is in the form of a complete evaluation, an education program designed specifically for the

Theater group to visit

The N.C. Arts Council is sponsoring a multicultural theater project in the state's northeastern counties. Funded by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), the March 30 - April 17 residency features "Northeast North Carolina Meets Junebug/Jack," a collaboration between Roadside Theater of Whitesburg, Ken, and Junebug Productions of New Orleans, La.

This rural arts initiatives project will offer performances and other activities in Bertie, Currituck, Gates, Halifax, Hertford, Hyde, Northampton, Pasquotank and Perquimans counties.

The play "Junebug/Jack" explores the history of two of America's Southern cultures: African-American rural and white Appalachian. Roadside Theater and Junebug Productions have collaborated on the script for this production which will be the basis for community residencies featuring performances, workshops for senior citizens and activities in the schools. A meeting of two characters, the work features "Junebug," a storyteller in the black, rural South, and "Jack," an archetypal hero in Appalachian stories and songs. The residencies will explore the experiences of these two cultures through traditional and original stories and song.

Celebrating and increasing awareness of local cultural life

are among the project's most important goals. Artists from the particular communities will be involved in many residency activities.

Designed to benefit underserved audiences, this rural arts program is made possible by a \$50,000 grant from the NEA to the N.C. Arts Council. The Council previously received another NEA grant to plan the residency. Admission to all events will be free.

Residency activities will also take place at ECSU and with senior groups in Hertford. Members of the university's student gospel group will perform with Roadside/Junebug during the public performance. Seniors in Perquimans County are gathering stories from fellow senior citizens which will be presented on April 9 at the Albemarle Commission building. The rich heritage of Perquimans seen through the eyes of those who lived it will add local flavor to the performance.

DEADLINES FOR THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY ARE AS FOLLOWS:

NEWS RELEASES ... MON. 3 P.M.
RETAIL ADVERTISING ... MON. 3 P.M.
CLASSIFIED & LEGALS ... MON. 3 P.M.

PRIOR TO THURSDAY PUBLICATION PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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