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THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

Volume 61, No.22

Hertford, Perquimans County, N.C., Thursday, May 28, 1992

35 Cents

Briefs

Williamsburg trip

The Perquimans County Recreation Department/Senior Center is sponsoring a trip to the Williamsburg Pottery and Outlet Mall on Friday, June 12. The bus will leave the Center at 8 a.m. Arrival time home should be around 7 p.m. Cost is \$13.50 per person, which includes transportation only. Payment must be received by Friday, June 5. For more information or to register, call the Center at 426-5404.

AARP course offered

The Perquimans Senior Center has joined with the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) to offer a 55 ALIVE/MATURE DRIVING course. AARP developed the eight-hour classroom refresher course to help drivers 50 years of age or older improve their skills and prevent traffic accidents.

Volunteer instructors recruited and trained by AARP conduct the course, which is presented through a combination of slide presentations and group discussion.

The course will be held Tuesday, June 2 and Wednesday, June 3 from 10 a.m.-12 noon and 1-3 p.m. at the Senior Center. The fee is \$8.

For further information or to register for the course, call the Center at 426-5404.

Cancer fundraiser

The Perquimans County Unit of the American Cancer Society will be canvassing the town and county beginning May 25-June 7. A national telethon will be held June 1 and 2.

Support group to meet

The Alzheimer's Disease Support Group will meet Thursday, May 28 at 7:30 p.m. at Winslow Memorial Home Inc. in Elizabeth City. All interested persons may attend.

Skeet shoot set

A skeet shoot to benefit the Perquimans Middle School shooting teams will be held Saturday, June 6 at the Jimmy Hunter farm from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Proceeds will help send the team to national competition in New Mexico. Cost is \$10 per round. Bring your own shells. Concessions available on site.

Hunter safety

There will be a hunter safety course on June 16, 17 and 19 from 6:30-10:30 p.m. at the Perquimans Cooperative Extension Center. To sign up for the free course, contact Wildlife Officer Raymond May at 426-4998.

Car wash slated

The Perquimans County Jaycees will hold a car wash on Saturday, June 13 beginning at 9 a.m. at the Perquimans County Farm Bureau office on Church Street.

Newbold-White needs volunteers

By TRACY E. GERLACH and
SUSAN HARRIS
Advance Publications

It seems that Perquimans County residents aren't too interested in archeological digs judging from the lack of volunteers Newbold-White House site director Steve Allen has for his annual search for buried clues to life on the site.

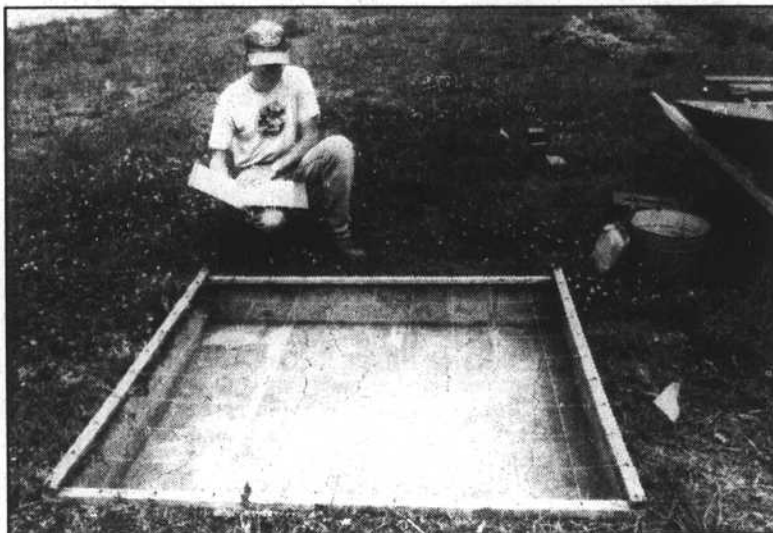
Allen said he usually drums up one volunteer each year to help recover 17th century artifacts at Newbold-White, North Carolina's oldest house.

"I haven't had too many people volunteer for archeology work," said the site's only full-time employee. "I could use upwards of 20 (volunteers) if they were available."

As it stands, Allen alone excavates, screens, maps, photographs and performs all other work necessary to uncover what could be vital clues to life in the heyday of the Newbold-White house. One pair of hands and one back make the process long and tedious.

The excavations are planned on sites where historians believe former buildings once sat. Past finds have included smoking pipe stems, German stoneware and bottle and window glass. These treasures have been catalogued and charted. Each new find could yield further information about the site and its inhabitants over the years. With some assistance, Allen feels that more artifacts could be uncovered more quickly to continue to fill in pieces of the site's history.

Allen has always been somewhat of a history buff, and having so few people share his



Photos by Beth Finney

First he maps (above), then Steve Allen digs (below) before sifting through the dirt at a Newbold-White House excavation site. Allen said he needs more people to help unearth clues to life in Perquimans during the 17th century.



enthusiasm for unearthing pieces of history baffles him. "Maybe the generation coming up now isn't interested in history the way a lot of people in my generation aren't inter-

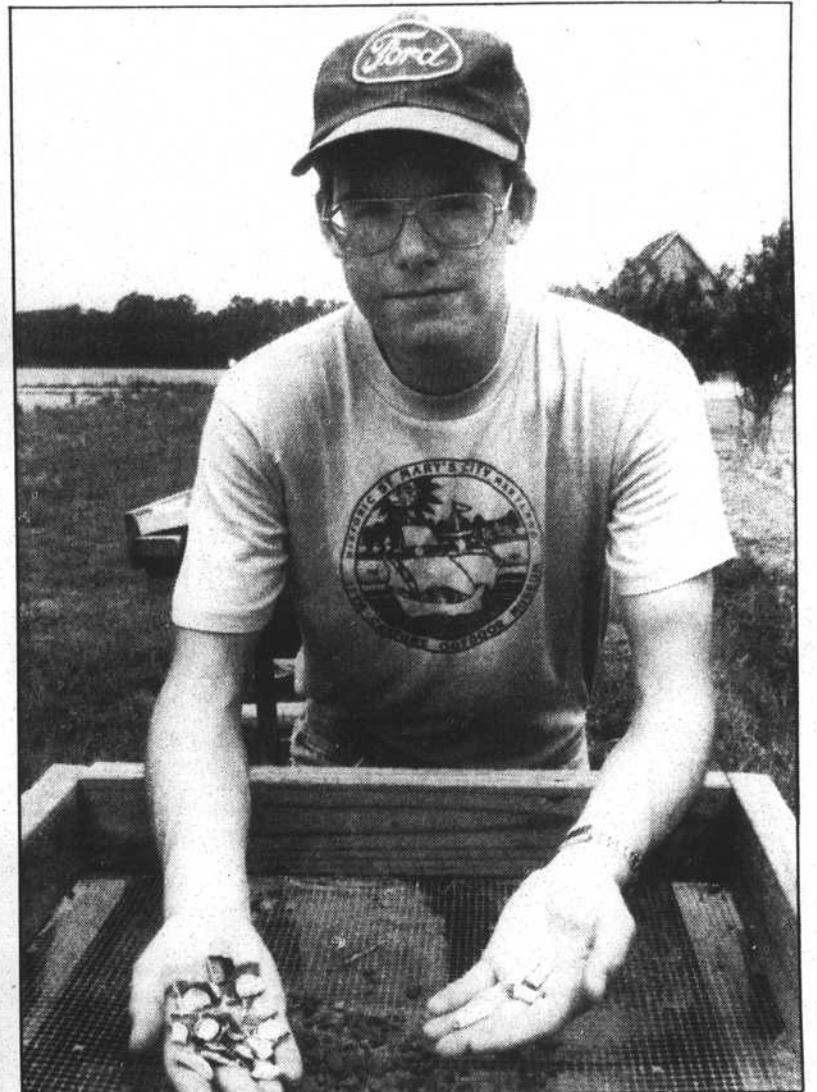


Photo by Beth Finney

Newbold-White House site director Steve Allen shows off some findings of the archeological dig in process at the historic complex.

ested in history," Allen hypothesized. Whatever the reason, Allen continues to hope that someone who shares his enthusiasm will come along to step up the work in progress.

The week at a glance

By TRACY E. GERLACH
The Daily Advance

Planning the future

A 60-member strategic planning group for Perquimans County has met three times to formulate ideas for the county's future. Plans for the county 25 years from now could include a public dock and historic village, or a museum honoring baseball great and Hertford resident Catfish Hunter. The last meeting will be held June 4.

Recycling program eyed

Perquimans County Schools may implement a system-wide recycling program next year, according to Superintendent Randall L. Henion. A recent scare over the Town of Hertford's decision to discontinue garbage pickup for two of the schools prompted the move toward recycling.

Change of heart

The Hertford Town Council is expected to reverse its decision to discontinue commercial garbage pickup at its next meeting. Instead the board will consider a fee schedule charging \$10 per dumpster load or \$10 a month for smaller businesses. Mayor John G. Beers said. Board members met with local business owners concerned about garbage pickup last week and agreed to overturn their earlier decision.

Domino effect

J.D. Brickhouse, financial advisor for Tyrrell County, assured members of the Albemarle Commission last week that all counties in the Albemarle region would benefit from a multi-million dollar project underway in Columbia.

The Tyrrell County town is developing a national wildlife interpretive center, expected to draw students and tourists to the area. Several other nature and commercial development projects are built into the five-year plan.

Albemarle Commission to help small businesses

The Albemarle Commission voted Thursday to establish a \$400,000 revolving loan fund for small businesses unable to qualify for Small Business Administration loans. The loan fund was started using some commission money and matching dollars from the federal government.

Eligible counties — which include Perquimans, Pasquotank, Gates, Tyrrell and Hyde — were chosen based on unemployment rates and per capita income.

The commission also approved funding for a new mapping system to assist all ten counties in the commission's service area.

No merger

Winfall Councilman Bert Hayes suggested merging the towns of Winfall and Hertford to the county's strategic planning commission, but the idea received little discussion, he said. Mayors from both towns doubt the idea will ever come to pass.

Revitalization continues

Applications for grants to revitalize storefronts in Hertford's downtown are still being received by Revitalization Committee Chairman John Christensen. Efforts are continuing three years after the program started. Six storefronts have been completed. Others have committed to making improvements.



Photo by Beth Finney

Thank you

The Bootstrap Acting Company recognized during the spring production, "The Senator Geri Carney for her assistance and support. Wore Pantyhose."

Electoral committee considers second plan

By TRACY E. GERLACH and
SUSAN R. HARRIS
Advance Publications

Four years after the NAACP questioned the county's electoral system and took their complaints to an attorney, there is still no new system in Perquimans.

A biracial study committee was commissioned soon after Durwood Reed was appointed to fill the unexpired term of W.W. "Welly" White, causing a controversy because two black candidates had been overlooked by county commissioners.

The committee worked diligently to come up with a more racially equitable plan that would satisfy the NAACP, fall under U.S. Justice Department guidelines and not create havoc with voting procedures. A plan was approved by the committee and the board of county commissioners which called for seven-member boards of commissioners and education and kept the at-large voting system. Two of the members would be elected from one predominantly black district. The state legis-

lature gave its okay, but the Justice Department rejected the proposal.

A compromise plan has been submitted to the Democratic and Republican parties for their official positions before being sent to the school board and board of county commissioners for a vote. The new plan calls for an increase in seats on the two boards from five to six.

The Democrats maintain there is no hurry to approve the plan, according to a spokesperson, while the Republicans said they have not received a copy for review.

Since the electoral study committee was organized, a black candidate has been elected to both the board of education and the board of county commissioners. Both black candidates faced white opponents in the races.

Walter Leigh defeated Tildon Whitehurst for the board of education seat representing the New Hope township. Shirley Yates was one of two candidates elected from a field of three to represent the second county commissioners district.

NEW OFFICE HOURS



NOW OPEN CONTINUOUSLY

8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Monday, Wednesday
Thursday and Friday

Tuesday
8 a.m. - 11 a.m.

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

119 W. Grubb St.

426-5728