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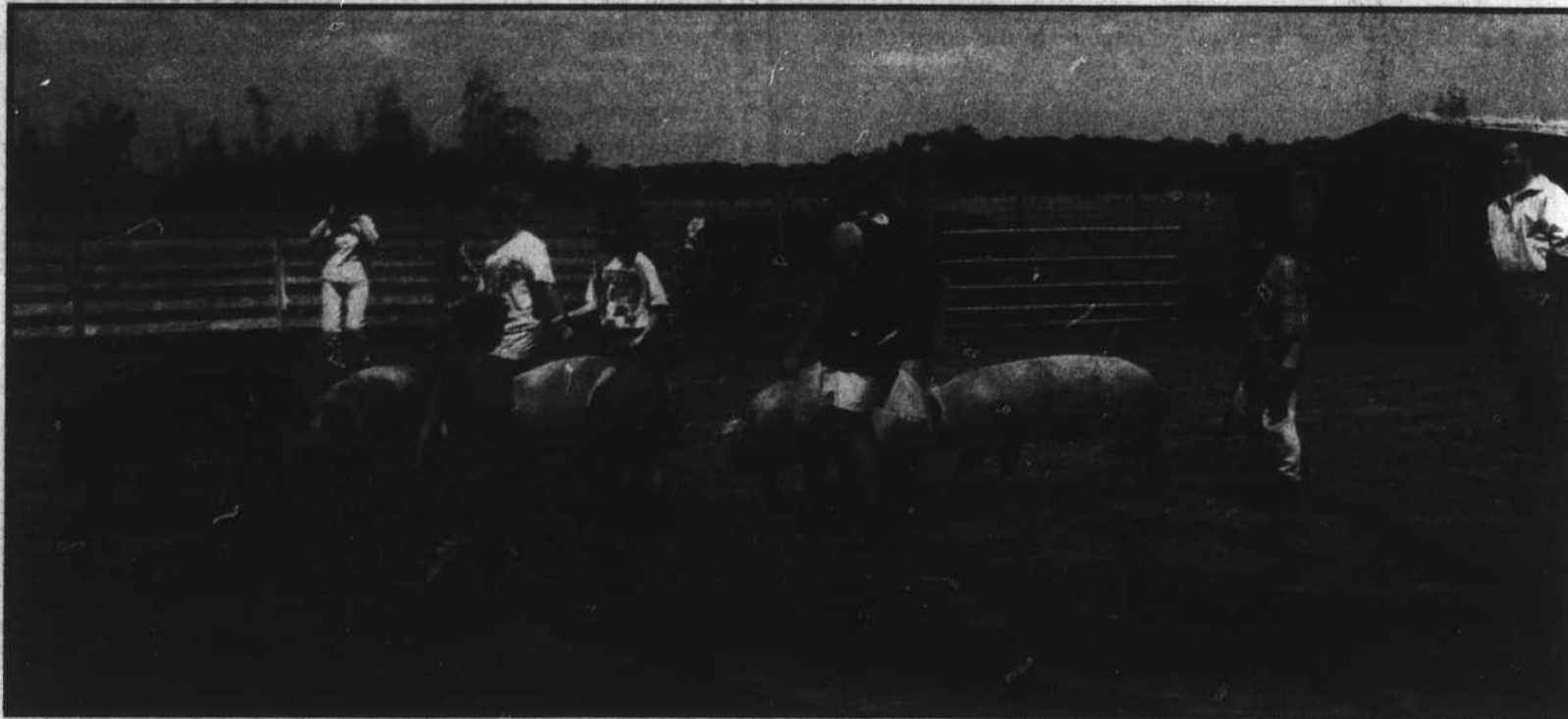
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# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

Volume 62, No. 14

Hertford, Perquimans County, N.C., Thursday, April 29, 1993

35 Cents



The Charles Layden family geared up for the Albemarle 4-H Livestock Show and Sale Sunday, with six grandchildren working steers and pigs in the pen behind Layden's house. Here, the children try to get their pigs ready for the ring. It was truly a family affair with moms, dads and even grandparents leaning over the fence to encourage and give advice. The livestock show was held Tuesday and Wednesday in Elizabeth City. (Photo by Susan Harris)

## Livestock show is a family affair

By SUSAN R. HARRIS  
Editor

Bloodlines are important in livestock. But Perquimans County youth who showed animals at the annual Albemarle 4-H Livestock Show and Sale Tuesday and Wednesday cannot overlook the value of human bloodlines.

Several families had numerous members participating in the show. In some families, youth who participate are second and third generation showmen.

Visit the Charles Layden family, for example. Late winter and early spring Sunday afternoons find the whole family hanging over Charles and Mittie Jean Layden's back fence. The grandchildren jump into the pasture to work their animals, while the parents call out helpful hints. Around and around the children walk their four-legged charges, careful to keep their eyes on Doug Layden, the oldest Layden son and father and uncle to this year's six Layden showmen.

"Okay, stop and set up," Doug tells the children. They all attempt to get their animals to cooperate with their prodding and pleading.

"You're out," Doug calls to one child. "You took your eyes off the judge." Then it's time to walk around and try the set-up procedure again.

Charles' grandchildren will have nine animals in the show, three steers and six pigs. Christy, the oldest grandchild, showed last year's grand champion steer. A couple of years before that, Linda, Charles' youngest child, earned that honor.

Lisa, Michael, Bobby, Charlie, Christy and Natalie are not the last Laydens who will show livestock. Little Kendall and Lacy are already learning how to walk pigs so they can begin their livestock careers over the next two years.

For the first time in nine years, the Layden clan did not show lambs.

But the Weldop Byrum family did. Earlie Jr., Garry, Travis, Angel, David and Casey showed a total of six pigs and four lambs.

Spring afternoons find members of the Byrum clan out walking lambs around Earlie Byrum's yard. Sometimes the temperamental animals cooperate, at other times they'd rather jump and play.

Billy Elliott also has quite a full house

around livestock show time. Grandchildren Amber, Neil, Ryan and Wes join nephews Christopher and Patrick Gregory at the barn to work with their steers and pigs. This family has produced its third generation of showmen, starting with Billy.

Rountree Stallings, too, has grandchildren in the livestock show. Kimberly, Michael and Lynn compete in the Albemarle Show. Three other grandsons enter animals in the Gates County show.

Perquimans County entered 54 youths, representing 32 families, in the show. A total of 69 animals, including 37 pigs, 13 steers and 19 lambs, were shown.

The Albemarle 4-H Livestock Show is the largest area livestock show in the state. Youth from Perquimans, Pasquotank and Camden compete for top prizes in best animals and showmanship. Only the state show in Raleigh is larger.

## State Rep. Pete Thompson dies

### Hundreds gather to pay respect

By SUSAN R. HARRIS  
Editor

State Rep. R.M. "Pete" Thompson died last Friday afternoon. Thompson (D-Chowan) suffered a heart attack in his home in Edenton and died later at Chowan Hospital.

According to Larry Swindell of Swindell Funeral Home, between 700 and 800 friends and colleagues gathered at Westlawn Memorial Park in Elizabeth City Sunday to pay their respects to the man who represented the 86th district, formerly the 1st district, in the state legislature. Among the mourners were Governor James Hunt who spoke at the service, President Pro Tem of the Senate Marc Basnight, Speaker of the House Dan Blue, Rep. Vernon G. James, Eva Clayton representative Clara Boswell and government officials from across the Albemarle area.

Thompson's death came as a shock. He had played a game of golf shortly before his death, and had not experienced any major medical problems prior to his heart attack, according to family members.

The big question in the minds of Thompson's constituents is who Gov. Hunt will choose to represent them in Thompson's place. Democratic Party officials from each of the counties in the 86th district will nominate a candidate to replace Thompson. Then the governor will choose someone from that group of candidates to serve the remainder of Thompson's term.

The 86th district includes Chowan, Dare and Tyrrell counties, and parts of Perquimans and Washington counties. Thompson was elected to serve the district in 1986.

Thompson was serving as chairman of the House Local and Regional Government I Commissions. He also served on the House Solid Waste Study Commission, and the Agriculture, Finance, Environment and Public Utilities commissions.

Thompson was retired from the North Carolina Extension Service after 30 years. He had served in both Perquimans and Chowan counties as county director. He also formerly worked in public relations with People's Bank and Trust Co. in Edenton and managed Chowan Storage Company.

## Perquimans loses friend

By SUSAN R. HARRIS  
Editor

Perquimans County lost more than a voice in Raleigh when state Rep. R.M. "Pete" Thompson died of a heart attack last Friday. The county lost a friend.

Public officials here said Thompson, 67, was an effective legislator who always kept the needs of his constituents at heart. He was described by some as the kind of representative who was truly a public servant.

"He did a tremendous job," said Hertford town manager W.D. "Bill" Cox. "It's hard to say how much he'll be missed."

County manager Paul Gregory echoed Cox's statements. "He was just a good man who's going to be missed. He was the key person (in Raleigh) that I called all the time," Gregory said.

Archie Miller, a Perquimans County commissioner and formerly Thompson's campaign manager said, "We're going to miss him a lot. He was a friend to Perquimans County. He had worked here. He knew the people, he knew their problems. He was easy to work with. He was more than happy to take care of any of our problems and did. He worked really well with our county."

All three officials said Thompson kept in close contact with Perquimans, asking what he could do in Raleigh for the county or towns. Gregory said Thompson didn't wait to be called upon, he'd call to see if anything needed his attention.

"He worked for the people," Gregory said.

Miller said Thompson took the time to listen to those he was elected to represent.

"He always had time to talk with you. He always treated you as a friend whether you agreed with him or not."

Cox said it won't only be Perquimans County residents who will miss Thompson.

"He'll be missed not only in Perquimans County, he'll be missed across the state. He was just a special person."

Governor James Hunt is expected to fill Thompson's seat as soon as possible.

## Watch new traffic patterns on U.S. 17

The North Carolina Transportation Department has issued warnings to motorists traveling on the U.S. Highway 17 Bypass just outside Hertford.

Road construction in progress, which will turn the Hertford bypass, including the bridge, into a four-lane throughway, has changed traffic patterns, causing mix-ups for some motorists.

In addition to these temporary changes, there are some permanent traffic pattern changes being made.

DOT officials recommend that drivers use caution as people get used to the new traffic patterns.

## Jaycees install new officers

By SUSAN R. HARRIS  
Editor

The Perquimans County Jaycees installed officers and presented awards at the club's annual installation banquet last Thursday at the Hertford Lion's Club.

Robby Goodwin was installed as president of the chapter by former Perquimans County Jaycee president, district director and regional director Richard Copeland. Copeland also installed internal vice president Carlton Boyce, treasurer and chairman of the board Bobby Winslow, state director Sarah Winslow and local director Guilford Roberts. Wade Chappell will serve as external vice president.

Outgoing president Bobby Winslow presented awards earned by members during the 1992-93 year. Goodwin was named Jaycee of the Year and earned the Project of the Year award for chairing the Allen Winslow benefit. Boyce earned two awards, Vice President of the Year and the Presidential Award of Honor. Sara Winslow received a Presidential Award of Honor. Wanda Goodwin took Rookie of the Year and the William C. Brownfield Award. Chappell was named Director of the Year. Parker Newbern and Edgar Roberson earned Rooster Awards. Bobby Winslow received a past president's plaque.

In addition to installing officers, Copeland served as guest speaker, encouraging the club to share the Jaycee experience and continue to work for community improvement.

Jaycees is a young adult leadership training and community service organization open to men and women ages 21-39.



Robby Goodwin (above) is joined by his wife, Wanda, as he is installed as president of the Jaycees. (Below) Carlton Boyce, Sara Winslow, Bobby Winslow and Guilford Roberts take the oath of office. (Photos by Susan Harris)



## Newbern promoted to public utilities director

Hertford Mayor John G. Beers announced the promotion of Parker Newbern to director of public utilities effective April 21.

Newbern will oversee all public works operations, a duty formerly handled by town manager W.D. "Bill" Cox. The department hires 16 employees, including full- and part-time staff.

"This takes a load off the city manager, so he can focus on his other duties," Beers said.

Newbern, 40, formerly served as water and waste treatment plant supervisor and operator. He joined the town maintenance staff in 1986.

"I'm looking forward to working with Parker in his new position," Cox said. "I'm sure he'll do a good job for us."

Kelvin Roberson was hired to fill Newbern's former position.



Parker Newbern

## THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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News 3:00  
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