

# The Perquimans Weekly

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Vol. 63, No. 17

The only newspaper for and about Perquimans County people

Hertford, North Carolina 27944

## County youth show the bacon

4-H livestock show celebrates 50th anniversary

After hours and hours of preparation, Perquimans County youth strutted their lambs, pigs and steers around the ring at the 50th annual Albemarle 4-H Livestock Show and Sale Tuesday and Wednesday.

Fifty-two participants representing 32 families entered 40 hogs, 22 lambs and seven steers in the show, along with youth from Pasquotank, Currituck, Gates and Camden counties. The youngest participants are only 5 years old, the oldest seniors in high school.

The livestock show is designed to teach youth about responsibility, and the process of raising animals on the farm for market. Youth are required to keep detailed books recording feeding schedules and weight gain. They should also learn basic parts of the animal, such as where a ham comes from on a hog.

Judging for winners is done by age groups in both fitting and showmanship and animal quality categories.

The show is capped with an auction to sell the animals. Many youth report that the money they earn from the sale is put into a college fund.

Prizes and trophies will be awarded at the awards banquet on May 19.

## SCHOOL EMPLOYEES LIGHTEN UP



PHOTO BY SUSAN HARRIS

Sixty-nine Perquimans County Schools employees lost a total of 860.75 pounds this winter through the school system's Lighten-Up For Life Weight Program. They celebrated their success earlier this month with a reception featuring low-fat snack foods and fresh fruit.

## Employees lose over 800 pounds

The 69 Perquimans County Schools employees who decided to lighten up this winter did just that.

Through the school system's wellness program, the employees participated in a "Lighten Up For Life Weight Program," shedding 860.75 pounds collectively.

Lighten Up kicked off on Jan. 29, with participating employees pledging to lose at least 10 pounds by April 10. Participants formed teams of three, providing support

and encouragement for each other. Each participant paid \$10, which was put in a fund and paid out to the first, second and third place "losers." Each team chose a silly name.

Each week, school nurse LouAnn Stallings provided handouts outlining healthy lifestyle changes and eating tips. Regular exercise was encouraged.

By April 10, the participants had lost almost 900 pounds, representing 70 percent of the initial goal.

Teams winning the losing battle were The Fat Dodgers - James Carolyn Barcliff, Mary Foskey and Louise Parker, first place; GoGo Sisters - Patti Curles, Margo Owens and Lynn Wodell, second place; and Porky Partners - Pete Hunter, C.D. White and George White, third place.

A reception was held to mark the group's success. Featured on the menu were fresh fruit and snack foods low in fat and calories.

## Conservation office observes stewardship week

Conserving natural resources is not something individuals can do, it's something they should do, according to local conservationists.

"Stewardship responsibility starts with you and me, but there is always strength in numbers," said Elmer Lassiter, chairman of the Perquimans Conservation Committee.

The local committee is encouraging participation in National Soil and Water Stewardship Week, April 30-May 7. The committee is providing church bulletins for use on April 30 to remind people of the important part they play in improving water quality and conserving natural resources.

Working through the conservation service, many Perquimans County farmers have built structures on their farms designed to prevent run-off, thereby decreasing the amount of agricultural chemicals emptying into local rivers and the sound. Hog lagoons and systems to use animal waste for fertilizer have also been constructed. There are funds available to assist with the cost of implementing these conservation procedures.

Ginger O'Neal, secretary/technician for the Perquimans Soil and Water Conservation District Office, holds environmental field days for students in the local school system each year to teach them about the role they can play in preserving and conserving natural resources. A favorite component of the field day for the children is a puppet show.

Conservation Committee Supervisors are elected by county voters. Serving on the committee at present are Lassiter; George Winslow, vice chairman; Charles Mathews, secretary/treasurer; and Burt Eure.

The natural resource technician is William M. Blackwell. The conservation office is located at the county office building on Edenton Road Street. For information on conservation programs and resources available through the office, call 426-5545.

## Land's End site of Preservation N.C. open house Volunteers honored

There is no telling how many folks Land's End has welcomed during the 160-odd years it has stood overlooking the Albemarle Sound. Likewise, there is no telling how many folks will be drawn to it on May 13 when Henry and Bettie Stokes host an open house there on behalf of Preservation North Carolina in observance of Preservation Week 1995.

Bettie Stokes is a direct descendant of the home's builder, Col. James Leigh.

Unoccupied now, Land's End, also known locally as the Leigh Farm, was sold several years ago to Preservation North Carolina, the state's only statewide private non-profit historic preservation organization. Preservation North Carolina's mission is to protect and promote structures, landscapes and sites important to the heritage of the Old North State. Through its revolving loan fund, Preservation N.C. has saved more than 200 buildings from neglect and destruction by buying and selling them with protective covenants and by accepting preservation easements from concerned owners of historic properties.

Those who attend the open house will be asked to contribute \$25 to Preservation North Carolina to help save Land's End and other historic houses in the state.

One of the most fascinating features of the Leigh house, which is listed on the National



FILE PHOTO

Land's End, one of Perquimans County's most precious architectural treasures, will be the site of an open house to benefit Preservation North Carolina on Saturday, May 13 from 3-5 p.m. The event will be hosted by Henry and Bettie Stokes of Hertford.

Register of Historic Places, is the third floor ballroom. Tradition holds that two grand pianos were once located in the ballroom where guests attended elegant parties at Land's End.

Built between 1830 and 1937, Land's End stands tall on a raised basement, and is distinguished by front and rear double-tier engaged porches. The walls are 18 inches thick.

The interior of the house is virtually intact. According to Preservation North Carolina literature, Land's End is in excellent overall condition,

but will need modernizing and some plaster repair should it be purchased for a residence.

The house features a two-story dependency at the rear. The dairy house and smokehouse are still standing, although the smokehouse is in poor condition.

Many years after James Leigh's death, the Elizabeth City Independent newspaper wrote of him: "James Leigh was a carpenter, in the day when a carpenter was both builder and architect. He owned one slave to whom he taught the trade. In the later

part of the 18th century, the craftsmanship of James Leigh and his man were much in demand in Perquimans County. James Leigh was a good craftsman. He built strong and had an eye for beauty. And he knew how to charge for his work."

Donations may be made to Preservation N.C., % Mrs. Henry C. Stokes Jr., P.O. Box 44, Hertford, N.C. 27944.

Memberships to Preservation North Carolina are \$25. For more information, write 101 St. Mary's St., P.O. Box 27644, Raleigh 27611-7644.

Brian Center Health and Rehabilitation/Hertford is honoring a group of special people this week during National Volunteer Appreciation Week. The theme for this year's observance is "Volunteer Because Change Is Possible."

"Volunteers visit Brian Center on a regular basis to share their time and talents with our residents," said Joe France, administrator. "They perform many duties to assist our residents such as hosting Bible studies and church services, conducting games, and helping with activities and special events."

The local Brian Center residents enjoy the visits of volunteers of all ages. Through the center's Adopt-A-Grandparent program, the entire fourth grade family at Central School has taken the opportunity to expose students to a nursing

care setting and learn first-hand about volunteerism and responsibility. According to Activities Director Beth Finney, the fourth grade project has been a welcome addition to the volunteer program, which includes church and civic groups, school groups and individuals committed to helping others. Hundreds of hours of service are offered to the center each year by volunteers.

To show their appreciation for the center's volunteers, the residents and staff has invited almost 50 volunteers to a luncheon on April 28. The guests will be honored for their service with certificates and gifts.

Brian Center never has too many volunteers, Finney said. "We need individuals and groups with a variety of talents and skills," she said.

For information, call Finney at 426-5391.

## Outside

| THURSDAY       |          | FRIDAY        |          | SATURDAY      |          |
|----------------|----------|---------------|----------|---------------|----------|
|                |          |               |          |               |          |
| High: 70s      | Low: 50s | High: 70s     | Low: 50s | High: 70s     | Low: 50s |
| CHANCE OF RAIN |          | PARTLY CLOUDY |          | PARTLY CLOUDY |          |