

The Perquimans Weekly

35¢

Vol. 64, No. 35

The only newspaper for and about Perquimans County people

Hertford, North Carolina 27944

CHAMBER WELCOMES TWO NEW BUSINESSES

County natives come home to open two new businesses

By SUSAN R. HARRIS
Editor

They're back home again. Brad Hurdle, Dabney Woodard and Melanie Morris, all of whom grew up in Perquimans County, have recently opened two new businesses in Perquimans County.

Hurdle and Woodard each earned bachelors degrees in pharmacology from the University of North Carolina. The two, along with Woodard's parents, Charles and Harriette Woodard, have

opened Family Care Pharmacy on Church Street Extended.

Morris also earned her undergraduate degree in journalism from UNC before going on to earn a law degree from Campbell University. She has opened a law practice on the corner of Punch Alley and Grubb Street.

The Perquimans County Chamber of Commerce sponsored ribbon cuttings at both enterprises last week, welcoming the trio back home and into the business community.



PHOTOS BY SUSAN HARRIS

Perquimans County government, business and community leaders welcomed two new businesses to the county last week when the Chamber of Commerce sponsored ribbon cuttings at both Family Care Pharmacy

(above) and Melanie Morris, Attorney at Law (below). Both businesses are owned by county natives who chose to come home to live and work after receiving college degrees at the University of North Carolina.



Pharmacists team up to offer complete care

Brad Hurdle and Dabney Woodard have shared a counter many times over the years. Both pharmacists got their first taste of dispensing medicines behind the counter at Woodard's Pharmacy in Hertford under the watchful eye of owner Charles Woodard.

This summer, the two young pharmacists teamed up with Woodard's father, Charles, and opened Family Care Pharmacy on Church Street Extended. Hurdle and Charles Woodard co-own the business.

Customers will find much more than prescription medicines at Family Care Pharmacy. The store offers blood pressure and blood

glucose monitoring, durable medical equipment, specialty items for patients with diseases such as diabetes, and carrying cases for medical needs like insulin and needles.

In addition, the pharmacists will take time to make sure patrons understand how to take their medications, and how changes in lifestyle can promote overall wellness and help control such medical conditions as high blood pressure.

Hurdle and Woodard would like to develop a good working relationship with doctors, and that doctors will refer patients to Family Care because of the pharmacists' commitment to patients' well-being and the consultation services offered through Family Care. The two want to reinforce the advice given by doctors to help patients get well and stay well.

Hurdle graduated from Perquimans High School before pursuing his pharmacy degree, which he earned in 1992. He has four years experience in the field.

He is the son of Harlan and Brenda Hurdle of Belvidere.

Woodard earned her high school diploma from Albemarle School, formerly Albemarle Academy, before enrolling in UNC's pharmacy program. She graduated in May.

Morris offers high quality work with compassion

Fed up with city life, local attorney moves back to hometown

Hertford's newest attorney chose to leave the city and come back home to a place where people know each other and care about each other to open her law practice.

After 10 years of living and working in Washington, D.C. and Raleigh, Morris wanted to practice law in what she terms "a happier environment." She chose her hometown.

The Chamber of Commerce officially welcomed Morris to Perquimans County's business community last Wednesday with a ribbon cutting at her Punch Alley office.

Morris graduated from Chowan Academy before earning a bachelors degree in journalism from UNC. After taking a year off from classes and studying, Morris pursued her desire to become an attorney by enrolling in Campbell Law School. She earned her juris doctorate in 1986.

Her first position in the legal field was as a clerk for the Hon. David B. Sentelle, who sat on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. She then served as a litigator with two large D.C. law firms before accepting a position as in-house counsel with Ernst and

Young. In that role, she handled appellate litigation across the country. Exciting and challenging as she found her work, she found she was not happy living in a large metropolitan area.

She moved to Raleigh, where she worked for a legal publisher while deciding what direction her law practice would take. But she found that Raleigh in the 1990s was too much like the city she left for her taste. So, she opted to come home to her family and neighbors and hang out her shingle.

That's where you'll find Morris now, in her office Monday-Friday from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Because she realizes it's sometimes difficult for working clients to meet with her during office hours, you can also find her there in the evening meeting with clients by appointment.

Morris has chosen to handle mainly real estate transactions, domestic matters and wills and estate planning. She said she will occasionally deal with traffic cases and personal injury suits, but prefers not to handle criminal defense.

Back in her hometown, Morris said she would like to make a name for herself as an attorney who produces high quality work in a timely and compassionate manner.

Morris is the daughter of Donald and JoAnne Morris.

County wetlands restored

By SUSAN R. HARRIS
Editor

The N.C. Board of Transportation will pay a Tarboro firm \$352,115 to restore 600 acres of wetlands in Gates and Perquimans counties.

Barnhill Construction was awarded the contract which will restore wetland on Folly Road east of Sandy Cross.

The land was once part of the Dismal Swamp. It was drained and cultivated by a private owner. NCDOT bought the land and will restore it to its natural condition. Work is scheduled to begin this month.

The project is part of the state's agreement with the Army Corps of Engineers to recreate wetlands in kind when roadways are built through environmentally sensitive areas, according to Neil Lassiter, DOT Division Construction Engineer in the Elizabeth City office.

During construction, safeguard will be taken to protect small streams and wetlands from contamination by soil or construction materials. Grass will be planted to cover bare ground caused by construction.

Work on the project should be complete in December.

Rain didn't wash away success of picnic

By SUSAN R. HARRIS
Editor

Rain didn't drench the efforts of the Perquimans County Historical Commission to soak up funds for historic preservation in the county.

Although the drizzly Sunday afternoon weather kept many away from the Commission's first annual fundraiser last month, the group realized a profit of over \$4,000.

The proceeds will be used to apply for a matching grant to hire an historic archives consultant. The consultant will work to place several Perquimans County communities on the National Register of Historic Places.

Working as a committee of the Chamber of Commerce, the Commission's objectives are multi-faceted. Goals for the project include building pride in the county, preserving the county's most endangered and valuable homes for heritage, improving the quality of life, providing potential benefits to homeowners, and promoting tourism.

The commission is not seeking to restrict property rights of landowners through the initiative.

Despite the rain, those who attended the picnic hosted by Lucille Winslow at her Front Street home overlooking the river enjoyed fun, food and entertainment. Partygoers enjoyed a gourmet meal, dancing to the jazz and blues tunes of The Walter Plemmer Band, and an evening riverboat cruise.

Outside

NCHP prepares for holiday

The upcoming Labor Day weekend will be the last vacation of summer for many people, and the Highway Patrol wants it to be a safe holiday. Heavy traffic is expected, and the Patrol will be out in force to assist motorists and pursue violators.

"Speeders and drunk drivers are our biggest concern, because they cause the most accidents," said Colonel E.W. Horton, commander of the Highway Patrol. "Most of our citizens do a good job of obeying the traffic laws, but we won't hesitate to enforce the law against those who are violating it."

Recent changes in some

interstate speed limits mean motorists should pay special attention to how fast they're going. It's easy to lose track of your speed when you're traveling long distances. The Patrol suggests using cruise control or taking frequent breaks.

"Of course, you should always buckle your seat belts and use child restraint seats," said Col. Horton. "And perhaps the most important rule of all: don't drink and drive."

As on all major holidays, the Highway Patrol will participate in Operation C.A.R.E. The nationwide combined accident reduction effort by state police and highway patrol agencies uses high visi-

bility and enforcement to reduce accidents on our nation's highways. The Patrol also continues to enforce the Governor's Highway Safety Initiatives "Booze It & Lose It" and "Click It or Ticket."

Motorists with cellular phones may contact the Patrol for help or to report accidents, drunk drivers, speeders, etc. by calling *HP (*47) toll free on their cellular phones.

The Labor Day holiday weekend period begins at 6 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 30, and ends at midnight on Monday, Sept. 2. Last year, 10 people were killed and 1,258 were injured in North Carolina during the same period.

THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY	
High: 80s	Low: 60s	High: 80s	Low: 60s	High: 80s	Low: 60s
PARTLY CLOUDY		PARTLY CLOUDY		PARTLY CLOUDY	

Early deadline

All Perquimans Weekly deadlines for the September 5 issue will be Friday at 5 p.m. We will be closed on Monday, Sept. 2 for Labor Day.