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Hertford Grammar needs books

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Holiday Happenings

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Durants Neck Ruritans
 celebrate 50th anniversary

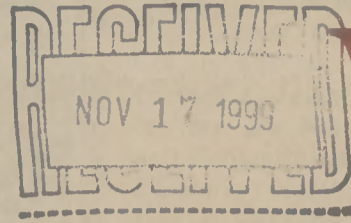
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THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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Chamber sponsors three ribbon cuttings in one day

SUSAN R. HARRIS
 Editor

Hertford celebrated a business grand opening and two grand re-openings with ribbon cuttings sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce last Thursday.

First up was a celebration at Grandma's Treasures on Dobbs Street. Housed in the renovated George Major Carriage House, the antiques, collectibles and gift shop is owned by Gene and Gloria Boyce. The two spent months renovating the historic structure before opening the charming business late last year.

Decked for the holidays, Grandma's Treasures carries only antique furnishings, leaves, both old and new. Leaves include vintage jewelry, Mikasa collectibles and is beautiful tableware.

The shop is open on leaf days, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and they give information or to, to in the day's ribbon cuttings. The shop has a leaf paper gave the character of their it last. We our and

ting agenda was the grand opening of L&L Ltd. in the old Morgan Furniture building. The chamber, business and government leaders, and individuals have worked diligently to fill this historic building, the last of the empty storefronts on the downtown block. Last week, the renovated building opened its doors.

Business owners Lee Cornelius and Linda Newman have created an antiques and collectibles mall. Part of the space is filled with their merchandise. Other areas, including one spot upstairs, are rented to other dealers.

Newman moved to Winfall 6 years ago after her husband retired from the Navy. Cornelius, Newman's cousin, came to visit in July and decided to stay. A business woman, Cornelius saw potential in historic Perquimans County.

"It was all her idea and I just went along for the ride," Newman said.

Tucked into the back corner of the building is Ballahack Cards, owned by mother-daughter operators Louise

Dail and Sheila Harrell.

Ballahack Cards started out with T-shirts that bore names and logos of county communities, as well as other hometown treasures. It was a home-based

business. Response was very positive, and the duo moved downtown. The business has expanded over the years, and now carries Christian items and gifts.



PHOTOS BY SUSAN HARRIS

Owners Gene and Gloria Boyce gathered with friends and associates last Thursday on the front stoop of their antiques and collectibles shop, Grandma's Treasures, for a grand re-opening. The Boyces renovated the historic George Major Carriage House, which makes a perfect setting for their business.



Tucked behind L&L Antiques Mall is Ballahack Cards, which relocated from Market Street. The shop, owned and operated by Louise Dail and Sheila Harrell, advertises Christian and hometown treasures.



After years of sitting empty, the historic building that once housed Morgan Furniture Store is home to L&L Ltd., an antiques and collectibles mall. The recently-renovated building is home to several dealers.

Antique dealers unite

They're into the past, but their ideas about marketing are modern.

A group of county antique business owners recently formed the Antique Dealers Association of Perquimans County. The organization will develop marketing strategy and coordinate special projects and promotions designed to expand this growing local industry.

"It was determined by all present (at the Nov. 8 organizational meeting) that the composition of an association to represent the antique businesses in Perquimans County will prove to be beneficial both to the business owners and to the economy and growth of the area," a news release issued by association coordinator Susan Wilkerson stated.

Wilkerson, owner of Fancy That, was elected to a one-year term. Fancy That has a shop in Edenton and is in the process of expanding to Perquimans County in the former Orchard Shop. Lee Cornelius of L&L Ltd., a new antiques mall in the Morgan Building in downtown Hertford, was elected to hold second seat.

Charter association members include Old Hickory Antiques & Etc., Country Flair, Blue Door Gallery Antiques, Dail's Flea Market, My Corner Antiques (Hertford Hardware), Riverwalk Gallery & Antiques,

Gregory's 5 & 10, Ballahack Cards & Crafts, Byrum's Antiques & Home Furnishings, Grandma's Treasures, A Touche of Olde, Fancy That, Carolina Bargains, and L & L Ltd., and independent dealers Janice Eure, Jane McMahon and Thomas Lightfoot.

Antiques dealers have been progressive in their marketing for several months. Spearheaded by McMahon, several developed a guide to antiques, food and lodging in Perquimans County. The brochures includes a numbered map showing locations of antique and collectible shops, as well as the county's four bed and breakfast inns and participating restaurants. The pamphlet also tells a little about what the county offers.

The dealers see their businesses, and their organization, as an important piece of the local economic development puzzle. Other small communities have experienced a surge in economic growth without the related strain on local services through the development of antiques and collectibles businesses, Wilkerson said. The businesses also compliment heritage tourism.

The association meets the first Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. The December meeting will be held at L & L Ltd. For more information, call Wilkerson at 426-8222, or Cornelius at 426-3129.

Schools ask pastors for help

Ministers and board of education personnel want to work together to benefit the county's youth.

Meeting for breakfast last month at the invitation of schools superintendent Gregory Todd, 11 ministers and school board personnel discussed how the ministers' leadership could bring citizens together to serve the educational needs of local students. The breakfast served as an organizational meeting for the group to consider how they can begin to focus on student needs and develop communication strategies to meet those needs through volunteerism.

Todd asked the ministers to help organize services for students and families which would include providing tutors to work with students in school or at home; initiating communication strategies to assist with student and family concerns; enlisting the services of volunteers to help students; establishing focused education programs in the churches; offering additional counseling by ministers in high school and middle school; and helping the community understand its vital role in promoting education.

Keith Vaughan, pastor of the Hertford Baptist Church, was elected as chairperson of the group. He will manage logistics and serve as coordinator of organized services for students.

For information, call Perquimans County Schools at 426-5741.

COA delays trustee board expansion

GINGER LIVINGSTON
 The Daily Advance

representation," Tillett said. Tillett said the problem could be solved if COA entered into a compact with the counties defining how the trustees are selected.

McGee asked if the language problems were serious.

"If someone wants to take it to the court, let them," she said.

McGee said Tillett's definition of administrative unit is too broad. Pasquotank County, as COA's host county, is traditionally defined as the administrative unit since it is the only county mandated to provide local funding to COA. Also, there is no requirement that the new counties financially support the school.

"I think they deserve representation if their students come (to COA)," McGee said. "We could probably get funding more freely (with representation)."

However, board member Wallace Nelson said the question over Camden, Currituck, Perquimans and Gates counties' representation has always revolved around whether or not money should be linked to board membership.

COA President Sylvester McKay said an attorney for the community college system reviewed the legislation language and felt it was sufficient. Tillett countered that while a community college attorney may approve the language, a better ruling would come from the attorney general's office.

Chris Seawell, a Dare County representative, wanted to know why the additions were being proposed at this time since the board appeared reluctant on earlier occasions to add members.

"We beat this horse to death and need to do something with it," McGee said. In a later interview she denied the additions were a way to dilute recent gains Dare County has made in obtaining representation on the Board of Trustees.

Historically Dare County has received two appointments to the board. But with Gov. Hunt's appointment of Tillett, the number of Dare County residents on the board has risen to three.

Although three votes are only one-fifth of the voting power of the board, when the full board meets, in instances when only eight members attend a meeting, Dare County's voting strength increases substantially.

MANTEO - Camden, Currituck, Perquimans and Gates counties must wait another month before learning if they will be represented on College of The Albemarle's Board of Trustees.

The COA board delayed voting on the issue this week because new board member Jerry Tillett raised questions about the legislation which allows the trustees to expand their membership.

Some phrasing in the legislation is vague and could create problems in approving future board appointees, Tillett said during the board's meeting at COA's Dare County campus in Manteo.

State Rep. Bill Owens, D-Pasquotank, supported legislation in 1997 that allows COA to increase Board of Trustees' size to include representatives from Camden, Currituck, Perquimans and Gates counties. Owens sponsored the legislation at the request of Currituck officials.

COA's Board of Trustees currently has 15 members, four of whom are appointed by the Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners, four by the Elizabeth City-Pasquotank Board of Education and four by the governor. Two others are appointed by the Dare County Board of Commissioners and one by the Chowan County Board of Commissioners. Both Dare and Chowan operate satellite campuses for COA.

Board Vice chairwoman Patsy McGee made the motion to approve the additions. However, she withdrew it after Tillett's objections convinced other board members the legislation needs review by COA's attorney.

Tillett, a superior court judge and Dare County resident appointed to the Board of Trustees last month by Gov. Jim Hunt, said he's bothered by two sections of the law's language.

The first, dealing with the Board of Education's appointment of four trustees states, "if there are two or more public school administrative units, whether city or county units, or both, located within the (community college's) administrative area, the trustees shall be elected jointly by all the boards of education of those units..."

The second, dealing with the Pasquotank Board of Commissioners' selection of four trustees states, "...if the administrative area of the institution is composed of two or more counties, the trustees shall be elected jointly by the boards of commissioners of all those counties, each board having one vote in the election of each trustee."

Tillett said state law defines an "administrative unit" as a body that provides financial support to an institution. Since all but one county in COA's service area gives the school money, theoretically all the counties and boards of education could demand a vote on all the trustees, he said.

"I'm not opposed to giving all people in our constituency

WEEKEND WEATHER

THURSDAY
 High: 63
 Low: 34
 MOSTLY SUNNY

FRIDAY
 High: 58
 Low: 40
 PARTLY CLOUDY

SATURDAY
 High: 68
 Low: 46
 PARTLY CLOUDY