

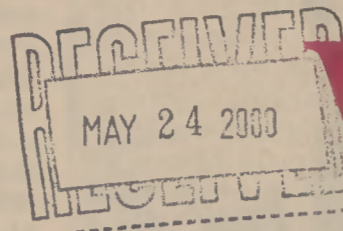
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# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

35 cents

## Great lawns can earn rewards

If someone offered you a \$100 savings bond and \$50 worth of free mulch for just cleaning up your own yard, would you be interested? If your answer is yes, then get on your gardening gloves, and keep reading.

The Perquimans County Board of Commissioners is now sponsoring the Second Annual Perquimans County Spruce-Up Contest, Spruce-up 2000. Private homes may be entered in the contest for the best kept landscape, and/or the best landscape design, and will be competing for a \$100 savings bond and free mulch from Brown's Landscaping and Hauling in each category. Businesses may enter the best overall landscape contest to compete for dinner for four at Albemarle Plantation. Runner-up prizes will include \$25 gift certificates to Farmers Feed and Seed in Hertford.

If you are interested in some marvelous mulch, money, and more, give this contest a try. Last year, there were only three entries for the private home contests, but all prizes were awarded, so it is well worth trying.

A nice, neat landscape has always improved the value of a home, but now it can improve the value of a wallet. Entry forms are available at the Perquimans County Extension Office. All entries must be received by June 16. Judging will be done during the week of June 19. Call Lewis Smith at 426-5428 for details.

## Seniors honored

Gov. Jim Hunt has designated the month of May as Older Americans Month in North Carolina. This year's theme "In the New Century...The Future is Aging," spotlights the impact which longevity will have on nearly every aspect of our society in the coming years.

Older Americans Month provides the state and the nation an opportunity to recognize the valuable and often inspirational contributions made by the senior population. This year marks the 35th anniversary of the enactment of the Older Americans Act. This act supports the nationwide network of state, regional and local agencies committed to offering services and opportunities for older people and their caregivers.

The Albemarle Commission Area Agency on Aging is the local contact point for these services in Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Hyde, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Tyrrell and Washington counties. Some of the services the agency offers are transportation, home repair, in-home aid, education, senior games, telephone reassurance, congregational and home-delivered meals program and a long-term care ombudsman program.

For information, call the Commission at 426-5753.

## Lady Pirates are champs

SUSAN R. HARRIS  
Editor

The Lady Pirates took care of business this weekend in Raleigh, bringing home Perquimans' second state softball championship in four years.

Seniors Mindy Roberson and Kristen Winslow, members of the 1997 state 1-A slow pitch

championship team, provided the big game experience as Perquimans won three straight in the double-elimination championship tournament at Walnut Creek.

Ashley Copeland, the team's short stop and clean-up batter, earned MVP honors for her outstanding play during the tournament. The junior col-

lected seven hits, including a homerun and three doubles, and seven RBIs. With two outs in the last inning of the championship game, Copeland made a diving stop behind second base, then stretched to tag the bag and secure the third out.

Head coach Lisa DeCastillia said her team went to Raleigh ready to play and stayed

focused.

The team was welcomed home in the wee hours of Monday morning with a celebration on the courthouse lawn and an escort by the Hertford police and fire departments. At school Monday, students and staff made posters congratulating the team. (See page 7 for more.)

## Spring Weekend huge success

SUSAN R. HARRIS  
Editor

The weather was just what organizers ordered for Perquimans Spring Weekend.

The weekend's events got off to a great start Friday evening under Carolina blue skies with Pig Out on the Green. Diners enjoyed Perquimans County pork barbecue and fixings on the courthouse lawn while listening to live music.

Almost 600 plates were sold by the Historic Hertford Business Association, according to Pig Out co-chairmen Lynn Lassiter and Harriette Woodard.

"We had a really good day for it," Lassiter said.

Hertford businesses Centura Bank, Woodard's Pharmacy, Hall of Fame Square, Frankie's Hertford Cafe, and the Wishing Well sponsored the entertainment. About a dozen high school students volunteered at the site.

Proceeds from the dinner will benefit downtown revitalization and the 4th of July fireworks fund.

Saturday morning, it looked as if rain might make the historic homes tour messy, but after a few sprinkles, sunshine filled the skies. Over 300 people toured 24 significant buildings, including private homes, businesses, the courthouse and churches. From New Hope to Belvidere, tourists saw an impressive mixture of architecture dating from about 1715 to 1920.

"It was hugely successful," said LuAnne Pendergraft,



PHOTOS BY SUSAN HARRIS

Perquimans Spring Weekend got off to a great start Friday evening with Pig Out on the Green, a pork barbecue dinner on the courthouse green. Many diners took advantage of the beautiful spring weather and enjoyed music and fellowship on the lawn. Several downtown businesses extended hours to allow late shopping.

Development Officer stationed at the Newbold-White House. "We had a real good turnout, and a good mixture of people from northeastern North Carolina and from Virginia, which was our target audience. We're trying to entice people in Virginia to come down here and enjoy our area."

Pendergraft said the tour was proof of the positive outcomes of teamwork. The tour was sponsored by the Perquimans County Restoration Association and Preservation North Carolina.



Dealers and shoppers were both pleased with a new addition to the 2000 Perquimans Spring Weekend, an antiques show and sale at Hertfordshire Antiques in downtown Hertford.

Pendergraft said the groups are indebted to the homeowners who opened their homes and businesses to tourists.

The self-guided tour continued on Sunday afternoon.

Saturday evening featured a well-attended garden party on the lawn of the Wood-McCallum-Winslow House on Front Street which benefitted the Restoration Association. Ladies and gentlemen decked in their spring finery enjoyed refreshments and entertainment overlooking the sparkling Perquimans River.

The garden party has become one of the most popular fund raisers sponsored by the Restoration Association. A raffle held in tandem with the garden party allows those who cannot attend to support the association's work.

New to this year's spring weekend was an antiques show and sale organized by the Antique Dealers Association of Perquimans County. The sale took place at Hertfordshire Antiques, located in the historic former Morgan Furniture building on Church Street.

According to Jane McMahon of ADAPC and Hertfordshire Antiques, the inaugural show and sale was well-received by the dealers who participated and those who visited the show.

The first Perquimans Spring Weekend was held last year. Pendergraft said from now on, the event will be held every other year on even-numbered years. Edenton's Pilgrimage will be held on the odd-numbered years.

## Nelson: Schools must challenge gifted students

ANNA GOODWIN MCCARTHY  
Correspondent

School Board Member Wallace Nelson said that Perquimans County Schools needs to provide a more challenging atmosphere for gifted students.

Nelson said he is afraid that gifted students will not realize their potential to succeed if their needs are not met.

"It's a sin against society," said Nelson.

Approximately 34 high school students, a significantly lower amount of middle school students and two elementary school students are classified as gifted

students in the Perquimans County School System. Nelson said he found it hard to believe that so few elementary school students were classified as gifted. Superintendent Gregory Todd said the school system needs to address issues of equity, and concentrate on ending low performance among its students. School board member Majorie Rayburn said she knows of situations in which gifted children are bored and feel unchallenged. Several parents of gifted students are frustrated, said Nelson. Currently, extremely gifted students in lower grades are afforded the opportunity to study in higher grade level classrooms for subjects in which they excel. Gifted high school students also have the opportunity to take more difficult courses that prepare them for collegiate success through advanced placement instruction, dual enrollment and distance learning.

There are situations in which gifted children are bored, feel unchallenged. Majorie Rayburn School board member

## WEEKEND WEATHER

THURSDAY  
High: 88  
Low: 65  
PARTLY CLOUDY

FRIDAY  
High: 87  
Low: 67  
PARTLY CLOUDY

SATURDAY  
High: 90  
Low: 69  
PARTLY CLOUDY