

# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



BAGLEY SWAMP WESLEYAN  
PASTOR HONORED AT SC UNIVERSITY — 4

"News from Next Door"

APRIL 15, 2015 - APRIL 21, 2015

50 cents



STAFF  
PHOTOS BY  
PETER  
WILLIAMS  
One of a  
handful of  
monuments  
honoring  
black  
Union Army  
soldiers  
stands on  
the corner  
of Hyde  
Park and  
King streets  
in Hertford.

## War monuments live on

BY PETER WILLIAMS  
News Editor

The Civil War has been over for 150 years, but monuments to the people who fought in it remain.

That's the topic of a program on May 2 at the Museum of the Albemarle.

There are monuments across the country, but author Dr. Douglas Butler said Perquimans County is unique in that it has two — one for black Union army troops as well as the more traditional southern monument for

white Confederate soldiers.

Butler, a 60-year-old independent historian and practicing physician in Ashe County, spent five years doing research for his book "North Carolina Civil War Monuments: An Illustrated History." He will talk about his book at the May 2 event.

Butler's late father suggested he document Civil War monuments 30 years ago because many people wanted them removed. Butler didn't really start the process until about 2005.

In his travels visiting all the

monuments, Butler has come up with a pretty universal realization.

"What I came away with was the total grief involved."

Butler visited all 109 North Carolina memorials. He only focused on those that honored a cause or military unit, not a statue honoring a single individual.

But said between 1865 and 1965, North Carolina saw 101 Confederate monuments erected and eight for the Union Army.

Hertford's is the only one in the state dedicated to

black union troops, he said. The monument itself states it was erected in 1910. Other accounts say it was 1912, which was the same year a larger monument to Confederate troops was erected on the courthouse lawn.

The monument to black troops is located across from First Baptist Church, 211 Hyde Park St., at the corner of King Street. The significance of the site is that was where the first black school, library and church were

See MONUMENTS, 4

## Bunch to run Re-Store

BY PETER WILLIAMS  
News Editor

Retirement didn't last long for Buck Bunch.

In February he stepped down from his 21-year career with the Perquimans County Schools and by March he took on a new role as the manager of the Chowan-Perquimans Habitat for Humanity's Re-Store in Edenton.

The store takes donations of new and used items and sells them. The profits go toward funding homebuilding projects in the two-county area.

Bunch, 64, admits he's still learning, but branching out to a new line of work isn't new to him.



BUNCH

In 1974 and 1975, Bunch ran the bus station in Hertford. In addition to passengers, buses at the time would deliver car parts and even flowers to small towns.

He then worked 16 years in private industry, including working in the dairy business in Greenville. For a time he also worked for a company that built electrical capacitors and a Farnville company that worked with fork lifts.

He then decided he wanted to be a teacher. There he taught science, coached, and was the school system's chief safety officer.

Working at the Re-Store is not your typical retail operation since the items it sells

See BUNCH, 7

## COMING SOON



PHOTOS BY CHUCK FAGELS

Samantha Jordan, Nathan Oliver, Kelly Hoeltzel Brennan Biggs and Stone Nash practice a scene from the play "Something Afoot: A Murder Mystery Musical" at Perquimans County High School. The group will perform Thursday and Friday at 7:30 p.m. at the high school auditorium. Admission is \$8 for adults and \$5 for students, and is payable at the door. For additional information call 426-5778.



Brennan Biggs is pulled by cast members Stone Nash and Nathan Oliver, while Kaitlin Whitehead and Megan Jones look on during rehearsal for "Something Afoot: A Murder Mystery Musical."

## Station cited for bad gas

BY PETER WILLIAMS  
News Editor

A Hertford gas station has been banned from selling some grades of gasoline because of a water contamination issue that dates back to December.

Marcus Helfrich, program manager for the state motor fuels lab, said the Park & Shop has been on the state's radar for some time. The lab is part of the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

The problem involves water in the gas.

Steve Bowen complained about the issue after his son brought a brand new Honda Gold Wing motorcycle to the Park & Shop on Harvey Point Road on March 5. Joshua Bowen filled up the motorcycle with premium gas. Once he did, the bike wouldn't run, Bowen said.

"We had to trailer it home," he said.

Bowen complained to the management to the store, and contacted the state agency that monitors motor fuel sales.

The technical term for the problem is phase separation. That's what happens when ethanol and water come into contact.

Helfrich said the two compounds naturally bond together.

The problem appears to be linked to the tanks that hold mid-grade and highest gas, not the tank that holds regular unleaded.

Helfrich said the problem is rare. The state tries to inspect gas at every station in

See BAD GAS, 7

## Market to take on new twist

BY PETER WILLIAMS  
News Editor

Historic Hertford Inc. will be kicking off a monthly event — Second Hand Saturdays — on May 9.

The group has been sponsoring a traditional farmer's market every Wednesday from May through October for the past few years. However interest from vendors waned last year as did the number of buyers.

The new event will be on the second Saturday of each month through October. It will run from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. and will be located across the street

from Missing Mill Park, not in the park parking lot as it was last year.

"We wanted to do that to avoid any conflicts for someone who wanted to use Missing Mill Park for a birthday or something," said Lynne Raymond, the president of HHI.

The new endeavor is open to the same type of vendors that were coming, but it's opened up to a wider group of sellers.

"We changed because basically people were requesting we do it on a Saturday and we weren't able to get a lot of produce sellers," Raymond said. "A lot of people in town like the idea of going down to the market for the camaraderie, and we felt we were a little restricted with the farmer's market concept."

Vendors selling used

or new household items are welcome, as are direct sales of Avon and Tupperware. HHI is also looking for people selling vegetables, fruits, nuts, fresh prepared foods like salsa, and craft items.

"This will allow a space for somebody who maybe wants to do a little yard sale to go," Raymond said. "We don't want to use the word 'flea market' but we wanted to be able to provided a little bit of everything."

Raymond said she's already got a call from a Tyner resident who wants to sell vegetables and honey. The Hertford market won't have the requirement some markets do that force vendors to commit to every week or every month.

"If someone is a small

See MARKET, 7

## Garden show returns May 2

BY PETER WILLIAMS  
News Editor

From plants, to bees to butterflies, five speakers are lined up to talk at the Albemarle Master Gardener's Spring Garden Show in Hertford next month.

The event will be held May 2 at the Perquimans County Recreation Center, 310 Grandby St., from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m.

Jean Oaks, one of the organizers, said the event typically draws about 400 people. It's an outreach effort of the Master Gardener's program that covers Gates, Chowan and Perquimans counties.

"Primarily they come from Gates, Chowan and Perquimans because that's our area, but we get a nice contingent from Pasquotank and Elizabeth City."

The show is a little later than normal this year because

the recreation center was reserved only for athletic events in the month of April.

Carolyn Hess will present a program at 10 a.m. on the care of camellias and air layering.

Hess and her husband Bob have been growing the plans for a quarter century.

"During those years we've come to love these plants and appreciate their contributions to a garden — not just the outstanding blooms, but the dignity of the plants themselves," she said in a release.

"We've experimented with soil, mulch, drainage, and exposure. We've argued with insects and deer and learned how to outwit both — most of the time."

At 11 a.m. Doug White will discuss if it's time to prune or plant. The following hour-long program is by Buzz Griffin. Griffin has been an Edenton resident since 2012 and

will speak about the history of honey and bees. At 1 p.m. agricultural extension agent Katy Shook will speak about weed control and lawns. At 2 p.m. Sandra Parks will discuss butterfly gardens.

The May 2 event also includes horticultural activities, vendors, activities for children, a plant sale, raffles and door prizes, and a bake sale.

The "Ask a Master Gardener" booth will be staffed to answer gardening questions.

The proceeds benefit the scholarship program for local horticultural/agricultural students.

"The whole agriculture thing is so drastically different than it used to be," Oaks said.

The mission of the Master Gardener program is to provide unbiased, research-based horticulture information to home gardeners and the community.

