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Whitesbog cranberries and a bit of history too

By Beth Mitchell

Special to Community News

PEMBERTON TWP.- Whitesbog Village offered cranberry industry tours recently. "Everything you ever wanted to know about the cranberry industry and more, plus a guided tour of a working bog" is what the description written in the 2003 Calendar of Events indicates. But, there was so

much more.

One must have expectations when they go to Whitesbog Village. There must be expectations of receiving a warm welcome by Theresa Earley, coordinator of the Whitesbog Preservation Trust when you enter the village square.

Expectations must remain high when you encounter Tom Darlington, as

Darlington embraces you with his warmth and humor and allows you to be a part of his family, when he gives his lecture not only about the history of Whitesbog Village, but a glimpse of his personal family history as well.

The audience will learn that Whitesbog Village and the Darlington Family

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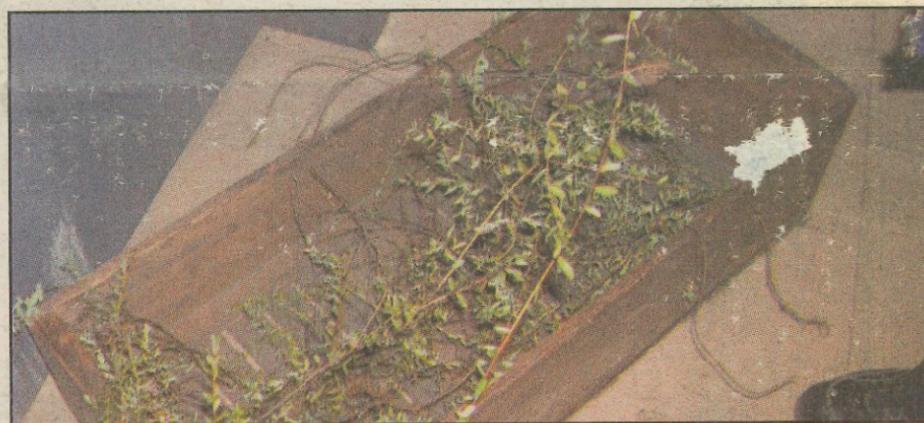


All Rachel Havens/SPECIAL TO COMMUNITY NEWS

Some of the outbuildings located at Whitesbog.



Cranberries seen here just before harvest, ready to be picked and shipped off.



A cranberry vine seen out of the water. Usually most of the plant remains underwater.

Cranberries and history are found at Whitesbog

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and the Darlington Family are totally intertwined. There couldn't be one with-

out the other.

Through a combination of slides, narration, and funny anecdotes presented by Darlington, the audience steps through time and revisits Whitesbog Village during its glory days. Through the lectures and the tours, Whitesbog Village once again becomes alive and viable.

Lectures are given in the renovated Barrel Factory, which allows the audience to imagine the lives of the people who once lived and worked in this company owned village during

the early 1900's. After the lecture, the audience is taken out into the cranberry bogs to view first hand how cranberries are harvested.

For those interested in state history, local history, the farming and harvesting of cranberries, nature in its most primitive glory, moonlight nature walks and more the Whitesbog Village will meet all of these needs. Call 893-4646 for more information and a calendar of events, or visit them at <http://www.whitesbog.org>.



The berries are piled high in these containers, ready to be sent off to the plants that use them in their recipes.