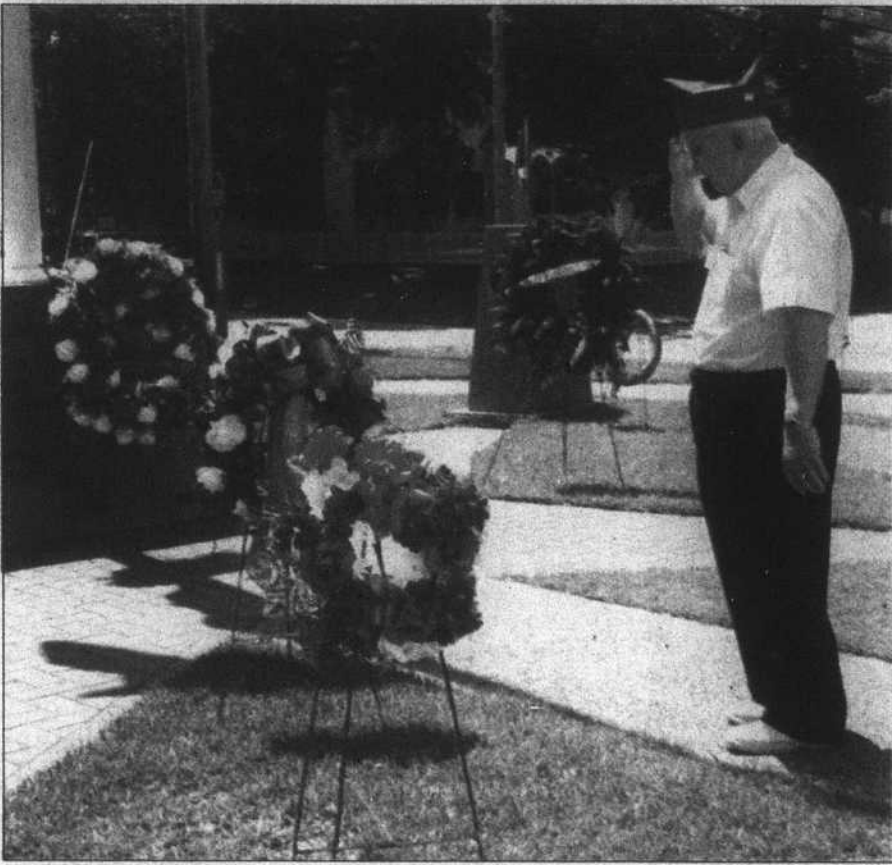


HONORING THEIR SACRIFICE



STAFF PHOTO BY REBECCA BUNCH

Jim Criddle of American Legion Post 40 in Edenton salutes after placing a wreath on behalf of the Legion's Forty and Eight members during a Memorial Day ceremony held Monday morning at the Chowan County Veterans Memorial. Over 300 people attended the event.

Senate Bill calls for EHC closing

Commission to avoid elimination

By RITCHIE E. STARNES
Editor

The 51-year-old Edenton Historical Commission narrowly missed termination last week after a proposed state bill called for the elimination of such commissions and boards.

After learning that Senate Bill 851 proposed last Tuesday called for the termination of more than 500 boards and commissions across the state, local leaders leaped into action to strike the Edenton Historical Commission from the hit list. By last Wednesday, a series of political favors led to the assurance that the EHC would be purged and the bill later amended to reflect its absence from the list.

"I can't even quarrel with the objective of the legislature... But, they (state) give us no appropriation."

Jerry Climer
EHC chairman

Part of a legislative effort to save taxpayers' money and ensure government efficiency, Senate Bill 851 targeted the appointed boards because of its some 5,000 members and an estimated annual cost of \$800 per member.

"I can't even quarrel

with the objective of the legislature," said Jerry Climer, EHC chairman. "But, they (state) give us no appropriation."

Unlike many of the countless boards, none of the EHC's 33 appointed members receive any type of compensation, including per diem expenses such as mileage or meal allowance. Its members contribute their expenses as an in-kind donation toward the non-profit's initiative.

Because of its frugality and generous members, Climer called the EHC a "model" for other state boards.

Legislatures seemingly had no qualms about pulling the EHC from the targeted list due to its non-expense to state coffers.

But, even political

See ENC, 6A

Budget holds line on tax rate

Town avoids hike for 6th straight year

By RITCHIE E. STARNES
Editor

Edenton residents will not feel the pinch of a property tax increase for the sixth consecutive year, provided the Town Council approves the 2012-13 proposed budget.

Town Manager Anne

Marie Knighton said her goal was to stand pat on the town's current tax rate of 29 cents per



Knighton

\$100 property valuation. The budget includes no fee increases in the general fund nor does it call for a hike in electrical rates. It does, however, include a rate increase in the water and sewer as recommended per a study last year.

"I'm very excited to present a budget that does not raise taxes," Knighton said Monday. "We continue to hold the line with the economy being tough for so many people."

Mayor Roland Vaughan echoed similar sentiments while applauding administration and department heads for their commitment to efficiency.

"It's always our goal to structure our ad valorem tax to the absolute needs of the community"

See TAXES, 2A

Store owner shoots, kills would-be robbers



STAFF PHOTOS BY BRETT A. CLARK

The Joppa Store where owner Duanne Ammann shot and killed two would-be robbers May 22 is seen last Wednesday.

Dead men were brothers

Sheriff: Ammann fired in self-defense

By WILLIAM F. WEST
Staff Writer

HOBBSVILLE—A Gates County convenience store owner shot and killed two Perquimans County men who were attempting to rob him May 22, the Gates County sheriff said.

Quinten Felton, 17, and his brother Eddie Felton, 20, died from gunshot wounds they suffered during a robbery attempt at the Joppa Store, Gates County Sheriff Ed Webb said last Wednesday.

Webb declined to say where the Feltons lived, but obituary notices for both men listed the 400 block of Louise Street, in Winfall,

See SHOOTING, 2A



Bullet holes are seen from the outside of the store looking in toward the cash register and counter at the Joppa Store, Wednesday.

Eldest Felton faced assault charge in Winfall

Man killed in robbery assaulted dad May 16

By WILLIAM F. WEST
Staff Writer

WINFALL—Less than a week before he was shot to death during an attempted armed robbery of a Gates County convenience

store, a Perquimans County man was charged with assaulting his father, court records show.

Eddie Felton, 20, struck his father Leon Felton in the head with his fist on May 16, a warrant is-



Felton

sued by the Perquimans County Sheriff's Department indicates. Eddie Felton also was accused of causing \$200 worth of damage to a wall at his father's residence in the 400 block of Louise St., Winfall, the warrant states.

Eddie Felton was charged with simple assault and destruction of personal property the same day of the incident. He was released

from jail two days later after posting a \$1,000 secured bond, court records show.

Eddie Felton and his younger brother Quinten Felton, 17, were shot and killed May 22 during what the Gates County sheriff has described as an armed robbery attempt of the Joppa Store

See FELTON, 2A



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