

'They gave what is the most important gift...'

Personians gather at museum Saturday to 'remember and pay tribute'

By TIM CHANDLER
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"We are here today to remember and pay tribute to those who have fallen in battles throughout the years of our history."

Retired United States Air Force Strategic Air Command Sgt. Robert (Bob) Baynard spoke those words Saturday morning at the annual Person County Museum of History Memorial Day Service. Baynard, a retired minister, was the featured speaker for the event.

"They gave what is the most impor-

tant gift that a person possesses and the is the ultimate sacrifice — their lives," Baynard said. "They made this sacrifice so that we may have our lives."

Baynard said the throng of people gathered at the museum on a humid Saturday morning was also present to honor current military personnel.

"At the same time, we are here to honor those veterans who so admirably served our country and those who are fighting now to ensure we maintain our freedom," Baynard said.

Baynard, a Roxboro resident and member of the American Legion noted that Memorial Day was initially called Decoration Day and was first observed on May 30, 1868.

"It was named Decoration Day because this was the day set aside to place flowers on the graves of soldiers," Baynard explained. He went on to say that the origins of Memorial Day were unclear, "with many states and cities claiming to be the first [to observe it.]"

Quoting from usmemorialday.org, Baynard said, "It is not important who was the very first, what is important is that Memorial Day was established. Memorial Day is not about division. It is about reconciliation; it is about coming together to honor those who gave their all." Baynard pointed out that, "military service saw no socio-economic status.

"The ones who served and fought came from rural areas, small towns, urban areas and large cities," Baynard said. "They hailed from cotton mill villages to wealthy residential areas. Their careers spanned from farmers, millworkers and teachers to lawyers, doctors and professional athletes.

"Furthermore, many nationalities, races and ethnic groups made up the military forces," Baynard continued. "Today, we can add women to that list as well."

Baynard continued by discussing the many sacrifices made by members of the military.

"The price that was paid by our military included the crews flying bomber planes over Germany and Japan who risked being shot down or running out of fuel; the ground forces facing insurmountable dangers at Pusan, Korea, Pork Chop Hill and Hamburger Hill,

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Robert (Bob) Baynard



District Attorney Wallace Bradsher sang America the Beautiful and God Bless America at Saturday's annual Memorial Day Service.



Tim Chandler / C-T

Veterans listen attentively Saturday as Retired Sgt. Robert (Bob) Baynard, U.S. Air Force Strategic Air Command, delivers the featured speech at the annual Person County Museum of History Memorial Day Service.

If current budget plans pass, 'More at Four as we know it will cease to exist'

By PHYLISS BOATWRIGHT
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For the upcoming school year, if the budget plans of the North Carolina House and Senate go through, "More at Four as we know it will cease to exist," Person County Partnership for Children Director Judy Batten said Tuesday afternoon.

According to the amended budget, More at Four funding will be reduced

by \$16 million, or about 20 percent.

In place of the program to help at-risk four-year-olds "will be another program which I termed Subsidy Plus," Batten said, "because the More at Four money is slated to be transferred over to the [N.C.] Division of Child Development to provide a specialized high-quality pre-K program utilizing the former More at Four dollars to support the new subsidy program."

Batten said she had been in touch with Person County Department of Social

Services, which administers the current subsidy program, "just to check in about the proposal. DSS agencies across the state have not yet received information on the details of the new subsidy program," Batten continued. "There are lots of worries with all the changes, but a big fear is that parents with four-year-old children in our county who have already completed the application process and are anticipating their child attending a

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Photo submitted

GETTING READY — North Carolina Highway Patrol troopers from Person and Caswell counties, along with the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission and sheriff's office officials from Person and Caswell counties participated in the "On the Road, On the Water, Don't Drink & Drive in North Carolina" campaign during the Memorial Day holiday weekend. As part of the campaign, all agencies participated in a DWI checkpoint on N.C. 57 near Hyco Lake. During the campaign, highway patrol troopers in Person and Caswell counties made seven DWI arrests. In addition, troopers issued 14 vehicle registration citations, 17 driver's license violations, two equipment violations, one child restraint violation and 13 "other" violations.

Heavy rain last week, hot weather this week don't appear to be hurting crops

By GREY PENTECOST
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Heavy rains last week didn't hurt crops and planting much, according to Person County Extension Director Derek Day. He said he does not expect this week's forecast of hot, dry weather to negatively affect planting much either.

Said Day, the crops, having been recently planted, are too young to be damaged by the hot 90-plus degree temperatures that are predicted for the next several days.

Day said farmers would hopefully

finish planting their tobacco crops this week. He reported to *The Courier-Times* last month that farmers had been put about 10 days behind schedule by some of May's wet weather. He noted that Person County farmers also plan to finish harvesting their hay this week.

As far as acreage is concerned, Day said there was a little more tobacco being planted this year than last, but that "everything else is about the same."

In 2010 farmers in Person County reported 3,669 harvested acres of tobacco, which was up from 3,422 acres in 2009. Soybean acreage grew last year to 11,742, from 11,233 the year before. Wheat rose from 8,701 acres in 2009 to 8,918 in 2010.

The acres of harvested corn decreased slightly last year to 3,132 from 3,363.

In other farming news, the Person County Farmer's Market will hold its Grand Opening Saturday, June 4. The Got to be NC Big Cart — a 13-foot long by 15-foot tall shopping cart powered by a 396 Chevy — will be on hand for the Grand Opening.

Along with the website (<http://personcountymarket.com>), the farmer's market now also has a Facebook page: www.facebook.com/PersonCountyFarmersMarket.

The market is located at the intersection of North Madison Boulevard and Walker Street in Roxboro. Its operating hours are Saturdays from 8 a.m. to noon, and Wednesdays from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.

County man drowns Sunday evening at Mayo Lake

A Person County man drowned Sunday evening at Mayo Lake in Person County.

According to the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC), William Glenn Snow, 50, of 160 Walker's Path, drowned after he dove off the back of a pontoon boat at the lake Sunday.

A NCWRC report indicated that witnesses said Snow swam a short distance

after jumping off the back of the boat, but after going under water, did not resurface.

Emergency crews recovered Snow's body approximately an hour after he drowned. According to the NCWRC report foul play is not suspected in Snow's death.

A funeral service for Snow will be held tonight at 7 p.m. in the Brooks & White Funeral Home Chapel.

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Progress Energy Hyco plant, would be approximately 500,000 square feet and cost around \$160 million to build.

At that event, company representatives said CertainTeed planned to hire about 90 people at the plant.

The Roxboro gypsum plant will be one of the most highly automated in CertainTeed's holdings, according to Lee.

Much of the work here will be skilled and technical, company representatives said last year at the open house.

Last week, Lee said CertainTeed Gypsum had launched "several new, innovative wallboard products in the past year," including AirRenew (TM) Indoor Air Quality wallboard — the first wallboard that actively helps improve the air by removing volatile organic compounds, such as formaldehyde, from the indoor environment.

"AirRenew is Greenguard Certified, is mold- and moisture-resistant, available for fire-rated wall assemblies, and

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