



Bertie High School JROTC Sgt. Clinton Hill presented a remembrance wreath in the honor and memory of the 93,129 United States servicemen from all branches of service whose last known status was prisoners of war or missing in action.



Edgewood Cemetery Wreaths Across America Coordinator Len Joyner read the poem, "A Soldier's Silent Night" during Saturday's ceremony.

## Schools

From A1

opportunities for all students in the district and to ensure student success for all," Dr. Edmonds said. "The motto of the Bertie County Schools is 'Together We Can'. I am committed to working together with everyone to do the very best we can for our students."

Dr. Edmonds earned a bachelor's degree in mathematics education from N.C. A&T State University and a master's of administration and supervision from N.C. State University. She also obtained her doctorate in educational leadership from N.C. State University in May.

Currently, Dr. Edmonds is State Director of the N.C. Principal Fellows Program at the University of North Carolina General Administration in the Division of Academic and University Programs.

In that role, she leads efforts to improve school leadership preparation across the UNC system and is manager of the program for coordination, communications and partnerships.

Before taking that job in July 2016, Dr. Edmonds served as Director and Executive Coach for N.C. State University's Northeast Leadership Academy where she taught, supported and mentored principals across North Carolina.

She has also served as a District Transformation Coach through the N.C. Department of Public Instruction, Instructional Improvement Officer in Guilford County Schools, Program Director for the N.C. New Schools Project, teacher, assistant principal and principal.

The announcement released by the Bertie County Board of Education indicated Dr. Edmonds was selected from among 22 candidates.

"Although many qualified candidates applied, the board felt that Dr. Edmonds' leadership skills, varied experience and dedication to students would best serve the BCS students, staff and community for years to come," the statement read. "The board is confident that Dr. Edmonds will lead the district to even higher achievement."

## Wreaths

From A1

Bertie County's Wreaths Across America Coordinator Len Joyner thanked everyone for coming to the event and asked if they would join her in a moment of silence.

"Would you join me in a moment of silence to remember the fallen, the prisoners of war, the missing in action and to honor those who have served and are serving this great nation's armed services," Joyner continued.

After the moment of silence, the Bertie High School JROTC Honor Guard presented the colors, and then everyone joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

"We gather here today at this memorial site, along with 1,400 other memorial sites across America to remember that we are one nation with one flag. We are all proud to be Americans living in a free society, made up of many people, of many races and from many walks of life," said Joyner.

"The freedoms that we enjoy today have not come without a price. Lying here before us and in cemeteries across this nation are men and women who gave their lives so we could live in freedom and without fear, so we can worship as we see fit, raise our children to believe as we do, we can travel from one end of this great nation to the other and not ask for permission to go."

Joyner continued, "The United States was founded on the idea of freedom, justice and equality. Our nation stands as a shining beacon of liberty and freedom to the world. We thank those who gave their lives so we could be free. We shall not forget you, we shall remember."

Joyner told the guests when they saw a Veteran or a member of the Armed Forces, take a moment and tell them thank you.

Next, wreaths were presented for each branch of the military, the prisoners of war

and those missing in action.

Chief Randy Cherry presented the remembrance wreath for those who served and are serving in the United States Army.

Dianne Hale presented the remembrance wreath for those who served and are serving in the United States Marine Corps.

Otha Hale presented a remembrance wreath for those who served and are serving in the United States Navy.

Al Williams presented a remembrance wreath for those who served and are serving in the United States Air Force.

Bob Hoggard presented a remembrance wreath for those who served and are serving in the United States Coast Guard.

Carl Cowan presented a remembrance wreath for those who served and are serving in the United States Merchant Marines.

Sgt. Clinton Hill presented a remembrance wreath in the honor and

memory of the 93,129 United States servicemen from all branches of service whose last known status was prisoners of war or missing in action.

"These individuals have never returned to their families and homes. We shall not forget you," said Joyner.

According to Joyner, last year Wreaths Across America placed over 1.2 million wreaths on the graves of Veterans across America.

"Remember we are not here today to decorate graves but to honor and remember," she added.

The ceremony was closed with the reading of the poem "A Soldier's Silent Night" and the V.F.D. 6060 provided a 21-gun salute while a member of the Bertie High School JROTC performed TAPS.

After the closing, participants gathered the wreaths and placed one on each Veteran's grave while saying his or her name out loud.

Joyner thanked those who participated.



Santa Claus was available for pictures at the Bertie County Arts Council on Tuesday, Dec. 5 during the carriage rides.

## Carriage

From A1

Street, then right back onto King Street and back to the Bertie County Arts Council.

Several carriages provided the rides throughout the town.

The carriages were decorated in Christmas lights and some even played Christmas music.

Many houses along the path were brightly lighted with Christmas lights and had their doors open to present a view of

large Christmas trees.

According to Windsor/Bertie County Chamber of Commerce Director Lewis Hoggard, this is an event that was started years before he took the position.

"This was a great year for the carriage rides. We had good weather conditions and a large group of participants," he added.

Lewis said the largest night of participants was Dec. 12.

On Tuesday, Dec. 5, riders

young and old had an opportunity to visit with Santa at the Gallery while waiting before or after riding in a carriage.

During the carriage events, the Bertie County Arts Council was open for browsing its selection of unique, artistic gifts. The Council offered refreshments such as cookies and hot chocolate.

Lewis said he hopes these rides are tradition that will continue for many years to come.

## Drugs

From A1

elle was able to detain the suspect, who kept stuffing items in his pants."


Once the suspect was in custody, Mizelle reportedly found one gram of white powder suspected to be cocaine and six grams of a green substance suspected to be marijuana.

Alexander Leander Williams, 36, of Church Lane in Windsor was taken into custody and charged with possession with intent to sell and deliver cocaine and possession with intent to sell and deliver marijuana.

He was placed under a \$10,000 secured bond, but met the requirements of the bond and was released. His first appearance in Bertie County District Court is today (Wednesday).

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