

Garden Open House

Page 2

Open Door benefit

Page 3

Sports/School

Page 6

PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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Town signs lighting contract

Parts of Church Street should boast period lighting by Christmas.

The contract for the first phase of the TEA-21 Street Light Enhancement project was signed earlier this month.

According to Wendy Jewett, Main Street Program Manager, the signing of the contract is the final step in almost three years of planning before the installation begins.

The initial grant was submitted in June 2000 to the N.C. Department of Transportation for installation of period lighting along Church Street from Dobbs Street across the "S" bridge. Lights were chosen that are similar to the original lights on the bridge.

DOT awarded the funds to the town for the project in phases. The initial phase of the project will start at the corner of Dobbs and Church streets intersection and will include the "S" bridge.

The first award of \$240,320 from DOT was matched by \$60,000 from the county.

All bids received were over budget. The project was in jeopardy when town officials asked for help from Charles Ward and Stan White from the DOT Board and Representative Bill Culppepper. Because of their efforts, the town received an additional \$140,000 enabling them to keep the project intact.

The contract was awarded to Lee Electrical Construction, Inc. of Aberdeen, the lowest bidder. It will take 8-12 weeks for the specially-made poles to get to town, according to the contractor.

The Main Street Program will be responsible for grant management and project oversight.

Representatives from Lee provided information to the town outlining how they will work to minimize disruption to the businesses during the installation. According to these representatives, power will not be cut off and traffic patterns will be minimally disturbed.

In March, NCDOT awarded \$201,600 to the town for the second phase of the project, which will complete Church Street by installing lights between the "S" bridge and the corner of Grubb and Church. A \$50,400 match is required. At this point, a total of \$692,320 has been committed to this project.

Jewett said the Hertford Main Street Program is blessed with strong community support, which is a vital key to its success. Close to 50 volunteers are serving on committees that make recommendations to the Board of Directors.

Anyone interested in volunteer opportunities may call Jewett at 426-1425.

REMEMBERING THEIR FALLEN COMRADES



Local veterans place wreaths in honor of their fallen comrades at the foot of the flag pole at Cedar Wood Cemetery Monday during a Memorial Day observance.

Veterans honored

SUSAN R. HARRIS

About 75 people, many of them veterans, gathered at Cedar Wood Cemetery Monday for a Memorial Day observance.

Sgt. Major Gary Lowry, USA Ret., Col. William Toney, USAF Ret. and veteran Charles Skinner took part in the program, for which Robert Ascher was lead organizer.

Veterans placed wreaths in honor of their fallen brothers.

The Edenton Community Male Chorus sang during the ceremony, while Col. and Mrs. Toney led the audience in singing "God Bless America."

Lowry read the May 30, 1868 General Order No. 11 regarding honoring fallen veterans.

Skinner said that 275 flags were placed in Cedar Wood Cemetery on graves that could be identified as those of veterans. Over 75 flags were also placed in other local cemeteries.

Andrew Bostwick played taps to end the ceremony.

A group of veterans and patriotic citizens is seeking to preserve history and honor those from Perquimans County who served in the military with short memorials on the first Saturday of each month at noon on the courthouse lawn beginning June 7.

Bob Ascher and Charlie Skinner are contact persons for the project.

Ascher said the group hopes to create archives on local veterans for future reference.

Veterans honorably discharged are eligible for recognition. Families who wish to have a veteran honored should call Ascher at 426-1112. When possible, the group would like to raise the flag that draped the veteran's casket during the courthouse ceremony.

The first veteran to be honored will be Lyman T. Shepard.

The Perquimans Weekly will participate in the project by running a new feature, Veteran's Corner, the Wednesday after each ceremony.

PCHS teacher recovering from stab wounds

BEN DECK

The Daily Advance and

SUSAN R. HARRIS

A well-respected Perquimans County High School teacher remains in intensive care in Albemarle Hospital recovering from stab wounds inflicted by her ex-husband on May 17.

Tonya Little-Williams was attacked early on Saturday morning by Avis Leneer Williams, said Sgt. Jason Banks, head of investigations at the Elizabeth City Police Department.

The altercation took place in the back yard of Little-Williams' Brookridge Drive, Elizabeth City home.

Little-Williams had a domestic violence protection order against her husband, and it is not clear how the two came into contact.

Police found Little-Williams and Williams after being called by a resident who had heard screaming, Banks said. Little-Williams had been stabbed and Avis Williams, 36, of 1472 Lambs Grove Road, Camden, was "still there with the knife in his hand," Banks said.

Williams dropped the knife and was arrested after a brief struggle with police, Banks said. Williams was charged with felony assault with intent to kill and with violating a domestic violence protection order, and he was placed at Albemarle District Jail in lieu of a \$51,000 secured bond.

With Little-Williams hospitalized, a retired science teacher has been called in to handle her classes, said PCHS Principal Dwayne Stallings.

"She's doing a lot better according to the nurses I talked to (this weekend), although they can't tell me much because of the new privacy laws," Stallings said.

PCHS graduation set for Friday evening

SUSAN R. HARRIS

The familiar strains of "Pomp and Circumstance" will fill the air at Memorial Stadium Friday evening as 117 Perquimans County High School seniors celebrate their graduation.

Leading the way will be valedictorian Erin Christine France and salutatorian Megan Stallings. The top honor students will serve as speakers for the occasion.

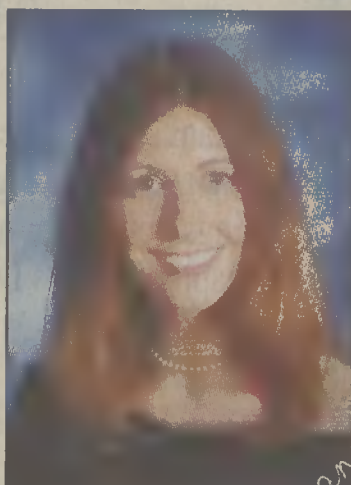
France will attend the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in the fall, where she plans to major in English/Creative Writing in order to pursue a career in writing.

Instrumental music has played a big role in France's high school life. She was a member of the Marching Pirates band for four years, serving as section leader her junior and senior years.

France was also involved in concert band and the Collee of The Albemarle



Erin France



Megan Stallings

Community Band, and was selected for the University of North Carolina at Greensboro Honors Band Festival in 2000. In addition, she took private saxophone lessons.

Frances participated in a variety of activities, including roles in drama department productions, Science Club and Quiz Bowl, Governor's School, Beta Club and mathematics symposiums.

She has also been active in church and community activities.

France is the daughter of Joe and Rebecca France.

Stallings will attend North Carolina State University in the fall.

She earned accolades during her high school career for her exploits on the volleyball court, being named to both All-Beta Club and mathematics symposiums.

well as the All-Academic Team.

She was also honored by the North Carolina High School Athletic Association with the Lowe's Hometown Hero Award.

A percussionist, Stallings was a member of the marching band for four years, and served as captain her senior year.

Stallings' other school activities included SURGE Team, class officer, Governor's School, and Governor's and House of Representative's Page.

In addition, Stallings has been actively involved in church and community projects.

She is the daughter of Dwayne and Kathy Stallings.

Graduation is set for Friday at 8 p.m. The commencement exercises are open to everyone.

In the event of rain, the ceremony will move inside, where only those with tickets will be admitted.

WEEKEND WEATHER

THURSDAY
High: 76
Low: 58
PM T'STORMS

FRIDAY
High: 75
Low: 58
ISOLATED T'STORMS

SATURDAY
High: 77
Low: 66
ISOLATED T'STORMS