

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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Schools head earns degree

Stallings earns doctor of education

Schools Superintendent Dwayne K. Stallings added another line to his professional credentials recently, earning his doctor of education from East Carolina University.



Stallings

Stallings, who is in his first year as superintendent of Perquimans County Schools, successfully defended his dissertation on Public School Facilities and Teacher Job Satisfaction on April 1 before a doctoral committee, announced Dr. Lynn Bradshaw, chair of the Department of Educational Leadership at ECU.

"I am delighted," said Stallings shortly after receiving word of the successful defense of his dissertation. "It has been a great deal of work and has taken a tremendous amount of time, but it is gratifying to me to be able to accomplish such an important goal in my personal life."

Stallings completed his undergraduate work at Elizabeth City State University in 1985, earned his masters degree from East Carolina University in 1990 and a Principal/Curriculum Endorsement from East Carolina University in 1996.

Stallings taught in Edenton-Chowan Schools, Gates County Schools and Pasquotank County Schools before settling in the Perquimans County School District, where he has been for the past 14 years.

Since 1994, he has served as assistant principal and principal at the high school, principal at Perquimans Central School, and assistant superintendent for the district before being named superintendent upon the retirement of Dr. Kenneth
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Banners hung for town's birthday

CATHY WILSON
Staff Writer

Event planners are putting the finishing touches on Hertford's 250th birthday celebration slated for Sunday, May 4.

Fresh new banners celebrating 250 years were hung in the historic downtown district last week, and town businesses are being asked to spruce up their fronts in time for the party. Town cleaning crews will be out sweeping the streets and trimming the grassy areas as well.

The special day gets underway at noon with Captain Bob's, the Belvidere Ruritans, and the local restaurants offering food and drinks.

Historical readings telling of the town's history will get underway at 1 p.m. The town's charter, signed May 4, 1758, will be read.

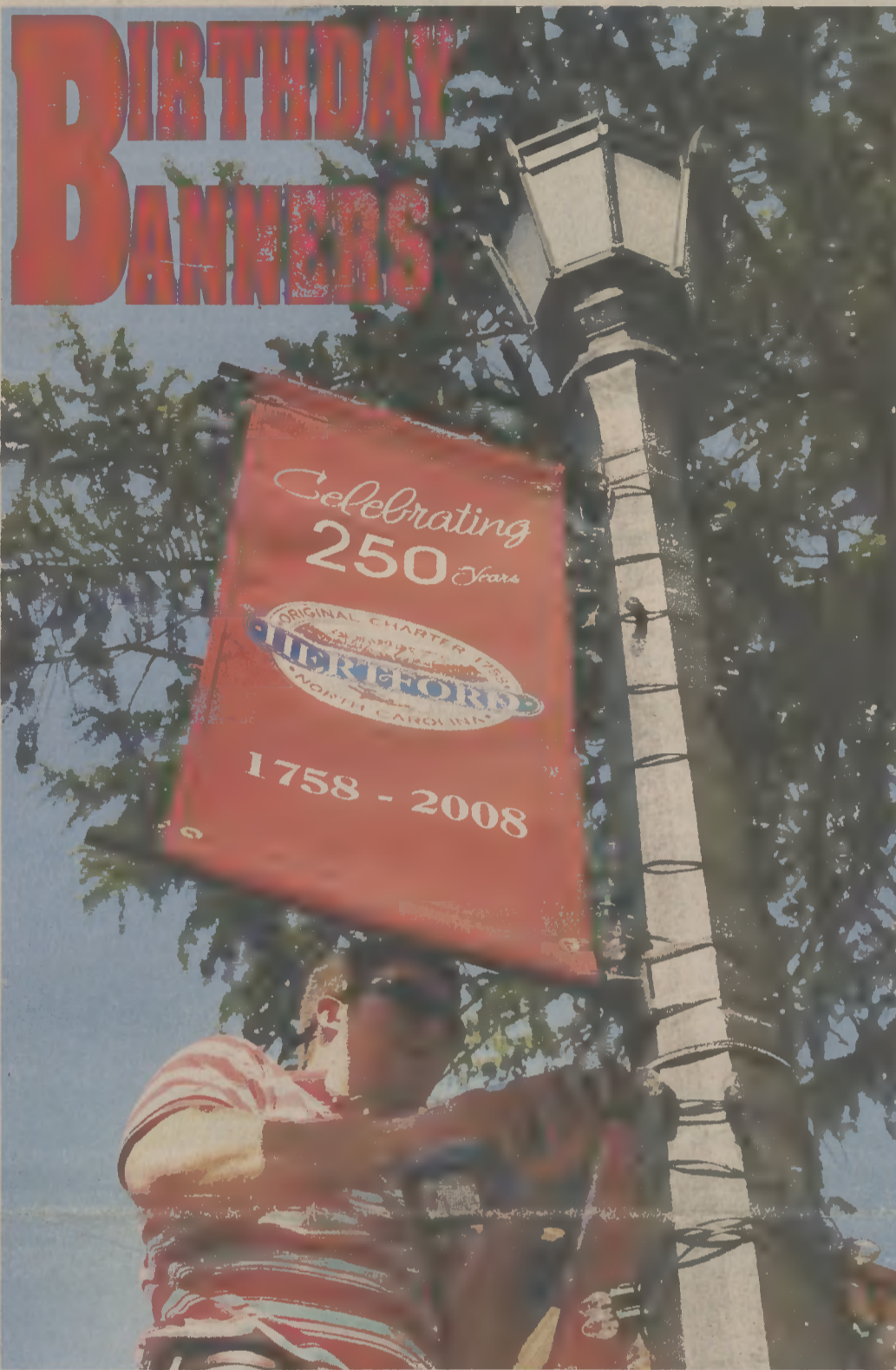
The College of The Albemarle Band and the Renaissance Consort will provide music to entertain the crowd.

Local Boy Scouts will provide an Indian camp on the courthouse green.

A commemorative photo showing everyone who attended the celebration will be taken at 2 p.m.

And, of course, birthday cake, displaying the town's official 250th logo, will be cut.

Several commemorative items denoting the special day will be for sale including note cards showing the historic downtown



Perquimans Weekly photo by CATHY WILSON

BRANDON SHOAF, TOWN PLANNER, hangs the town's new banners celebrating 250 years as the area prepares for the upcoming 250th birthday celebration planned in Hertford on Sunday, May 4 in the historic downtown area.

area, and first day of issue cancellation stamp and envelope which will be collector's items.

The Albemarle Choral will perform a special pops concert to cap off the day of festivities. The free

concert starts at 7 p.m. in the recently-renovated Perquimans County High School auditorium.

Hertford awards water contracts

Construction to begin this summer

CATHY WILSON
Staff Writer

Hertford Town Council awarded contracts totaling nearly \$4.5 million last week for construction of the town's new water plant project.

Turner Murphy Company received the contract for general construction and raw water supply totaling \$2,609,989 while Caldwell Tanks, Inc. won the bid to construct the elevated water tanks totaling \$921,900. B&M Contractors will do the electrical work on the project to the tune of \$844,800 and Magette Well & Pump Co. will dig the two wells for \$73,888.

The complete project includes building a new water

treatment plant, retrofitting two existing water supply pumping systems, constructing two deep wells, erecting a new 250,000 gallon steel water tank, renovating an existing 500,000 gallon water tank, and demolition of a 100,000 gallon water storage tank.

The new water plant will be built on the same site as the current plant and will nearly double its current 322,000 gallons per day capacity to 610,000 gallons per

day.

The funding package for the project includes \$1,835,000 in loans from the United States Department of Agriculture and over \$1,172,000 in grants.

Construction on the water plant project is expected to begin this summer.

Water rates increased last July and town officials expect a future increase in water rates associated with the debt service on the new plant.

Council to lock front doors at meetings

CATHY WILSON
Staff Writer

If you want to attend a Hertford Town Council meeting from now on, please enter through the back door.

In an effort to minimize any potential danger during town council meetings, the town hall's front door facing Grubb Street will no longer be open during meetings in the future. The decision to lock the front door and reduce access to town hall meetings to only one direction came following a February incident in Kirkwood, Mo. where a distraught citizen shot and killed several people during a town hall meeting.

Hertford officials are following the lead of other local governments around the nation scrutinizing their own security following the Kirkwood ambush.

"After that incident, we talked about meeting security," explained Town Manager John Christensen. "We certainly don't want anyone to come in and cause harm. With the front door access so far from the meeting room, someone could be in the building and get close enough to council before anyone would pay any attention to it. Eliminating that entrance should make the building a lot safer."

Council's meeting room is located in the back of the town hall and can be accessed by a full glass back door. The large illuminated parking lot leads to the back entrance of the building.

"With the glass door and the lights outside, we may see trouble before it gets to the door," he added. "Most people come in the back door anyway."

The Hertford police chief usually attends the meetings as well.

A key will be left inside the front door in case people need to exit the building quickly, Christensen said. A sign notifying folks to enter the meeting through the back door will be placed on the town hall's front door while council is meeting.

Earthstone brings natural stones to area

CATHY WILSON
Staff Writer

Earth Stone, Inc. specializes in natural stone to complement any bathroom, kitchen or flooring area.

Located in Ken-Nix Plaza in Elizabeth City, members of the Perquimans County Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting for the new store Saturday morning.

Kevin Chase, owner, says the store is unique to the area.

"I was in the contracting business and I know how hard it is to find natural stone tile or counter tops," he said.

From Hertford, Chase opened his store in January,

but it has taken him almost three months to install the variety of beautifully tiled bathroom and kitchen displays and unique flooring throughout the store.

He has ceramic, porcelain, and natural stone counter tops including granite, soapstone, slate, marble, cultured marble, cultured onyx and quartz.

In addition to granite slab counter tops, he also offers the more cost efficient granite tile with matching edges for counter top, which is about half the cost of slab.

He features glass tile, stainless steel tile, and natural stone tile including travertine, slate, marble,



Perquimans Weekly photo by CATHY WILSON

THE PERQUIMANS COUNTY CHAMBER of Commerce held a ribbon cutting ceremony Saturday morning at Earth Stone, Inc. Located in the Ken-Nix Plaza in Elizabeth City. Owner Kevin Chase and his family, from Hertford, were joined by members of the Chamber in the store's grand opening.

granite, sandstone, onyx, quartz and riverstone.

He also carries a full line of listellos, borders for backsplashes, and much of his stones are imported from Israel, Turkey and Jerusalem.

The design center and showroom allows customers to touch and feel the natural stone and they will also provide design suggestions to help out.

If you need a contractor to do the job for you, Chase

provides a list of referrals and stocks all the materials to complete the job.

Earth Stone, Inc. is open Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and on Saturday 9 a.m.-1 p.m. For more information, call 333-1162.

WEEKEND WEATHER

THURSDAY
HIGH: 77 LOW: 57
PARTLY CLOUDY

FRIDAY
HIGH: 76 LOW: 58
PARTLY CLOUDY

SATURDAY
HIGH: 77 LOW: 55
CLOUDY

