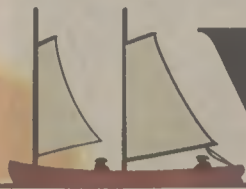


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THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



"News from Next Door"

JUNE 2, 2010 - JUNE 8, 2010



A graduation moment for the Spough family, page 2.

Banks wins state titles, page 8.

35 cents

Group wants to save the S-Bridge

By CATHY WILSON
Staff Writer

A movement is underway to save the historic S-bridge from being replaced by the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT).

Chris Lane and Harriet Woodard are spearheading a campaign called Save Our Bridge-Save Our Towns. The ladies are asking as many people as possible to sign a petition supporting keeping the current S-bridge with a swing span.

"We are passionate about keeping our bridge and about keeping Busi-

ness 17 where it is," said Lane. "The original Highway 17 is a National Scenic Byway. It was once used as the main artery running from north to south, from Main to Florida, with all the little towns benefitting along the way."

The NCDOT is considering several options to replace both the S-bridge and adjacent Causeway that connects Hertford and Winfall because of maintenance issues with both. The bridge was built in 1929.

Back in April, nine options involving three different bridge designs were

presented by a company hired to study the project and to determine viable options.

The NCDOT will investigate replacing the bridge either in its existing location or on a new location crossing the Perquimans River. It has not yet been determined if the existing Causeway will be repaired or rebuilt or if a new roadway will be constructed on a new location.

The project is projected to be funded for construction in 2015.

The nine options include

See BRIDGE, 6



STAFF PHOTO BY BRETT A. CLARK

The S-Bridge in Hertford has a swing-span that allows taller boat traffic in and out of the riverfront near the town. A group of residents wants to save the bridge, which is scheduled to be replaced.

Bus drivers not guilty

From staff reports

Two school bus drivers charged in connection with an after-school incident involving two Hertford Grammar School students last March have been found not guilty in Perquimans District Court.

According to court records, District Judge Robert Trivette found Jamel Hurley not guilty on May 12 of two counts of assault on a child under 12.

Judge Trivette also found Faye Riddick not guilty of misdemeanor child abuse.

Criminal warrants, taken out by the parents of the two 11-year-old children involved, alleged that Riddick created and allowed a substantial risk of physical injury by calling Hurley onto a bus and pointing out that a student said they did not like him.

The warrants alleged that Hurley assaulted one child by grabbing the child by the arms, picking her up, saying "Look, here, I do not care if you like me or not" and then dropped her.

The warrants alleged that Hurley also assaulted a second child by grabbing the child by the wrist and pushing her back into the bus seat.

At the time of the incident, Perquimans County Schools officials placed Riddick on suspension and said Hurley no longer was employed by the school system.

Remember the fallen



STAFF PHOTO BY CATHY WILSON

Charlie Skinner (left) with American Legion Post 126, helps Jay Dillon as he leads the Memorial Day crowd in the Pledge of Allegiance as Al Gessler (right) looks on. Dillon, who is 99, is the oldest veteran in Perquimans County.

Small: Support the nation's troops

By CATHY WILSON
Staff Writer

Is the American public doing enough to show support for the nation's military troops on duty around the world?

That was the question posed by retired Judge Herbert Small Monday during the annual Memorial Day ceremony held on the historic courthouse square.

The 84-year-old former Naval

officer who served during World War II told of the sacrifices made during that war by civilians back home in a national effort to support the troops overseas. Campaigns to collect scrap metal to help with the war efforts were nationwide and included school children who saved pieces of tin foil in which gum was wrapped, and women collecting aluminum pans.

Citizens also sacrificed by

rationing during World War II included tires, gas, shoes, meat, butter, processed food, and sugar. Citizens also held war bond drives to help raise money for the troops, he pointed out.

"Sacrifices were made back then," Small said. "I'm concerned about the amount of sacrifices we make now to support our troops. We need to do something to ensure they know we support them. They're doing

their job, whether or not you agree with the reason why they are over there."

He said this country, however, is not failing in supporting its troops.

"We're just not doing as good a job as we ought to be," he said.

As he watched local Boy and Cub Scouts (Hertford #150) present the flags flown by the

See MEMORIAL, 6

Crowd helps open farmers market

By CATHY WILSON
Staff Writer

Over 330 people attended the grand opening of the Perquimans Farmers Market last Wednesday.

Denise Richards, market director, was pleased at the turn out, and hopes even more vendors and visitors will join in the fun.

"I feel we had a great first day," said Richards. "The vendors were happy, they were making money, and the customers seemed pleased with our early offerings."

Vendor Marshall Bate-man, along with his mother

Ruby with Sunshine Nursery, said he sold out of vegetables, and had to restock his green beans a couple of times during last Wednesday's opening day.

"We were very pleased, and very surprised," added Ruby. "Being as this was the first one, we really didn't know what to expect."

The Perquimans Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting officially opening the market that was held under bright red tents at Missing Mill Park. Vendors offered everything from homemade sausage to



STAFF PHOTO BY CATHY WILSON

The new Perquimans Farmers Market opened last Wednesday in style with a ribbon cutting held by the Perquimans Chamber of Commerce. Officials estimate about 330 people visited the market during the afternoon hours.

See MARKET, 6

WEEKEND WEATHER

FRIDAY
HIGH: 87 LOW: 70
SCATTERED STORMS

SATURDAY
HIGH: 88 LOW: 71
ISOLATED T-STORMS

SUNDAY
HIGH: 93 LOW: 72
PARTLY CLOUDY

