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"News from Next Door"

MAY 22, 2013 - MAY 28, 2013

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Post 126 hosting **Memorial Day service**

From staff reports

American Legion Post 126's annual Perquimans County Memorial Day Observance will be held Monday at the Veterans Monument on the county courthouse green. The service will begin promptly at 11 a.m.

Chaplain Lt. Col. Steve Feehan, U.S. Army retired, will be the guest speaker. Chaplain Feehan is pastor of the Woodville Baptist Church.

In the event of inclement weather, the observance will be held at the Perquimans County Recreation Center off Harvey Point Road.

Music, including the National Anthem, the military service songs and TAPS will be provided by the Perquimans County High School Band under the direction of band director Sarah Fenske.

Wreath presentations scheduled include the county, Post 126, Marine Corps League and National Society Colonial Dames XVII Century George Durant Chapter.

The observance will mark the first time that Post 126's recently formed American Legion Post 126 Riders will take part in any official function with the Post. Others participating will include fellow Hert ford American Legion Post 362, Boy Scout Troop 150 and the PCHS band.

Post 126 Veterans Services Officer William Turner will give the roll call of deceased Perquimans County veterans since our last Memorial Day Observance. It is a tradition that began with the first-ever American Legion Memorial

Day observance. The observance will open with Post Commander Carroll Bundy with the presentation and posting of our National Colors by the Post Color Guard. Post Chaplain George Wilmore will provide the invocation, Boy Scout Troop 150 will present the Pledge of Allegiance and the PCHS Band will render the National Anthem. Post Commander Bundy will provide the welcome.

Ken Rominger, Post 126 and N.C. American Legion District 1 Commander, will present the POW/MIA Memorial. Legion member Bill Manke will give the salute to the service, followed by the wreath presentations. Lee Fortier, Post 126 Legion Riders, will introduce the

See POST 126, 2

STUDENTS PITCH IN TO FEED SENIO



Cortez Knight picks weeds in a garden behind the NC Agriculture Extension office on Edenton Road Street earlier this month.

Safe schools forum set for tonight

By PETER WILLIAMS News Editor

n off-hand remark made by a child has transformed a patch of grass into a large garden that will soon feed some of Perquimans County's elderly.

The garden project is part of a larger effort of the Perquimans County Mentoring Focus Group/

Gang Prevention Program. The group is also sponsoring a safer schools community forum tonight at 6 p.m. at the Perquimans County Middle School Auditorium. Clayton Griffin heads the

program. "It was their idea," Griffin said of the garden.

The group was talking about Earth Day and one of the younger of the 40 participants in the

program suggested a garden. The proceeds would go to help older residents.

Griffin said he knew it would take some work, but he followed

A patch of grass behind the N.C. Agriculture Extension Center on Edenton Road Street was plowed over. On a chilly

See GARDEN, 10

Study: More staff needed

By PETER WILLIAMS News Editor

Volunteers can only take Hertford and Perquimans County so far and paid staff is needed to push economic development efforts forward, a consultant says. Crystai

Morphis of Creative Economic Development Consulting called it a

Morphis

"glaring lack resources," in her report. As a result Hertford and Perquimans County are "leaking" some \$54 million a year in business to sur-

rounding areas. She recommended that the town quickly refill the position of planner. In the meanwhile the county should nearly triple the number of hours they pay an economic developer to help push economic proj-

The study was paid for by the state as part of the STEP program.

"The concept of STEP is to empower local leaders and motivate them to take on actions to further economic progress," the report reads. "Hertford leaders are still working on leadership development and significant strides have been made. However local leaders need support to carry long-term initiatives forward. The work identified in STEP alone requires additional staff report."

Morphis praised the efforts of volunteers, but said they alone can't do it.

See STUDY, 2

As county changes, need for volunteers remains

By PETER WILLIAMS News Editor

ons loaned by local car dealers and a desire to EMS Week. serve the people at Perquimans County.

better and there are paid of job requirements. emergency medical tech-

as some retire and others cations.

Today the equipment is are forced to quit because

Because of the geo-It started in the 1960s nicians, but volunteers graphic layout of the with an all-volunteer still play an active role in county with the Perquiforce, three station wag- the network. The week mans River cutting a of May 19-25 is National large part of it in half, response times can be up And more are needed to 20 minutes for some lo-

"And that's assuming several smaller ones scatyou have a truck at the building," said Jonathan Nixon, a former volunteer in the emergency medical service and current vol-

unteer firefighter. Volunteers are especially needed when there is a truly large emergency or

tered around.

'The paid staff only covers about a third of the calls during the day," Nixon said.

Larry Chappell is the EMS director and heads

See VOLS NEEDED, 10

Relay teams raise \$101K

By REBECCA BUNCH Staff Writer

EDENTON — Twenty-four an opening ceremony at 6 p.m. teams from Chowan and Perquimans counties took part in this day afternoon. year's Relay for Life events last weekend.

The teams, which included 230 participants, raised \$101,248 to assist the American Cancer Society in its fight against the deadly disease. Top fundraising team was the Rocky Hock Ruritans, who raised \$25,200, primarily through



performances by the Rocky Hock

The two-day event began with Friday and continued into Satur-

"I think the event was awesome despite some late night storms," said Bennita Dunham, community manager for Relay.

During the storms, lightning struck a utility pole on the grounds at the John A. Holmes Athletic Complex where Relay took place, causing two lights to go dark, according to witnesses. No injuries were reported.

For Relayers like Sue Campbell of Edenton, though, the storms

See RELAY \$101K, 10

NEW HUNTER MUSEUM

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Town officials celebrated the reopening of the Jimmy "Catfish" Hunter Museum, located inside the Perquimans Chamber of Commerce, on Thursday. Pictured are Joanne Jones. ecutive director, and Helen

The Chamber and museum are located in Hertford and are open Monday

president of the Perquimans County Chamber of Commerce, Sid Eley, ex-Hunter who are admiring a collectable throw that honors Hunter. The throw was a gift to Helen Hunter. through Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and on Saturday from 10 a.m. until noon.









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