

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

"News from Next Door"

MAY 28, 2014 - JUNE 3, 2014

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50 cents



Dozens seek disaster relief

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

Federal and state disaster groups and non-profit agencies wrapped up a week of outreach in Perquimans County on Thursday.

The temporary Small Business Administration office in Hertford took information from 64 individuals seeking help as a result of the tornadoes that hit the area on April 25. Eighteen of the residents live in Chowan County.

The SBA set up a service center at the Albemarle Commission in Hertford to serve both Perquimans and Chowan counties. Another center was set up in Elizabeth City to serve Pasquotank County. While the centers have closed, residents have until July 14 to apply for help.

Perquimans County Emergency Management Director Jarvis Winslow said he was disappointed that more people didn't seek help. The SBA can provide loans to victims and the state can provide some grants, but homeowners and renters can't get the benefits unless they apply.

"I've got a feeling when the checks start coming in there will be people who upset," Winslow said.

While the county had little time to promote the disaster center before it opened, Winslow said there was a strong outreach effort made to it known it was available.

"We sent out information in reverse-911 and the school system did it to, and it was on TV and in the newspaper. One of the state guys went out to some of the effected areas and passed out fliers and we had information out at the Food Lion and the pharmacy. I don't know what more we could have done."

For Nigel Comstock and Martin McKinley, staffing the SBA center in Hertford

See DISASTER, 2

FALLEN REMEMBERED AT SERVICE



STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS

An honor guard walks away Monday after delivering honors at a veteran's monument during a Memorial Day service on the courthouse green in Hertford. Pictured are (front, l-r) Paul Goins, Jimmy Riddick, Al Lott and Jay Martin and (back row) Bill Hale and Jim Tepper. More than 200 people attended the program.

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

The heroes who sacrificed their lives in military service to the United States will never truly die so long as we as a nation remember them, a speaker told an audience of more than 200 people Monday in Hertford.

The Rev. Bill Masciangelo, (USMC, retired) referenced the short poem on the World War I battle at Flanders Field that was credited with making the poppy the symbol of remembrance.

"We cherish the poppy red, that grows on fields where valor led, it seems to single to the skies, that blood of heroes never dies."

Masciangelo is the pastor of Moyock United Methodist Church but he took a roundabout way of becoming a Methodist minister. He grew up in a household remembering Kate Smith singing God Bless America, John Wayne and his father's Life Magazine coffee table book on World War II.

In October 1962 while attending Admiral Farragut Academy, he joined the Marine Corps.

"I am proud to say that I never



PETER WILLIAMS/THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

The Rev. Bill Masciangelo, pastor of Moyock United Methodist Church, speaks Monday during a Memorial Day service on the courthouse lawn in Hertford. Also pictured is William Turner, the service officer of American Legion Post 126.

church.

"I prayed to God to save me and my men and he did, then I would serve him. He did spare us that night and 40 plus years later he called me to honor my promise right out of a small rural United Methodist Church, about the same size as that French Catholic church.

He got a physical reminder of that battle recently when someone who was visiting Vietnam mailed him a piece of the foundation of that abandoned Catholic church.

Monday's service included a first for American Legion Post 126. It will offer a scholarship to a member of the Perquimans County High School band as an appreciation for their service during Memorial Day and Veteran's Day events.

The first winner was Courtney

See FALLEN, 4

Methodist church embraces Winfall addition

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

Two Hertford churches may no longer be neighbors but they can now say they are part of the same family.

Spirit and Truth Ministries, a small predominately black non-denominational Christian church, was located in a rented building at 228 Dobbs St.

On the other end of the block is Hertford United Methodist. Like the vast majority of UMC churches, Hertford UMC's congregation of 150 members each

Sunday is almost exclusively white.

But through a cooperation between the two churches and the blessing of state Methodist officials, Spirit & Truth is now Spirit & Truth United Methodist Church and located across the river in Winfall in a sanctuary that once housed Epworth United Methodist Church.

Epworth closed its doors in December 2012 after its membership dropped to six people.

"We had a building there and we were getting calls from folks who wanted to buy it," said Gil

Wise, the district superintendent. "I kept praying and God was saying something different. We could have easily sold the property or leased it."

In a sense, the UMC is giving it away. Spirit and Truth gets the use of the former Epworth sanctuary for \$1 a year and gets out from under the \$500 a month rent they were paying for the Dobbs Street location. If they can grow to about 125 members, they're eligible to get full benefits of being a UMC church and title to the building.

And Wise said they get a lot

more.

As the newest church in the Beacon District, Spirit and Truth also gets the ability to tap into the financial and educational resources that are available to UMC congregations, including grants from the Duke Endowment.

State Methodist officials approved the agreement last Wednesday.

"There are some incredible resources that wouldn't have been available if we'd just given

See CHURCH, 4



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Arthur Manigault preaches at the new Spirit and Truth United Methodist Church in Winfall.

Edenton to host historic document

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

Edenton has been chosen as the first of six sites for a traveling tour for the document that ended slavery in the United States.

The 13th Amendment signed by President Abraham Lincoln and ratified by Congress on Dec. 6, 1865 ended the practice. It wasn't however until June 19 that many African-Americans learned they were free.

North Carolina's copy of the document is stored in a climate-controlled vault of the State Archives of North Carolina. The fragile docu-

ment will travel to six state historic sites from June 5 through June 21, and will be at each venue for one day only. It will be the first time the document has traveled outside of Raleigh.

The document will be on display June 5 at the historic Edenton Courthouse from 11 a.m. until 7 p.m.

See DOCUMENT, 2

Construction starts on new SECU

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The new State Employees Credit Union building in Hertford should closely resemble this branch office.

The State Employees' Credit Union has broken ground on a permanent home in Hertford and the possibility of a few more jobs.

The organization opened a branch in Hertford in 2008 in a 4,000-square-foot space in a leased building in a shopping center off Church Street. The

See CREDIT UNION, 2

