

Descendants honored on anniversary of Battle of Staunton River Bridge

The tradition continues



PHOTOS BY ASHLEY HODGE/GAZETTE-VIRGINIAN

Descendants and other guests gather on the bridge at the Staunton River Battlefield State Park during the 152nd anniversary commemoration of the Battle of Staunton River Bridge Saturday morning.

BY ASHLEY HODGE
STAFF WRITER

Commemorating the 152nd anniversary of the Battle of Staunton River Bridge, two descendants were recognized before a wreath-laying ceremony was held at Staunton River Battlefield State Park presented by the Historic Staunton River Foundation Saturday morning.

The event is usually a time for the Halifax Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy to present service awards to veterans who are lineal descendants of Confederate Veterans during a Military Service Award Ceremony held at Fort Hill near the UDC monument, but this year the Daughters of the Confederacy were not able to attend, according to President Janet Johnson.

Johnson said they hope to hold a ceremony in November. Keeping the tradition ongoing,



A wreath is tossed into the Staunton River during the 152nd anniversary commemoration of the Battle of Staunton River Bridge Saturday morning.

ing, descendants of a Confederate Solider or a descendant of the known and infamous "Ole Men and Young Boys" who fought to defend the Staunton River Bridge were asked to contact the foundation.

On Saturday, descendants of Ernest Newton were recog-

nized.

His ancestors were William Marshall Puryear and his sons, Robert Puryear and Benjamin F. Puryear.

Henry Anderson Paulett, who was born in 1945 and wed

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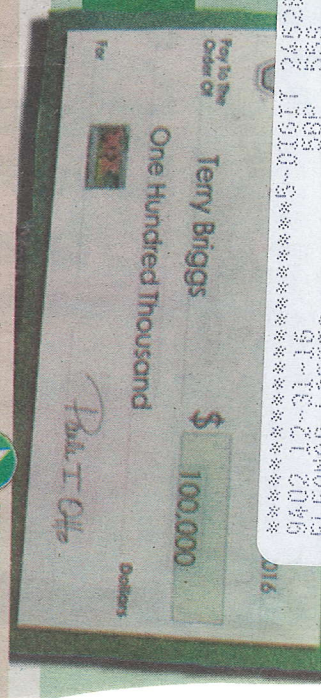
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BATTLE

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Sarah Alice Lipford, and reared three children, Thomas Jackson Paulett, Henry Alexander Paulett and Karl Paulett, also was recognized.

His descendant was Karl Paulett.

Each descendant received a medal, and following the ceremony, the crowd gathered at the bridge for a wreath laying ceremony, a gun salute provided by the 14th Virginia Infantry, Co. K and Oliver's Battery, 21st Virginia, Co. C and the tossing of a wreath into the Staunton River.

In addition to the Historic Staunton River Foundation's wreath, President Patt Graves presented the H. A. Carrington 1055 UDC wreath, and Ron Graves presented the Charlotte County Grays, Camp #1964 wreath.

Prior to Saturday's cer-



PHOTOS BY ASHLEY HODGE/GAZETTE-VIRGINIAN

Smoke fills the air as re-enactors present a gun salute on the bridge during the 152nd anniversary commemoration of the Battle of Staunton River Bridge Saturday morning.

emony, a wagon ride tour of the battlefield was held, and after the ceremony on Saturday, another tour was provided of the park.

Following that tour, Dr. H. Rondel (Ron) Rumburg, president of the Society for Biblical and Southern Studies,

presented a program on "The Friendship of Robert E. Lee and 'Stonewall' Jackson."

Dr. Rumburg futhered his education at Luther Rice Seminary in Jacksonville, Florida, where he graduated with a Th.M. degree, and he received

his Doctorate of Ministry Degree from Reformed Theological Seminary in Jackson, Mississippi.

Dr. Rumburg is known to many as he recently served as past national chaplain-in-chief of the Sons of the Confederate Veterans.



Historic Staunton River Foundation President Janet Johnson



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