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Valedictorian Lynwood Winslow addresses seniors, tassel gets ceremonial adjustment

Former county resident addresses 56th commencement

A packed gymnasium watched 134 seniors walk across the stage to receive their long-awaited diplomas during Perquimans County High School's 56th commencement exercises Friday, June 5.

Following a word of welcome from class salutatorian Rene Bowser, the podium was taken over by the commencement speaker, former Perquimans County resident Dr. George Willis Reid, who is Assistant Dean of the Undergraduate School of Arts and Sciences at North Carolina Central University in Durham.

Reid told the class of 1981 that one of the important questions facing them was, "What will they say about me 20 years from now?"

He told the students that the answer to the question would be taken from their records.

"If you walked the halls when other students were studying, then that is your record," said Reid, who admonished the group to "live each day as though somebody is watching you."

After diplomas were awarded by Clifford Winslow, chairman of the board of education, Lynwood Winslow, class valedictorian addressed the group.

"Always keep your self-respect and you'll be able to keep your back straight and your head held high," said Winslow to his classmates.

Senior Faye Willis sang "Somebody Bigger Than You and I," followed by the benediction, delivered Rev. T. Claude Hydrick.

The class of 1981 marched out to the Perquimans County High School band's rendition of "At the Summit."



Winfall council approves budget, ordinances set

The Winfall Town Council adopted a \$73,054.83 budget for fiscal year 1981-82 at their regular monthly meeting Monday night.

Revenue

Anticipated revenue for the coming year includes: \$2,093.47 from beer and wine tax; \$2,799.46 from franchise taxes; \$397.21 from intangible taxes; \$3,516.34 from sale and use tax; \$16,173.14 from Winfall property taxes; \$13,800 from revenue sharing; \$7,429.72 from the Powell Bill fund; \$9,953.51 from interest on certificates of deposit; and \$16,891.98 from sale of water.

Expenditures

Anticipated town expenditures for next

fiscal year include \$5,760 for the water bond; \$2,500 for salt for water, the same amount budgeted last year; and \$300 for chlorine, up from last year's budgeted \$250.

Electricity was budgeted \$6,500, up from last year's budgeted amount of \$6,000; telephone expenses were kept at \$400; and insurance was allotted \$1,500.

Street work was allotted \$7,500, down from last year's \$8,500. The amount budgeted for office supplies remained at last year's figure of \$1,200.

The amount of \$2,500 was budgeted for the Winfall Volunteer Fire Department, and \$2,000 was allotted for town equipment repairs, same as last year's figure.

Repairs on water system equipment were also budgeted at \$2,000. Miscellaneous expenses were allotted \$1,500.

Employee salaries for the Town of Winfall were budgeted at \$24,000, the same amount allotted during last fiscal year. Building repairs were budgeted \$2,000.

A new item was added to the budget this year — \$4,000 to cover expenses of councilmen and officials.

The town coffers are expected to have a surplus of some \$8,894.83 after anticipated expenditures.

In other business, Winfall Mayor Lloyd Ray Morgan read aloud a copy of a letter

sent to Albemarle Electric Membership Corporation from the Hertford Town Council stating that the Town of Hertford did not intend to release electricity lines in Winfall to AEMC.

Morgan's only comment after reading the letter was, "The Town of Winfall will proceed with further action," but would not elaborate as to what "action" the town would take.

Winfall resident William Ray attended the meeting asking the council's permission to fill the vacant seat on the board. The spot was vacated when Morgan took over the mayor's position after the retirement of David Trueblood.

The council tabled their decision to

Conservatism marks hearing

A handful of citizens grilled the Perquimans County Board of Commissioners on the particulars of its 1981-1982 fiscal year budget in a public hearing Monday night.

All of the concerns expressed were of a fiscally conservative nature in a hearing that stretched nearly two hours.

The subject of discussion was a budget that projects \$2,776,031 in spending, up some \$300,000 over the current year. The budget calls for a tax rate of \$1.15 per \$100 valuation, the same as in the present year.

But that figure wasn't low enough to suit Hertford Town Council member Jesse Harris. "There must be 10 percent of that (the budget) that is not in your words essential. The belt tightening should start not in 1982 but now," Harris said. He advocated a tax rate of \$1.

J.P. Perry also espoused a conservative philosophy, maintaining that the government is taking an ever larger role in the lives of the people in what amounts to a kind of creeping socialism.

Perry said the county should look for cuts in the school budget because the schools require the largest expenditure of county funds. "If it takes over half the budget it seems to me that that's where the county should look for any reductions," Perry said.

Though the board of education agreed to a little less money than had initially been requested, Perry said that the county still may have been too generous. "\$10,000 (reduction) out of a million dollars, man, that's the biggest joke I've ever heard of," he said.

Responding to questioning, Joe Nowell, chairman of the board of commissioners, said the budget is a tight one, with little room for cuts.

"The bad thing is we've got so many things that are mandated to us. All we can do is hand over the money. We've got only two things we can do, cut salaries or services," Nowell said.

He said that many county employees

take on extra burdens that keep administration costs, and hence the tax rate, in line.

But Perry insisted that cuts could be made. "As a matter of principle, I think this board and the town ought to get out of the recreation business," Perry said.

Commissioner Lester Simpson agreed, but conceded defeat for those who had hoped to see the county stop funding recreation.

County resident Tom Proctor wanted to know whether there was anything to gain from attending the hearing. "Will meeting with you do any good?" he asked.

"I would say yes, it does good for people to come to meetings and express their opinions," replied Nowell.

He said, however, that he tries to base his decisions on how the majority of the people feel.

One area Proctor expressed concern about was the rent the Albemarle Regional Planning and Development Commission is paying for its Church Street extended office space.

Commissioner Charles Ward has maintained that the rent ARPDC is paying will not even cover the cost of utilities.

Nowell said the commission had agreed to up its share to \$7,500, from a previous offer of \$6,000.

Ward wondered why, if the county owns the building, it cannot set the rent. He has said that if the commission can't come up with more rent it should be asked to occupy less space.

Commissioner Marshall Caddy issued the jaw-dropper on the subject when he said that the EMC council is sub-letting office space from the commission in the same building for \$12,500 per year.

ARPDC director Don Flowers, however, said on Tuesday morning, that the figure represents more than just rent for office space.

He said it includes some ad-

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Band support sought Saturday

The third annual Band Day festivities are slated for Saturday, June 13, at the Horse and Pony Club ring on Grubb Street Extended.

The day-long event, sponsored by the Band Booster Club, will begin at 10 a.m. and include some new activities as well as some old favorites.

Among new events featured this year are a kissing booth, a car smash, and arm wrestling.

Also included will be the familiar contests — basketball, baseball, and ring toss — as well as such events as the pie-in-the-face throw, bingo, the dunking machine, and a horse show.

Music and entertainment will be provided by county bands and local music groups.

Baked goods, homemade ice cream and various other refreshments will be for sale, and a fish fry will begin at 5 p.m. Tickets for the fry can be obtained from any band student or Booster member.

Proceeds from the festival will go toward purchasing additional band uniforms, instruments, and music, as well as a van for transporting instruments and equipment.

A spokesman for the Booster Club said the organization hoped to raise "at least \$4,000" for next year's band program.

Hertford waste treatment plant down for repairs

Hertford waste water has been bypassing the treatment system at the plant since early this week while maintenance repairs are underway, but sewage is expected to undergo regular treatment by the end of the week.

While Hertford Mayor and Town Manager Bill Cox said all waste should resume normal treatment at the plant by Thursday (today), he added that recent rains could possibly extend repairs

through the end of the week.

The North Carolina Department of Natural Resources and Community Development, which authorized the partial shutdown, has limited the bypass process to four days, with a possible two-day extension for inclement weather.

Describing the repairs as "routine," Cox said the plant followed a similar procedure in the spring of 1978, when the plant was last closed for maintenance

work. "This is not unusual," said Cox of the bypass procedure. "We expect to do it every 2 to 4 years," he added.

During the temporary shutdown, waste water is chlorinated as it comes to the plant, then channeled into the Perquimans River. Cox said that more than the usual amount of chlorine was added to the waste during the shutdown to kill bacteria, but conceded that the sewage was not as clean as fully

processed waste.

"We sample and monitor the water daily and meet the state's minimum requirements during the shutdown," said Cox.

Repairs at the plant have been estimated at \$3,000, an amount Cox said was budgeted in the sanitation department. Aside from welding work, Cox said all other labor was being done by town employees.

This week

The state may change its guidelines on providing funds for bus transportation — see page 2.

A former Perquimans High School student got a double dose at Elizabeth City State University — see page 3.

Dial-A-Market offers price information for farmers, toll free — see page 10.

Weather word

Chance of rain Thursday and fair Friday and Saturday. Highs in the 80s and lows in the 60s.

