

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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"News from Next Door"

35 cents

Winfall sets second budget hearing

Officials did not follow law; taxes to rise, not fall

CATHY WILSON
Staff Writer

While Winfall's tax rate dropped from 45 cents to 41 cents, real estate taxpayers in town will probably see their tax bills increase substantially due to the county-wide property revaluation.

At first glance, the budget approved by members of Winfall Town Council June 9 appears to reflect a reduction in taxes for town citizens. However, a closer look reveals that the town did not include a revenue-neutral tax rate in their proposed budget for comparison purposes as is required by state law.

Town of Winfall Public hearing on Revenue-Neutral Tax Rate
Winfall Town Hall
June 27 6:30 p.m.

On Tuesday morning, town officials worked to determine a revenue-neutral rate of 29 cents, giving taxpayers an effective 12-cent tax increase.

Winfall will hold a public hearing June 27 at 6:30 p.m. in the town hall for the purpose of making that revenue-neutral tax rate public.

According to North Carolina law G.S. 159-11 (e), local governments must include a statement of the revenue-neutral property tax rate in the budget for comparison purposes each year in which a general reappraisal of real estate is conducted. The revenue-neutral property tax rate is the tax rate that is est

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THERE WERE LOTS OF smiles as the Perquimans County High School Class of 2008 left Memorial Field Saturday morning. See more photos at dailyadvance.com.

102 graduate from Perquimans

SUSAN HARRIS

"Pomp and Circumstance." Tears and cheers. Introspection and celebration.

All were a part of the day as 102 young adults stepped out onto the next stages of their lives when Principal James Bunch declared them graduates of Perquimans County High School Saturday morning on Memorial Field.

Valedictorian Tamara Gregory and salutatorian Michael Ross addressed those gathered.

"High school has undoubtedly been our most involved growing experience thus far," Ross said to his classmates. "Throughout the years we've met friends, joined clubs, played sports, all good memories that we can hold closely to us for the rest of our lives."

"Additionally, high school should be remembered for its not-so-good moments because those mistakes or uncomfortable situations have only made us wiser."

Ross, the son of Michael and Theresa Ross, will attend Elizabeth City State University where he will pursue a degree in pharmacy. He attended Governor's School last summer and has served as both a House and Governor's page.

Gregory encouraged her classmates to use what they've learned in all aspects of life to make a positive mark on the world.

"Many of us, including our parents, are wondering how our lives are going to turn out, and question what the future holds," Gregory said. "We will all take dif-



TAMARA GREGORY HEADS BACK for her seat after receiving her diploma, as Michael Ross shakes the hand of Principal James Bunch and Candice Nixon is congratulated by Board member Walter Leigh.

ferent paths... The important fact to remember is that no matter where our paths take us, we must continue to give it our all. This is no time to stop giving that 110 percent! We are in charge of our destination. It will be our names on the line, we will be the ones held responsible for our actions. Continue giving it your best, and never give up and never settle for less... We must leave our mark on the world in a positive way; this is our chance to let the world know that we are the generation born to make a difference.

"High school is not the end, it is only the beginning. Let's take all the knowledge that we learned and put it to good use and make our education work for us."

Gregory said that the class as in-

dividuals must be prepared to work hard to succeed in life.

"We will be competing against other graduates just as skilled and qualified as we are; therefore we must learn to be more marketable so that we will stand out in the crowd."

The valedictorian is the daughter of Romona Ferebee and will attend UNC-Chapel Hill. Her goal is to become a pediatrician. She has participated in three medical career programs, Ventures into Health Careers at ECU (two weeks), Rural Health Scholars Internship at Chowan Hospital (six weeks) and Youth Legislator's School for Leadership Development at ECU (six weeks). In addition, she is a member of several clubs.

Youth summer activities planned

CATHY WILSON
Staff Writer

A community effort is underway to offer summer activities for children in Perquimans County.

Communities in Schools is coordinating the program which is slated to get underway July 7 and run for five weeks until Aug. 7 — provided that county commissioners agree to come up with \$6,000 to fund it.

Over 100 contacts were made to get the community involved in the program that will offer children ages 7-18 activities Monday-Thursday from 11 a.m. — 3 p.m.

"It's unbelievable how the community has come together to pull this program together," said Chirleen Evans, executive director of CIS.

Parents can bring their children to Missing Mill Park, Winfall Landing Park, and Snug Harbor Community Church to enjoy a USDA-approved lunch at 11:30 a.m. daily.

Children under 12 will stay at the sites and enjoy supervised activities from noon until 2:30 p.m.

Children will enjoy crafts, presentations, programs, and activities at the three lunch sites.

Each site will have a site manager, a site worker, and volunteers to help the children.

Workers and volunteers will receive training and background checks prior to opening day. Parents bringing children to the sites must sign children in and out.

Youth 12 and older will have the opportunity to ride the Inter County Public Transportation Authority bus to the county recreation department at noon to take part in recreational activities there. The ICPTA bus will return to the recreation department at 3 to pick up the children and return them to their original lunch site.

ICPTA buses will also be available to transport children from Wynne Fork Court and Holiday Island Community Center at noon each day to take them to

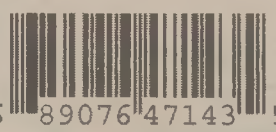
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WEEKEND WEATHER

THURSDAY
HIGH: 84 LOW: 66
ISOLATED T'STORMS

FRIDAY
HIGH: 85 LOW: 67
SCATTERED T'STORMS

SATURDAY
HIGH: 87 LOW: 69
SCATTERED T'STORMS



Positive Futures offers assistance to community

CATHY WILSON
Staff Writer

Positive Future, LLC offers new beginnings to those suffering from mental and substance abuse disorders.

Located in the Apple Tree Mall in Winfall since September, the community support agency hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony last week by the Perquimans Chamber of Commerce.

"Our goals are to strengthen families and empower communities," said Crystal Lee, owner. "We provide assistance and support to the community's most vulnerable and at risk, both adults and children. We strive to accomplish



THE PERQUIMANS CHAMBER OF Commerce held a ribbon cutting at Positive Future, LLC located in the Apple Tree Mall in Winfall.

our mission through carefully constructed programs designed to assist consumers to better realize their potential and live out their

dreams." The business offers community support services, mental health support for both adults and children,

and a 24-hour crisis response line. On-site and off-site contractual staff serve clients.

The business helps individuals by placing a child, adolescent, or adult with a trained and qualified community support paraprofessional to work with that individual on specific goals within the community or in the home.

Some clients come in asking for help while others are referred by Albemarle Mental Health, the court system, or schools, Lee said. While fees are based on ability to pay, payment for services offered is often funded through Medicaid, she added.

Support is offered

through individual mentoring, management programs, skill development programs, summer challenge for young people, activity centers, social skills, school behavior, anger management, building relationships, coping skills, job skills, self-esteem, and specialized services.

In addition to offering support, Positive Future, LLC also offers a food and clothing drive, taxi service to office appointments, and financial assistance for bills and rent.

Positive Future LLC is open Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. — 5 p.m. and can be reached at 426-7537. Weekend and evening appointments can be scheduled.