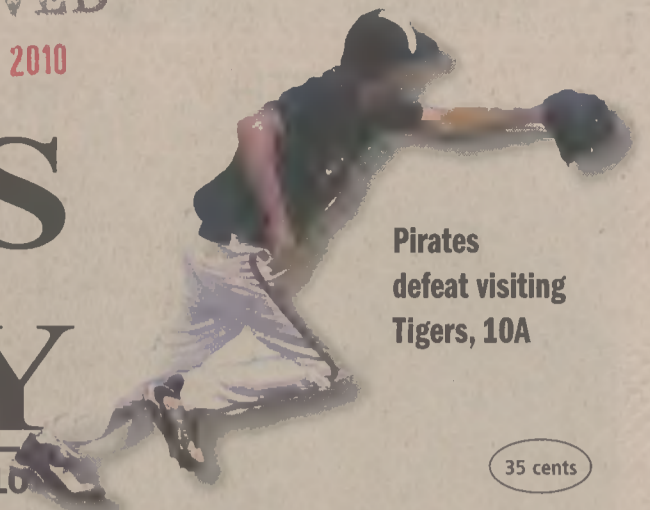


THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



Pirates defeat visiting Tigers, 10A

35 cents

"News from Next Door"

APRIL 28, 2010 - MAY 4, 2010

3 BOE members to be chosen

Five candidates vie in the May 4 election

By CATHY WILSON
Staff Writer

Local voters will choose three board of education members Tuesday during the May 4 primary election. In addition, the election includes several state and federal primaries to be decided.

Five non-partisan candidates are seeking three seats on the



Hill Hollowell Layden Leigh Nelson

Perquimans County Board of Education.

Incumbents Walter Leigh and Wallace Nelson are each vying to keep their seats while veteran

Gail Vaughn Hill, who lost her seat two years ago, is trying to be elected back onto the board. They face challenges by newcomers Ralph Hollowell and Di-

anne Layden.

Board of education candidates are included on each partisan ballot and voters may vote for only one candidate. The top three vote getters will be elected.

With 20 years on the school board under his belt, Leigh is the veteran of the group. Nelson, who has served 16 years on the board, plus a term on the county commissioners, follows Leigh in experience. Hill served one

term on the board from 2004-08. Layden and Hollowell have each run unsuccessfully for the board in the past.

Layden, 58, is a retired quality assurance analyst for Albemarle Hospital. She earned an associate's degree from College of The Albemarle in business computer programming. She serves as vice chair of the Perquimans Republican Party, treasurer of the First District Republican Party, and serves on the board

See BOE, 4

School brings 'Little Women' to life



PHOTO BY PHIL HARRIS

The Perquimans County High School fine arts department recently presented the musical "Little Women." The performance featured several students in the acting roles, including: (clockwise from top left) Shelby Harrell (Jo March), Becky Bundy (Meg March), Hannah McCleary (Amy March), Molly Newbern (Beth March), and Crystal McDaniel (center, Marmee). Based on the beloved novel by Louisa May Alcott, the play followed the lives of the four March sisters as they grew from girls into young women during the uncertainty of the Civil War. Sets, costumes and production crew were provided by the PCHS theater arts classes and Drama Club, with Lynwood Winslow as director and accompanist.

Group probing need for station

By staff reports

A group of citizens in the Harveys Neck area is interested in possibly developing a Bethel Fire Department (BFD) sub-station on Holiday Island Road so firefighters can reach this area of the county faster in the event of a fire.

Harveys Neck is generally considered the area along Harvey Point and Holiday Island roads that includes the growing areas of Albemarle Plantation and Holiday Island. In the event of a fire in those areas, BVD now responds

See PROBE, 4

Schools get news on budget

By CATHY WILSON
Staff Writer

The budget news heard Monday night included some good news, some not so good news, and really bad news for the Perquimans County Schools.

Dr. Dwayne Stallings and board of education members broke the news to county commissioners Monday night during a joint work session between the two boards.

The good news, he said, is that so far, it appears the school system will not have to give money back to the state this year.

The not so good news, Stallings said, is that the state's planning allotment for Perquimans County Schools came in almost \$172,000 less than last year. The cost of employee benefits is skyrocketing, and textbook monies have been completely eliminated from the state budget for next year, he said.

In addition, the school system stands to lose an additional \$363,911 in state funds based on school population. Gov. Bev Perdue's

See HOWARD, 5

See BUDGET, 5

Howard honored for emergency response

Youth attempted to save dad's life

By CATHY WILSON
Staff Writer

Fourteen-year-old Jesse Howard thought his extended summer visit with

his father in Manassas, Va., was going to be like the other visits he'd experienced the last nine years.

He enjoyed visiting with his father, step-mother, and four-year-old younger step-brother in their basement apartment, while doing the normal summer activities youngsters enjoy.

However, on July 9, Howard's world changed when his 37-year-old father collapsed in front of him, apparently from a heart attack.

Young Jesse sprang into action, grabbing the telephone, dialing 9-1-1, and giving emergency response dispatch correct information needed to get help. With dispatch still on the line, he handed the phone to his hysterical step-mother, then knelt beside his dying father, and began CPR, trying desperately to save his dad's life.

Within minutes, a law enforcement officer arrived on the scene and



PERQUIMANS WEEKLY PHOTO BY CATHY WILSON

Fourteen-year-old Jesse Howard is surrounded by his younger sister Cricket and mother Juanita in their Beech Springs Road-home. Howard received a letter of commendation for trying to save the life of his father who died last year in Manassas, Va.

helped Jesse switch from one-man to two-man CPR, with Jesse continuing to breathe for his father. Jesse remained calm, and even after paramedics arrived on the scene, managed to provide necessary medical history to emergency medical services as they continued to work on

his father.

Despite Jesse's heroic efforts, his father died that night.

After months of dealing with the death, Jesse, an eighth-grader now at Perquimans County Middle School, credits his seventh grade science class, and God for helping him

handle that night's tragic events. Jesse had learned CPR in his science class the year before, he said. His calmness and ability to function in the midst of chaos came from God.

"At first, I cried a lot," he admitted, "but I'm thankful that I learned CPR in school. God was in control...if it hadn't been for Him, I couldn't have done what I did."

Sitting in his Perquimans County home with his mother, Juanita, and younger sister, Cricket, Jesse still feels the pain of his father's death, but knows he did everything he could in his effort to save his father's life.

He, along with six other youths, were honored back in October by the Prince William County Department of Fire and Rescue, Police Department, Office of Public Safety, and Communications Office, for their help in emergency situations as part of the county's "Making

WEEKEND WEATHER

FRIDAY
HIGH: 81 LOW: 64
MOSTLY SUNNY

SATURDAY
HIGH: 85 LOW: 66
PARTLY CLOUDY

SUNDAY
HIGH: 83 LOW: 62
PARTLY CLOUDY



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