

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



"News from Next Door"

MAY 12, 2010 - MAY 18, 2010



Two sign to play college baseball. Page 8

Three win school board seat. Page 4

MAY 25 2010

50 cents

Schools request \$380K increase

By CATHY WILSON
Staff Writer

The Perquimans Board of Education has requested \$2,859,311 in local funds from county commissioners to support the schools during the 2010-2011 fiscal year.

The budget request is nearly \$380,000 more than

this year's local funding, or a 15.3 percent increase from last year.

Budget requests total \$283,023 more next school year for school expenses and \$95,384 more for capital outlay projects.

The schools' budget wishes will be taken into consideration by members of the Perquimans Board

of Commissioners as they continue to craft the next fiscal year's budget which must be adopted by the end of June and is effective July 1.

Proposed figures for local school funding includes \$43,020 more in regular instruction, \$7,000 less in vocational programs, nearly \$9,000 less in

school principals budget, and almost \$2,500 less for athletic programs. Local funds for band programs almost remain the same as last year's, instructional staff support is increased by a little over \$1,000, and transportation increased by nearly \$12,000.

Local monies going to fund fiscal services is up

almost \$22,000, human resources/personnel needs almost \$3,500 more than last year, and the executive administration budget is up by almost \$38,500.

The budget for board of education members decreased by \$1,000.

Plant maintenance is up over \$33,000 while operational costs are expected to

run nearly \$145,000 more than last year. Much of that increase is due to anticipated higher electricity costs.

Community relations costs is up over \$8,000 more than last year's figures.

Superintendent Dwayne Stallings pointed out that

See FUNDS, 6

Pig out, shop and walk this weekend

Many 'Pig Out' events scheduled

By CATHY WILSON
Staff Writer

Get ready to chomp on barbecue, kick up your heels, shop till you drop, walk to cure cancer, and eat ice cream!

A host of activities this weekend, ranging from roasting pigs to dipping ice cream sundaes, will keep you busy.

Historic Hertford, Inc. starts the weekend off right on Friday with their annual Pig Out on the Green featuring smoked barbecue with all the trimmings. Lunch is available from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. and dinner can be enjoyed from 5-7 p.m. You may relax and eat on the historic courthouse green or take it home with you. Plates are \$8 each.

Once full with dinner, get some exercise by sticking around for the Denim and Diamonds Street dance from 7-10 p.m. on Church Street which will be closed to allow dancing to the tunes of "Uphill, a popular blues and mojo band. Tickets are \$10 each and may be obtained at the Chamber office.

Also Friday, the Chowan/Perquimans Relay for Life gets underway at 6 p.m. at the John A. Holmes High School athletic complex in Edenton. Several teams from Perquimans County are participating, and many local cancer survivors will take part in the meaningful survivor lap that kicks off the overnight event. The Survivor Reception begins at 6:30

See WEEKEND, 3

WEEKEND WEATHER

FRIDAY
HIGH: 79 LOW: 62
CLOUDY

SATURDAY
HIGH: 85 LOW: 65
SCATTERED
THUNDERSTORMS

SUNDAY
HIGH: 83 LOW: 64
SCATTERED
THUNDERSTORMS

A calling



STAFF PHOTOS BY CATHY WILSON

Diane McHone, a member of the gospel singing group Called Out II, worships and sings with enthusiasm even though doctors have told her that she has inoperable lung and bone cancer.

Called to sing even in the valleys of life

By CATHY WILSON
Staff Writer

If her doctor is correct, Diane McHone probably won't be celebrating any more birthdays.

A month ago she went to see her doctor for a pulled muscle and asked while she was there to check a spot on her face for skin cancer. Tests results showed that the Snug Harbor woman has final stage lung and bone cancer instead.

No radiation, no surgery, no chemotherapy treatment was ordered. The cancer has spread too far. It wouldn't do any good, she was told. Her doctor told her she is facing "imminent death."

"Hey doc, can you lighten up a little bit?" she asked.

The redheaded, nail-painted spirited lady, who loves to sing and praise her God, isn't giving up on life no matter what the diagnosis may



be. A member of the gospel-singing group Called Out II, she says God has performed miracles in her life before. She's praying for another, but continues to laugh, sing, and celebrate her faith

as long as she can. "You know, God gave me this ministry of singing in Called Out II," she said. "I will continue to sing as long

See MCHONE, 4

County to fill Wiggins seat

By CATHY WILSON
Staff Writer

County commissioners are looking for an African-American to fill Shirley Wiggins's seat on the board.

Wiggins, an African-American politician who served on the board of commissioners for 18 years died April 18 following a brief stay in a local hospital. Commissioners have 60 days in which to appoint someone to fill her unexpired term on the board.

While the process of selecting her replacement will be open to the public, some commissioners made their feelings known last week just who should apply to be considered for appointment...and who shouldn't.

"I believe Shirley should be replaced by a black," said Commissioner Ben Hobbs who suggested commissioners open the selection process to the public for input in addition to the local Democratic Party, and commissioners.

"I think we should advertise and let the public offer names of people who are interested in serving as commissioner," Hobbs added. "Legislation (voting redistricting) requires that we have minority representation on the board. White folks need not apply."

Chairman Mack Nixon agreed, saying commissioners are looking

See SEAT, 2

Locals pray for nation on special day

By CATHY WILSON
Staff Writer

Prayers were uplifted for our nation, our community, and our families around the county last week in observance of National Day of Prayer.

Believers gathered at noon Thursday on the historic courthouse green and listened to pastors pray for a variety of local entities.

Later that evening, prayers continued in Holiday Island as two churches there sponsored a special evening of prayer offered by 20 speakers at the local homeowners' association clubhouse.

Adding a special touch of patriotism to the ceremony held downtown, members

of Holly Weeks' first grade class at Perquimans Central School sang "You're a Grand Old Flag" while waving American flags in choreographed movement. They ended their offerings with "God Bless the USA".

Bishop Larry Gordon, Rev. Edwin Rutenkroger, and Rev. Henry Pillow offered prayers for federal, state, and local leaders while Pastor Richard Wilcox, Rev. Willie Vaughn, and Mayor Fred Yates lifted up prayers for educators, communities of faith, and the military.

Pastor Greg Clark prayed for families and children, noting how it blesses the heart to see the young



STAFF PHOTO BY CATHY WILSON

First-graders from Perquimans Central School opened the National Day of Prayer observance with a spirited rendition of "You're a Grand Old Flag" on the courthouse green.

See PRAYER, 2

Swindell Funeral and Cremation Services

509 Dobbs St, Hertford

426-7311

Traditional • Cremation
Green Funerals • Biker Funerals
Veterans Funerals • Pre-Arrangements
www.swindellfuneralhome.com

Over 57 Years of
Service to the
Community

