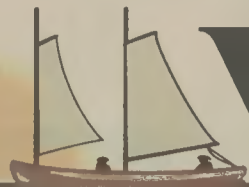


THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



"News from Next Door"

APRIL 25, 2012 - MAY 1, 2012

APR 25 2012

50 cents



Grandma's Treasures opens, 8

Baseball, softball teams eye playoffs, 6

Schools requesting \$2.6M for next year

Proposed budget hike hits \$69K for 2012-13

By CATHY WILSON
Staff Writer

Perquimans County Schools will present a proposed \$2.6 million local expense budget for the next school year to county com-

missioners next month.

Monday night, members of the Perquimans Board of Education approved the proposed local expense budget that totals \$2,625,594, an increase of \$69,391 over the amount requested last year. The proposed budget calls for no new employees, \$25,000 more for increases in cost of fuel/diesel, \$175,000 for extended

day school programs (loss of past grant funding), and an increase of nearly \$64,000 in maintenance costs.

The proposed figures also show a reduction of nearly \$21,000 in the cost of operating the schools (utilities) for the upcoming school year and almost \$200,000 less in instructional costs.

Board of education members

met jointly with county commissioners to discuss the upcoming fiscal year prior to the school board's regular meeting.

Superintendent Dwayne Stallings told coun-



Stallings

ty commissioners that board of education members have chosen to use about \$200,000 out of their \$1 million reserve fund balance instead of seeking additional funds from the county this year.

"We're not painting a terribly bleak picture this year," Stallings said. "I can honestly

See BUDGET, 6

OPENING DAY



STAFF PHOTOS BY CATHY WILSON

Four generations of the local Nixon family threw the ceremonial pitches at Saturday's opening ceremonies of the Perquimans Little League baseball season. Family members include (l-r) Trot Nixon, Maçon Winslow, Luke Nixon, Chase Nixon (throwing), Bill Nixon, Preston Nixon and Ray Winslow.

Preston Nixon (center), who will be 98 in August, threw out the first pitch Saturday morning at the opening ceremonies for the Perquimans Little League season. Nixon donated the land for the little league baseball park more than 50 years ago. Enjoying the moment is Bill Nixon (left) and Ray Winslow (right).



Former major league baseball player Trot Nixon, who spent 12 years playing professional baseball with three different teams, including the Boston Red Sox, gives a pep talk to members of the Perquimans Little League, Saturday morning during the league's 2012 season opening ceremonies. Nixon, whose family hails from Perquimans County, encouraged the youth to practice hard, listen to their parents and coaches, compete on every pitch thrown and have fun!

Citizens working to put on fireworks

By CATHY WILSON
Staff Writer

A group of patriotic citizens has stepped up to the plate to make sure there is a July 4th celebration in Perquimans County this year.

The group is meeting routinely to make plans for the celebration, complete with fireworks, scheduled to be held on Tuesday night, July 3, rather than on the official July 4th holiday.

The group, known as the Perquimans County Fireworks Committee 2012, is a unified effort ... town and county leaders and volunteers ... persons who have been involved with the fireworks productions in years past.

The celebration will be held at Missing Mill Park with the fireworks getting underway at 9 p.m.

The group, known as the Perquimans County Fireworks Committee 2012, is a unified effort comprised of town and county

See FIREWORKS, 2

Gardens to bloom at Saturday show

From staff reports

The Albemarle Master Gardener Spring Garden Show will have a large variety of horticulture activities when the show opens on Saturday.

The show will be held at the Perquimans County Recreation Center from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Free admission provides a wide variety of vendors, silent auction, plant sale, door prizes and raffles, and a bake

sale. "Ask a Master Gardener" booth will help with gardening questions.

The Children's Garden includes story-telling, games, take-home crafts, puppets - all teaching about plants and insects.

Speakers program will include "Pleasant Surprises and Current Trends in Custom Landscape Lighting," "Witherspoon Rose Culture," "Bonsai From My Secret Garden," "The Secret of Successful Orchid Growing," and "Benefits of Vermicompost to Your Soil."

See GARDEN, 2

Rose Pointe property sold for \$3M

By PETER WILLIAMS
The Daily Advance

A 586-acre parcel of land in Perquimans County that sold for \$13 million six years ago was sold for significantly less - \$3 million - during a bankruptcy auction last Thursday.

Thomas Miller, a Perquimans County native who heads a corporation that already owns over 500 acres of farm and forest land in Perquimans, was the buyer. About 250 acres of the property Miller bought are used as cropland, mainly soybeans and corn. The remaining 130 acres are filled with pine timber.

Miller, who now lives in Palm Beach, Fla., made the winning bid by phone with



THOMAS J. TURNEY/THE DAILY ADVANCE

Auctioneer Tim Jennings (left) takes bids at a land auction in Perquimans County, Thursday.

the help of a family member, Hank Griffin, a real estate agent who lives in Manteo. Griffin attended the auction.

Miller has no plans to develop the 586 acres on Bundy Road, Griffin said. "We're going to bring it (the ownership) home,"

Griffin said. "The worst thing would be if they developed it."

See POINTE, 7



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