

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



Students honored for perfect attendance, Page 7

"News from Next Door"

JULY 3, 2013 - JULY 9, 2013

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WINFALL HOSTING FIREWORKS SATURDAY

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

The Town of Winfall will host a fireworks display on Saturday in honor of Independence Day.

The town has also named Saturday as "Teresa Blanchard Day." Blanchard is a teacher at Perquimans County Middle School and a Winfall native.

The town is also helping underwrite the cost of the fireworks. Blanchard is helping provide all the other events including a bouncy house for kids, dancing and food.

The event runs from 4 p.m. until 9 p.m. at Winfall Landing. The fireworks depend on dona-



BLANCHARD

tions.

In the past, the Perquimans County Chamber of Commerce played a role, but backed away. Mayor Fred Yates said the idea is to collect enough to put on the display and then have enough left over to provide the deposit for the event the next year.

Checks can be mailed to Perquimans County Fireworks Committee, 104 Carolina St., Hertford, 27944.

"This is not a Hertford-Winfall thing, this is a Perquimans County thing," Yates said of the event Saturday.

The Town of Hertford will be bringing in portable toilets and setting them up in Missing Mill Park for

people that want to view the fireworks from there.

Hertford Town Manager Brandon Shoaf said the event is usually well attended.

"It wouldn't surprise me if there were 100 to 150 people out there on the water watching from boats, not counting the people who watch it on the land," Shoaf said.

Blanchard — this year's Rotary Teacher of the Year — didn't start off in education.

"I'm a career switcher," she said.

She earned a degree in computers and was in business. Later she moved back to Perquimans County friends talked her into

See FIREWORKS, 2

'MARINA IN THE MIST'



SUBMITTED PHOTO

This photograph titled 'Marina in the Mist' was submitted by Peter McDermott for his late wife Susan and was the winner in a photography contest sponsored by the Social Committee at Albemarle Plantation. Of a total of 48 images entered 12 were selected to appear in the first-ever Albemarle Plantation calendar for the year 2014. The entries are on display in the Albemarle Plantation clubhouse.

Seniors, kids work together

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

Take a group of seniors, add 8-year-olds and iPods and mix well for a few days.

That's the recipe Up River Friends used last week at a Vacation Bible School.

Children paired with seniors and the kids and adults worked on solving problems together using the technology.

Pastor Richard Wilcox said it clicked.

"It worked surprising well," he said last week. "I say surprisingly because some of the older members had reservations about working with iPods, and they did (show reservations) at first.

"But when you're paired



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Children pair with seniors to help them solve problems using today's new technology.

up with an 8-year-old and having them talk you through it, I think it disarms some of those reservations."

The theme of Bible

school was "neighbors helping your neighbors." "For the older members we wanted to impress that these 8-year-olds are also their neighbors," Wil-

cox said. "I know in some churches they tend to get kind of cliquish about our generations."

See SENIORS KIDS, 2

GOP now controls election boards

BY PETER WILLIAMS
News Editor

Political parties play a role in getting appointed.

But the way Keith Throckmorton views it, once he's sworn in on July 16, politics shouldn't play any role in how he performs as the newest member of the Perquimans County Board of Elections.

"The most important thing you can be in this position is neutral," Throckmorton said last week.

For the first time in 20 years, county boards of election across North Carolina will have more Republicans than Democrats. The switch from democratically controlled election boards to boards dominated by Republicans was finalized last week by the State Board of Elections. It comes as a result of Republican Gov. Pat

McCrory's election victory last November.

Under state law, majorities on both the state and local boards of election have to be made up of appointees of the governor's party. In the case of the five-member state Board of Elections, that means three members are now registered Republicans and two are registered Democrats.

Throckmorton, a Republican, replaces L. Paul Smith Jr.

Chuck White, a Republican, remains on the board as well as Vera Murrill, a Democrat.

Throckmorton spent his career in law enforcement in Virginia and moved to Perquimans County in 2002. His career taught him a lot.

"When you've had 40 years in law enforcement, if

See BOARDS, 2



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