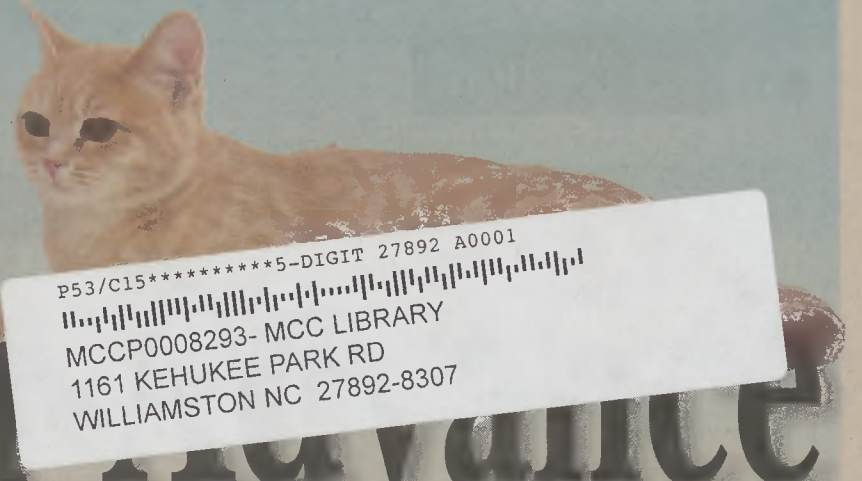


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WEDNESDAY • January 27 • 2016

50 Cents



GOOD MORNING,

Barbara Cherry
of Hampton, Va.

Thanks for
subscribing!

Superintendent search moves on School board offers thoughts on next district leader

By KYRA RUIVO
Bertie Ledger-Advance

WINDSOR - The search continues.

At the Bertie County Board of Education meeting on Jan. 20, Allison Shafer of the North Carolina School Board Association (NCSBA) presented to the board.

In November, the board agreed to have a community and a staff survey done so they can see what citizens in the community are looking for in the next superintendent.

"All the surveys were completed and sent to NCSBA by Jan. 4," Shafer said. "There were two separate surveys. A community survey and staff survey. Of the 50 community surveys started, 48 were turned in. Of the 108 staff surveys started, 102 were finished."

Of the data collected, the top priority for the community survey results were that the next superintendent has ideas and approaches to improve the graduation rates, and prevent drop-outs. The top priority for the staff surveys were that the

See SUPERINTENDENT, Page A6

Pound the Sound

Commissioners
back triathlon

By THADD WHITE
Bertie Ledger-Advance

POWELLSVILLE - A promise kept.

The Bertie County Commissioners agreed to get in on the ground floor of Pound the Sound. The county's leaders also agreed if the event was a success, and drew many to the county, they'd be more generous in their support.

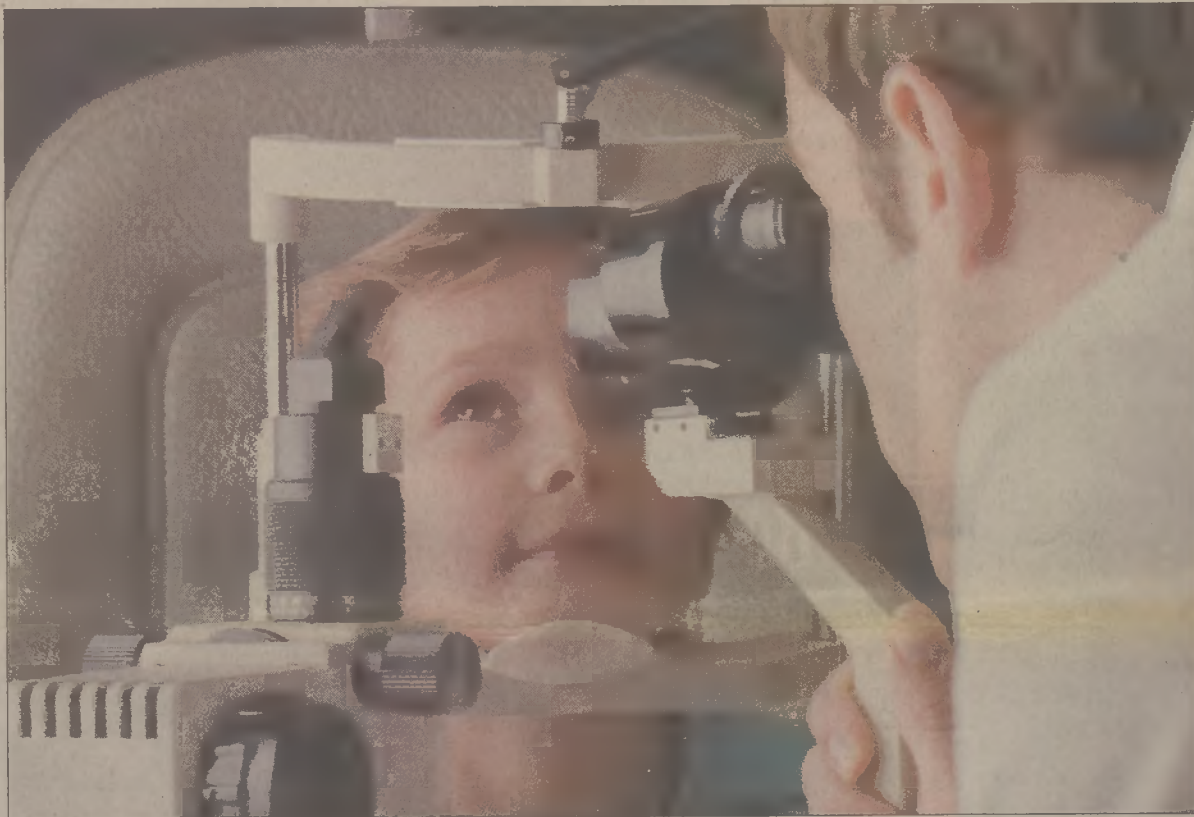
Unfortunately, the fledgling event needs additional funding due to no fault of its own. One of last year's largest corporate donors - Golden Peanut in Aulander - is closing its doors next month.

There also have been price increases that produced financial shortfalls for the event, although Rotary Club of Windsor President Todd Lane has been confident in finding other generous sponsors.

After Monday's meeting with the Bertie commissioners, Lane expects to be able to build on the event rather than simply

See SDUND, Page A7

GLAUCOMA AWARENESS



Ophthalmologists suggest checking for glaucoma through all stages of life.

Check for 'silent killer of sight'

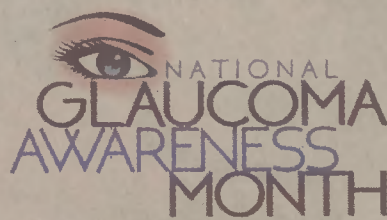
By LESLIE BEACHBOARD
Bertie Ledger-Advance

WINDSOR - January is National Glaucoma Awareness Month.

What is glaucoma?

Glaucoma is a condition when the pressure inside the eye rises. The pressure is regulated by the balance between the amount of fluid the ductwork produces inside the eye and the amount that drains from the eye. When the drain becomes blocked then the pressure rises. The pressure can crush the optic nerve, causing permanent vision loss, and sometimes blindness.

"Glaucoma is the silent killer thief of sight. If you do not get



checked, you will not know you have it," said Dr. Lady Aycock of Eye Care Center in Windsor.

There are two forms of glaucoma - open-angle glaucoma and angle-closure glaucoma.

Open-angle glaucoma; also known as chronic glaucoma, is caused when the drain system in the eye does not work properly.

It is the most common type

form of glaucoma, affecting 2.5 million Americans. It is dangerous because it rises gradually, and causes no noticeable symptoms.

Open-angle glaucoma has a no known cause. Primarily it is inherited, but can also come from eye injury, advanced cataracts or diabetes.

This form of glaucoma usually responds well to medications.

The second form of glaucoma is called angle closure glaucoma. This form of glaucoma is caused by a structural problem when the iris is pushed against the cornea, so fluid cannot get

See GLAUCOMA, Page A6

Wear red in Feb.

Women's heart
health event set

By LESLIE BEACHBOARD
Bertie-Ledger Advance

WINDSOR - There is more than one reason to wear red in February.

National Wear Red Day is held the first Friday in February every year. The day is to help raise awareness about heart disease being the number one killer in women. This year the event will be held on Friday Feb. 5.

The American Heart Association's Go Red For Women campaign advocates education, prevention, and increased research of women's heart related illnesses.

Heart disease in women is the leading cause of death in women, resulting in one in three deaths per year. It is often referred to as the silent killer. Heart disease victims often do not know they have it, so they do not get treated or make healthy life-style changes.

Statistics show that in the five years from 2009 to 2013 heart disease rate

See HEART, Page A8

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Commissioners vote for five-day extension

Policy goes into affect immediately

By LESLIE BEACHBOARD
Bertie Ledger-Advance

POWELLSVILLE - A five-day extension is coming.

Bertie County Board of Commissioners met Thursday, Jan. 21 in Powellsville. One item

on the agenda was the Bertie Co. Water Department's billing policy.

Bertie County Public Works Director, Rickey Spivey, stated that the current county water bill is due on average 2 days before some customers receive their

income source. This causes some water bills to become delinquent with the department.

Spivey recommended to the board, the possibility for an extension for the time window for delinquent water bills. The proposed plan is a 5 day extension would allow more time before

the water bill would be due to the county.

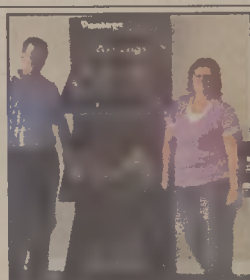
This gives some customers in the county more time to receive their monthly income before their payment is due.

The board of commissioners voted on the recommendation for an extension on payment

for water bills. Commissioner, Stuart White motioned the proposal. Commissioner John Trent and Commissioner Ernestine Bazemore seconded the motion to approve the extension.

The commissioner board unanimously approved to extend the billing water date by 5 days.

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