

Life & Style

The fabric of Bertie County since 1832

# Bertie Arts Council slates new show

BY LESLIE BEACHBOARD  
Bertie Ledger-Advance

WINDSOR - On display and for sale.

The Bertie County Arts Council will host a special event from 5:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 23 at the Gallery, 124 King Street, Windsor.

The artists being showcased in this show are potter Jim Messer and photographer Doward Jones.

Bertie County residents will have an opportunity to be the first to purchase Messer's new "Bertie Stoneware" pottery made from local clay.

According to Messer, his newly-styled pottery was made with clay from the bottom and the shores of the Chowan River in Bertie County.

The unveiling of the new line will take place at the



opening of the show. The opening reception will feature opportunities to chat

with Messer while enjoying refreshments.

Pottery items such as

bowls, mugs and plates by Messer in his former style have been available for the

past several years at The Gallery.

Messer is an instructor at Roanoke Chowan Community College.

Jones, a Plymouth resident, has been documenting the local landscape in photos for most of his life. His works have been displayed at many area galleries and other venues.

Jones will be available during the reception to talk to guests about his work.

Artwork by Messer and Jones will be for sale at the reception and afterward during regular Gallery hours, 10 a.m. until 2 p.m., Monday through Friday.

This special reception event is free to the public and everyone is encouraged to attend.

For more information, contact The Gallery at 252-794-9402 or via email at bertiearts@gmail.com.

## Museum



Work was going on throughout the Windsor Farmer's and Craftsman Museum last week.

the form of a team from the N.C. Department of Natural and Cultural Resources.

LeRae Umfleet, the Acting Director of the Division of Education and Outreach, led the Cultural Resources Emergency Support Team (CREST) to Windsor where they worked for two days to restore displays to the Farmer's and Craftsman Museum.

Umfleet said it was the team's second visit to Windsor to aid with the restoration of the

From A1

museum, but it was the first time the team had been involved in setting up displays such as the one in Bertie County.

"We helped with the recovery after the first flood last year," she said. "We came in after the flooding from the remnants of Tropical Storm Julia."

At that time, the CREST team helped restore and clean the tools from the museum to make sure they were salvageable. They were moved to higher ground before the flooding from Hurricane Matthew sent water back

into the museum.

"We moved them up before Julia, but water still got to some of them," Windsor Public Works Director William Coburn said. "They came in and cleaned them, and some workers we had through CADA wiped them down. We moved them to the old Cardinal Chemical building before Matthew hit."

The town of Windsor restored the building where the museum is housed, which is located on the corner of Granville and York streets. Coburn said that restoration included adding a longer brick pathway inside the facility.

Umfleet said the CREST team usually provides its help immediately after a disaster, but wanted to return to Windsor to help get the museum back in order.

"We usually help with the recovery after a disaster," she said. "This is a new step for us."

Thursday and Friday were spent with 10 or 12 volunteers working to set up displays, mount tools on peg boards and get the museum a step closer to re-opening this spring.

As for why Windsor was the first recipient of this new step, Umfleet said she had an affinity for Windsor from her time serving a Curator at Historic Hope Mansion.

"We were needed here," she said. "We wanted to come and do what we could."

Umfleet and others visited in December of last year to see how close the building was

to being ready for them to come do their work of last week. She said there were a few things the town had to finish, but they are now completed, allowing for the CREST team to work last week.

"We won't have it finalized when we leave, but hopefully we'll have it pretty close," she said.

In addition to mounting the tools, the volunteers set up a blacksmith's shop and woodworking shop for visitors.

Umfleet said the collection - most of which came from Harry Lewis Thompson - was one of a handful of collections throughout North Carolina. She said what made the collection unique was it being mostly Thompson's.

None of the artifacts of the museum were destroyed during the flooding, but some display cases were lost.

She encouraged Bertie County's citizens to support the museum as volunteers and as visitors.

"The town has done great work here, but they can't do it all," she said. "They need volunteers to step up and help."

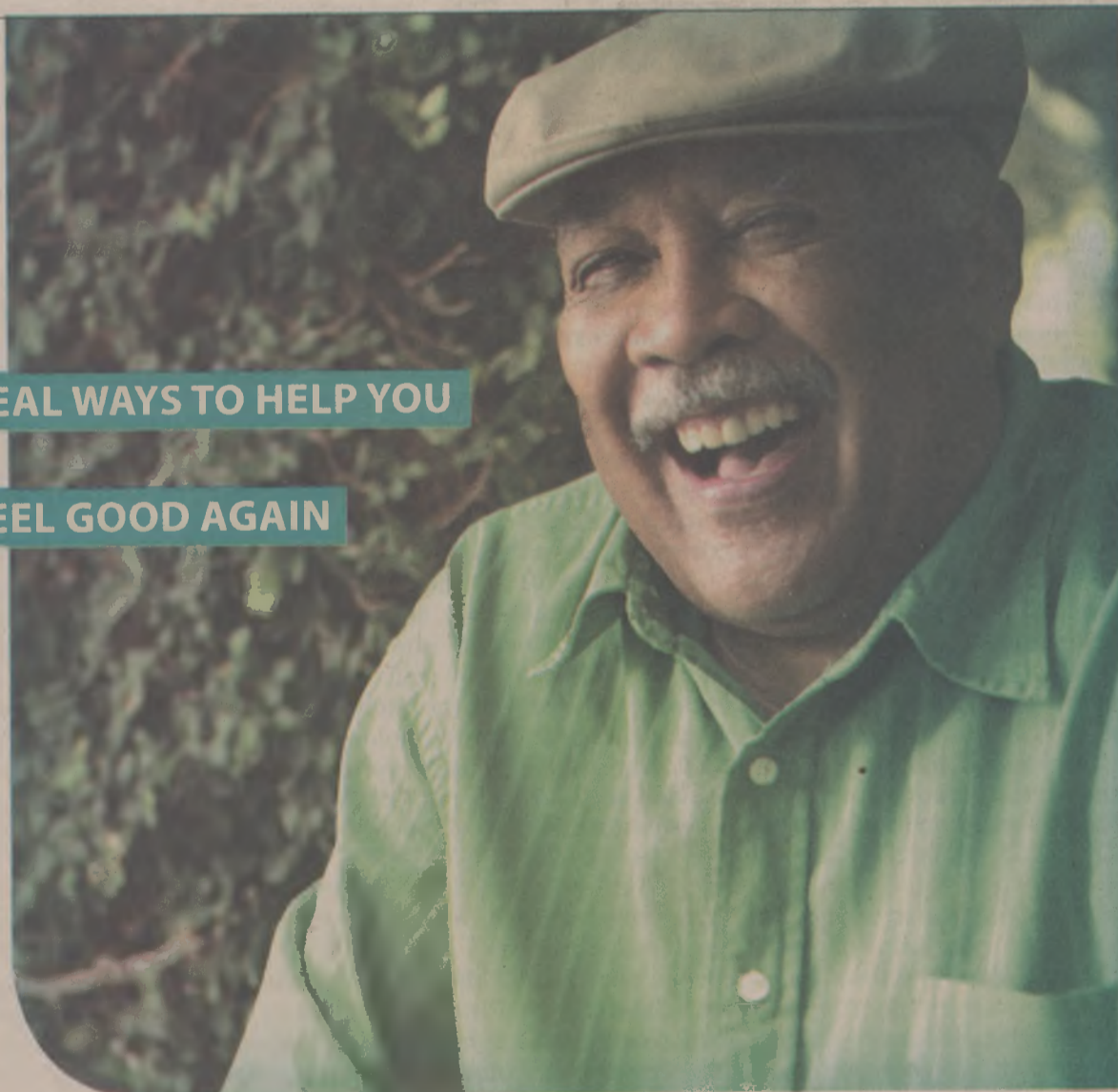
Windsor Mayor Jim Hoggard expressed the town's gratitude for the work done at the museum.

"They did a really good job of putting stuff back together," the mayor said. "I was impressed and pleased with their work."

"They're good people," he continued. "They have been really good to us."

REAL WAYS TO HELP YOU

FEEL GOOD AGAIN



### SO YOU CAN GET BACK TO LIVING

There are times in life when you just don't feel like yourself. You can't pinpoint what is wrong, but you know there is a problem. At times, you don't know where to turn.

You don't have to figure things out alone. The professionals at Vidant Bertie Hospital Behavioral Health Services are experts at helping people feel better. By simply taking the time to discuss what's troubling you, you can begin to feel immediate relief.

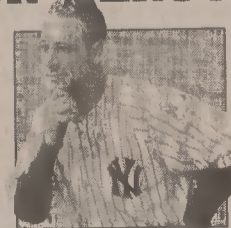
Our clinic is designed to welcome and encourage you to reach out for help. Our professional staff offer the treatment you need to develop meaningful relationships that can lead to lasting solutions. You'll find supportive, personalized therapy that can lead you back to the life you deserve.



For more information, call 252-794-6637. 1403 South King Street, Windsor VidantHealth.com/Bertie



TOUGH ISN'T ENOUGH



Lou Gehrig

Big, strong, seemingly indestructible. Then ALS sapped his strength and stole his life. Tough isn't enough to win this fight.

MDA is working to find treatments and a cure for ALS. Be part of our team.

MDA Muscular Dystrophy Association 1-800-572-1717 • www.mdaua.org