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WEDNESDAY • JANUARY 3, 2018



Falcons finish second

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Two charged with smuggling contraband

Chief Lane says assistance is needed

THADD WHITE
Bertie Ledger-Advance

WINDSOR - Two more are behind bars charged with trying to smuggle illegal contraband into Bertie Correctional Institute (BCI).

In the wake of yet another

arrest on those charges, Windsor Police Chief Todd Lane says help is needed to resolve the issue.

Two days before Christmas, Windsor Police Det. Eddie Hoggard and Officer A.J. Lanier responded to BCI on Cooper Hill Road after receiving a call about a suspicious male subject.

Once on Cooper Hill Road, Officer Lanier spotted a Toyota vehicle leaving the area of the prison with five occupants, including one which matched the description of the subject.

Det. Hoggard arrived at the scene and began interviewing the occupants individually. A search of the vehicle also revealed a bag containing cell phones.

"The cell phones had sand glued to them in an attempt to conceal the cell phones," Chief Lane said. "This is a common method for concealing items thrown onto

the prison property."

After completing the interviews, two suspects were arrested.

Areliia Cooper, 31, of 212 West Kornegay St. in Dover, and Jamal Rouse, 30, of West Vernon Ave. in Kinston were charged with charged with attempting to furnish cell

See CONTRABAND, 3

2017: Good year

Businesses grow by double digits

THADD WHITE
Bertie Ledger-Advance

WINDSOR - Growth in business reached double digits in Bertie County last year.

Windsor/Bertie Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Lewis Hoggard said it was a good year for business openings and expansions throughout the county.

"We reached double digits in business openings and expansions last year," he said. "That number does not include flood-related renovations and openings."

Among those businesses were two new operations in Aulander and the opening of a pharmacy in Colerain as part of Colerain Primary Care. In addition, Windsor saw the opening of Duck Thru No. 55 and the reopening of what is now the Bertie County Public Library.

Hoggard said he counted 10 new businesses in the county, all of which are store fronts and not home businesses which would make the count

See YEAR, 3

PREPARE FOR A WINTER WONDERLAND



FILE PHOTO

If the weather forecast remains, Bertie County's little ones will have the opportunity to play in the snow this week.

Snow in tonight's forecast

LESLIE BEACHBOARD
Bertie Ledger-Advance

Confidence is growing that snow will accumulate throughout Bertie County.

According to the report issued by the National Weather Service in Wakefield, Va., Bertie County is expected to see snow showers late Wednesday into Thursday morning, and could see four to six inches of snow.

A coastal low will produce accumulating snow and gusty winds from North Carolina

through Maryland.

According to Bertie County Emergency Management Director Mitch Cooper, snow will likely begin around 4 p.m. today (Wednesday, Jan. 3) with initial accumulations of less than one inch.

"Snow will continue Wednesday night, mainly before 1 a.m. with new accumulations of three to five inches," added Cooper.

Hazards with the storm include snow, hazardous travel and wind.

Before the storm strikes,

citizens should make sure homes, offices and vehicles are stocked with supplies needed. People should make sure farm animals and pets also have the essentials needed during a winter storm.

The primary concern at home or work during a winter storm is loss of heat, power and a shortage of supplies if the storm conditions continue for more than a day.

The following is a recommended list of supplies pre-

See SNOW, 3

Bond faces charge

THADD WHITE
Bertie Ledger-Advance

WINDSOR - A Windsor man was severely beaten, and ended up being treated at Vidant Bertie Hospital on Christmas Day.

Windsor Police Chief Todd Lane said his officers were dispatched to the hospital after a patient was admitted with severe facial and jaw injuries.

Cpl. Jason Thomas went to the hospital and attempted to interview the victim, but was unable to communicate effectively with the victim.

"Cpl. Thomas was able to determine the victim was jumped on Cedar Street near Cherry Street by a group of four or five guys," Chief Lane said.

The assault case was then assigned to Sgt. Justin Jackson of the Windsor Police Department for further investigation. The Sgt. interviewed the victim, community members and witnesses and was able to determine a suspect in the case.

Sgt. Jackson was able to obtain a warrant for the suspect - Glenn Bond Jr. - and Cpl. Frank Ratzlaff arrested the subject.

Bond, of 402 Cedar

See ASSAULT, 3

Steinburg blasts administrators, Hunter unsure

JON HAWLEY
The Daily Advance

State Rep. Bob Steinburg is blasting North Carolina's prison administrators "from the top down," citing claims from correctional officers that prison managers are allowing and concealing dangerous conditions, including

threats and violence from inmates.

In an interview last week, Steinburg, R-Chowan, said correctional officers have reported to him dire conditions across many of the state's 55 prisons. The correctional officers, speaking to him, he said, on the condition of anonymity, have also

claimed that administrators often do nothing about the problems they report, and suffer threats to their jobs if they report those problems beyond the prison walls.

Steinburg also claimed prison management often operates as a "closed circle" or "secret society," allowing managers to foil oversight

and accountability from system officials. Steinburg made similar claims in an op-ed he wrote that was published in the North State Journal on Dec. 5.

As Steinburg stated in that column, he's calling on the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Justice and Public Safety - to which he

was recently appointed as an advisory member - to launch an investigation of the state prison system, including exercise of subpoena power.

Steinburg and other lawmakers are focused on the prison system following a

See STEINBURG, 3

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GOOD MORNING,
PEGGY PIERCE

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