

# Bertie Ledger-Advance

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WEDNESDAY • FEBRUARY 7, 2018

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## Bertie grabs tie for first

SPORTS | B1

# Wesson announces bid for House seat



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WINDSOR — Ronald D. Wesson proverbially threw his hat in the ring Monday.

Wesson, who has twice been elected to serve as

a Bertie County Commissioner, informed citizens he will be seeking a seat in the N.C. House of Representatives.

"As most of you know, Bertie County was moved in the latest redistricting plan," Wesson said. "We

are moving from District 5 to District 1."

Wesson said Bertie County will make up 27 percent of the new district, which also includes Chowan, Camden, Perquimans, Washington and Tyrrell counties.

"I will run as a Democrat," Wesson said. "The state caucus announced my candidacy this morning."

Wesson said he has already spoken with the Democratic Party chairs in all six counties.

"I'm in it to win it," he said. "I want to serve the citizens, not only of Bertie County, but the entire district."

He said he wants to be an energetic representa-

See WESSON, A5

## Heroin found in stop

Man passed out in vehicle admits drug possession

THADD WHITE  
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WINDSOR — Windsor Police officers found a man passed out in his vehicle Jan. 31.

Windsor Police Chief Todd Lane said the man was found in his vehicle at a stop sign on Cashie Street and was later charged with felony possession of heroin.

Officer J.C. Leggett was patrolling on King Street at approximately 8:30 p.m. on Jan. 31 when he saw a Ford Explorer on Cashie Street. After further patrolling, he found the same vehicle stopped in the same location several minutes later.

"Officer Leggett drove his patrol vehicle around the block and came to a stop behind the Explorer, and once again the vehicle did not move," Chief Lane said. "Officer Leggett activated his blue lights and approached

See DRUGS, A3



# The perfect fit

## Powell learns to love school work

LESLIE BEACHBOARD  
Bertie Ledger-Advance



"I would have done it sooner."

That's how Bertie County Sheriff's Department Sergeant Bonnie Powell feels about being a resource officer for Bertie County Schools.

Powell was born and raised in Halifax County to George and Beatrice Brantley. She one of five children, one older sister, a twin brother and two other brothers.

She graduated from Southeast High School in 1984.

Powell didn't initially begin her career in law enforcement. She decided to go into law enforcement in 2004.

"I was a single parent and was laid off from my job in manufacturing. I decided to go to school for criminal justice, so I enrolled at Edgecombe Community College and started taking classes for a year. I also applied for a job with the Edgecombe Sheriff's Department." She said.

Powell was hired as a detention officer for Edgecombe County.

"I loved my job and excelled quickly. During my free time I was always learning new tasks. One of the officers in finance got sick, and I transitioned to the position," she added.

Powell said about two years later she

See POWELL, A5

## Filing set to begin

Commission seat, sheriff, clerk of court up for grabs

THADD WHITE  
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WINDSOR — Filing for elective office in North Carolina is slated for next week.

Those wishing to seek office as a county commissioner, clerk of court, sheriff or member of the N.C. General Assembly as a partisan candidate must file between noon on Monday, Feb. 12 and noon Wednesday, Feb. 28.

Three seats on the Bertie County Board of Commissioners will be up for election this year. They include the District 2 seat currently held by Stewart White, an independent, the District 3 seat held by Democrat Tammy Lee and the District 5 seat held by Democrat Ernestine Byrd Bazemore.

In addition, the office of Bertie County Sheriff John Holley will be on the ballot, as well as Clerk of Superior Court

See FILING, A5

# Windsor PD nabs man wanted in two counties

THADD WHITE  
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WINDSOR — A traffic stop took a wanted man off the streets in Bertie County.

Windsor Police Chief Todd Lane said a man wanted in

Bertie and Martin counties was arrested after Cpl. Frank Ratzlaff stopped him for a routine traffic violation.

Cpl. Ratzlaff was on routine patrol on Ghent Street at approximately 5:30 p.m. Feb. 3 when he observed a person

driving a Cadillac attempting to cover his face by holding his hand over it.

Cpl. Ratzlaff followed the vehicle and noticed the registration on the car had expired. He pulled the car over at the Duck Thru convenience store.

After running a license check, Cpl. Ratzlaff determined the man — Jamel Shevar Swain — was wanted in two counties.

Swain, 41, of 139 Republican Road in Windsor was

wanted in Bertie County for possession with intent to sell and deliver a Schedule II controlled substance. In Martin County, he was wanted for two counts each of posses-

See WANTED, A6

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## RE-ELECT SHERIFF JOHN HOLLEY

I am a lifetime resident of Bertie County and for the past 35 years, it has been my pleasure and honor to serve you, the residents, of the great county of Bertie. I have worked hard to make the county I love a safer place to live along with your help. I believe I have more to do, more to offer and more to accomplish. This belief is the reason for my announcing that I am a candidate for Re-Election for Sheriff of Bertie County during the 2018 Election. I look forward to a campaign which will exemplify my professionalism and my sincere dedication to the position of Sheriff.

Best Regards, IN GOD WE TRUST, John B. Holley, Jr.

Paid for by the Committee to Re-Elect Sheriff John Holley.

