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Bertie Ledger-Advance

WEDNESDAY • MARCH 28, 2018

Bertie baseball wins pair

SPORTS | B1



Four considered for school board

THADD WHITE
Bertie Ledger-Advance

WINDSOR – Four people will be interviewed for the vacant seat on the Bertie County Board of Education.

The remaining four members of the school board will

host the four candidates for the District 4 seat tomorrow (Thursday) beginning at 3 p.m.

The seat is vacant following the untimely death of the late Barry McGlone, who was in his first term, and served as Vice Chair of the board.

McGlone was elected four years ago and was up for re-election this winter.

All four candidates have long histories with Bertie County Schools.

The four candidates are Alton H. Parker, Fannie Pugh, Norman Cherry Sr. and Viv-

ian Saunders.

Parker served two terms on the Bertie County Board of Education representing District 4. He served twice as Vice Chairman of the board.

Pugh taught in Bertie County Schools and was named the district's Teacher

of the Year in 2006-2007.

Cherry was a 30-plus year veteran educator who served as principal of Aulander Elementary School, C.G. White, Southwestern and Bertie High School. He

See **FOUR**, A3

Relay kicks off

25th event slated for this May

LESLIE BEACHBOARD
Bertie Ledger-Advance

WINDSOR - It will be the 25th year of celebrating, remembering and walking.

The Bertie County Relay For Life is scheduled for 6 p.m. until midnight Friday, May 18 at the Roy L. Bond Jr. Stadium.

This is the event's 25th anniversary, and it will be a night packed full of events and entertainment.

"This is a special year for Bertie County Relay for Life. We are celebrating 25 years and we are the oldest celebration in the state. We were the first Relay for Life in North Carolina," said Chairman Joanne Jordan.

According to Relay for Life Coordinator Bobbie Parker, this year's guest speaker will be the Bertie County Schools Superintendent Dr. Catharine Edmonds.

See **RELAY**, A5

NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH Dreams

Lorie Beth Thomas followed her heart

"She is clothed with strength and dignity, and she laughs without fear of the future."

- Proverbs 31:25

THADD WHITE
Bertie Ledger-Advance

Two dresses.

It was a modest start to a lifelong dream. Years later that dream lives – both in a storefront in her hometown and through an online presence which reaches nationwide.

As a child, Lorie Beth Thomas used to travel around her neighborhood selling items and enjoying the feeling of being an entrepreneur. It lit a fire that still burns.

When Thomas graduated from Bethel Assembly Christian Academy she did the smart thing. She went to East Carolina University in Greenville, earned a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing and took a job as a nurse in the Emergency Departments of Vidant Bertie Hospital and Vidant Roanoke Chowan Hospital.

It was the smart decision, she said, to earn a living in a career which provided stability and a way to be part of the medical profession with which she had always been intrigued.

While she worked and built her life with her husband, Jason, she still held on to her dream of owning her own business – something she had wanted since her childhood.

Then she found out she was pregnant, and the impending birth of her daughter – Kaley – was the catalyst which led her to pursuing her dream.

"When I had Kaley, I didn't want to go back to work fulltime, but like all families, we couldn't just go without me working," she said. "Jason knew what I wanted to do and pushed me to take the chance."

See **THOMAS**, A6



New terms set

Teacher contracts set by BCS

LESLIE BEACHBOARD
Bertie Ledger-Advance

WINDSOR - Bertie County Board of Education has selected a new option for teacher contracts.

As of June 30, teachers no longer will be offered one-year contracts. The contracts will be on one, two or four years.

The Bertie County Board of Education was given four options from which to choose.

These include:

* Option one would be individual decisions based on evaluation dates. This option was allow for an individual decision for each teacher;

* Option two would be a one two-year contract and the option of four-year contracts. A teacher's first contract would be for two years, then the options for four-year contracts;

* Option three would

See **CONTRACTS**, A5

Bertie Arts Council hosts basket-weaving class

LESLIE BEACHBOARD
Bertie Ledger-Advance

WINDSOR - Basket weaving came to town.

The Bertie County Arts Council hosted Nancy Basket as the March artist in resi-

dence.

Nancy Basket learned pine needle basketry from her friend, Judy Arledge in 1981.

A contemporary basket maker and fiber artist, Basket takes her name from the

work she does, as well as from her Cherokee grandmother.

Later Basket met a Cherokee man in Yakima, Washington at a bead store.

He shared his family collection of pine

needle baskets and the stories behind them with her.

After offering to buy the collection, he told her, "your job isn't to buy these baskets. Your job is to make them."

Basket remembered

what he had told her, and to get more instruction she helped form the first basketry guild in the United States.

Basket moved to Illinois where she helped form another basketry guild. She experiment-

ed with cattail leaves, as no pine needles grew in that part of Illinois.

When Basket was teaching her skill at the national basketry conventions, she found that

See **BASKET**, A5

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