

Bertie 50¢
Ledger-Advance
 WEDNESDAY • NOVEMBER 7, 2018

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Change them now

Carbon Monoxide awareness week set

LESLIE BEACHBOARD
Bertie Ledger-Advance

It is time to check the batteries.

This week marks Carbon Monoxide Awareness Week.

North Carolina Fire Marshal Mike Causey is reminding citizens to change the batteries in their smoke and carbon dioxide alarms.

Carbon monoxide (CO) is a colorless, odorless, poisonous gas.

Appliances, generators, heaters and power tools fueled with natural gas, liquefied petroleum (LP gas), oil, kerosene, coal, gasoline or wood may produce carbon monoxide. Burning charcoal and running cars also produce carbon dioxide.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, every year approximately 450 people in the United States die from carbon monoxide exposure and thousands visit hospital emergency rooms for treatment.

It was just last week that 16 guests at the Holiday Inn Express in Jacksonville were hospitalized because of a carbon monoxide leak.

Cold weather or storms can be a time of increased exposure from gas-powered generators, kerosene heaters and other "fueled" heating or cooking methods.

Care should be taken to ensure that only heating appliances approved for indoor use are used indoors and that rooms are adequately ventilated.

Generators should be used outdoors only and placed well away from windows, doors and vents.

Boating can also pose a hazard for carbon monoxide poisoning. Some larger boats tend to have generators that vent toward the back of the boat, causing an increased danger for people swimming near

See CHANGE, A5



LEWIS HOGGARD / Windsor/Bertie Chamber of Commerce

N.C. Commerce Secretary Anthony "Tony" Copeland (left) visits with Bertie County Commissioner Ronald D. Wesson following the former's meeting with local business owners last week.

Copeland meets with Bertie business leaders

THADD WHITE
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WINDSOR – N.C. Commerce Secretary Anthony "Tony" Copeland paid a visit to familiar ground last week.

Copeland, a native of Perquimans County, came to Bertie County to meet with business leaders in the com-

munity. The group met over breakfast at Heritage House in Windsor.

"I am grateful to leaders in our business community for taking time from their busy schedules to meet with Secretary Copeland," Bertie County Economic Development Director Steve Biggs said. "I believe his visit was beneficial for all

of us in attendance."

In addition to business leaders from Bertie County, four of the Bertie County commissioners were on hand to include Ronald D. Wesson, John Trent, Ernestine Bazemore and Tammy Lee.

The Secretary said Bertie

See MEETING, A5

School delayed to vote

County has mixed reaction to decision

THADD WHITE
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WINDSOR – The decision of Bertie County Schools to delay opening by one hour to allow staff and students to vote Tuesday was met with skepticism by some, anger by others and gratitude by some staff members.

Late last week, the Bertie County Schools announced a decision to begin school one hour late to allow staff to vote.

The statement released on the county school district's Facebook page reads, "The Bertie County School Board decided to delay the opening of ALL schools ... on Election Day ... by one hour, in order to give Bertie County Schools' staff the opportunity to go to the polls and vote."

Schools in Bertie County open at 8 a.m. or later, and most staff members are required to arrive no earlier than 7 a.m. Staff members are required to work later than schools stay in session.

With polls open from 6:30 a.m. until 7 p.m., the decision was met with some by concerns.

It was also pointed out by many there was early voting available in Bertie County for two weeks, and polls were open from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. One-stop voting was also available on Saturday, Nov. 3.

"This is so crazy... schools get out at 3:30, and polls don't close until 7 p.m. They also have the option of voting early! My opinion, I'm entitled to it," Cathy Byrum Jernigan responded on the Facebook post. "I'm just saying that because I don't leave my house until my kids are on their bus, and then I leave for work."

Others agreed. "This is ridiculous," Tracy Drew Burkett added. "The polls are open 'til 7. Why can't you go after school or

See DELAY, A5



A "birthday cake" outside Russell's Back-in-the-Day Museum greets visitors for the coming weekend.

Sestercentennial slated

LESLIE BEACHBOARD
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WINDSOR - Let the celebrating begin.

After months of planning and preparation, the Town of Windsor's 250th Anniversary three-day celebration is scheduled to begin down-

town Saturday (Nov. 10).

The festivities will kick off at 9:30 a.m. with an opening ceremony in the parking lot behind the Windsor Town Hall.

The opening ceremony will include a welcome, opening remarks from the mayor, the singing of the National

Anthem and the reading of a proclamation.

Vendors will be available throughout the day on Saturday in the parking lot behind the Windsor Town Hall.

There will be amusement rides for all ages on Granville

See CELEBRATION, A3

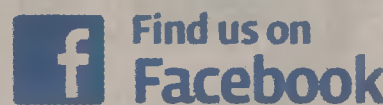
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