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 WEDNESDAY • FEBRUARY 27, 2019

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# York Street pump will be flood proof

## New station being paid for by grant from Golden Leaf

J.W. "RUSS" RUSSELL  
 Bertie Ledger-Advance

**WINDSOR** – The animals at Livermon Park and Mini Zoo may well be curious about a new project near the entrance to the facility on York Street in Windsor.

A new flood proof sewage pumping station approved with a no-match grant is under construction by The Wooten Company from Greenville.

The Golden Leaf Foundation awarded the town a grant in the Disaster Recovery Program. The project estimated costs at \$508,885.

Windsor's first system was built in 1919 under then Mayor John Gatlin. According to retired Windsor Town Administrator and current Windsor Commissioner David Overton said the station

See PUMP, A5



J.W. "RUSS" RUSSELL / Bertie Ledger-Advance

An engineer adorned with a special suit and breathing apparatus descends into the wet well of the pumping station on York Street. A new liner will be the coating system.



THADD WHITE / Bertie Ledger-Advance

Windsor, North Carolina Mayor Jim Hoggard (right) welcomes Windsor, California Mayor Dominic Foppoli.

# Windsor officials welcome Windsor Mayor Foppoli

THADD WHITE  
 Bertie Ledger-Advance

**WINDSOR** – Windsor officials welcomed the mayor of Windsor Feb. 8.

Officially, it was Windsor, North Carolina Mayor Jim Hoggard and the Windsor Board of

Commissioners who bid welcome to Windsor, California Mayor Dominic Foppoli.

Mayor Hoggard welcomed his counterpart with gifts synonymous with Windsor, North Carolina including Bertie County Peanuts, lapel pins from the town and other items of local

interest.

For his part, Mayor Foppoli brought along a bottle of wine and his mayor's pin for his counterpart and the town board.

"We are glad to have you

See MAYOR, A5

# People seek help with 'unnatural' flooding incidents

SARAH HODGES STALLS  
 Bertie Ledger-Advance

**WINDSOR** - Nearly 200 farmers, foresters, landowners and local leaders from along the Roanoke River came together on Feb. 21 to discuss continual flooding "not caused by natural events."

Sen. Erica Smith (D-3) teamed up with the Bertie County Commissioners and their chairman, John Trent, to bring leaders to the table in search of resolution.

Counties represented included Bertie, Halifax, Martin, Northampton and Washington. Landowners also came from Virginia to speak during the meeting.

"We are here to discuss the impacts of the flooding of the lower Roanoke River," Chairman Trent explained.

"A disaster that continues to ruin our crop lands, timber production and results in loss

of hundreds of thousands of dollars which support our farmers, residents and employees," he continued.

Sen. Bob Steinburg (R-1), Rep. Eddie Godwin (R-1) as well as representatives from the offices of G.K. Butterfield, Thom Tillis and Richard Burr were also in attendance.

Frustrations have continued to grow on the part of landowners along the river as naturally-sourced flooding compounded by "man-made releases of water controlled by the John H. Kerr Dam near the Virginia border and is controlled by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers," according to Trent.

Jerry Pierce, a Virginia resident, spoke regarding land his family owns a tract of timber land at the end of Bertie County's Weeping

See FLOODING, A3

# Former Congressman Frank Ballance dies at 77

**RALEIGH (AP)** — Services are this week for North Carolina Democratic politician Frank Ballance, who served briefly in Congress and later went to federal prison for activities related to a charitable organization.

Family spokesman Carl-

ton Pressley confirmed on Monday that Ballance died Friday at a Raleigh hospital, saying he didn't survive after undergoing a procedure there. He was 77.

Ballance served over two decades in the state House and Senate, rising to the No.

2 post in the Senate chamber. He was elected to North Carolina's 1st Congressional District seat in 2002, but resigned in June 2004, citing ill health. Ballance pleaded guilty later that year to conspiring to divert taxpayer money to his family and oth-

ers through a foundation he helped start while at the General Assembly.

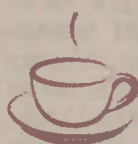
Prosecutors said Ballance, during his time at the legislature, channeled \$2.3 million in state money to the John A. Hyman Memorial Foundation, created to help low-

income people fight drug and alcohol abuse. Ballance then diverted some of that money from its intended purpose, according to authorities, giving some of it to his children and to share with his mother

See BALLANCE, A5

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