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 WEDNESDAY • JUNE 12, 2019



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 earns
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Cherry receives Order of the Guardian

Windsor insurance agent surprised, grateful



LESLIE BEACHBOARD / Bertie Ledger-Advance

Bertie distinguished citizen Joe Cherry (left) receives the Order of the Guardian from N.C. Commissioner of Insurance Mike Causey.

LESLIE BEACHBOARD
 Bertie Ledger-Advance

WINDSOR - A big surprise. Windsor resident and local business owner, Joe Cherry, received a big surprise when he was awarded the Order of the Guardian Award recently by the North Carolina Department of Insurance Commissioner Mike Causey. Cherry thought Causey was in town to meet with the local insurance agents for lunch at Heritage House Restaurant, but Cherry was actually the

reason for the visit to Windsor.

Surrounded by Cherry's family and friends and other local insurance representatives, Causey presented Cherry with the Order of the Guardian Award for his outstanding service and over 60 years of service to residents.

"I was shocked. I never expected to receive this honor from the insurance commissioner," said Cherry.

The Order of the Guardian is awarded in recognition of the character, integrity, service

and honor of insurance industry professionals by Causey.

Cherry operates J.B. Cherry Insurance agency on King Street and continued the family business that originally opened in 1912 by his father.

Cherry has lived most of his 89 years in Windsor and is a familiar face throughout the town. He was born Nov. 29, 1929 to Joseph and Ethel Raymond Cherry.

Cherry grew up on Granville Street, where Coastal Medical

See **CHERRY**, A5

**Filing
 begins
 soon**

THADD WHITE
 Bertie Ledger-Advance

Filing for municipal elections in Bertie County are set to begin in just a few weeks.

All eight Bertie County municipalities will have races on the November ballot, and six towns will choose a mayor in the coming elections.

Filing is slated to begin at noon on Friday, July 5 and continue through noon on Friday, July 19.

The county's largest town will see three commission seats on the ballot. Commissioners Cathy Wilson, Randy Walston and Camille Rascoe are each up for re-election.

Wilson was re-elected during the regular election cycle four years ago while Walston won the final two years of the late Bob Brown's un-

See **FILING**, A5



SARAH HODGES STALLS / Bertie Ledger-Advance

Bertie County Sheriff John Holley (left) and Chief Deputy Kenny Perry discuss the department's new boat.

BCSO adds second boat

LESLIE BEACHBOARD
 Bertie Ledger-Advance

WINDSOR - The Bertie County Sheriff's Office has added a second boat to its fleet of emergency vehicles.

According to the Bertie County Sheriff's Office Chief

Deputy Kenny Perry, the office was in need of a second boat, and the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission had a boat they were going to classify as surplus property and sell.

"Captain John Hardy talked with me about how Rodney

Jack would be getting a new boat and how they would be selling the boat he was retiring. He asked if we would be interested in purchasing the boat for the sheriff's office," said Perry.

See **BOAT**, A5

**Wreck
 claims
 life**

LESLIE BEACHBOARD
 Bertie Ledger-Advance

WINDSOR - A motorcyclist was killed in a two-vehicle accident just outside of town last week.

The accident occurred four miles west of Windsor on N.C. 308 (Governor's Road) near the intersection of School Road at approximately 6:54 p.m.

Nathan Lee, Jr., 75, of Windsor was operating a 2013 Harley Davidson motorcycle, and was traveling east.

Lee reduced speed and prepared to make a right turn into his driveway.

Heather Barnes, 24, of Windsor was operating a 2006 Hyundai SUV also traveling east behind Lee.

As Lee started to make the right turn, Barnes failed to reduce speed

See **FATALITY**, A3

Commissioners trim tax rate proposal to 3.5 cents

LESLIE BEACHBOARD
 Bertie Ledger-Advance

WINDSOR - The proposed tax rate of 9-cents per \$100 valuation will be significantly less.

The Bertie County Commissioners held their budget public hearing on Monday

night to give citizens an opportunity to ask questions and voice their concerns about the county's 2019-2020 proposed budget.

Last week, Bertie County Manager Scott Sauer made his presentation to the board of the proposed budget, which recommended a

9-cent tax rate increase per \$100.

After his presentation, Sauer said it was just a proposed budget and the work would begin.

At the public hearing, Sauer made a presentation to show what proposed changes were made during last

week's budget workshop.

"The commissioners spent June 5 working on the proposed budget. The preliminary budget reductions decreased the overall budget by \$711,839. This cut the proposed tax increase from 9-cent to 3.5-cent per \$100," said Sauer.

"This is a 5.5-cent cut in the proposed tax rate," he added.

According to Sauer, consensus was achieved on several budget reductions.

Capital outlay for the new library and cooperative ex-

See **BUDGET**, A3

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Bertie Beach Day
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**SATURDAY
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