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Budget adopted with 3.5-cent increase

LESLIE BEACHBOARD Bertie Ledger-Advance

WINDSOR - Bertie County budget has been approved. The Bertie County Commissioners reconvened last week, and unanimously apyear budget.

The initial proposed budget suggested a 9-cents per \$100 tax increase, but after several work sessions the approved budget comes with only a 3.5-cent increase.

proved the 2019-2020 fiscal The increase brings the rate to \$0.865 cents per assessed valued, up from the previous rate of \$.83 cents.

> The original budget came to nearly \$26.2 million for the General Fund, and the commissioners made ad-

justments that reduced the 401-K of all non-law enforcebudget by \$711,000 to \$25.49 million.

The budget maintained the three percent cost-of-living adjustment for all county employees, a three percent annual contribution to the

ment employees and an annual \$200 contribution to the county employees' heath savings account.

It also included an over-

See BUDGET. A5



Civil war reenactors sit by the morning campfire waiting on the coffee to brew.

Hope hosts inaugural **Living History Day**

Bertie man charged in murder

MILES LAYTON The Chowan Herald

EDENTON - Two men are being held without bond on first-degree murder charges following the shooting death of an Edenton man Wednesday night.

Deeandre Keithhale Copeland, 20, of Edenton, and Jaheim Tykelly Speaks, 17, of Bertie County, were arrested Thursday and charged in the shooting death of

Cruize A. Riddick, Edenton police said.

According to police, officers were notified of an incident in the 1000 block of Badham Road Wednesday about 10:22 p.m. When they arrived, they found Riddick, 32, of Edenton, critically injured from a gunshot. Riddick was transported to Vidant Chowan Hospital in Edenton, where he died from his

LESLIE BEACHBOARD Bertie Ledger-Advance

WINDSOR - It was a day filled with cannons, history and success.

For the first time, Historic Hope House hosted a Living History Day last weekend to the public.

According to Historic Hope Foundation President Turner Sutton, Historic Hope House has offered a living history day program for school students for many years.

This was the first time the event was open to the public, and according to Turner, the event was a success.

The centerpiece of the pro-



A female reenactor dressed in timeera clothing explains the importance of camp's kitchen and preparing meals for the soldiers.

gram was the encampment of Federal and Confederate reenactors.

Visitors were able to walk through the camp and see how soldiers lived during the Civil War, observe muster marches and demonstrations of musket and artillery fire.

As spectators toured the camp, reenactors would willingly answer questions and give information about their position, cooking and sleeping outside, and cleaning their weapons.

Ladies and children walked the lawn of the mansion in timeera appropriate dresses.

The outdoor kitchen of the Hope Mansion was open, and

See HISTORY, A5

WES awarded \$26K grant

LESLIE BEACHBOARD Bertie Ledger-Advance

WINDSOR - Ask and ye shall receive.

The music department at Windsor Elementary School was recently awarded a grant of almost \$26,000.

According to the Windsor Elementary School music teacher

Voilstead Kearney, the Arthur and Gloria Konig Foundation, a nonprofit which assists music programs in lowincome, rural public school settings across the country, awarded the grant.

"The foundation goes all over the country to

See GRANT, A5

Five from region complete Leadership NC training

THADD WHITE Bertie Ledger-Advance

RALEIGH – A handful of local leaders were among 56 civic and community leaders completing Leadership North Carolina recently.



were part of the gradu-

Biggs



ation ceremony held at the completion of the prestigious program. It was held

at the Old House Chamber of the rector for Bertie Coun-



olina State Capitol. Biggs currently serves as Economic Develop-

Shields ment Di-

Operating Officer of Roanoke Electric Cooperative, Dr. Early is

is

ty, Cherry

Chief

Pastor of All God's



United **Methodist** Church, Shields is Executive Director of the

Children

See LEADERSHIP, A5

