

INSIDE: Financial moves for widows and widowers...

Bertie

Ledger-Advance

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Powell Bill funds 'essential' to towns

Municipal leaders say street help needed

THADD WHITE
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RALEIGH – Powell Bill Funds totaling nearly \$80,000 is headed to Bertie County.

Those funds, provided by the N.C. Department of Transportation, are part of nearly \$132.7 million in state street aid to municipalities. The initial allocation went

out last week, with the other half to be paid by January.

The Powell Bill funds are state funds sent to each municipality based on non-state maintained roads and popu-

lation. They can be used for street resurfacing, maintenance of roads, bridges, drainage systems, sidewalks and greenways.

"Powell Bill funds are essential to Roxobel and every other town in Bertie County," Roxobel Mayor

Gary Johnson said. "I seriously don't know what we would do without Powell Bill funds."

Johnson said Roxobel uses the money for street repair and sidewalks. He said the

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FOOTBALL IS BACK



THADD WHITE / Bertie Ledger-Advance

Lawrence Academy kicked off the local prep football season Thursday and Friday. The jayvee Warriors hosted Northeast Academy Thursday night before the varsity team - a combination of Lawrence and Albemarle School - traveled to

Pungo Christian Academy Friday. The Warriors are the only Bertie County team playing football at this time. See their schedule at lawrenceacademy.org.

Sorority joins list of those aiding victims

WINDSOR - On Aug. 4, Hurricane Isaias spawned tornadoes which touched down on the Morning Road (Bertie County) and Pinetops Road (Hertford County).

The tornado totally destroyed some of the residents' homes and personal properties. These families were located in the service area of the Ahoskie Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., who quickly made a decision to launch a community service project to assist and help these "Hurricane Victims" and their families.

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. is a private, non-profit and non-partisan organization whose purpose is to provide assistance and support through established programs in local communities throughout the world. The organization was founded on January 13, 1913 by 22 college-educated women at Howard University (Washington, DC). These students wanted to use their collective strength to promote academic excellence and to provide assistance to those in

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Grass clippings are dangerous

SARAH HODGES STALLS AND THADD WHITE
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Is it illegal to allow grass clippings to be blown onto the roadway when mowing?

This question has been a hot topic on social media channels in recent weeks.

Many motorcyclists are concerned about the grass clippings on the highway, and there have even been proposals in the N.C. General Assembly to outlaw it.

According to North Carolina General Statute 14-399 - Littering, the practice is not ille-

gal, however; it is highly discouraged by law enforcement for safety reasons.

"No, it may not be illegal to blow grass clippings on the roadway, but it can cause harm," according to Master Trooper Brad Taylor of the North Carolina Highway Patrol's Troop A office in Greenville.

Taylor confirmed biodegradable substances are not considered litter under the defining statute. He explained there have been multiple attempts to change the language of the lit-

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Magazine features Powell & Stokes

THADD WHITE
Bertie Ledger-Advance

They are places everyone knows.

Places that have been in place for generations - run by the same families and visited by the same customers generation after generation.

The newest edition of Eastern North Carolina Living focuses on 12 multi-generation



businesses in the magazine's coverage region, including Bertie County's own Powell &

Stokes. Founded in 1919 by brothers-in-law W.L. Powell and J.T. Stokes, Powell & Stokes is an agricultural icon - not just in Bertie County but the entire northeastern corner of North Carolina.

"Our word is our bond, and our handshake is still good," said current Powell & Stokes President Jack Powell Jr. "We treat


folks like we want to be treated. If it weren't for our customers, we wouldn't still be here."


The businesses current makeup - including the addition of Bertie County Peanuts - is covered in the current Eastern Living story, which was authored by Gene Motley.

Bertie County residents will also be


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SPORTS TRIVIA

What Bertie Ledger-Advance columnist is a fan of the San Diego Padres?

Email responses to twhite@ncweeklies.com