

INSIDE: Lawrence claims state runner-up honors...

Bertie \$1
Ledger-Advance
 THURSDAY • NOVEMBER 5, 2020



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Bertie officials: Time to pay the bill

More than 800 in danger of disconnection

THADD WHITE
 Bertie Ledger-Advance

WINDSOR – The time has come to pay the bill. Bertie County officials have made multiple attempts to help alleviate the

more than 800 water customers who are delinquent on their accounts, but only a fraction of that number have made contact to resolve the issue. Bertie County Water Department Director Ricky

Spivey appeared at Monday's Bertie County Commissioners meeting to detail the attempts made to reach those who are behind on their water bills. Spivey said each customer has received a letter, notices have been

placed in the Bertie Ledger-Advance and on Facebook, and notes went home at the bottom of each water bill. Despite those attempts to reach the 846 people who are delinquent on their bills due to COVID-19, only 30 have responded and just 11 of those have signed paperwork to execute a payment

plan. N.C. Gov. Roy Cooper and Attorney General Josh Stein put a moratorium in place on shutoffs of water due to COVID-19 job losses. That moratorium stayed in place until the end of July. Still, Bertie County officials

See PAY, 8

Friday wreck claims life of Virginia man

BY CAL BRYANT
 Roanoke-Chowan News-Herald

WINDSOR – A two-vehicle accident near here Friday afternoon resulted in the death of a Virginia man. Deonte Bryant, 39, of Newport News, Va. lost his life in the crash, which occurred shortly before 1 p.m. on US 13 south of the N.C. 305 intersection.

In his accident report, North Carolina State Highway Patrol Trooper J.V. Reid showed that Bryant was operating a 2019 Kia passenger car southbound on US 13. Meanwhile, a 2010 Ford SUV, driven by 65-year-old Richard Bell Jr. of Murfreesboro, was northbound on U.S. 13. Reid's report stated that Bryant's vehicle

See FATALITY, 8

Over 50 percent early vote in BC

THADD WHITE
 Bertie Ledger-Advance

Citizens in Bertie County went to the polls in record numbers before Tuesday's General Election. More than 7,500 people voted before the election – using either

One-Stop or mail-in balloting. The unofficial results from Tuesday's election were not available as of press time Tuesday night, but should be posted on the Bertie Ledger-Advance Face-

See VOTE, 8

Flu shots vital during pandemic

Experts urge community members to receive vaccine



Vidant Health News

Flu season is upon us and Vidant Health infectious disease experts are urging community members to protect themselves and those around them by receiving their flu vaccine. It is no secret that this flu season is different than most due to the ongoing presence of COVID-19 in our communities. Health experts say the flu vaccine in combination with preventative measures like masking, social distancing and fre-

quent hand washing can help make this flu season more mild and manageable than recent seasons. "One thing that we noticed back in the spring is that the measures we were taking to combat COVID-19 were also leading to a drastic decrease in flu cases," said Dr. Keith Ramsey, chief of infection control for Vidant Medical Center. "We have a blueprint for success this flu season because we know both the vaccine and the masking

See FLU, 8

Bertie County Schools among six receiving grant

MILES LAYTON
 Chowan Herald

EDENTON — Six area school districts and two public charter schools will split \$500,000 in Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act funding allocated by

the N.C. General Assembly. State Rep. Ed Goodwin, R-Chowan, held a press conference with officials from the districts and schools to announce the \$500,000 CARES allocation. Most said they plan to use the funding to expand access for students to

broadband internet service. The districts receiving CARES Act funding include Bertie County Schools, \$107,712; Camden County Schools, \$98,702; Edenton-Chowan Schools, \$99,645; Perquimans County Schools, \$82,529; Washington County

Schools, \$68,258; and the Tyrrell County Schools, \$34,028. Also receiving CARES funding are two charter schools: Three Rivers Academy in Bertie, \$3,961; and The Pocosin Innovative Center, \$7,059.

The allocations were based on each district's or school's average daily enrollment. "This money... is a significant appropriation for our schools and the students,"

See GRANT, 8

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SPORTS TRIVIA

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 Email responses to twhite@ncweeklies.com