

# INSIDE: Vidant Bertie Hospital receives recognition...

**Bertie** \$1  
**Ledger-Advance**  
 THURSDAY • DECEMBER 10, 2020



PAGE A6

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## Governor issues stay-at-home order

Bertie Co. COVID-19 cases soar, near 1,000

THADD WHITE  
 Bertie Ledger-Advance

RALEIGH – As the COVID-19 worldwide pandemic continues to ravage North Carolina, Gov. Roy Cooper has acted to place the state in

a modified Stay-At-Home order.

Gov. Cooper reported the state had seen new cases reach over 6,000 per day on both Saturday and Sunday. In addition, there are now 48 counties – including Ber-

tie County – designated as red, meaning there is critical community spread.

“We already have strong safety protocols and capacity limitations in place – including a statewide mask requirement. With this ad-

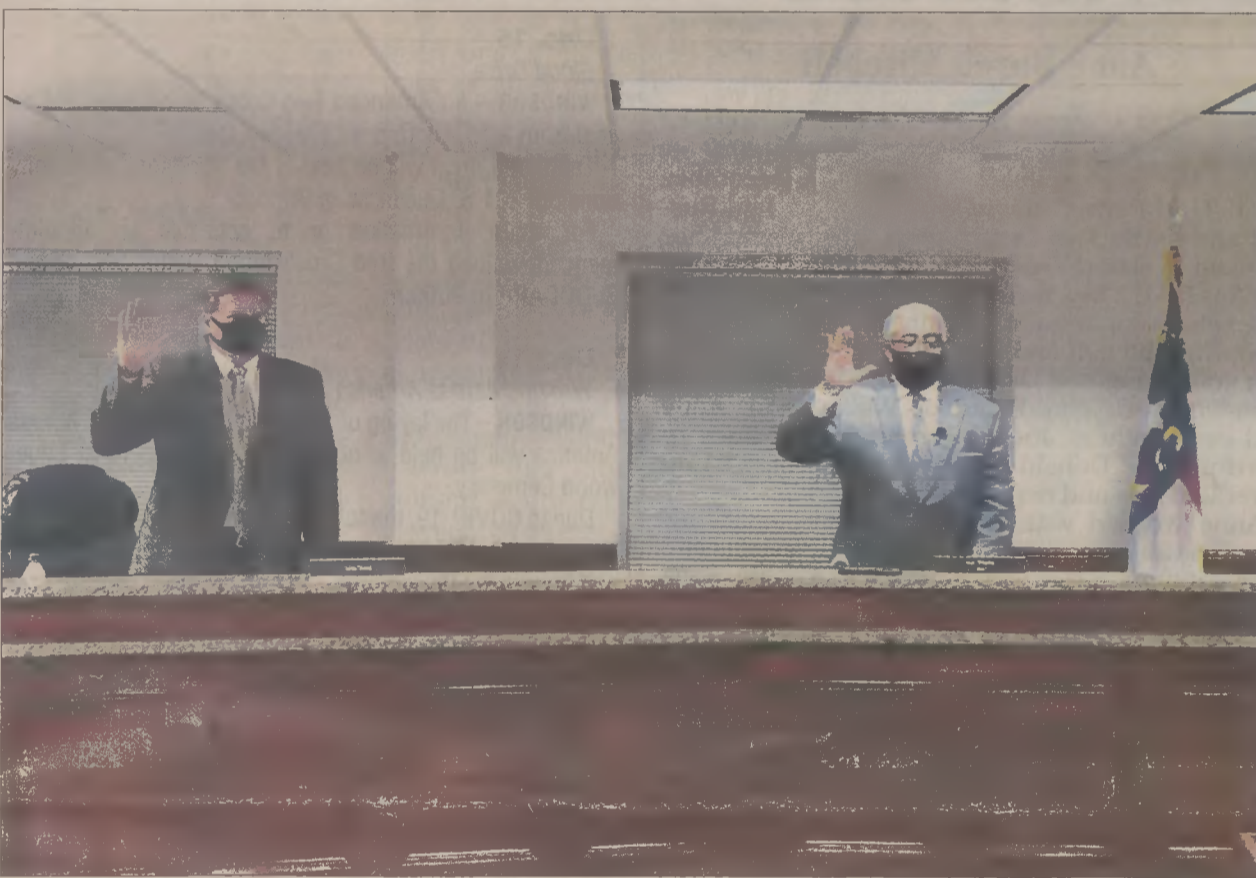
ditional action beginning Friday, we hope to get these numbers down,” Gov. Cooper said. “Our new modified Stay at Home order aims to limit gatherings and get people home where they are safer, especially during the holidays.

“It’s also a reminder that we must be vigilant the rest

of the day – wearing a face mask when we are with people we don’t live with, keeping a safe distance from others and washing our hands a lot.”

The order will require restaurants, bars, entertainment venues, personal care

See COVID-19, A5



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Bertie County Commissioners John Trent (left) and Ron Wesson were sworn in to their third terms on the board Monday night. Both Trent and Wesson were re-elected in unopposed bids for office in November.

## Board disagrees over top post

THADD WHITE  
 Bertie Ledger-Advance

WINDSOR – The Bertie County Commissioners once again struggled to elect a chairman Monday night.

During the annual organizational meeting, the board split 3-2 on the election of a chairperson and 4-1 on the election of a vice chairperson. It was the second time in three years the board has had difficulty choosing a leader.

Bertie County Manager Juan Vaughan II, led the meeting while the board considered its choice for chair and vice chair. Upon opening the floor for nominations, Commissioner John Trent made a motion to nominate Tammy Lee for the position of board chair. Commissioner Greg Atkins seconded the motion.

Commissioner Ernestine Byrd Bazemore then nominated Ron Wesson to serve another year as chairman. Wesson seconded

the motion.

Bazemore said she believed it was “in order” for Wesson to serve a second term as others have in the past.

Vaughan then called for a vote on Lee’s nomination since it was the first one made. It passed by a 3-2 vote with Trent, Atkins and Lee voting in the affirmative and Wesson and Bazemore casting dissenting votes.

Vaughan then called for nomi-

See POST, A5

## Wesson decries ‘lies’ on his stance

THADD WHITE  
 Bertie Ledger-Advance

WINDSOR – One Bertie County Commissioner took aim at what he said were lies being spread about him at a county business.

Commissioner Ron Wesson declined to reveal the name of the business, but indicated it

was in the Colerain area and said he had received multiple calls about what was being said.

Wesson said it was important that he clarify his true stance in response to the worldwide pandemic of COVID-19, and that he wanted everyone to know exactly where he stands.

“I do not support the clos-

ing of any business in Bertie County,” Wesson said. “There is a business in the Colerain area saying I do.”

Wesson said he supported taking proper precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19, but did not support closing businesses.

See WESSON, A6

## Christmas music event set Dec. 19

THADD WHITE  
 Bertie Ledger-Advance

WINDSOR – The holiday season will be different in 2020.

And, while that is true, some people in Windsor decided to put together an opportunity for everyone to come together and enjoy Christmas music.

Thus, the Cashie Christmas Music Festival was born.

The free event, which will begin at noon on Saturday, Dec. 19, will be held at Powell & Stokes.

“We wanted to give something back to the

community,” said Powell & Stokes executive Jon Powell. “It has been a tough year, and many folks feel beaten down with the constant barrage of bad news in the media. So, we figured that a free, outdoor Christmas music concert might help lift up spirits. Christmas music always seems to do that!”

Powell said there was plenty of room at the business, which is located on U.S. 13 in the northern part of Windsor.

“We’ve been having

See CHRISTMAS, A5

## Santa letters deadline looms

BY THADD WHITE  
 Bertie Ledger-Advance

WINDSOR – Boys and girls, get out your pencils and paper.

No, we’re not giving a test.

Instead, it’s time for each youngster to take time to write his or her annual letter to Santa Claus.

Bertie Ledger-Advance Creative Service Director Michelle Leicester received a telephone call Monday morning from the North Pole. The call

was from the Jolly Old Elf himself, seeking this newspaper’s help with information from all Bertie County boys and girls.

Santa said he wanted us to collect letters for him and forward them to the North Pole for his elves to prepare the best possible holiday list.

So, that’s exactly what is happening at the Bertie Ledger-Advance.

Beginning today, we

See LETTERS, A5

### In this edition



Church & Faith .....B3  
 Classified .....B4  
 Obituaries.....A2  
 Opinion.....A4  
 Sports .....B1



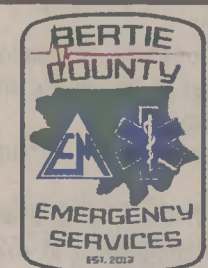
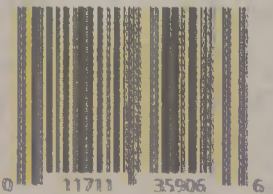
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