

INSIDE: Sarah Stalls says we can all be superheroes...

Bertie

Ledger-Advance

THURSDAY • DECEMBER 31, 2020



Page 4

980 S. Academy St.
Ahoskie, NC 27910

M M

Heating &
Air Conditioning
252.209.0223

288 28 9 #
*****FIRM 27892
MCCP008293- MCC LIBRARY
1161 KEHUKEE PARK RD
WILLIAMSTON NC 27892-8307

Askeville • Aulander • Colerain • Kelford • Lewiston Woodville • Merry Hill • Powellsville • Roxobel • Windsor

THE YEAR IN REVIEW: 2020

Pandemic dominated headlines

Crime leads first quarter news

THADD WHITE
Bertie Ledger-Advance

There were very few headlines about the story that would dominate news worldwide – the pandemic of COVID-19 – during the first three months of 2020.

A look back at the first three

months of the year gives readers a chance to review the stories which made headlines last year.

Jan. 1 – The Bertie County Board of Education retains its leadership with Tarsha Dudley as chair and Norman Cherry as vice chair;

See **FIRST**, 8

Coronavirus response begins

THADD WHITE
Bertie Ledger-Advance

As the second quarter began last year, many of the headlines were about the worldwide pandemic of COVID-19, including the first deaths in Bertie County.

Here are some of the headlines in

the Bertie Ledger-Advance between April and June.

April 2 – Six cases of the novel Coronavirus are active in Bertie County;

April 2 – N.C. Governor Roy Cooper issues Stay-at-Home order;

See **SECOND**, 8



THADD WHITE / Bertie Ledger-Advance

Lynn Jackson of the Askewville Community Food Pantry packs a box of food. She said the pantry could serve double

the number of people currently coming there each month. The next date for food giveaway is Monday.

Food pantry has capacity to help

THADD WHITE
Bertie Ledger-Advance

ASKEVILLE – One of the county's longest-serving food pantries finds themselves in the unique position of being able to serve more families.

The Askewville Community Food Pantry has been in existence for more than two de-

acades and has served as many as 150 families per month, but currently has seen that number drop.

"I think it is because so much food has been made available during the pandemic," said Lynn Jackson, who took over the food pantry from her parents after working side-by-side with them for many years.

Jackson said USDA and other organizations have made food more widely available during the worldwide pandemic of COVID-19, something she is grateful for because she knows it is needed.

"For us, it has left us serving less families than we are ca-

See **PANTRY**, 3

Marc Basnight remembered as a 'giant'

BY GARY D. ROBERTSON
Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — Former state Sen. Marc Basnight, a Democrat from North Carolina's barrier islands who became one of North Carolina's most powerful contemporary political leaders while serving a record 18 years as Senate leader, died Monday. He was 73.

Basnight, who was ill for years with what was later diagnosed as amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, died at his Manteo home with family members present, according to Amy Fulk, Basnight's chief of staff while he held the chamber's top job.

Despite humble beginnings and little formal education, Basnight rose through state politics to serve in the Senate for 26 years. His nine two-year terms as Senate president pro tempore made him the longest-serving head of a legislative body in



FILE - In this Tuesday, Jan. 4, 2011, file photo, outgoing Senate leader Marc Basnight speaks to reporters in Raleigh, N.C. Basnight died Monday, Dec. 28, 2020, at age 73. (Shawn Rocco/The News & Observer via AP, File)

North Carolina history.

Basnight was a legislative powerhouse involved in enacting every significant state policy of the 1990s and 2000s, including passage of the state lottery, a ban on smoking in restaurants and bars and improved public education and ethics reforms. And he made it a point of stopping

See **BASNIGHT**, 3

MCC graduates 14 students from first lineman class

SARAH HODGES STALLS
The Enterprise

WILLIAMSTON – Martin Community College recently celebrated a new chapter in the school's history.

On Dec. 16, 14 students were recognized for successfully completing MCC's first

Apprentice Line Technician (ALT) Academy.

The 420-hour ALT program is offered through MCC's Division of Continuing Education and was made possible through a grant from the Golden LEAF Foundation.

The students represented seven communities in four

counties.

Chris Brantley, Mason Dunlow, Tyler Pleasants and Jamarii Satterthwaite were from Windsor.

Jamesville residents Jonathan Buck, Chase Perry and Joseph Perry were among the graduates.

Two students from Wil-

liamston were Alden Stalls and Caleb Tyson.

Students from Plymouth were Timothy Lee and Javon Vines.

Matthew Bailey lives in Stokes.

Alexander Gedrimas hales from Robersonville and Jacob Modlin resides in Bethel.

Due to the pandemic, the graduation ceremony was held for a small, socially distanced and masked audience

comprised of the students, limited family members, the instructors and MCC staff.

Nathan Mizell, MCC's Vice

See **CLASS**, 7

In this edition



- Church & Faith 5
- Classified 6
- Letters to Santa 8
- Opinion 4
- Sports 10



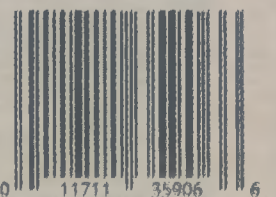
GOOD MORNING,
JONATHAN HUDDLESTON
OF MERRY HILL

Thank you for subscribing!



Find us on
Facebook

Volume 122: No. 54



Bertie
Ledger-Advance

WE HAVE A NEW WEBSITE!

www.BertieLedgerAdvance.com

