

Bertie Ledger-Advance

THURSDAY • JANUARY 7, 2021



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Commissioners defy Democrats

Two Democrats join Unaffiliated commissioner to choose Ron Roberson



LESLIE BEACHBOARD
Bertie Ledger-Advance

WINDSOR - A decision has been made about who will fill the vacant Bertie County Commissioner seat for district 5, but not without major debate.

The seat became vacant when the former Bertie County Commissioner Ernestine Bazemore won the N.C. Senate seat for District 3 in November and subsequently resigned from the board in December.

During the public com-

ments portion of the Bertie County Commissioners meeting Monday night, several residents and community leaders addressed the commissioners about the recent Bertie County Democratic Party's nomination.

According to Bertie County

Democratic Party President Wesley Dudley, James Lee was the party's nomination to be considered for the position.

"There were four candidates for the position. Open



Trent

See COMMISSIONERS, 5

THE YEAR IN REVIEW: 2020



In August of last year, Steven Swain speaks with Gov. Roy Cooper about the tornado and about losing his 52-year-old aunt.

Tornados, COVID-19 dominate third quarter BLA headlines

THADD WHITE
Bertie Ledger-Advance

COVID-19 continued to be the dominant story of the third quarter of 2020 in Bertie County, including spikes in both the number of cases and in the county's death toll. But the tornados spawned from Hurricane

Isaias also were dominant news in the county.

Here are some of the headlines in the Bertie Ledger-Advance between July and September of 2020.

- July 2 - A second Bertie County EMS worker test positive for COVID-19;
- July 2 - Lisa Rascoe and Clara

Lee are recognized as Teacher of the Year and Principal of the Year respectively for Bertie County Schools;

- July 2 - The Bertie County Sheriff's Office and N.C. ALE bust a 'shot house' in Windsor;
- July 2 - Dawaunti Combs

See THIRD, 7

COVID-19, tornados remain top stories

THADD WHITE
Bertie Ledger-Advance

Along with COVID-19, the recovery from the tornados that spawned due to Hurricane Isaias was among the key headlines in the final quarter of 2020.

Here are some of the headlines from the October through December issues of the Bertie Ledger-Advance.

Oct. 1 - Municipalities in Bertie County receive Powell Bill



Minor flooding was experienced in Bertie County due to heavy rains in November of last year.

funds, which they call 'essential.'

See FOURTH, 7

Bertie deputy injured in car wreck Dec. 31

THADD WHITE
Bertie Ledger-Advance

LEWISTON WOODVILLE - A Bertie County Sheriff's Deputy injured in an automobile accident on New Year's Eve is recovering well and described as in "good spirits."

Bertie County Sheriff John Holley said the accident, which occurred on N.C. 308 while the deputy was responding to a call, could have been tragic had it not been for Good Samaritans being nearby.

Sheriff Holley identified the deputy Tuesday morning as Deputy Brandon Halloran. He is recovering at Vidant Medical Center in Greenville where he is dealing with numerous injuries, but not considered life-threatening.

Sheriff Holley said Deputy Halloran received a call and made a u-turn on N.C. 308 at approximately 7:30 p.m. last Thursday. When he made the turn, his car ran off the righthand

See DEPUTY, 5

Youth Bertie: Still 'packing' in needed food

BY GENE MOTLEY
For the Bertie Ledger-Advance

WINDSOR - Their work continues despite the pandemic.

That's the feeling of Youth Bertie, Inc. - also known as the Backpack Program - as they continue their work of assuring Bertie County elementary school students of free at-home meals and nutritious fruit and snacks provided for them on week-ends.

Bertie County has 24.8 percent food in-

stability, one of the highest percentages in eastern North Carolina, while 34 percent of the children in the county suffer food insecurity. Food instability is a lack of access to enough food or a limited or uncertain availability of nutritionally adequate foods.

"That's why we started this thing five years ago," said Bertie County Commissioner and the program's Executive Director Ron Wes-

See BACKPACK, 5

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SUSIE REMKES
OF MERRY HILL

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Volume 123: No. 1



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Little Golden Skillet congratulates this week's Athlete of the Week.

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SPORTS TRIVIA

Two NFL teams ended 10-plus year playoff droughts in 2021.
Name one of them.
Email responses to twhite@ncweeklies.com