

INSIDE: Powell honored for her service to Chamber...

Bertie \$1
Ledger-Advance
 THURSDAY • FEBRUARY 11, 2021



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Tragedy strikes as one perishes in fire

THADD WHITE
 Bertie Ledger-Advance

WINDSOR - Tragedy struck in the early morning hours of Tuesday.

The Windsor Fire Department was called to a house fire at 916 Broad Street in Windsor at approximately 2:23 a.m.

Sadly, a person died in the fire, according to Windsor Fire Chief Josh Kilpatrick. The chief de-

clined to name the victim, pending an autopsy. The person's body was recovered inside the residence.

"Upon arrival at the scene, we faced heavy flames coming from the residence," the chief said in a statement.

The Windsor Fire Department was on the scene for more than two hours battling the blaze, not clearing the call until approximately 5 a.m.

Chief Kilpatrick said the cause of death for the victim was undetermined at this time.

The cause and origin of the fire are both undetermined and currently under investigation.

The chief said he and the Windsor Fire Department appreciated the assistance of the Askeville Fire Department, Merry Hill Fire Department, Bertie EMS and Windsor Police Department.



THADD WHITE / Bertie Ledger-Advance
 A fire early Tuesday morning destroyed this Broad Street, Windsor home and caused one death.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Above: Mark Hoggard sings with the Harvesters during, his current group. Inset: The Singing Laymen album with Hoggard (front) as part of the group when he was a pre-teen.

Hoggard highlights magazine

THADD WHITE
 Bertie Ledger-Advance

Mark Hoggard began singing on stage with his father before he turned 10 years old.

His first time on stage was with his father, Mark Hoggard Sr., at his side at Fai-

son's Old Tavern in nearby Northampton County. It was fitting, because it was his father who guided him not only in life, but in music.

"I guess I started singing as early as three or four years old," Hoggard said. "Daddy sort of persuaded me to sing and then I first sang in front

of people about seven or eight years old."

Known to most everyone in Bertie County as one of the most gifted bass singers the Carolinas have offered to Southern Gospel music, Hoggard has spent most of his

See HOGGARD, A5

As cases drop, vaccine supply falls in county

THADD WHITE
 Bertie Ledger-Advance

Just as progress began, there's another stumbling block.

Bertie County has made tremendous progress over the past month - both in reducing the number of active COVID-19 cases and getting its citizens vaccinated.

Then, Friday Albemarle Regional Health Services learned the number of new vaccinations had been cut and thus there are no vaccine clinics scheduled this week.

A statement released Friday by ARHS said, "With reduced allocations of vaccine for the week of Feb. 8-11, ARHS will be utilizing 1,300 first doses to target our vaccine clinics for historically marginalized populations and underserved communities within the priority groups throughout the region."

There are no second dose clinics scheduled in Bertie

County this week either. The second dose clinics were in Currituck, Perquimans and Pasquotank counties.

Thus far, Bertie County has seen 4,020 first dose vaccines administered, and 550 second dose vaccines.

ARHS learns of its allotment from the state of North Carolina each Friday and posts plans for the following week shortly after. To see that information, visit arhs-nc.org.

Currently, Bertie County has the lowest number of active COVID-19 cases in the ARHS service area. There are currently only 30 active cases in Bertie County, though there have now been 39 deaths in the county. The most recent was a person between 18 and 24 years of age.

Bertie Correctional Institution is suffering from an outbreak at the moment with 31 staff and 39 residents suffering from COVID-19 as of last Friday.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Holley planned career in law enforcement

THADD WHITE
 Bertie Ledger-Advance

Many people remember that day in elementary school when the teacher asked, "what do you want to be when you grow up?"

For many, those career dreams as children faded as they went on to do many other things in life.

Not so for John Holley. "I wanted to be a cop since I was in the first grade," the Ber-

tie County Sheriff said.

And, now more than 30 years into that chosen profession, he has never regretted his choice.

"I love it. It's the only thing I know," Sheriff Holley said. "I love Bertie County. I still say it's the best county in the state. I'm not just saying that because I'm supposed to; I believe it with all my heart."

In January, Holley celebrated 39 years in law enforcement, the past decade-plus of which

has been spent as the county's sheriff.

While he admits rural counties sometimes have struggles, the sheriff said he is proud of his home county and pleased to serve its citizens.

"The most rewarding part of being in law enforcement - and in my time as sheriff - has been serving the citizens of Bertie County," he said. "I have really

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Bertie County Sheriff John Holley makes balloon animals for children at Relay For Life.

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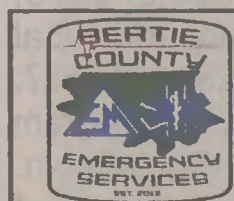
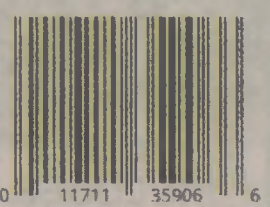
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