

# ONLINE ONLY: Fourth & Long - Should we play sports?

# Bertie Ledger-Advance

THURSDAY • FEBRUARY 18, 2021

Fourth and Long



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LEWIS HOGGARD / Windsor/Bertie Chamber of Commerce

Tri-County Airport Authority General Manager Henry Joyner and Board Chair Tammy Lee cut the ribbon on a \$1.4 million new terminal at the airport Thursday afternoon.

## 'Thrilled with beautiful facility'

### Tri-County Airport officially opens new terminal

LEWIS HOGGARD  
Windsor/Bertie Chamber

**AULANDER** - The wait was worth it!

The brand-new terminal on Henry Joyner Field at Tri-County Airport opened last week. The modern well-designed terminal now welcomes visitors by air to Bertie, Hertford and Northampton counties. The old terminal had long since served its purpose and needed to be replaced many years ago.

A first impression only happens once. Now visitors from prospective businesses and from current employers will be greeted upon arrival at the airport by a state-of-the-art facility. The new terminal has over 3,000 square feet of space including a conference room for meetings at the airport. Representatives from Perdue and Republic Services were present to celebrate, and also donated



The new terminal at Tri-County Airport.

for the purchase of furniture for the terminal.

\$1.4 million was spent on the facility with the funding from the Division of Aviation of North Carolina Department of Transportation and Federal Aviation Administration program. Around 10,000 aircraft operations are done a year at

the airport. The airport has 4,500-hundred-foot runway, that was first paved in 1965.

Bertie County Commission Chair Tammy Lee hosted the ribbon-cutting for the terminal, as well as serving as the Chair of Tri-County Airport Com-

See TERMINAL, 3

## Missing teen found safe with family

THADD WHITE  
Bertie Ledger-Advance

**POWELLVILLE** - A teenager reported missing in Bertie County last week has been found safe.

Bertie County Sheriff John Holley said the missing teen was with family members during her two-day disappearance.

"Once we sent out a

missing persons alert, they contacted our office," Sheriff Holley said.

The sheriff said the teen, identified as Tavionna Smallwood, had been turned over to the Bertie County Department of Social Services on Friday afternoon.

The missing person bulletin was initiated earlier Friday. Sheriff Holley's office was offering a reward for her safe return.

Bertie County Chief Deputy Kenny Perry said the teenager had

See MISSING, 3

## School timetable sees no change

BY GENE MOTLEY  
For the Bertie Ledger-Advance

**WINDSOR** - In keeping with his earlier statement that teachers and staff have "gone above and beyond," N.C. Gov. Roy Cooper signed a coronavirus relief bill last week that will dole out money the state received as part of stimulus bill the U.S. Congress passed in December.

The federal funds provide money for schools to reopen, pub-

lic health officials to distribute the vaccine and residents to help pay their rent.

The law includes \$1.6 billion for education with the aim of helping get kids back to school quicker and addressing learning loss the pandemic has exacerbated. But unlike the plan from state lawmakers, Cooper wants one-time direct payments of \$2,500 to teachers and principals. Cooper's ad-

See SCHOOL, 2



The late Rev. Ralph White with one of his favorite fishing poles.

### BLACK HISTORY MONTH

## White believed in love of God, fellow man

(Editor's Note: Each year during February, the Bertie Ledger-Advance looks back at a Bertie resident who was part of the county's history, but has since passed away. This year we share a story about the late Rev. Ralph White, one of our favorites, who died in 2017.)

BY DEBORAH GRIFFIN  
Bertie Ledger-Advance

From the highways of Baltimore to the country lanes of Windsor, the Rev. Ralph D. White ministered to the lost and hurting for over 40 years.

White, who passed away on Aug. 31, 2017, officially retired in 2011

from Bertie's Indian Woods Missionary Baptist Church after 12 years of service.

From that time until his death, he returned to Baltimore when called upon, and preached in and around Windsor when invited. He even served as Interim Pastor of Sandy Point Baptist Church until his death.

"I preach wherever there is a need," he said, but he also was enjoying being retired - fishing whenever he got the chance.

A native of Windsor, White moved to Asheville with his family when he was five. His father pastored a church there.

During the summers, he would return to Bertie to work on his uncles' farms.

"I had the best of both worlds," he

See WHITE, 3

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GOOD MORNING,  
KATIE THOMAS  
OF WINDSOR

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Celebrating

# BLACK HISTORY MONTH

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