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Bertie Ledger-Advance

SCAN ME

Volume 123:
No. 24

Bertie Ledger-Advance

THURSDAY • JUNE 17, 2021

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Some employees decry size of raise

County fund balance half of required mark

LESLIE BEACHBOARD
Managing Editor

WINDSOR – The Bertie County Commissioners held a public hearing Monday night for the proposed 2021-2022 fiscal year budget.

During the presentation, Bertie County Manager Juan Vaughan, II., said there had been several work sessions to look at the budget, and several changes had been made.

“The updated proposed

budget does not include a tax rate increase. It does include a one percent cost-of-living adjustment. One percent is better than no percent,” he added.

Line item adjustments were made to emergency

services, 9-1-1 and the sheriff’s office.

“Some cuts were made to make the budget work,” Vaughan continued.

Bertie County received \$1.8 million from the American Rescue Plan.

According to Vaughan, part of this funding is proposed to be used for payroll

expenses during the COVID-19 pandemic. The amount to be used is approximately \$411,000.

“We are proposing to give \$1,500 bonuses to all Bertie County employees for their dedication and service during COVID-19. This leaves

See **BUDGET**, A5

Blood supply is low

Two changes to donate in coming weeks

THADD WHITE
Editor

WINDSOR – The American Red Cross says it is experiencing a “severe blood shortage” and there are two upcoming opportunities to help.

The Rotary Club of Windsor and Open Door – Bertie are sponsoring blood drives in the coming weeks, which will allow citizens of the county to donate to the American Red Cross.

A spokesperson for the Red Cross said the severe blood shortage was due to the number of trauma cases, organ transplants and elective surgeries being on the rise.

All blood types, but

See **DRIVE**, A5



Colerain Baptist Church is one of the reasons the Colerain Historic District is on the National Register.

Colerain Historic District is highlighted in Eastern Living

THADD WHITE
Editor

The third issue of Volume 13 is on the streets.

The newest installment of Eastern North Carolina Living magazine features places on the National Register of Historic Places, including the downtown area of Colerain.

The story, written by Lewis Hoggard, details the history of the Colerain Historic Dis-

trict, speaks of some of the beautiful architecture in the town and how it came to be included on the National Register.

“Colerain has such a rich history, I thought it would be important to highlight that history through the recognition of obtaining a historic district designation,” said Jaqueline Perry, who spearheaded the project. “Additionally, the designation itself

may lead to future tourism and to people visiting, and possibly buying and preserving homes in the district.”

The application was approved and listed in April of last year.

Colerain is just one of hundreds of such designations in the 14 counties covered by the magazine. Each county had one of their locations

See **MAGAZINE**, A5

Beach Day Ok'd

Dates, events still to be determined

LESLIE BEACHBOARD
Managing Editor

WINDSOR – Plans are underway for another Bertie County Beach Day.

The Bertie County Commissioners discussed the possibility of another Bertie County Beach Day, but not without debate.

Bertie County Recreation Director Donna Mizelle presented two suggestions and estimates to the commissioners earlier this week.

According to Mizelle, one of the major things that would need to be done would be cutting the grass in the fields and on the property, trimming of any low-lying trees and combing the beach.

The cost of the bush hogging and trimming

See **BEACH**, A3

Teacher housing initiative revived, funding sought

GENE MOTLEY
For the Bertie Ledger-Advance

WINDSOR – It would be a strong and worthy comeback.

The idea to provide affordable housing as a way of at-

tracting and retaining Bertie County’s public school teachers, which seemed stalled or doomed only a few months ago, now may be returning to the front burner.

District 1 Bertie County Commissioner Ron Wes-

son, who – along with the full Board of County Commissioners has been one of those spearheading the project - gave an update on the progress of the revival to the Bertie County Board of Education at the BOE’s June

monthly meeting on June 8.

Based on housing market analyses and surveys that revealed a lack of affordable housing, five districts in North Carolina have already built apartment complexes for their teachers. Because

teacher salaries have not kept pace with rising housing costs, many teachers are unable to afford housing through a home purchase. In those counties there are few

See **HOUSING**, A3

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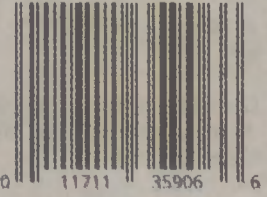


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