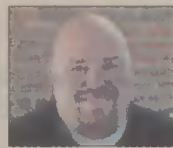




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Columnist Brandice Hoggard still loves the game of softball.
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David Friedman discusses the summer Olympics.
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SCAN ME

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Filing starts in one town, ends in another

Lewiston Woodville under way

THADD WHITE
Group Editor

LEWISTON WOODVILLE - Those wishing to seek office in the town of Lewiston Woodville can file now.

Filing began Monday and will continue through noon on Friday, Aug.

13. It is being held at the Bertie County Board of Elections office on Watson Street in Windsor.

Three offices will be on the ballot in Lewiston Woodville. They include the office of mayor and a

See LEWISTON WOODVILLE, A5

Aulander has multiple candidates

THADD WHITE
Group Editor

AULANDER - There will be four candidates competing for a spot on the Aulander Board of Commissioners.

Filing ended Friday, July 16 with four people seeking three available

spots on the town board.

Two incumbents - Jason Tinkham and Jamie Tinkham - filed to retain their seats on the board. Two other newcomers will throw their proverbial hats into the ring, including for-

See AULANDER, A5

MCC offers help

Department will aid enrollment

LESLIE BEACHBOARD
Managing Editor

WILLIAMSTON - In a push to make college more accessible than ever to residents of Martin and Bertie counties, Martin Community College (MCC) has created the Office of Admissions, Counseling and Student Support Services.

The newly renovated office suite opened on July 12, and is already assisting students with enrollment for the 2021 fall semester.

"We are committed to connecting with prospective students, supporting each student as they work to reach their educational goals," said Martin Community College Director of Admissions, Counseling and Student Support Services.

See MCC, A5



Marcus Alston stands at the new historic marker located in Windsor.

Historic marker recalls POWs

MARCUS ALSTON
Windsor/Bertie Chamber of Commerce

WINDSOR - There is a new historical marker in Windsor.

The marker details how over 500 Italian prisoners of war was interned in the region in 1943. The United States were part of the Allied Powers fighting the Axis Powers, which included Italy from 1941 to 1945.

These Italian soldiers were apprehended and captured in North Africa then transported across the Atlantic Ocean to North Carolina. In this county, there was a need for able-bodied young men

who could work in the agricultural fields. Most of these prisoners became day laborers in local farmers' fields which most of their work involved stacking peanuts.

The prisoners of war were not just in Windsor. Prisoners of War work camps were established in Martin County, Tarboro, Scotland Neck and in Windsor. For example, Prison Camp Road in Williamston is where the soldiers were housed - like in Windsor - in canvas tents. Actually, the need for workers in the fields was felt across the country, but especially in the South.

The historical marker is

near the Windsor Farmer's Market. The camp was created adjacent to the Carolina Southern Railway and the Cashie River, which is where Sutton Drive and River Street run along the Roanoke Cashie River Center. The prisoners arrived at the camp and on September 24, 1943 and began working on the harvest of the peanut crop.

The farmers who needed to use the prisoners were instructed to file and submit applications and contracts to the War Manpower Commission. The representatives

See MARKER, A5

Opioid deal set

NC Attorney General agrees

LESLIE BEACHBOARD
Managing Editor

RALEIGH - As the national opioid settlement is being reached, North Carolina counties urge support for an agreement on the use of funds.

The North Carolina Association of County Commissioners (NCACC) has expressed support for North Carolina's plan to allocate funds from the \$26 billion national opioid settlement.

"While no amount of money will ever be enough, this settlement will force these drug companies to pay a historic amount of money to bring much needed treatment and recovery services to North Carolina communities,

See SETTLEMENT, A5

World Day Against Trafficking Humans observed on July 30

BRANDICE HOGGARD
Staff Writer

World Day Against Human Trafficking is Friday, July 30.

Most people don't realize or see it but, in Eastern North Carolina human trafficking is

taking place right in front of them. Especially in the rural agriculture based area.

Melinda Sampson, Community Outreach Coordinator for NC Stop Human Trafficking, said, "Agriculture is the number one issue in this

area with labor trafficking taking place."

Labor trafficking or any type of human trafficking is not something people generally keep an eye out for simply because our culture has made it an acceptable

practice. With most human trafficking but especially prostitution there is more than likely a third party compeller involved. Which means there may be another individual that is compelling someone to a commercial

sex act.

What is labor trafficking?

Labor trafficking is actually a form of modern day slavery. It is when individuals perform labor or service

See TRAFFICKING, A5

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TAMMY HOGGARD
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