



GRACE&TRUTH
Pastor Amanda Hoggard lauds teachers for their work.
A2



PICTURETHAT
Andre' Alfred says everyone should live 'your' life
A4



FOURTH&LONG
David Friedman says the blend of seasons is wonderful.
A7



SCAN ME

Volume 118:
No. 42

Bertie Ledger-Advance

Thursday · October 21, 2021

980 S. Academy St.
Ahoskie, NC 27910



Heating &
Air Conditioning
252.209.0223

28 24 8
*****FIRM 27892
MCCP008293- MCC LIBRARY
1161 KEHUKEE PARK RD
WILLIAMSTON NC 27892-8307

ASKEWVILLE ♦ AULANDER ♦ COLERAIN ♦ KELFORD ♦ LEWISTON WOODVILLE ♦ MERRY HILL ♦ POWELLSVILLE ♦ ROXOBEL ♦ WINDSOR

Juvenile arrested for attempted murder

Victim shot four times at home near LW

BY THADD WHITE
Group Editor

LEWISTON WOODVILLE - A juvenile is in custody, charged with attempted murder after allegedly shooting a man four times last Thursday.

Bertie County Sheriff John Holley said officers and Bertie County EMS were dispatched to Mebane

Circle outside of Lewiston Woodville at approximately 11:37 a.m. Oct. 14.

"When officers and EMS arrived, they found a victim who had been shot four times with a small caliber handgun," Sheriff Holley said. "The victim was airlifted to Vidant Medical Center where he was treated and released."

Sheriff Holley said the victim

was reportedly sitting on his steps talking to the juvenile when he was shot, according to witnesses. He said witnesses reported hearing five or six shots and the sheriff said deputies recovered "multiple casings" from the scene.

The ensuing investigation led officers to arrest a juvenile and charge him with attempted first degree murder. State law prohib-

its the release of additional information about the suspect due to his age.

Sheriff Holley commended citizens in the area for their involvement in identifying the suspect.

"It was a scary situation," Sheriff Holley said. "I believe a big part of the reason we were able to identify a suspect was because of the people in the community talking to officers and saying what they saw."

"We have to have more citizens like these who will get involved,"

he added. "That's what it's going to take to stop these shootings and murders and things of that nature - people are going to have to say no more of it in our neighborhood and help officers."

Anyone with information on the shooting or other crimes in the county can contact the Bertie County Sheriff's Office at 252-794-5330.

Thadd White is can be reached via email at twhite@ncweeklies.com.

Bertie Co. EMS has 32 percent staff shortage

BY LESLIE BEACHBOARD
Managing Editor

WINDSOR - An emergency services staffing shortage is nationwide, but also hitting close to home.

Bertie County Emergency Services Director Mitch Cooper gave the Bertie County Commissioners an update on staffing shortages Monday.

"Staffing shortage is a national and a statewide problem," said Cooper.

According to Cooper, the EMS department typically runs four shifts- A, B, C and D shifts. Each shift works 24 hours then are off for 72 hours before they return for another 24 hour shift.

Bertie County Emergency Services is currently

down an entire shift, and the time is being filled with overtime from other employees.

"The department is running into a deficit. We are currently running with a 32 percent shortage in staff. We have had several meetings to see what we can change to limit the impact on the citizens," said Cooper.

Under normal operating procedures, there would be four ambulances and one quick response vehicle in service during each shift.

Due to the current employee shortage, administrative staff will be put on a truck during the day to run calls. This caused concerns for Cooper because without

See **SHORTAGE**, A5



The Cashie Treehouses are a big draw for tourism in Bertie County.

Visitor spending dips in Bertie Co.

WINDSOR - Domestic and international visitors to and within Bertie County spent 12.4 million dollars in 2020, a decrease of 15.4 percent from 2019.

The data comes from an annual study commissioned by Visit North Carolina, a unit of the Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina.

"Tourism spending was expected to be down this year from the impact of COVID-19, so we are not surprised by the decrease this year. Bertie County offers a lot of recreation on the water and in the woods and with our historic sites we need to continue to promote tourism. Projects like the Cashie River Treehouses and Ber-

tie Beach need to be developed and promoted," Lewis Hoggard, Director, Windsor Bertie Chamber of Commerce said.

Tourism impact highlights for 2020

- The travel and tourism industry directly employs more than 83 in Bertie County.
- Total payroll generated by the tourism industry in Bertie County was \$3.2 million.
- State tax revenue generated in Bertie County totalled six hundred thousand through state sales and excise taxes, and taxes on personal and corporate income. About \$800,000 in local taxes were generated from sales and property tax revenue from travel-generated and travel-supported

businesses.

These statistics come from the "Economic Impact of Travel on North Carolina Counties 2020," which can be accessed at partners.visitnc.com/economic-impact-studies. The study was prepared for Visit North Carolina by Tourism Economics in collaboration with the U.S. Travel Association.

Statewide, visitor spending was down 32 percent to \$19.96 billion compared to 2019. Tourism employment fell 26 percent to 178,685. The losses were most acutely felt in urban areas.

"We are extremely gratified that tourism thrived in 20 counties in the

See **SPENDING**, A5

BCS receives favorable audit

BY GENE MOTLEY
For the Bertie Ledger-Advance

WINDSOR - The 'Good News' continues.

At the Sept. 14 meeting of the Bertie County Board of Education, Bertie County Schools Chief Financial

Officer Steven Harrell and Dale Smith, Accountant with Anderson Smith & Wike, Certified Public Accountant firm of Rockingham, presented the board with draft audit results from

See **AUDIT**, A5

Race day events planned for 'Spectacular,' signup continues

BY MICHELLE LEICESTER
For the Bertie Ledger-Advance

WINDSOR - The Bertie Spectacular 5K, 1-Mile Run/Walk and Jamboree is just around the corner. Registration is open for participants to sign up.

The Spectacular, which is the only fundraising event of the year for the Good Shepherd Food Pantry, is slated for Oct. 30 at 9 a.m.

To sign up visit www.runtheeast.com or mail the entry to Bertie Spectacular 5K, Attn: Virg Siefker, PO Box

895, Windsor, NC 27983.

The entry form can be found on the Facebook page or by asking any of the volunteers.

On the www.runtheeast.com website the entrant must click on the race calendar, the blue October but-

ton, then scroll down the list to Saturday, Oct. 30, 2021. There is a blue sign up button beside the race name.

The cost for the 5K is \$25 up until Oct. 24. The price then increases to \$30. The price for the 1-mile Walk/Fun Run is \$15. Both the 5K

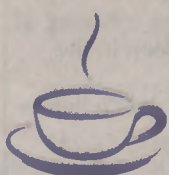
and the 1-mile walk/fun run start on York Street behind Windsor Town Hall and end on York Street near Livermon Park. The 5K Course is USATF certified.

There is a \$2,000 prize purse. Students are not eligible to receive cash prizes.

Race packets will be available for pick up Friday, Oct. 29 from noon until 4:30 p.m. at the Roanoke Cashie River Center or near the race starting line from 7 a.m. until 8:45 a.m. on race

See **SPECTACULAR**, A5

In this edition



GOOD MORNING,
KELLY HOGGARD
OF WINDSOR

THANK YOU FOR SUBSCRIBING!



Find us on
Facebook

www.bertieledgeradvance.com

Church & Faith A2
Classified A8
Obituaries A2
Opinion A4
Sports A7



0 11711 35906 6

Vote to re-elect
Randy K. Whitaker
Windsor Town Commissioner

Lifelong Windsor resident * Dedicated to serving all citizens * A voice for "Little Bertie"

Paid for by the Committee to Re-elect Randy K. Whitaker

