

**LUCKYSEVEN**

Brandice Hoggard wants to see Christmas through the eyes of a child. A4

**FOURTH&LONG**

David Friedman writes about college football and the changes that are coming. A6

**MEDITATING**

Sylvia Hughes writes that believers should learn to 'run to win.' A3



Bertie Ledger-Advance

SCAN ME

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# Bertie Ledger-Advance

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## Sheriff Holley will retire at end of 2022

**THADD WHITE**  
Group Editor**WINDSOR** - Bertie County Sheriff John Holley will retire at the end of his current term.

Sheriff Holley, who is in his third term as sheriff, said Thursday he does not plan to seek re-election next year, and will instead end his nearly four decades in full-time law enforcement.

"I'm pretty sure it was Kobe Bryant who said you'll know when it's time. It's time," Sheriff Holley said. "I have loved serving the people of Bertie County. It was

**SHERIFF HOLLEY**

my goal to become sheriff the day I started in law enforcement and I'm grateful I've been able to serve. Now, I know it's time for me to do other things in life." While he said he loves his job and law enforcement, Sheriff Holley said it was time to spend more time with his wife and the grandchildren he adores. "People don't know what a law enforcement officer's

spouse goes through," he said. "I can't say thank you enough to Floretta for her support for all these years." Sheriff Holley will celebrate 39 years in law enforcement this coming February. He expressed his appreciation to then Sheriff J. Wallace Perry, who hired him. "Sheriff Perry asked me what my goal was and I told him one day I wanted to be

sheriff," Holley said. "He told me he hoped he lived to see that day and I'm thankful - and I hope he is too - that he has been here to see me achieve this goal, and to be a part of it." Next year's sheriff election filing is looming in December, and Sheriff Holley said he spent time thinking and praying about his decision. "I think I've seen it all and

basically done it all at this point," he said. "I don't think there is anything left to accomplish in law enforcement. It's just time." Sheriff Holley said he will miss the citizens and the rigors of law enforcement work. "Once you are a law enforcement officer, you are always a law enforcement

See **RETIRE**, A2

## Write-ins win in 3 Bertie towns

**THADD WHITE**  
Group Editor

Write-in candidates played a major part in several municipal elections following the certification of results last week.

Colerain, Kelford and Roxobel all had write-ins win seats on the town board.

In Roxobel, a write-in winner caused a tie between two candidates on the ballot, resulting in a coin toss to declare a winner.

Write-in candidate Sharon Jones received 38 votes to claim a seat on the town board alongside Robert Phelps (44 votes) and Joseph Pittman (39). That left Johnna Browne Lewis and Dillon Pruden tied with 30 votes each.

A coin toss was held at the Bertie County Board of Elections, which was won by Pruden making him the fourth and final commissioner.

Finishing sixth in the field was incumbent David Lee Baisey Sr. with 23 votes.

Mayor Gary Johnson was

See **TOWNS**, A2

ANDRE' ALFRED / BERTIE LEDGER-ADVANCE

Charles Smith sings the National Anthem as others on the program watch on. From left are the Rev. Webb Hoggard, Tammy Lee, Leslie Beachboard, Windsor Mayor Jim Hoggard and N.C. Insurance Commissioner Mike Causey.

## Thank you for your service



ANDRE' ALFRED / BERTIE LEDGER-ADVANCE

N.C. Commissioner of Insurance Mike Causey spoke at the Veteran's Day ceremony.

**LESLIE BEACHBOARD**  
Managing Editor**WINDSOR** - A time to honor those who have served.

The town of Windsor and Bertie County officials, along with the Windsor/Bertie Chamber of Commerce and the Bertie Ledger-Advance held a Veteran's Day ceremony last week at courthouse square outside the Bertie County Courthouse.

Bertie Ledger-Advance Editor Thadd White wel-

comed everyone in attendance.

According to White, in year's past there has been a Memorial Day ceremony, but the COVID-19 pandemic cancelled the ceremony last year and again this spring. But it was decided not to go another year without doing something.

Askeville Assembly of God Pastor the Rev. Webb Hoggard gave the invocation and Charles

See **SERVICE**, A5

## L-W man killed in nightclub shooting

**THADD WHITE**  
Group Editor**KELFORD** - More than 100 people were gathered at a nightclub in Kelford when a Lewiston Woodville man lost his life.

Bertie County Sheriff John Holley said officers were dispatched to the Spotlight Lounge at approximately 1 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 14.

"Officers found a victim suffering from a gunshot wound and immediately began administering first aid," Sheriff Holley said. "Unfortunately, he was pronounced dead at the scene."

The victim has been identified as 32-year-old Joseph Cary of Lewiston Woodville, according to Bertie County Sheriff's Maj. Matt Roebuck.

Maj. Roebuck said there were a large number of people at the club, believed to be more than 150 and attempts were being made to identify possible witnesses. He said many have already given statements, but the others are needed

See **SHOOTING**, A5

## New fire training facility coming soon

**LESLIE BEACHBOARD**  
Managing Editor**WINDSOR** - Fire departments will soon have a new place to train.

Officials from the town of Windsor and Bertie County, along with fire department members and others broke ground Tuesday morning for the new fire training facility on County Farm Road in Windsor.

Windsor Mayor Jim Hoggard began the festivities.

"I want to welcome everyone to the groundbreaking ceremony for this new facility that will help fire departments from all over the county and other counties too," he added.

According to Hoggard, lo-

cal fire departments needed a location to train for possible fires for tall structures, and until now did not have one.

"Bertie County has tall structures, like grain bins and several tall buildings. The fire departments needed an area to bring in the fire trucks and train in case of a fire to one of these types

of structures. This type of training will be beneficial in possibly saving lives and property," Hoggard added.

Martin Community College donated \$20,000 to the project.

The funding was used to purchase metal cargo storage containers. The

See **TRAINING**, A5

LESLIE BEACHBOARD/BERTIE LEDGER-ADVANCE

Bertie County Board of Commissioners Chair Tammy Lee (left) presents Windsor Mayor Jim Hoggard with the deed to the property on County Farm Road, where the fire training facility will be located.

### In this edition

GOOD MORNING,  
JAMES WATFORD  
OF AHOSSIE

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