



FARMWIFELIFE
Deborah Griffin shares the "Best Part of My Day."

A4



FOURTH&LONG
David Friedman asks if we are all responsible sports fans.

B1

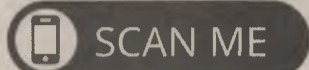


GRACE&TRUTH
Pastor Webb Hoggard says "do a good work."

B4



Bertie Ledger-Advance



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BCSO working to solve Roxobel break-ins

THADD WHITE
Group Editor

A rash of break-ins have plagued the Roxobel area over the past month.

Bertie County Sheriff John Holley said officers have investigated several break-ins in and around Roxobel in which multiple firearms have been taken, among other items.

"We believe the break-ins are related," Sheriff Holley said. "We

are working diligently and will be using video we have found of the crime and other investigative leads to develop a suspect or suspects."

Maj. Matt Roebuck said there have been five break-ins during the past month, four of which have been in and around Roxobel and the other near that western Bertie County town, but with an Aulander address.

A total of 12 firearms have been stolen, according to Maj. Roebuck.

In addition, the suspects have taken jewelry, a dirt bike and other items.

"Two of the homes were entered, but we do not believe anything was actually taken," Maj. Roebuck said. "Another home was broken into twice."

Sheriff Holley said there is video of some of the incidents and the department has reviewed it and are working with other agencies.

"Based on the area and the way

the crimes are being committed, we believe it is the same individuals or a group of individuals acting in concert," Maj. Roebuck said.

He also said the cases are similar to ones which occurred before the last month.

As the case is being worked, there are ways to help protect a person's home and property the two men stressed.

"First and foremost, we do need to be our brother's keeper so to speak," Sheriff Holley said. "If

your neighbor is gone and you see someone around their home who doesn't belong there, call 9-1-1. We would rather find out they do belong there than someone have the opportunity to break in to another home."

And, it is important not to wait. "If you see something suspicious, call it in right then," Maj. Roebuck said. "Don't wait until 20 minutes later when you get home."

See **ROXOBEL, A3**



Windsor Police Lt. Frank Ratzlaff (left) chats with campers at Camp Happy.

Windsor PD 'serves' community

THADD WHITE
Group Editor

WINDSOR - The Windsor Police Department spent their Friday lunch time providing food for children.

Windsor Police Chief Justin Jackson, Lt. Frank Ratzlaff and other officers provided lunch for Camp Happy. The program for children ages five to 13 is an outreach of the Bertie County YMCA.

"We are pleased to be able to help out," Chief Jackson said. "It is just a way to serve our community and to provide positive interaction with the police department and the children of Windsor."

The department partnered with Chief (Ret.) Randy Cherry of Chief's by the River and Food Lion to help provide hot dogs and ham-

burgers for those attending the camp.

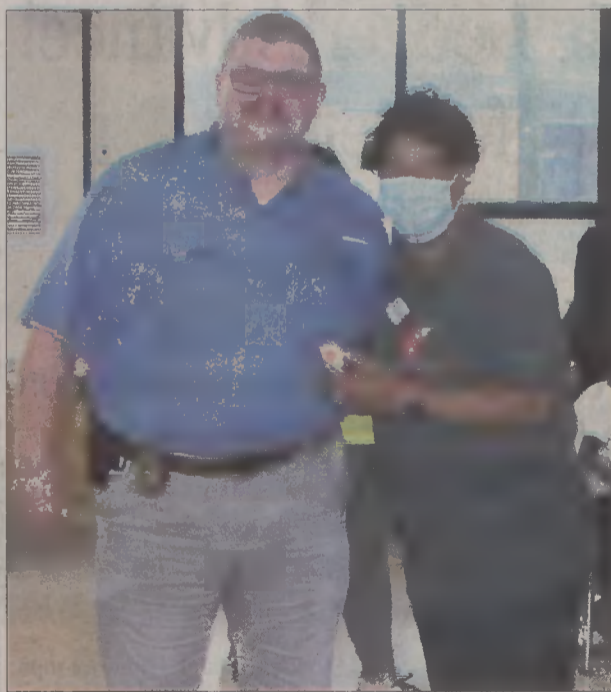
"The school system provides lunch for them Monday through Thursday," Lt. Ratzlaff said. "On Fridays, they depend on other organizations to help."

Lt. Ratzlaff said several community organizations have helped in the past and others are still needed, which is why the police department provided assistance for the second time this summer.

"We were able to provide meals twice last summer and wanted to do it again," he said. "It is always a good thing to be able to support our children."

Chief Jackson agreed. "I'm sure it was just as good for us as it was for them," he said. "Our

See **HAPPY, A3**



Windsor Police Chief Justin Jackson and Askewville Pre-K teacher Lisa Cherry enjoy a laugh at lunchtime at Camp Happy.

Blue Jay baseball players reunited Sunday

JOHN FOLEY
For the Bertie Ledger-Advance

INDIAN WOODS - The Blue Jay baseball team reunion hosted infielders, outfielders, pitchers, catchers and coaches from generations past as players greeted one another with hand shakes, fist bumps and hugs Sunday night at the Blue Jay Recreation Center in Indian

Woods. It was a christening of sorts for the center as the reunion was the first organized baseball event since the building was built two years ago. COVID delayed any organized opening of the rec center.

Blue Jay Recreation Center President Ronald Rascoe, the force behind the reunion, thought the event

would be a way to welcome players back and introduce them to the center which was officially dedicated in November 2021.

"I thought it would be a great thing to have the guys see the building and get together. Mr. Powell is 80 years old and played here as a child," Rascoe said, as the aromas of burgers, hot dogs and BBQ filled the air.

A page out of a baseball alumni book, Blue Jay players from as far back as the 1950's gathered to remember and reminisce about games won and lost, fly balls caught and dropped and stars that shined in broad daylight.

Over twenty players and an equal amount of fans

See **BLUE JAY, A3**

Ashland Global, citizens help M/M VFD

BRANDICE HOGGARD
Staff Writer

MERRY HILL - A local volunteer fire department received a \$10,000 check from Ashland Global recently.

The Merry Hill/Midway Volunteer Fire Department offered its thanks to Ashland Global, along with all others that have donated to the department.

Fire Chief Jodey Sary said the department is looking to add on to their station in the near future, and to do so they sent out a solicitation letter to all the property owners in their fire district.

Ashland Global has since donated \$10,000 to the department to help the cause.

The letter was sent out some time in February. From then until now the department has received a



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Merry Hill-Midway Fire Chief Jodey Sary (left) receives a check from firefighter and Ashland Representative Phillip Waters.

total of \$30,000.

"We want to thank

See **HELP, A3**

Peele is named Elections Director

JOHN FOLEY
For the Bertie Ledger-Advance

The Bertie County Commissioners welcomed a new elections director Monday evening at the regularly scheduled meeting.

LaToya Peele took over the reins of the Bertie County Elections Department June 6.

"I am very excited and proud to introduce you to LaToya Peele, our new certified elections director for the Bertie County Elections

Office," said Bertie County Elections Board Chairman Michael Freeman.

"I just want to say that I am pleased and honored to be your Elections Director and want to thank you because I am back home," said Peele, who resides in Lewiston Woodville.

The daughter of Anthony

See **PEELE, A3**



JOHN FOLEY/FOR THE BERTIE LEDGER-ADVANCE

Robert Lewis Smallwood and George Powell made the Blue Jay roster in the 1950's.

In this edition



GOOD MORNING,
JACKIE JACKSON
OF WINDSOR
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