



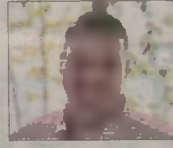
NOW THIS
Tyler Newman says "Our lives depend on subscription."

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Andre Alfred says "ooh, you're a double agent."

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GRACE & TRUTH
Webb Hoggard says "after revival..."

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Bertie Ledger-Advance



Volume 124:
No. 30

Bertie Ledger-Advance

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Thursday · July 28, 2022

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ECU Health Bertie honored for stroke care

WINDSOR - ECU Health Bertie Hospital has received the American Heart Association's SilverPlus Get With The Guidelines® — Stroke quality achievement award. The award honors the hospital for its commitment to ensuring stroke patients

receive the most appropriate treatment according to nationally recognized, research-based guidelines, ultimately leading to more lives saved and reduced disability. Stroke is the No. 5 cause of death and a leading cause

of disability in the U.S. A stroke occurs when a blood vessel that carries oxygen and nutrients to the brain is either blocked by a clot or bursts. When that happens, part of the brain cannot get the blood and oxygen it needs, so brain cells die.

Early stroke detection and treatment are key to improving survival, minimizing disability and accelerating recovery times. Get With The Guidelines puts the expertise of the American Heart Association and American Stroke Association

to work for hospitals nationwide, helping ensure patient care is aligned with the latest research- and evidence-based guidelines. Get With The Guidelines — Stroke is an in-hospital program for improving stroke care by promoting

consistent adherence to these guidelines, which can minimize the long-term effects of a stroke and even prevent death. "ECU Health Bertie Hospital is committed to

See **STROKE**, A3

New NC Extension Agent

JOHN FOLEY
For the Bertie Ledger-Advance

WINDSOR - Bertie County may be new to Edward Godfrey, but farming isn't. As the new Bertie County N.C. Extension Agent, Godfrey knows farming is in his blood.

"I am not a native of Bertie County. I grew up in Currituck County, in Moyock and I farmed with my family from 1999 until 2008," the NCSU graduate said.

With a bachelors of science in Biological and Agricultural Engineering that he was awarded in 2010 and the master in Biological Engineering that he obtained in 2012 from the same university, Godfrey arrives full of knowledge, desire and drive that can help the agricultural workers in the county.

Aside from his degrees, his 11 years as a research associate and assistant at NCSU in the Biological and Agricultural Engineering department and another year as a research associate in Plant and Microbial Biology at NCSU have packed his toolbox with the needed knowledge to make a difference.

"Most of my time spent at NCSU, outside of pursuing my education, was in research and primarily focusing on bioenergy crop production in sorghum, camelina, miscanthus and switchgrass, along with harvest mechanization and

See **AGENT**, A3



GENE MOTLEY/FOR THE BERTIE LEDGER-ADVANCE

Members of the Bertie County Mayors and Commissioners Association listen to USDA Rural Development Area Director George Vital (standing left, at podium) at their Powellsville meeting last Thursday. Vital spoke to the group along with new Rural Development state director Reginald Speight.

USDA Rural Development head meets with local leaders

GENE MOTLEY
For the Bertie Ledger-Advance

POWELLSVILLE - A group of some 30 Bertie County mayors and town commissioners hosted North Carolina's USDA Rural Development State Director Reginald Speight at their quarterly meeting here July 14.

Speight, a former top aide to retiring First District U.S. Congressman G.K. Butterfield, was appointed to the current post by President Joe Biden last October.

The evening began with dinner, after which the group heard a progress

update on Phase-One of the county's Tall Glass of Water (TGOW) project, the waterfront property, also known as Bertie Beach, located near Merry Hill at the confluence of the Chowan River and Albemarle Sound.

Economic Development Director Steve Biggs and Project Consultant Robin Payne's PowerPoint presentation apprised the group of how the recreation area will benefit travel and tourism for the county, and Payne noted a website, DestinationBertie.com, is available seeking citizen input.

State Representative Shelly Willingham of

Rocky Mount also attended the meeting. Under re-districting Bertie County will move from District 1 (Camden, Chowan, Perquimans, Tyrell, & Washington counties) to District 23 (Edgecombe, Martin) beginning with the 2022 general election.

But the prime guests were Speight and new USDA-RD Area Director George Vital. Speight told the assembly he wants rural counties to leverage funding that is available through his office and he also wants to let them know that Bertie County is open for business.

"There are those (counties) who have cracked

the code for Rural Development," Speight said. "They've sent application after application and are now crossing the finish line. Bertie, you can't even get to the starting line, and some of that is a problem with Rural Development."

"And that's where we come in: knowing the ends and outs of every program. We want to get you to a point where you can actively engage with us the benefits and resources that we have," he added.

Speight told the municipal representatives that he understands rural and that

See **USDA**, A3

Destination Bertie needs input

JOHN FOLEY
For the Bertie Ledger-Advance

Bertie County is about to get branded and the project's steering committee is looking for input, suggestions and, ultimately, the community's stamp of approval.

Destination Bertie is a program underway to bring the assets of the community to the forefront of the travel and tourism community to spark economic growth within the county.

The website, DestinationBertie.com outlines the potential prosperity that lies within the county's vast natural resources.

Tapping into the current surge of visitors searching for untapped rural America destinations, the county is undertaking the project to develop new economic growth.

According to Bertie County Project Facilitator Robin Payne, "A large percentage of rural counties, in stressed economic categories, have the most to offer in terms of 'assets'. Traditional forms of workplace are still industry and agriculture — but travel and tourism offers to diversify the economy because people can have cottage businesses etc. Bertie can do all of this and still retain their signature rural scenic feel."

The county looks to increase prosperity through the county's environmental and historic assets. Rural communities across

See **BERTIE**, A3

Relay For Life luminaries available for purchase

BRANDICE HOGGARD
Staff Writer

WINDSOR - Relay for Life in Bertie County is still set for go on Saturday, Aug. 20.

The hybrid event is planned from 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. in the Bertie High School parking lot.

Organizers encourage participants not to forget to "light up the community" by purchasing luminaries in honor or in memory of loved ones for this year's Relay for Life in Bertie County.

This year's event will be a hybrid event, meaning for the ones that wish to stay in

their vehicle may do so and the ones that wish to set up campsites and engage in fundraising, onsite games and activities as one would at a regular relay may do so also.

If one wishes to remain in their vehicle, Relay for Life will be broadcasted on 106.3

radio channel so if remaining in the car one will be able to listen to the event on the radio.

Survivors should not forget that once registered online for the event one will receive an email containing a redemption code that will be used to claim the survivor T-shirt for this

year's event, as the T-shirts will not be distributed out at this year's event.

Also, participants who raise \$100 or more an email will be sent in order for the 2022 Hope Club T-shirt to be redeemed.

It is never too late to donate or fund raise for the event. Relay for Life in Bertie is coming

up quickly, do not miss the event. Make sure to purchase luminaries in honor or memory of loved ones.

Brandice Hoggard can be reached via email at bhoggard@appenc.com.

See **FORM**, A3

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GOOD MORNING,
LISA MILLER
OF HARRESVILLE, NC
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