

**CHAMBERCHATTER**  
Brandice Hoggard says do what is best for your children.

A2



**LUCKYSEVEN**  
Brandice Hoggard says do what is best for your children.

A4

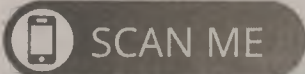


**GRACE&TRUTH**  
Pastor Amanda Hoggard says promises are kept.

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Bertie Ledger-Advance



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# Bertie Ledger-Advance

Thursday · September 15, 2022

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JOHN FOLEY/BERTIE LEDGER-ADVANCE

Dion Burroughs at the opening of his one-man show at the Bertie Arts Council.

## Arts Council hosts one-man show

JOHN FOLEY  
Staff Writer

The Bertie County Arts Council brought downtown to life Thursday evening as it hosted the opening of Dion Burroughs' one man show, "The Creative Art of Diversity."

A steady stream of foot traffic graced King Street as art lovers and enthusiasts arrived to view Burroughs' acrylic creativity. While his multi-colored canvas highlighted the walls, BCAC President Susie Remkes' culinary creations appealed to other palates as gallery regulars opted for the Pepper Sauteed Shrimp, Mediterranean Skewers, Philo-bird nests, Cheese balls, fruit trays and other lite-passables. There was also a selection of grapes in both varieties, sip and chew.

It was, however, Burroughs' show that left patrons hungry for more. The artistic entrepreneur has been drawing since he was a teen.

"I began drawing when I was 14



JOHN FOLEY/BERTIE LEDGER-ADVANCE

Bertie County citizen Scott Sauer takes in the newest exhibit at the Bertie Arts Council.

and have not stopped. It has always been one of my passions," said Burroughs.

Burroughs derives his inspiration

See **SHOW**, A3

## Former Aulander mayor thanks constituents

JOHN FOLEY  
Staff Writer

Last month Larry Drew surprised fellow city officials, town employees and Aulander residents when he resigned his position as the town's Mayor after serving in that role for the past 14 years.

"I have spent the last few weeks struggling with a very difficult decision. I have prayed for guidance and direction and I have come to the realization that the time has come for me to step away from the daily op-

eration of the town and put the health of my wife and myself as my primary concern," Drew said in a written statement.

In the announcement, Drew went on to address his ultimate commitment to making a positive difference during his tenure.

"It breaks my heart that I can't finish my term as mayor, but I know there are some really good and talented people who can continue to lead this town," he said.

Drew has been a force in Aulander for years. A graduate of Bertie High School, he spent his professional career as a human resource

See **DREW**, A2

## Pet Pantries to open in Bertie Co.

JOHN FOLEY  
Staff Writer

In July, Beth Northcott stood alone in front of the Bertie County Commissioners and proposed the board consider the possibility of a tethering ordinance in Bertie County.

While that discussion did not muster adequate support for an ordinance, Northcott did get the nod from the board to form an ad-hoc committee to further research the possibilities of some county legislation.

Two months later, Northcott is standing with a group of Bertie County residents who have formed CAAB (Companion Animal



The pet pantries being built for distribution in Bertie County will be similar to these food pantries.

Advocates of Bertie), and the organization is actively working to set up educational programs while offering free pet food through their new Pet Pantry Program.

See **PANTRY**, A3

## Walk focuses on mental health stress

JOHN FOLEY  
Staff Writer

**WINDSOR** - Over 100 residents gathered in Windsor Saturday at the former Woods and Water location on King Street to show their support for local health initiatives by partaking in 'Let's Talk About It Mental Health Awareness Walk.'

The walk was organized by Rwenshaun Miller and his Good Stress Company. The Bertie County YMCA and Executive Director Casey Owens, along with Eu-

stress, Inc. sponsored the event.

"It was a terrific event. Look at the amount of people that showed up," said Owens, smiling.

Aside from being the CEO of Eustress, Inc., Miller is a licensed psychotherapist and a "Mental Health Change Agent" primarily working with Black men and boys — a demographic that suffers from Mental Health more than other groups. Obtaining adequate

See **WALK**, A3



JOHN FOLEY/BERTIE LEDGER-ADVANCE

Zumba dancing was a good way to start of Saturday's walk.

## DHHS set to revamp regional support model

JOHN FOLEY  
Staff Writer

While the current state of Bertie County Department of Social Services (DSS) is not the catalyst for the move, the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Service (NCDHHS) is creating a new Regional Support Model for monitoring county services.

This new model calls for the creation of 14 new positions appropriated in the

2022-2023 state budget. The Regional Support Model will have three child welfare specialists assigned to each region with one for Safety, which includes Intake, CPS Assessments, and CPS In Home, one designated for Permanency Planning services and another for CQI-Continuous Quality Improvement, focusing on case review, data review and the development of CQI

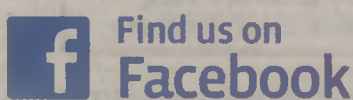
See **MODEL**, A3

### In this edition



GOOD MORNING,  
PAIGE MYERS  
OF COLERAIN

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