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Brandice Hoggard says prepare now for Halloween.

A4



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Pastor Amanda Hoggard says 'stay in your lane.'

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Bertie Ledger-Advance



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# Bertie Ledger-Advance

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## Juvenile petition filed in Winborne homicide

**JOHN FOLEY**  
Staff Writer

**POWELLSVILLE** - According to the medical examiner's report, Christopher Winborne's body was in a ditch three or four days before it was discovered on July 22.

Now petitions have been drawn against a local 15-year-old male. Bertie County Sheriff John

Holley said an investigation was conducted after the body was discovered near Winborne's residence on 220 Center Grove Rd. in Ahoskie. That eventually led to the petitions being filed this week.

State law prohibits the release of names of persons under 18 years of age. However, a petition is a document filed in juvenile court alleging that a juvenile is a delin-

quent or a status offender and asking that the court assume jurisdiction over the juvenile or that an alleged delinquent be transferred to criminal court for prosecution as an adult.

Winborne's body was badly decomposed at the time of discovery, but it was determined his death was caused by blunt force trauma.

Sheriff Holley said earlier Winborne lived at the residence with a female acquaintance and several other individuals.

The North Carolina SBI was involved with the Bertie County Sheriff's Office investigation.

While state law prohibits the release of a minor's name some juveniles are criminally prosecuted as adults through a process called

"transfer."

At age 13 or older, a juvenile may be "transferred" to adult criminal court, if a juvenile court judge finds probable cause that the juvenile committed a felony offense and conducts a transfer hearing.

In certain situations, transfer

See **PETITION**, A3

## Bertie garners electric bus

**JOHN FOLEY**  
Staff Writer

The latest Bertie County Schools district grant is electrifying.

The district has been awarded a \$501,108 grant from the N.C. Volkswagen Settlement Program. The Grant includes \$411,558 for an electric school bus and \$89,550 to install the charging infrastructure to keep that bus running.

"As a school district, we are always about the business of continuous improvement. Students' traditional mode of transportation, diesel school buses, is a big emitter of pollutants," said Bertie County Schools Superintendent Dr. Otis Smallwood. "This one effort of obtaining an electric school bus will help to mitigate the negative effects of greenhouse gas emissions."

Electric buses reduce emissions by 100 percent; this bus accounts for a reduction in nitrogen oxide emission of 1.04 tons.

In April, 2017, a U.S. court approved the third partial settlement addressing civil penalties in the Volkswagen case. These settlements resolved allegations that Volkswagen violated the Clean Air Act by the sale

See **BUS**, A3



Kelly Stitzers, Charlotte Allen and Cleo Warlickm work on their brush strokes at the site of the mural.

## 'Doodling' the Day away

**JOHN FOLEY**  
Staff Writer



Sarah McWilson, Nicole Outlaw and Andrew McWilson discuss the day's work.

**WINDSOR** - Artists of all ages, sizes and styles brushed up on their abilities Saturday as the town's Granville Street mural began to take on new life.

County residents and mural enthusiasts assisted in the mural's scaling process by doodling the day away on the License Plate Agency wall at 122 Granville Street in Windsor.

Muralists Andrew and Sarah McWilson are currently using the doodle method to scale their art to the wall and Saturday was more than just a community participation day, the participation proved an integral part of the process.

"We use the doodles as guidelines so when we blow up our image it will be in perfect proportion," said Andrew McWilson,

See **DAY**, A3

## Events for 300th set

**JOHN FOLEY**  
Staff Writer

It's been 300 years in the making and suddenly is less than two weeks away.

The Bertie County 300 year celebration is Saturday, Nov. 5, and offers a full slate of events. Everyone, from everywhere, is invited to partake in the historic celebration of past, present and future.

Events are scheduled to take place throughout the county showcasing the unique history of Bertie County.

While being formed in 1722, Bertie is one of the largest counties in North Carolina today, however, its only a fraction of its original size as it once played host to land that has since become present day Tyrell County, Edgecombe, Northampton and Hertford counties.

Since the earliest inhabitants were Native Americans, namely the Tuscarora and Meherrin Tribes, its only appropriate that Chief Jonathan Caudill will discuss a portion of Native American history.

Caudill will highlight Meherrin Tribal Cultural Heritage Experiences followed by a discussion of the Tuscarora Indians by Dr. Arwin

See **EVENTS**, A3

## Lewiston Woodville sewer project to begin, contract awarded

**JOHN FOLEY**  
Staff Writer

Greene Engineering of Wilson received a nod of approval from the Bertie County Board of Commissioners last Monday to begin the long awaited Lewiston Woodville Community Water System Replacement Project.

The board voted unanimously

to approve the engineering firm's \$756,500 contract. The contract covers the initial engineering portion of the project.

The American Rescue Plan Act provided funding from the State Fiscal Recovery Fund for the Lewiston Woodville project. The ARPA Project Grant will cover one-hundred percent of project costs up to a maximum of \$4,912,611.

N.C. Gov. Roy Cooper announced the awards in July. Communities statewide received a record \$789.4 million in water and wastewater infrastructure funding. These Grants will help pay for 385 projects statewide.

"Clean drinking water is necessary for healthy families and thriving communities and businesses," said Gov. Cooper. "The historic

level of investment provided by the American Rescue Plan will help increase resiliency, support economic growth in our state and improve access to clean water in the communities that need it most."

Bertie County received one of the highest statewide awards making the project possible.

The approved contract includes

planning, design, permitting, bidding, construction administration, observation and funding administrative services for the project.

Replacing the approximate 32,680 plus linear feet (LF) of six inch Asbestos Cement pipe with PVC is a massive undertaking. However, that is only one phase

See **CONTRACT**, A3

### In this edition



GOOD MORNING,  
WILMA HOLLEY  
OF AHSOKIE

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