

Some resolutions just roll over and over again

I'm writing this before Christmas and y'all will read it after Christmas. So, I hope everyone has/had a very merry Christmas. Jan. 1 is coming fast so it's time to make our New Year's resolutions.

I call them revolutions instead of resolutions because we tend to make the same ones over and over again. Exercise more, lose some weight, get in shape and eat healthier are some of the regulars. This year in addition to hoping to bring home an Osceola and complete my slam, I want to at least start on rebuilding/finishing/restoring my Great Grandfather Lister's muzzle loading shotgun. An online friend in Indiana has said we might be able to rebuild it to the point that I can shoot it. At the very

least I can turn it into an over the mantle display piece.

I was 5-years-old when Granddaddy Papa died. I do remember him living with my Grandma Spencer, his daughter, when she lived on Main Street in Elizabeth City. From all the stories I've heard he was a hard working and God fearing man. He used the old front stuffer for hunting back when game meat was important to a family's well being. I'm not quite sure why but back in the day it seems that blackbirds were a staple. We've all heard of blackbird pie. The only hunting story about

Do It Outdoors



Wade Betts

the old shotgun I know of is when Granddaddy Papa was sneaking up on some blackbirds and accidentally shot himself in the leg. For years after that every now and then a piece of birdshot would work its way to the surface of his skin and he would dig it out with his pocketknife. He and I have something in common, I've been known to do surgery on myself also, removing splinters, pieces of glass and slivers of metal from various body parts with my own pocketknife.

Some folks have long distance relationships and I guess that works okay. It

remains to be seen as to whether a long distance shotgun restoration will work. I've sent pictures to Alan, who calls himself dirtfarmer, and he says making the old firearm shoot is definitely possible. Dirtfarmer has rebuilt quite a few old muzzleloaders and has agreed to be my mentor. The key will be the breech end of the barrel. If it isn't pitted too bad the rest is rebuild able. The ultimate goal will be to kill a turkey with 100 or so year old gun. How cool would that be?

I'd be interested to hear about an old gun in your family's history, feel free to email the story to me: doitoutdoors@roadrunner.com. I hope everyone has a happy and prosperous New Year.

OFFICIALS SWORN IN

STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS

Todd Tilley (right) swears in Perquimans County Commissioner Wallace Nelson earlier this month.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Todd Tilley is sworn in as Clerk of Perquimans County Superior Court by Superior Court Judge J.C. Cole earlier this month.

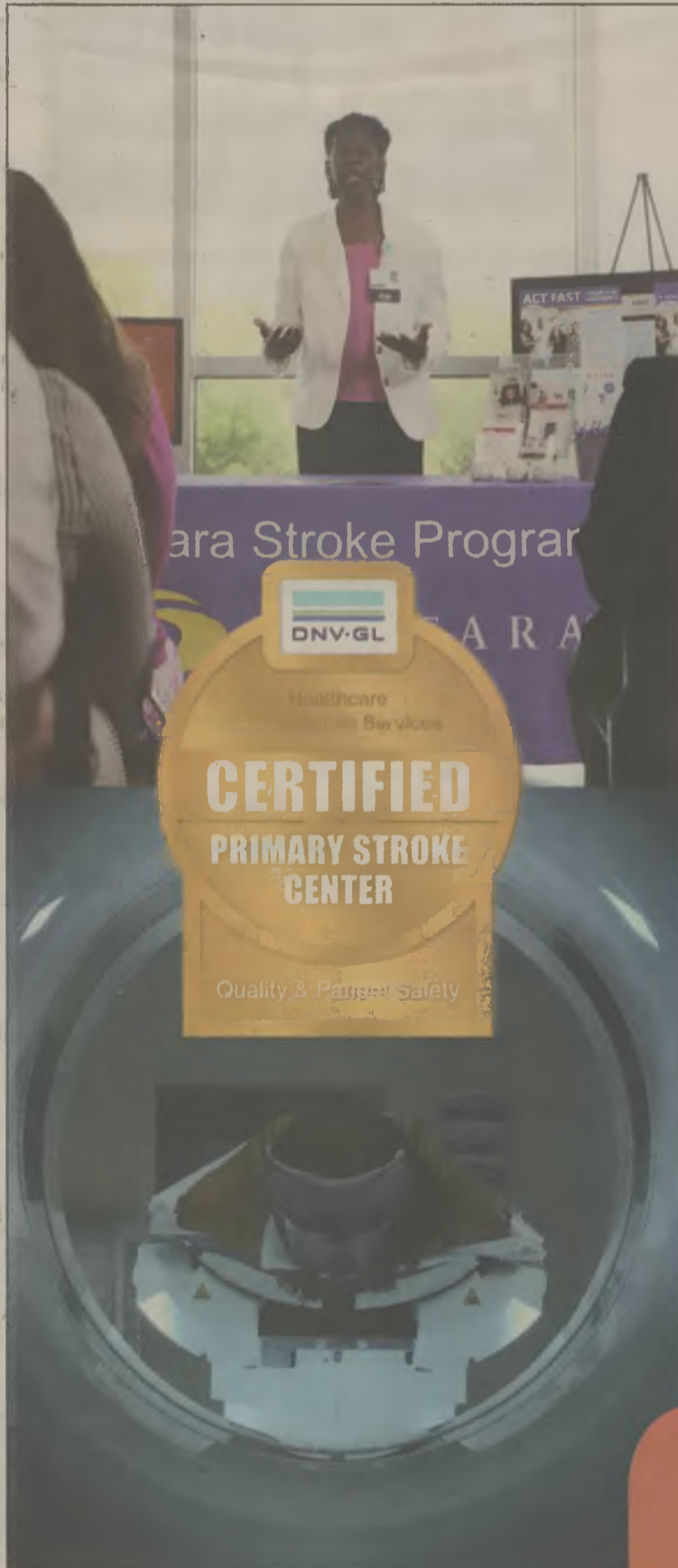
STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS

Todd Tilley swears in Perquimans County Commissioner Fondella Leigh earlier this month.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Perquimans County Sheriff Shelby White is sworn in last week by Superior Court Judge J.C. Cole. Holding the Bible is former sheriff, Eric Tilley.



SENTARA NEUROSCIENCES

SENTARA ALBEMARLE MEDICAL CENTER EARNS PRIMARY STROKE CENTER CERTIFICATION

Sentara Albemarle Medical Center is proud to announce that after a rigorous onsite review by DNV GL Healthcare, we are now certified as a Primary Stroke Center. This certification affirms our readiness to handle a full range of stroke-related medical problems, bringing our community local access to expert stroke care including diagnosis, treatment, rehabilitation and education.

Congratulations and thank you to all of our providers, nurses, stroke coordinators, educators and administrators on this achievement.



Have questions about stroke services at Sentara? Visit sentara.com/stroke, or call 877-310-8713