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County looking to appoint Dix replacement

STAFF REPORT

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On Wednesday, Sept. 9, Ashe County Commissioner Larry Dix submitted his resignation from the Board of Commissioners which came in the wake of criminal charges filed against Dix.

This resignation vacates a four year term

on the board held by Dix since 2018. The remainder of this term will be filled by appointment by the remaining board members.

According to N.C. G.S. 153A-27, a qualified replacement must “be a member of the same political party as the member being replaced” and shall be eligible to vote in Ashe County. If the board is unable to come to a consensus on a replacement within 60 days of the vacancy,

the Clerk of Superior Court shall make an appointment within 10 days of the appointment not being filled.

In either scenario, the board or clerk of Superior Court “shall consult the county executive committee of the appropriate political party before filling a vacancy.” Neither the

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School system plans for implementation of Plan A, surveys sent to families

BY BAILEY LITTLE

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JEFFERSON — Gov. Roy Cooper announced on Sept. 17 his latest decision to ease restrictions for schools related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Through his announcement, North Carolina school districts will be allowed to choose to operate under Plan A for K-5 students, effective Oct. 5.

Ashe County Schools is currently operating under Plan B, which is a hybrid model of remote learning three days each

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Community supports 39th Annual Ashe Shrine Club Golf Tournament fundraiser

BY BAILEY LITTLE

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WEST JEFFERSON — The 39th Annual Ashe Shrine Club Golf Tournament was held Sunday, Sept. 20, at Mountain Aire Golf Course.

The tournament is held on the third weekend of September each year and is a fundraiser for Ashe Shrine Club. This was an 18 Hole Stroke Play Competition with an entry fee of \$60. Players were able to arrange their own Foursomes prior to playing.

The Annual Ashe Shrine Golf Tournament has been held at Mountain Aire Golf Course since its inception, with course manager Philip Shepherd graciously providing assistance for the event.

Shriners Hospitals for Children was founded in 1922 and is a network of 22 non-profit medical facilities across North America. Children with orthopedic conditions, burns, spinal cord injuries and cleft lip and palate are eligible for care and receive all services regardless of ability to pay.

Ashe Shrine Club President John Brown said he is wowed by the generosity of Ashe County during fundraising events. Brown said none of it would be possible without the support of the Shepherd and Hagel



PHOTO BY BAILEY LITTLE

From left, Vicki Mincey, Lyn Kincaid, Dede Ashby and Natasha Parsons pose for a picture after completing a hole at the 39th Annual Ashe Shrine Club Golf Tournament on Sept. 20.

families, corporate sponsors and players.

Ken Blevins, who is a past

president of Ashe Shrine Club and director of the tournament, said the tournament and other

fundraisers are about having

SEE **GOLF** ON PAGE 4

State nears 200,000 COVID-19 cases, Ashe numbers stay steady

BY IAN TAYLOR

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ASHE COUNTY — According to AppHealthCare, there are 11 active cases of COVID-19 in Ashe County as of noon, Sept. 22, with a further 17 individuals being monitored.

A second death linked to COVID-19 was confirmed in Ashe Aug. 30, the first since May 26, according to AppHealthCare. In Watauga

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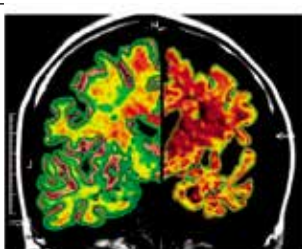


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