

Life & Style

The fabric of Bertie County since 1832

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Hoke Roberson Sr., a businessman in Bertie County for over 50 years, turned 100 years young Oct. 14. He celebrated his centurion milestone with family, and is pictured with J.W. "Russ" Russell and his favorite car, a teal Chevrolet.

Jacobs promoted

MILLINGTON, TENN. – Navy Chief Information Systems Technician Shannon Jacobs, from Windsor, was recently promoted to chief petty officer. Chief Jacobs is serving aboard USS Dwight D. Eisenhower. "Being selected for chief petty officer means the Navy sees and appreciates all the hard work and accomplishments of my sailors and me," said Jacobs.

Achieving the title of 'Navy Chief' is a major honor and milestone. According to Navy Personnel Command, there are only 8.5 percent of sailors currently serving at the chief petty officer rank.

"I would have to say my mentors, leadership and my sailors are the key in my selection," said Jacobs. "They have trusted me to complete the required work, my education, and recognition regardless of awards or a simple thank you."

During the ceremony, the honored sailors invite friends and family members to pin on the two gold anchors that adorn the new appointed chiefs' uniforms.

"I would have to thank my family," said Jacobs. "They helped me and encouraged me in every aspect. My husband is the truely the greatest."

Harvest, giving thanks

Moving into this season of harvest and giving thanks seems a good time to take stock of the fruits of our labor, those who have made them possible and all we have to be thankful for.

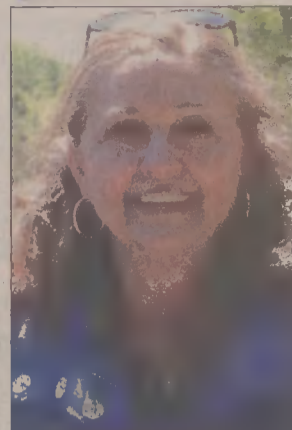
As we celebrate partnerships forged to grow and impact our Roanoke River Region, we feel grateful for what has been accomplished. Working together, we have developed a nationally-recognized paddle trail that draws a growing number of people from all across the country to our region.

Each year thousands of people make plans to come and experience our waterways and outdoor adventures, our small town charm and our tasty regional foods. Our visitors report seeing wildlife, beautiful crops in the fields and feeling welcome. Many experience unique sights and sounds and foods for the first time.

Our small businesses and our communities gain the much needed revenues these visitors bring. Each year we engage new partners that adopt this shared vision to develop and promote the natural and cultural assets of our region.

Over the past 20 years, there are many community leaders and advocates who have been a part of our development. Too many to name them all, but

Roanoke Buzz



Carol Shields

there are a few that we really should mention.

Among those who for many years have believed in and generously supported this regional development are: Anne Lunsford, Deane and Bailey Phelps, Heber Coltrain, and both Lucia Peel and Lucia Peel Powe. Each of these advocates has been instrumental in getting our organization through the tough times our region has faced over the last decade.

Special heartfelt thanks to Lucia Peel who has served as RRP chair for the past 12 years. We are so very grateful for all she has given!

As we move forward, we are grateful for the new leaders recently named to guide our organization. We welcome Mayor Charlotte Griffin as our new chair. Other newly elected RRP board members include: Dock Boone, Brent Lubbock, Doward Jones, Justin

Edwards, Mayor Jerry McCrary, Shelia Powell, Sarah Harris, and Jean Richter. We are excited about learning from and working with each of these new members to grow our impact!

Moving forward, we are excited about the growing support for renovating the old Colored School in Hamilton to serve as an important cultural addition to our Roanoke River Paddle Trail. We are collaborating to repurpose this historically significant building to be: a river/community center; an interpretive site for the region's Rosenwald School history; and a place to learn more about the Roanoke River's role in the Underground Railroad.

The opportunity for this historic school to connect visitors to our natural assets and to be a crossroads for experiencing both the Rosenwald and Underground Railroad history of our region is very inspiring.

We are very grateful to have the opportunity to "champion" this regional, North Carolina and American history!

As we develop support for this project, we invite those with artifacts, old books and papers or other items connected to this history to contact us. We welcome such donations along with your thoughts and ideas relative to this history and this development.

Of all the things we have to be grateful for, it is the people found throughout our region that we treasure the most. You are the reason we do what we do to bring favor to our region and we are grateful for ALL your support!

Carol Jones Shields is the Executive Director of Roanoke River Partners, Inc. You can contact her at (252) 798-3920 or director@roanokeriverpartners.org. Learn more about Roanoke River Partners at www.roanokeriverpartners.org.

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**MEDICARE OPEN ENROLLMENT PERIOD**

The time to check our current Medicare prescription (PDP) and Medicare Advantage plans is coming soon. This is the time to see if you need to make changes for 2018. All changes made during this time will be effective **January 01, 2018.**

Be sure to check your Annual Notice of Change for 2018 (ANOC).

**REMEMBER!**

**October 15, 2017 through December 07, 2017**

To find out more information, call Seniors' health Insurance Information Program (SHIIP) or your local SHIIP counselors at the Bertie County council On Aging.

Bertie County Council On Aging: (252) 794-5315

SHIIP: 1-855-408-1212

Call the office for an appointment.

Counselors will be available at the following sites on these dates:

**Aulander Nutrition Site:**  
Nov. 17, 2017 9 a.m. until

**Colerain Nutrition Site:**  
Nov. 14, 2017 9 a.m. until

**Kelford Nutrition Site:**  
Nov. 16, 2017 9 a.m. until