



What property is in 211 cross hairs? DOT says owners affected by widening will know next spring

By CATHARIN SHEPARD
Staff writer

While engineers have drawn up preliminary maps for where the widened N.C. 211 roadway might go between Raeford and

Aberdeen, property owners have to wait until next year to find out for sure if they'll have to move.

The final path that the four-lane road will take is still up for discussion and pending a number of

further steps, according to DOT public relations officer Aaron Moody.

"We won't know what properties will be impacted until a final route is selected. When that will be will depend on several factors,"

Moody said.

The right-of-way buyouts are scheduled to start in June 2020. Before that can happen DOT officials have to review feedback and other information gathered from public meetings,

where the public can take a look at possible route options.

The state also has to complete environmental documentation that won't be done until fall of 2019. The goal is to minimize

impact to residents and the environment, Moody said.

Residents of Hoke County can get a look at the route options and give their feedback to DOT at an upcoming meeting. (See *PROPERTY*, page 3)



STEM Camp

As one student flips a plastic egg from a catapult, another measures the trajectory at this week's Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Camp at West Hoke Middle School. Sixteen classes range from forensics to food chemistry. (Ken MacDonald photo composite)

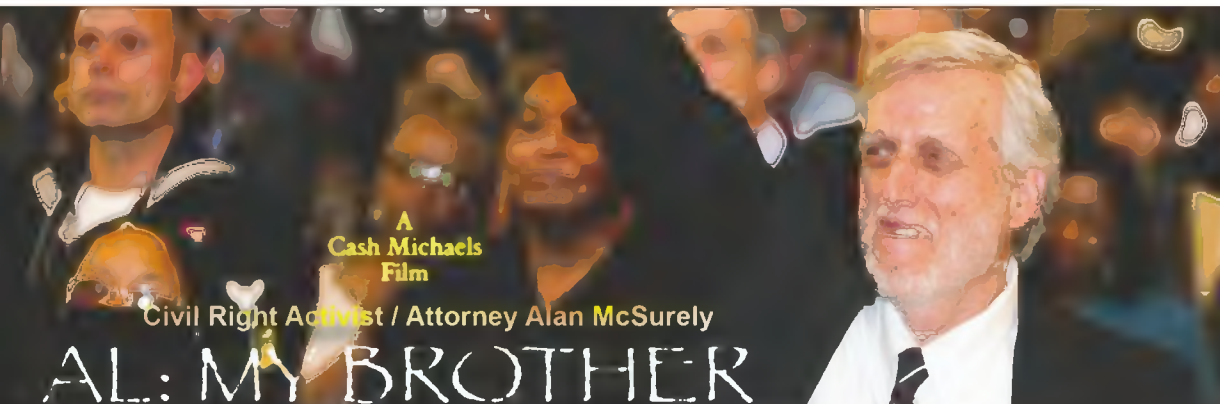
Hoke High's new offerings: drones to goats

By CATHARIN SHEPARD
Staff writer

Training students in cybersecurity and teaching teens to raise dairy goats are just a few of the new offerings coming this fall to Hoke County High School's Career and Technical Education (CTE) program.

New classes in digital fields will join the schedule for the 2019-2020 school year, along with some four-legged additions to the animal science programs. Younger students will be able to explore a variety of career-focused courses, too, with the CTE program expanding to offer computer science and technology classes at the county's three middle schools.

It's all part of ongoing efforts to prepare students for college, career and life, Hoke County (See *NEW COURSES*, page 8)



Al McSurely, featured in a new documentary entitled, "Al: My Brother."

NAACP sets unity march, hosts documentary, forum Saturday

The NAACP will hold a "Unity March," a showing of a documentary, a prayer vigil and a town hall meeting Saturday.

The man featured in the film "Al: My Brother," Al McSurely will be in attendance, as will the filmmaker.

The march, which will honor those slain in recent years in Hoke County, and their

families, will begin at 11:30 on Main Street in front of the IGA store and will continue up Main Street to the Hoke Library.

Ministers of the ministerial association, which represents a variety of local churches, will hold the prayer vigil, before the group will move to Turlington Auditorium.

There, at 12:30, the docu-

mentary will be shown. "Al: My Brother" is the true story of white civil rights activist/ attorney Alan McSurely, and his more than 50-years battle against racism and white supremacy.

"The movie shows the relationships between the local issues that people read about (See *UNITY*, page 8)



Go, go, go

Hoke County Red Head Coach Tony Carter, shows his excitement as Garrett Ellis #13 rounds third base on his way home. Hoke Red beat the Pirates at Hope Mills Municipal park last Tuesday, 13-2. (Photo by Ed Clemente)

OTHER STUFF

By KEN MACDONALD

The last time I had business at DMV was to get a motorcycle endorsement, a humiliating experience a few years ago that had me driving my Honda scooter around a parking lot obstacle course in the company of a few guys riding Harleys. (My automatic 150 handled it with ease, however, while the biker guys were struggling to keep their hogs upright at such slow speeds.)

On a Thursday recently, I returned to the office (See *OTHER STUFF*, page 3)

Filing opens for Raeford City Council July 5

By CATHARIN SHEPARD
Staff writer

The filing period for candidates interested in seeking election to the Raeford City Council will open July 5, according to the Hoke County Board of Elections.

Three seats on the city council are up for election this year. The three incumbents are Bobby Conoly, John Jordan and Mary Neil King. No candidates have yet announced their intention to run for a seat on the council.

The filing period will open at noon July 5 and continue until noon July 19. The Board of Elections has the paperwork available for persons interested in seeking one of the three seats.

City council members serve four-year terms and work with the mayor and city manager to govern local matters in Raeford, including setting policies and the city tax rate. The filing period for the city council election is held in the summer because the board is nonpartisan and the race does not require a partisan

primary election. Only Raeford residents who are registered to vote can cast a ballot in the council election.

The race is the only one scheduled for the local ballot this fall in the November General Election. Years ending in odd numbers are typically reserved for municipal elections that might otherwise be overshadowed during midterm or presidential election years.

Next year will see more local, state and national races on the ballot, (See *FILING*, page 3)