



## Medicaid expansion could bring millions \$11.1 million could trickle down to Hoke economy, says report

BY DIANE ADAME  
Intern

Expanding Medicaid in North Carolina could bring \$11.1 million more growth to Hoke County's economy from 2020 to 2022. That's the conclusion

of a report by researchers at The George Washington University. Statewide, Medicaid expansion would create more than 37,000 jobs and increase business activity by \$11.7 billion, according to a non-partisan analysis by the researchers.

Additionally, expanding Medicaid would insure approximately 365,000 more individuals.

The research was funded by the Cone Health Foundation and the Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust.

"I think what's really important

to me when thinking about this, it's a huge booster shot in the arm to the state economically," said Susan F. Shumaker, registered nurse and president of the Cone Health Foundation. "It's a big booster shot to rural and urban counties, so every one of the hun-

dred counties benefits."

The analysis is a brief update of a report released five years ago by the Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust. The research was also conducted by The George Washington University and examined the (See MEDICAID, page 10)



Renee Brown dishes up lunch at the soup kitchen. (Diane Adame photo)

## In new location, with more space soup kitchen expands services

BY DIANE ADAME  
Intern

The sounds of pots and pans clanking erupt throughout a blue house on Turnpike Road as volunteers prepare to feed approximately 150 people every afternoon.

Previously a day care center, this blue house now operates as the new location for The Hoke County Open Door Soup Kitchen. But since its

move, the soup kitchen has begun serving much more than hot meals.

"The amount of people that we serve, that has increased tremendously," said Bishop Al Anderson, founder. "The types of service that we render now, that also has changed because we are now doing intake with people from the SOAR (SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access and Recovery) program, which is a (See SOUP KITCHEN, page 8)

## Man arrested in teen's death

### Jon-Marvin 'Pa' Revels Jacobs was found dead by road

Detectives with the Hoke County Sheriff's Office arrested a suspect last week in connection with the death of 17-year-old Jon-Marvin 'Pa' Revels Jacobs, officials said.

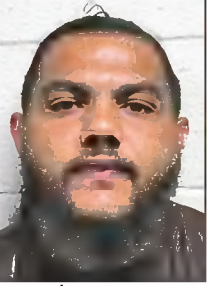
Jacobs, a Hoke High student from Shannon, was found dead January 19 on the side of Balfour Road near his home. A neighbor spotted him and called 911. Authorities report-

ed that Jacobs "suffered severe trauma to the upper portion of his body."

The Hoke County Sheriff's Office S.E.R.T. team and investigation division executed a death investigation search warrant on the 4500 block of Old Maxton Road in Red Springs last week, leading to the arrest of 25-year-old Dexterpaul Accy Lowery. Authori-

ties charged Lowery with one count of felony voluntary manslaughter.

Hoke County Sheriff Hubert Peterkin confirmed the arrest was (See ARREST, page 6)



## 'Is a chicken livestock or is a chicken a bird?' Answer could result in change to county's noise ordinance

BY CATHARIN SHEPARD  
Staff writer

A complaint over chickens could lead to changes in the Hoke County noise ordinance.

Retired veteran Donnie Henderson likes to raise chick-

ens on his four-acre property in the Reservation Road area of Ashley Heights. One of his neighbors must not be a fan of the chickens, Henderson told the Hoke County Board of Commissioners Monday night. "These chickens bring me a

great amount of joy. They get me off the couch and outside tending to them," he said. "The chickens provide us with eggs and the occasional Sunday dinner...homegrown chickens and eggs just taste better, and I (See NOISE, page 10)

## Nine chosen as 'Meritorious Men of Hoke'

The Hoke County Public Library honored nine men last week for their many years of contributions to the com-

munity by inducting them as the 2019 Meritorious Men of Hoke.

This year's class of hon-

orees includes businessmen, church pastors, educators, and others who have given back (See MERITORIOUS, page 5)



From left: Bruce Jacobs, Ricky Sandy, Adell Baldwin, Anthony Oxendine, Jimmy Maxwell, Kent Locklear, Bruce Hurst, Al Anderson and Cliff Overby. (Contributed photo)



### Unity march

Members of the NAACP hosted a unity march—in honor of slain Hoke young people—Saturday downtown in Raeford before viewing the documentary "Al: My Brother" at Turlington School. (Ken MacDonald photo)

## OTHER STUFF

BY KEN MACDONALD

As the summer sun cooks us like an Instant Pot, and the long days beckon us out at night, we are called to return to the nirvana of our youth. Which might be mixing metaphors for me, since my nirvana (Buddhist) was the Christian youth retreat at Montreat in the moun-

tains. Twenty teens enjoying spaghetti around the dinner table, fresh John Denver tunes, such as Thank God I'm A Country Boy, wafting through the air along with the fragrances of shampoo, probably Gee Your Hair Smells Terrific, from the girls, who had been fighting over the bathrooms to take their second (See OTHER STUFF, page 8)

Editor's Note: The image at the top of this week's front page is the winner in the Patriotic category of the OhSnap Photo Contest from 2017. The picture of her children and husband is by Ariane Owens.

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