

sync[®] NEWS & OPPORTUNITIES FROM N.C. COMMERCE



(Left-right) Gov. Cooper presents a symbol of the state's partnership to Baxter's Corporate Vice President for Operations Scott Pleau and Jon Rushford, Plant Manager for Baxter's North Cove facility in McDowell County.

Governor Cooper Travels to McDowell County for Two Job Announcements

Governor Roy Cooper traveled to McDowell County this morning to announce that Baxter International, a global healthcare company, is expanding investments in its North Cove manufacturing facility and plans to add 90 jobs. The company plans to invest more than \$7.4 million at its Marion facility in western North Carolina.

The governor also announced that Taylor Stave, a wood products manufacturer will expand in the county. Find details on that announcement nearby in this edition of SYNC.

"North Carolina leads the nation in biomanufacturing," **Governor Cooper** said. "We're pleased Baxter recognizes the many advantages our state offers their industry and welcome the decision for new investment in their manufacturing facility here."

Aproximately 100 people from across the region attended the mid-morning event at the company's plant, which has operated in the region since 1972. Baxter develops, manufactures, and



Governor Cooper congratulates Taylor Stave owner Rick Taylor at this morning's event announcing new jobs in McDowell County.

Wood Products Manufacturer Taylor Stave Will Expand in McDowell County

Taylor Stave, a wood products supplier located in Nebo will expand its manufacturing operations in McDowell County, adding 28 jobs over the coming three years, **Governor Roy Cooper** announced today. The governor personally delivered the news at an event this morning. The company plans to invest \$395,000 at its Nebo facility.

"North Carolina is the leading state in the southeast for manufacturing," **Governor Cooper** said. "Our workforce enjoys a reputation for hard-work and dedication, and we welcome the additional skilled jobs Taylor Stave is creating in McDowell County."

Taylor Stave manufacturers components for wood barrels that are used to age wine or whiskey. The company's expertise with American White Oak, a wood species valued by wine and spirits producers has led to increased demand for the company's products. Taylor Stave will hire production operators and technical staff with an annual payroll of \$872,000.

"North Carolina offers manufacturers of all

markets a broad portfolio of renal and hospital products, therapies and technologies. Baxter's facility in Marion produces products used throughout the United States and in 57 different countries around the world.

"Companies like Baxter Healthcare have discovered why North Carolina is a great location for their business," said **North Carolina Commerce Secretary Anthony M. Copeland**. "From our transportation and logistics networks to our high-quality workforce, our state offers everything a company needs to succeed." N.C. Commerce and the Economic Development Partnership of N.C. were instrumental in supporting the company's investment decision.

While compensation will vary by position, average salaries for the new jobs will be \$ 45,556, above the current average annual wage in McDowell County of \$33,057.

A performance-based grant of \$1,000,000 from the One North Carolina Fund will help facilitate Baxter's expansion in McDowell County.

"We are grateful for the support of county and state officials," said **Jon Rushford, Baxter's vice president of Operations, North Cove**. "Together we are investing and creating economic opportunity in our community that will support Baxter's commitment to making lifesaving and life-sustaining healthcare products."

In addition to [North Carolina Commerce](#) and the [Economic Development Partnership of N.C.](#), other key partners in the project were the [North Carolina General Assembly](#), the [North Carolina Community College System](#), [McDowell County](#), and the [McDowell County Economic Development Association](#).

[Read more.](#)



The Don Gibson Theatre in Shelby, site of the 2017 N.C. Main Street Awards ceremony.

Downtown Revitalization Projects Win Recognition

N.C. Commerce Secretary Anthony M. Copeland and Commerce's Executive Director of Economic Development Susan Fleetwood presented awards to 15 North Carolina Main

sizes the right ingredients for success," said **North Commerce Secretary Anthony M. Copeland**. "From the state's focus on workforce training to factors such as our transportation network, manufacturers serving many industries do well here."

N.C. Commerce and the Economic Development Partnership of N.C. led the state's response as the company searched for a business location for the expansion.

"Our products are in demand and used in more than 80 countries around the world," said **Rick Taylor, owner of Taylor Stave**. "This expansion will help us meet this demand globally and enable us to purchase White Oak logs locally, benefiting our local logging industry economy in a large way."

A performance-based grant of \$84,000 from the One North Carolina Fund will help facilitate Taylor Stave's expansion in Nebo. The One NC Fund provides financial assistance to support local government efforts to attract economic investment and create jobs. Companies receive no money upfront and must meet job creation and capital investment targets to qualify for payment. All One NC grants are contingent upon a local government match.

In addition to [North Carolina Commerce](#) and the [Economic Development Partnership of N.C.](#), other key partners in the project include the [North Carolina General Assembly](#), the [North Carolina Community College System](#), [McDowell County](#), and the [McDowell County Economic Development Association](#).

[Read more.](#)

Key Downtown Leaders Honored at N.C. Main Street Conference

Main Street Champions, individuals who work and advocate for downtown revitalization across the state were recognized for their commitment this morning at an awards ceremony breakfast in Shelby. Thirty-six individuals received honors for their contributions in 2016.

"Downtown districts are important economic engines in our state," said North Carolina Commerce Secretary Anthony M. Copeland. "The men and women we're recognizing today are the people who keep those engines running, generating prosperity for communities all across North Carolina."

"This year's Champions represent Main Street board members and volunteers, elected officials and city employees, developers, entrepreneurs, artists and leaders in the local food economy," said Liz Parham, director of the N.C. Main Street &

Street program participants on March 15. The N.C. Main Street Awards Ceremony, held at the Don Gibson Theatre in Shelby, recognized excellence in downtown revitalization in several categories including promotion, organization, design and economic vitality.

"We congratulate these outstanding communities for their leadership in downtown revitalization," said **Secretary Copeland**. "For 37 years, the North Carolina Main Street program has championed the principles of effective downtown development and these award winners now join the ranks of a long line of transformative projects across our state."

"These award winning communities have utilized their unique assets to develop programs that support the character of their community," said Liz Parham, director of the N.C. Main Street & Rural Planning Center, part of the North Carolina Department of Commerce. "The rehabilitation projects have brought new uses to our vacant buildings, resulting in job creation, downtown living and a significant private investment in our historic districts."

2016 N.C. MAIN STREET AWARDS

Small Town Main Street Award

PROMOTION

- Mayodan
Award of Merit - Hayodan

Main Street Awards

ORGANIZATION

Best Public-Private Partnership in Downtown Revitalization

- Concord
Award of Merit – Lofts 29
- Spruce Pine
Award of Merit – Spruce Pine Wayfinding Signage and Trail Marker Project

Best Fundraising Effort

- Cherryville
Award of Merit – Friends of Cherryville Fundraising Campaign

Best Volunteer Recruitment, Training and Recognition

- Hendersonville
Award of Merit – Downtown Hendersonville's "Friends of Downtown" Program

PROMOTION

Best Image-Building Campaign

- Rutherfordton
Award of Merit – Town of Rutherfordton Rebranding and Revitalization

ECONOMIC VITALITY

Best Adaptive Reuse Project

- Sanford

Rural Planning Center.

This year's group of Main Street Champions brings the total number to 639 since Champions were first named in 2000. Today, the Main Street Center celebrates its 37th anniversary as the state's leading resource in downtown revitalization.

2016 N.C. MAIN STREET CHAMPIONS

- Steve Pepitone, Belmont
- Leslie Loggeman, Brevard
- Andrew West, Cherryville
- Alfredo and Samantha DiPinto, Clinton
- Patrick Reilly, Concord
- Randy Hunt, Eden
- Gigi Sawyer, Edenton
- Ken Gulaian and Kari Heerdt, Elkin
- Stacey and Justin Conner, Forest City
- Mark Doble, Fuquay-Varina
- John Hodges, Garner
- Walt "Lance" Slagel, Hendersonville
- Brandon Shoaf, Hertford
- Tammy Panther, Hickory
- Glenda Wilson, Lenoir
- Tyler Prevatte, Lexington
- Erin Adams, Marion
- John Amon, Mooresville
- Bill Taylor, Morehead City
- Mike Crofts and Mike Fincher, Morganton
- Jill Towery, Newton
- The Public Works Team and Green - Thumbers, North Wilkesboro
- Clark and Susan Turner, Reidsville
- Stepheny Houghtlin, Rocky Mount
- Marji and Al Stehle, Roxboro
- Rutherfordton STEP Marketing Committee, Rutherfordton
- Brian Bystry, Sanford
- Spencer Borders, Shelby
- Daniel, Vickie and Anna Evans, Smithfield
- Beth Byerly, Spruce Pine
- Statesville Community Appearance Commission, Statesville
- Tryon Coffee House Co-op, Tryon
- Michael Johnson, Wake Forest
- Earl Cook, Waxhaw
- Waynesville Public Art Commission, Waynesville
- Wilbur Edwards, Williamston

Since 1980, The North Carolina Main Street program has generated \$2.5 billion in private and public investment. More than 22,400 cumulative NET new full-time and part-time jobs and 5,500 new businesses have been created in North Carolina Main Street districts since the program's inception.

More information about the North Carolina Main Street & Rural Planning Center and its programs is available online at nccommerce.com/MainStreet.

Award of Merit – Sanford Buggy Company

- Shelby
Award of Merit – Newgrass Brewing Company

Best Infill Building Project

- Concord
Award of Merit - New City Hall

Best Upper Floor Redevelopment

- Belmont
Award of Merit – Revival - 35 North Main

Best Business Retention, Expansion or Recruitment Effort

- Morganton
Award of Merit - Food Matters Market

DESIGN

Best Historic Rehabilitation Project

- Hickory
Award of Merit – Rehabilitation of Lyerly Full Fashioned Mill

Best Outdoor Space Improvement

- Bessemer City
Award of Merit - Centennial Park Revitalization Project
- Shelby
Award of Merit – City Pavilion

Best Public Building Improvement

- Lexington
Award of Merit – Davidson County Old Courthouse Rehabilitation

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Dr. John Hardin addresses guests attending the groundbreaking ceremony in Durham last Thursday (March 16).

Commerce Joins Celebration for DurhamID Project Groundbreaking

Dr. John Hardin, Executive Director of Commerce's Office of Science, Technology, & Innovation participated in a groundbreaking event with Durham Mayor Bill Bell and other officials for the Durham Innovation District, also known as DurhamID.

The event was held last Thursday, March 16.

In his remarks, Dr. Hardin congratulated participants on the new project and outlined Governor Cooper's plans to support the innovation economy in North Carolina, as recently revealed in the Governor's new budget proposal.

N.C. in the News

- [College hires leader for Biotechnology Center of Excellence](#) (*Triad Business Journal* - March 17)
- [In Historic Downtown Buildings, New Commercial Space Taking Shape](#) (*WilmingtonBiz* - March 17)
- [Statewide visitors arrive in Shelby for revitalization event](#) (*Shelby Star* - March 14)
- [Officials press for reopening of MillerCoors' N.C. brewery as condition of Anheuser-Busch merger](#) (*Triad Business Journal* - March 9)

About Us

SYNC is North Carolina Commerce's electronic newsletter for local government officials, private-sector allies, state policy makers, and other economic development leaders. We offer unfiltered details about new economic development projects and events, useful news about your peers, and opportunities to synchronize with statewide programs and tools in

order to advance economic development in your community. [Send your story ideas to the editor.](#)

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