

BUSINESS FOCUS

Briefs

Local agent up for award

Becky Scoggins, a Greensboro literary agent and managing partner of Bressler Scoggins Literary Management, has been named as a finalist for a prestigious international award which recognizes young women business leaders.

Scoggins is one of 25 worldwide finalists for the 2008 eWomenNetwork Foundation's Emerging Leader of the Year Award or Femtor Award, which is given to women who have proven themselves to be exemplary role models in the world of business. Scoggins has been nominated in the category of Emerging Leader of the Year. This award recognizes significant accomplishments in the areas of education, business, and service to community among the next generation - young women aged 20-29. The winner in this category will be announced at a ceremony in early July in Dallas, Texas.

Scoggins, along with partner Jordan Bressler, founded Bressler Scoggins Literary Management (BSLM) with the goal of promoting authors in their publishing endeavors as well as providing comprehensive management, marketing and public relations services. Success has come quickly to this entrepreneur with several well known clients already on board and literally hundreds of manuscripts coming in each month.

Hampton president inducted into business hall of fame

Hampton University President Dr. William R. Harvey was inducted into the Hampton Roads Business Hall of Fame on May 15 at the Norfolk Marriott, Norfolk, Va. Proceeds from this black-tie dinner and awards ceremony benefit Junior Achievement of Greater Hampton Roads.

Harvey was chosen because he demonstrates business excellence; courageous thinking and actions; visionary, innovative leadership; and community involvement. He has chosen career paths in both business and education. Harvey has been the president of Hampton University for 30 years and has also been 100 percent owner of a Pepsi-Cola Bottling plant in Houghton, Mich., for 25 years.

At the awards ceremony Harvey said, "People have asked, 'How do those two career paths mesh together?' Actually, they mesh together very well. Some 30 years ago, I talked about running a college or university as a business, for educational objectives. A lot of institutions are now talking about management techniques, outcomes, institutional effectiveness and results, and those are good things. Hampton has actually been practicing this kind of management and governance for 30 years."

Founded in 1985, the Hampton Roads Business Hall of Fame honors individuals whose business innovations, effective management and civic involvement have made a major impact and positive difference in companies and communities throughout Hampton Roads.

Thomas A. Barton, CEO of Beach Ford/Barton Ford, Lincoln Mercury; Macon F. Brock, chairman of the board of Dollar Tree Stores; and Herbert V. Kelly (posthumously) former president and senior partner, Jones, Blechman, Woltz and Kelly, were also inducted into the business hall of fame. Harvey was asked by the Kelly family to introduce the renowned attorney at the awards ceremony.

Law firm gives staff free gas

Constangy, Brooks & Smith, a law firm that specializes in labor and employment, handed out \$300 gas cards to its employees just before Memorial Day. The firm has 14 offices nationwide, including one in Winston-Salem. Workers at all of its offices got cards. In all, \$30,000 worth of cards were given out.

With gas prices surging and many of our employees already in metropolitan areas dealing with long commutes, employees really begin to feel the pinch. With Memorial Day and upcoming summer holidays right around the corner, Constangy wanted to show our support for our employees and their families by offering the gas cards to help with summer travel," said Randy Loftis, head of Constangy's Winston-Salem office.

New leader for Greensboro United Way

The United Way of Greater Greensboro announced recently that Keith Barsuhn has been named president and CEO. Barsuhn, 47, brings 24 years of United Way experience, most recently serving as President of United Way of Greater Stark County in Canton, Ohio, for the past four years.

From 1991 to 2000, Barsuhn served as the Vice President of Campaign and Donor Relations with the United Way of Central Ohio in Columbus. During those 10 years, United Way increased its annual campaign from \$33 million to \$51 million and became the number one United Way campaign in the nation, as measured by per capita from a major city.

Barsuhn has a track record of success in leading strategic plans and campaigns that position United Way as an expert in addressing the community's most critical needs. He has been successful in building relationships with a number of key community leaders, including individual donors, and business, government, foundation and agency leaders.

Barsuhn, who will assume his new post on July 1, was selected after a national search.

Caldwell again shatters glass ceiling

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Lisa J. Caldwell has been promoted to executive vice president of human resources for both Reynolds American Inc. and its largest subsidiary, R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company.

Caldwell is currently senior vice president of human resources of Reynolds American and R.J. Reynolds Tobacco. She made history in that role by becoming the first African-American woman in the company's history to serve on the top-tier leadership team. With the promotion, Caldwell is the company's highest-ranking African-American and reports directly to Susan M Ivey, chairman and chief executive officer of Reynolds American.

"Lisa is a seasoned profession-

She will soon become Reynolds American's executive VP

al who brings tremendous insight and passion to her role in the company," said Ivey. "RAI's operating companies have two main assets: strong brands and strong people. Lisa will play a leadership role in setting strategies that attract, develop and retain the employees who will

lead our companies in the future."

Caldwell joined R. J. Reynolds Tobacco in 1991 as manager of employment practices. Over the last 15 years, she has steadfastly worked her way up the corporate ladder. By 1996, she was director of Human Resources, and became VP of Human Resources six years later. She worked at Womble Carlyle and West and Banks law firms before joining the R.J. Reynolds family.

Caldwell holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a juris doctorate degree from Wake

Forest University School of Law. The Burlington native was the first female in Alamance County to be named a UNC Morehead Scholar.

Caldwell is replacing Ann A. Johnston as the executive vice president of human resources. Johnston is retiring on June 30 after 20 years of service. Caldwell officially assumes the new role on June 1.

Caldwell is married to Alan Caldwell, who also works for Reynolds American. The couple has two children: Lauren and Tyler, who is currently a student at UNC. The Caldwells are active members of United Metropolitan Missionary Baptist Church, where Lisa Caldwell sings on the Senior Choir.



Lisa Caldwell



From left, N.C. Cooperative Extension Administrator Dr. M. Ray McKinnie, Scholarship Donor April Bowman, Award Winner Carolyn Stanley Barnes, N.C. Cooperative Extension Foundation's Sharon Runion Rowland and Dr. Jon Ort, right, associate director of the extension.

County employees with years of service honored

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Members of the North Carolina Cooperative Extension's Forsyth County Center recently received awards at the Extension's Regional Extension Conference.

Staff members that were honored for their years of service were: Toby Bost, a horticulture extension agent who has served for more than 30 years; Rocio Sedo, an expanded food and nutrition education program associate with 10 years of service; and Mark Tucker, the county extension director who has 20 years of service.

April Bowman, the local center's 4-H youth development agent was awarded with the Carolyn Stanley Barnes and George Edward Barnes 4-H Graduate Education Scholarship, which goes to North Carolina Cooperative Extension employees who aspire to enhance their professional development through graduate education. Bowman is



Awardees Toby Bost, Rocio Sedo and Mark Tucker.

enrolled in the Master's of Science in Curriculum and Instruction program at North Carolina State University and will use the scholarship to help cover the costs of her graduate courses.

The Cooperative Extension is the outreach arm of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at N.C. State University and the School of Agriculture at N.C. A&T State University. The local center is a department of Forsyth

County Government, and its employees are county agents, professors, scientists and volunteers working together to improve the quality of life in Forsyth County and in North Carolina. Some of the components of N.C. Cooperative Extension's mission are sustaining agriculture and forestry, protecting the environment and developing responsible youth and strong, healthy and safe families.

Big Brothers will benefit from Arby's campaign

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Arby's restaurants across the nation are taking part in an effort to raise money and awareness for youth-mentoring programs.

From now through June 30, customers who visit Arby's restaurants in Winston-Salem may donate \$1 and sign a "Help Us Help Kids" pin-up to hang on the wall of the restaurant. Money raised will support Big Brothers Big Sisters Services, Inc. Last year, Arby's raised more than \$1.6 million nationwide through its pin-up campaign.

Atlanta-based Arby's Restaurant Group, Inc., is a subsidiary of Triarc Companies, Inc., the franchisor of the Arby's restaurant system, which consists of approximately 3,700 restaurants worldwide. Triarc, itself, is owner and operator of more than 1,100 of those restaurants. Founded in 1964, Arby's specializes in offering slow roasted and freshly sliced roast beef sandwiches as well as its Market Fresh deli-style sandwiches, toasted subs, wraps and salads.

"We've always believed in the power of giving back to the communities that we serve," said Greg Hawkins, Sr. Vice President of Community Partnerships, Arby's Restaurant Group, Inc. "Arby's is proud to support Big Brothers Big



Young Big Brothers Big Sisters participants take part in a 2007 Arby's promotion.

Sisters in their mission to serve children in need with one-to-one mentors."

Big Brothers Big Sisters is the nation's oldest, largest youth mentoring organization. It has been the leader in one-to-one youth service for

more than a century, developing positive relationships that have a direct and lasting impact on the lives of young people. Big Brothers Big Sisters mentors children, ages 6 through 18, in communities across the country.



Nagatha Tonkins

A&T's Tonkins to be honored by NABJ

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The National Association of Black Journalists (NABJ) will recognize Nagatha Tonkins, an assistant professor/internship director in the department of journalism and mass communication at North Carolina A&T State University, at its Hall of Fame banquet July 23-27 in Chicago.

Tonkins will be recognized as the organization's Journalism Educator of the Year. Others to be honored include Sidney Wright IV of Florida A&M University as Student Journalist of the Year and Evelyn Cunningham, formerly of the Pittsburgh Courier, as the recipient of the association's Legacy Award.

The NABJ Hall of Fame Awards recognizes black journalists who have made outstanding contributions to the journalism profession. Past inductees include Ida B. Wells, W.E.B. Dubois, John H. Johnson and Charlayne Hunter Gault. Last year's class consisted of Xernona Clayton-Brady, Mary Aubespin, John L. Dotson Jr., and Jim Vance.

The NABJ Hall of Fame banquet will take place in conjunction with the UNITY: Journalists of Color Convention.