

BUSINESS FOCUS

Briefs

Belk Foundation gives grant to Saint Augustine's College

The Belk Foundation awarded a \$100,000 grant to Saint Augustine's College in Raleigh for a new career center to be located on its campus at Goold Hall, which is also the student union.

The Belk Career Centers is part of a larger \$3.4 million renovation project at Goold Hall. Through the state-of-the-art Belk Career Center, students will receive increased access to face-to-face career services. The expanded offerings will include career development workshops, individual resume and cover letter critiques and practice interview sessions.

"The Belk Foundation is pleased to announce this grant to help fund a new career center for Saint Augustine's," said Paul Wyche, trustee of The Belk Foundation. "We believe the new center will be a tremendous asset to the students by providing support and help as they plan their transition from college to careers and jobs in today's competitive workplace."

"The services and workshops offered through the new Belk Career Center will give our students and the community members who take advantage of these programs a competitive edge in the business world," said Dianne Boardley Suber, president of Saint Augustine's College. "The College is excited to embark on this renovation project, and we thank the Belk Foundation for its contribution."

The project is slated to be completed by spring 2008.

Truliant's Padgett takes home Mark of Excellence Award

Clyde Padgett, who serves on the board of directors at Truliant Federal Credit Union, won the prestigious Mark of Excellence Award at the 73rd annual meeting of the North Carolina Credit Union League (NCCUL) held in June.

Padgett received the award, one of the highest honors bestowed to credit union people in North Carolina, in a special awards ceremony.

The Mark of Excellence Award was established as a means of recognizing "sustained leadership. Eligibility is limited to past recipients of the Ronald J. Hutchins Credit Union Volunteer Person of the Year Award with 25 or more years of service in the credit union industry. A committee made up of statewide credit union leaders selected Padgett to receive the award.

Padgett has been a member of the credit union for 52 years, and has served on the board of directors since 1984. He served as Truliant's chairman from 1986 until 2003, presiding over dramatic growth and developing several innovative plans and processes for the credit union.

Padgett has been very active in the credit union movement on the state and national level. He has served as a director of the Carolinas Credit Union Foundation, as well as participated in many committees for the NCCUL and the Credit Union National Association. He is also active in the Winston-Salem community, serving in a variety of roles for organizations such as the Chamber of Commerce, United Way and the Arts Council.

Pressley Ridgill is new NewBridge Bancorp leader

Pressley A. Ridgill is the new Chief Executive Officer of NewBridge Bancorp, the Board of Directors announced last week. He replaces Robert F. Lowe, who retired as CEO on June 30. Ridgill has held the title of president of NewBridge Bancorp and president and CEO of NewBridge Bank since 2007. He now becomes president and CEO of NewBridge Bancorp. Lowe will remain Chairman of both NewBridge Bancorp and NewBridge Bank.

Barry Z. Dodson, vice chairman of the board and lead independent director, said, "Pressley Ridgill has demonstrated outstanding leadership with the successful merger of the two legacy banks in 2007 and is well suited to lead a more streamlined, customer-focused organization toward future earnings growth. He is a proven industry leader and a highly experienced and respected operating executive who played a major role in the strategy and implementation of the merger. Pressley will continue to strengthen and build our culture based on employee teamwork, customer relationships and operational efficiency to generate additional shareholder value."

A native of Manning, S.C., Ridgill earned a Master of Accountancy degree and Bachelor of Science in Business Administration degree from the University of South Carolina. Additionally, he graduated from a three-year advanced banking program through the Graduate School of Banking of the South at Louisiana State University.

Stackhouse picked to lead Legal Aid

The Hampton alumnae has a long history with the agency

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

The Winston-Salem office of Legal Aid of North Carolina (LANC) has a new managing attorney.

Yvette Stackhouse was appointed to the position last week, after serving as the agency's interim managing attorney since October 2007.

In her new position, Stackhouse will manage all aspects of the LANC law practice in the Winston-Salem area and supervise a staff of 26-member staff, including 12 attorneys and

nine paralegals.

LANC is a statewide nonprofit law firm that provides free legal services in civil matters to eligible, low-income residents. It serves all 100 of North Carolina's counties through 24 geographically located offices across the state. The LANC-Winston-Salem Office serves Forsyth, Davie, Iredell, Surry, Stokes and Yadkin counties.

Stackhouse is already making plans to enhance the agency's mission and community education efforts.

"I want our office to be an intricate part of the Winston-Salem community by providing more community education to our low-income residents about legal issues concerning their rights," Stackhouse said.

A 1980 graduate of Hampton



Yvette Stackhouse

University, Stackhouse received her law degree from the T.C.

Williams School of Law at the University of Richmond in 1993. She began her work with LANC as a law clerk. After working off and on for the law firm for several years, she became a staff attorney in 2000. In 2004, Stackhouse became a supervising attorney for the public benefits unit of the Winston-Salem office.

Stackhouse is a member of the NC Academy of Trial Lawyers, NC Bar Association, Forsyth County Bar Association and the Winston-Salem Bar Association. She is also a board member of Experiment in Self-Reliance (ESR), a local nonprofit agency that helps low-income citizens receive jobs and permanent housing. In addition, she is a member of the 2007 class of Leadership Winston-Salem.



The new Northwest Forsyth Center will open next week.

FTCC to open new job training building

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Tomorrow's public safety officers are expected to be trained at a new facility that Forsyth Technical Community College will open next week in King.

The Northwest Forsyth Center, which is at 3111 Big Oaks Drive in King, will house training programs for police, fire and emergency rescue technicians, beginning in the fall. The building will also offer classes in general education, certified nursing assistance and industrial technology.

A ribbon-cutting is slated for Friday, July 18. U.S. Sen. Richard Burr is expected to give the featured address.

As the name suggests, the two-story, 40,000 sq. ft. brick and block building is tucked in the northwest corner of Forsyth County. It was designed by the local architectural firm of Ersoy, Brake, Appleyard Associates and sits on 52 acres, enough space to accommodate additional classroom buildings in the future. The design and construction costs amounted to \$7.7 million, which were financed with state bond funds.

Among the state-of-the-art facilities is a suite of four furnished rooms that will be used to simulate crime scenes. The living room, bedroom, bathroom and kitchen will also be used by fire and rescue students learning to safely transport victims and patients.

Another feature is an Emergency Medical Science lab into which an ambulance can be driven. A wireless camera will project the actions of the students in the ambulance onto a large screen. Basic Law Enforcement students, as well as officers in the field, will have use of a soft room, with its floor and walls covered with mats, for such classes as weapons training, and a weight room, for physical strength training.

"It's a modern design that will accommodate expansion," said Ken Jarvis, Manager of Facilities and Construction for Forsyth Tech. "It will be possible to add onto the wings of the building."

A new fire training center is also planned for the site in the near future. Jarvis said the master plan for the college calls for one or two additional buildings at a later time.

When it opens to students in August, the Northwest Forsyth Center will provide space for Forsyth Tech's Public Service Technologies programs including Basic Law Enforcement, Criminal Justice, Emergency Medical Science, Emergency Preparedness, and Fire Protection. General Education, Certified Nursing Assistance and Industrial System Technology programs will also be housed in the center.

The ribbon-cutting ceremony will provide invited guests with the opportunity to tour the building. An open house for the general public will be held at a later date.



Burr

Help arrives for aspiring businessowners

WSSU will use grant to jump start small businesses

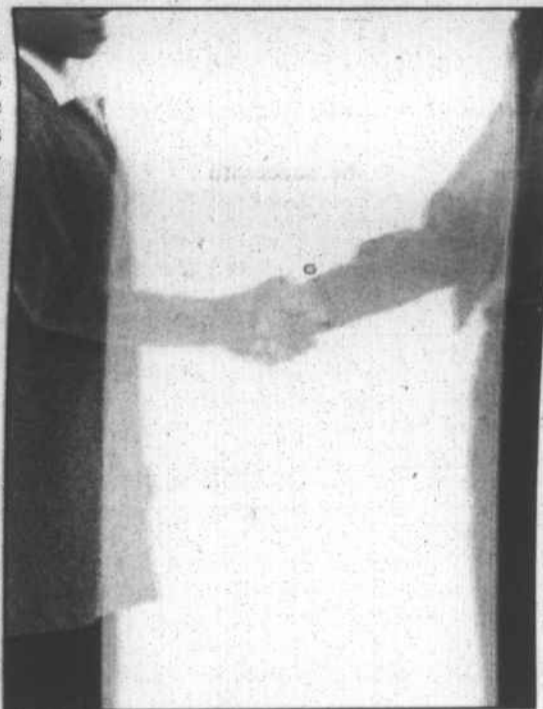
SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Winston-Salem State University (WSSU) has received a \$50,000 DataMax Foundation matching grant to stimulate regional economic development by providing free entrepreneurship and credit counseling for any area resident planning to start or who currently owns a small-business.

Through WSSU's two new Centers for Entrepreneurship (CFE) and Excellence in Financial Services (CEFS) the grant funds will be fully invested in the community, and matched with another \$50,000 of in-kind contribution by WSSU professors, students, and professional staff. Most of the contribution will be provided in the form of faculty expertise in delivering financial literacy programs and entrepreneurship support, along with student and staff assistance in facilitating and mentoring participants. The service will be available to any Forsyth County resident according to Dr. Notis Pagiavlas, WSSU associate professor of marketing and coordinator of the grant.

"The project requires an infrastructure with long-term viability to match the typical timeline of entrepreneurial creation and incubation," Pagiavlas noted. "The DataMax funds will be used to prepare and maintain a home base facility for outreach activities in downtown Winston-Salem, where access and support are primarily and urgently needed."

Later, in the same location or nearby, fully operational turn-key incubators will be available to program participants with the highest potential for success and impact in the region. The CFE, the CEFS, the Small Business Technology Development Center (SBTDC), and the S.G. Atkins Community Development Corporation (CDC) at WSSU will collaborate in designing and delivering a series of educational programs that



See Businesses on A9

U.S. Chamber expresses excitement about new SBA leader

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce last week welcomed President George W. Bush's nomination of Sandy K. Baruah (Bah-roo-ah) as Administrator of the Small Business Administration (SBA).

"The President's quick action to nominate such a qualified leader to head the SBA illustrates his dedication to small businesses across the country," said the U.S. Chamber's President and CEO Tom Donohue. "Sandy's knowledge is deep and his dedication is strong when it comes to supporting America's small businesses. We hope the Senate will act just as expeditiously in confirming this appointment."

Baruah, an Indian American, was previously nominated by President Bush — and confirmed by the Senate — as the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development. In that role, Baruah led and managed the U.S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration, the domestic economic development arm of the Commerce Department. The mission of EDA is to lead the



Sandy K. Baruah speaks at a convention.

federal economic development agenda by promoting innovation and competitiveness, preparing American regions for growth and success in the worldwide economy. EDA's annual investment budget for fiscal year 2006 is over \$200

million and the bureau has an investment portfolio under active management of \$1.5 billion. In addition to its headquarters in Washington, D.C., EDA has six regional offices across the nation with 175 professional employees.

He has served the Bush Administration since 2001. Prior to joining President Bush's team at the Commerce Department, he spent seven years with Portland, Oregon-based corporate management consulting firm Performance Consulting Group. As a business consultant, he worked on engagements with clients such as Walt Disney World, Intel, Key Bank, Citizens Bank and others.

"Like the President, Sandy understands that small businesses are the backbone of the American economy," Donohue said. "While small businesses are out on the front lines in fighting off an economic downturn, it's important they have a leader in Washington who understands their challenges."

The U.S. Chamber is the world's largest business federation representing more than 3 million businesses and organizations of every size, sector, and region.