



BCC Mail Manager Cited
Brunswick Community College Mail Manager Tom O'Brien (right) has received a commendation and certificate of appreciation from the U.S. Postal Service, presented by Supply Postmaster Norman L. Rachels. O'Brien was cited for setting an excellent example and encouraging BCC staff to take advantage of various cost savings available. Among other cost-cutting efforts, a change in the college's business reply mail reduced the cost per piece returned from 69 cents to 31 cents. O'Brien has been employed at BCC for three years.

Committees Are Hard At Work

BY BILL DEARMAN, EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT
South Brunswick Islands Chamber Of Commerce

Last week I began a series of columns on your chamber's 1993 Program of Work. This week I will be taking a look at the work of the Community Development Division. The activities of this area of the chamber are under the able leadership of Percy Woodard. The committees that come under this division are:

- Governmental Liaison, chaired by Annette Odom. This committee has the responsibility of working with local, state, and federal governments and hosting a yearly breakfast meeting with our county commissioners. This is an informal meeting that allows for a free flow of information between members of the commission and chamber board members. A similar breakfast meeting is held with the council members of the different cities in our service area.
- In addition we will join with the chambers of Eastern North Carolina to sponsor a legislative reception in Raleigh sometime this year. On Thursday, Feb. 18, we will hold our annual Legislative Forum. This will give our members the opportunity to hear from our local legislative delegation and to have questions answered on legislative matters important to the community.
- Finally this committee is responsible for working with a variety of state departments to assure the interests of the South Brunswick Islands area are addressed.
- Education, chaired by Anne Marie Bellamy this year. Projects in the planning stage for this year include scheduling meetings with the county superintendent of education and the president of Brunswick Community College to ascertain some of their needs and determine areas where the chamber may be of service. In addition the committee will continue to work with the schools to see that the Junior Achievement program is continued. Furthermore, the committee will investigate ways to recognize students for outstanding accomplishments. Lastly the committee will work with local middle and high schools on some type of career day program.
- Transportation, chaired by Dean Walters, will do an assessment of local transportation needs. The committee will then work with local and state officials to see how these needs can best be met. Also the committee will continue to monitor the construction of U.S. 17, and at the N.C. 130 and U.S. 17 intersection.
- Health Services, chaired by Earl Tamar this year. This committee will meet with hospital officials and other health providers in the area to discuss local needs. Also the committee will work to help promote local health services and aid in establishing a health services speakers' bureau.

This division has a full agenda for the year, one that will keep its committee busy on some very important issues that are important to our area. If your firm is a member of the chamber, we want you involved in this important work. If you are not a member and want to become involved, please give me a call. Together we can make great things happen in southern Brunswick County.



DEARMAN

CP&L Will Pay \$225,000 Penalty For Delays In Reacting To Problem

Carolina Power & Light plans to pay a \$225,000 fine levied by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission last week for a violation at the Brunswick Nuclear Plant that went uncorrected for nearly five years after the problem was first noticed.

Last April CP&L shut down both reactors at its Brunswick Plant, declaring its emergency generators inoperable. The move came after the utility determined that bolts in the masonry walls of the emergency generator building had not been installed properly during construction in the 1970s. Some bolts were never installed and in other cases partial fake bolts were discovered. The bolts are required to help the building withstand an earthquake.

The building houses generators that would be used to provide power to the plant if electricity is lost from off-site sources.

CP&L began a massive improvement and repair program last year and has submitted to the NRC its long-term plans for improving operations, including its corrective action program.

The NRC found that though CP&L had been aware a problem existed relating to the bolts as early as February 1987, it took no corrective action until prompted by the NRC last year. The base civil penalty for the violation was \$50,000, but the NRC upped the fine by 350 percent. It cited the continuing nature of the violation, that CP&L had had opportunity to identify the problem earlier and did not, the plant's history of fines and its poor performance.

Violations at the plant have resulted in four other penalties since August 1990. Last July the plant was placed on the NRC's watchlist of the worst-run nuclear plants in the country.

Since then one plant has come off the list; the NRC announced earlier this month that Brunswick will remain on the list for at least another five months. The plant has not returned to operation since making the list.

In a letter to CP&L officials, Stewart D. Ebneter, the NRC's regional administrator, said the fine was proposed because the situation involved "a significant breakdown" in the utility's corrective action program.

On Feb. 13, 1987, a plant engineer identified and documented in a memo that certain bolts were not installed adequately. The NRC further notes that "it appears two additional requests were made for technical support regarding this deficiency in April 1988 and September 1989."

Calculations were not made until 1990 to determine if the walls met standards. However, during an inspection in April 1992, an NRC team challenged the calculations regarding the adequacy of the bolts. CP&L found that its previous calculations were in error because they assumed more bolts were installed than were actually present.

CP&L Spokesman Elizabeth Bean said CP&L will pay the civil penalty.



School Gets Check
Shallotte Burger King Manager Kathy McNeill (right) presents Shallotte Middle School Principal Mark Owens a check for \$182,460, proceeds of a booster night held Feb. 9. The sum represents 20 percent of sales generated during the three-hour promotion.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Stanley Chosen For Institute

Sheryl Stanley, a registered nurse on the staff of The Brunswick Hospital, is one of 60 registered nurses across North Carolina selected to participate in the Institute for Nursing Excellence 1993.

The Institute will be conducted May 17-21 at the Aqueduct Conference Center in Chapel Hill.

A program of the North Carolina Legislative Study Commission on Nursing, the Institute recognizes outstanding staff nurses for excellence in direct patient care, teamwork and leadership skills. The aim of its personal and professional education program is renewal and retention in the nursing profession through a variety of learning experiences.

All full-time staff nurses in the state were eligible to apply for the Institute. Stanley was nominated by her supervisors, colleagues and patients. She was The Brunswick Hospital's January employee of the month and its 1992 Registered Nurse of the Year.



STANLEY

Hospital's February employee of the month.

A coworker nomination's stated, "Clara does her job very, very well. The patients enjoy having her as their personal nurse because she is very easy to work with. We all love working with her."

Smith received a rosebud corsage, a complimentary meal and a cash prize.

An employee of The Brunswick Hospital for two years, she was named "1992 L.P.N. of the Year" during National Nurses' Week last May.

Promoted By Bank

The daughter of an Ash couple has been promoted to vice president at Southern National Bank.

Helen Ward Stevens, who joined Southern National as a management trainee in 1984, is a commercial lender at the main office on South College Road in Wilmington.

A 1980 graduate of West Brunswick High School, she is the daughter of Wilber and Ruth Ward of Ash.

Stevens holds a master of business administration degree from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington, where she also graduated with a bachelor's degree in business in 1984.

She was a dean's list student and the recipient of the Lower Cape Fear Marketing and Sales Scholarship.

She is a member of the N.C. Junior Sorority and the New Hanover County chapter of the American Institute of Banking, where she is an instructor.



STEVENS

Starting A Business

"How to Really Start a Small Business" is the focus of a seminar offered by the Small Business Center of Brunswick Community College Thursday, Feb. 25, from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. in the ALS Building on the main campus.

The seminar is based on a videotape produced by Inc. magazine in conjunction with the Small Business Administration. Facilitating the seminar will be business counselors from the Wilmington chapter of SCORE, Service Corps of Retired Executives.

Material will cover the 10 basic steps in starting a business, with a workbook and other aids provided to help participants plan and evaluate their own business start-up program.

Pre-register by calling the Small Business Center at 754-6900, 457-6329 or 343-0203. A \$15 fee will be charged for materials.

Smith Cited

Clara Smith, a licensed practical nurse on the medical-surgical unit, has been chosen as The Brunswick

BCC Job Fair To Link Employers With Prospects

More than a dozen exhibitors have already signed up for "Job Fair '93" at Brunswick Community College Tuesday, March 2, and more are being sought.

Job Fair Coordinator Bea Haik said any employer who is seeking help, whether seasonal or year-round, is invited to participate at no charge.

"It will be a convenient way for an employer to meet many qualified candidates for open positions or anticipated hiring," she said.

The deadline to sign up is Friday, Feb. 19. Each participating company is provided a 10-foot by 10-foot exhibit area in the BCC Student Center.

Businesses already registered span the food service, resort and hospitality industries, real estate, health care, insurance, apparel manufacturing, military service and banking.

"Job Fair '93: Building Your Future" will be open to the public from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. March 2.

For more information, contact Bea Haik at BCC, 754-6900, 457-6329 or 343-0203.

Construction In Brunswick Topped \$1.1 Million In January

Permits were issued for more than \$1.1 million worth of new construction in Brunswick County last month, including 51 permits for mobile homes and 13 for other single-family dwellings built at a total estimated cost of \$1,172,610.

According to figures compiled by the Brunswick County Planning Department, one permit was issued for commercial construction valued at \$33,792, along with four permits for \$18,324 worth of additions, five for garages valued at \$50,776 and three for decks or porches valued at \$7,260.

There were a total of 281 permits issued, including 91 for building, 98 electrical, 13 plumbing and 36 mechanical.

Licensure Prep Class Scheduled

A building contractor's licensure preparation course begins Monday, Feb. 22, at Brunswick Community College, taught by Sam Carteret.

The class will meet Mondays and Tuesdays from 6:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. Cost is \$35, payable at the first class meeting. North Carolina residents age 65 and older may register at no charge. Students are asked to bring a Southeastern Building Code Book with them.

This course is recommended for anyone interested in preparing to take the state building contractor's exam June 1-3.

For more information contact Perry Hall, a BCC continuing education coordinator, at 754-6900, 457-6329 or 343-0203.

Friday Breakfast Kicks Off County Tech Prep Planning

A Feb. 19 breakfast will kick off planning by representatives of Brunswick Community College, Brunswick County Schools and local industry and business for a local Tech Prep project.

Tech Prep is a program in which the public schools, community college and local business and industry collaborate to teach technology-related skills in a new, more focused way that better equips students to move into the labor force as skilled workers.

Elements of the program include aligning core courses at the high school with related community college degree programs. Eighth grades



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