

Education Is Important To Growth, Development

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

Last week I attended the annual meeting of the Southern Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives in Atlanta, Georgia. This is the oldest organization of its type in the United States. This year Southern is 85 years old and still going strong. One of the major topics at this year's meeting was education. Each year education takes on more and more importance as global competition intensifies.



DEARMAN

The following information is taken in part or in whole from *Making Connections*, published by the Southern Growth Policies Board. The rate of unemployment rises as the percent of the population with less than eight years of school grows. In 1985, in areas where the illiteracy rate—those with eight years of school or less—is below 14 percent of the population, the unemployment was less than 4 percent. Unemployment rose to between 8 and 10 percent when the illiteracy rate reached 26.9 percent. When the illiteracy rate reached 41.3 percent, the unemployment went over 16 percent.

Not only does the illiteracy rate track the unemployment rate, it also tracks the employment growth rate, the annual income growth rate and the per capita income. Taking the two extremes, in the '83 non-metro counties in the South with an illiteracy rate of 24 percent or less, the annual growth rate was 2.81 percent between 1977 and 1985. The annual income growth rate was 3.43 percent from 1980 to 1985, and the per capita income in 1985 was \$9,245.

In the 118 non-metro counties in the South where the illiteracy rate was more than 42 percent, the annual employment growth rate between 1977 and 1984 was 1.34 percent. The annual income growth from 1980 to 1985 was 0.66 percent, and the per capita income in 1985 was \$6,466.

In other words, the annual employment growth rate was more than twice as great in counties where the illiteracy rate was below 24 percent. The annual income growth rate was three times greater in those counties with illiteracy rates below 24 percent, and the per capita income in 1985 was almost \$3,000 more in these counties.

Education will continue to be important to the growth and development of Brunswick County. It is up to each of us as parents and citizens of this county to give our school system our full support. They need our help as they move forward with new programs such as Tech Prep and others to improve and enhance the education opportunities for our children.

Twenty years ago when you asked a developer what the chief ingredient for development was he would say location, location, location. Today you will hear EDUCATION, EDUCATION, EDUCATION.

South Claims Overall Honors At BCC Business Contest

South Brunswick High School collected two first-place awards, four second places and two third places to receive the overall school award April 27 at the 1993 Brunswick Community College Business-Data Processing Contest.

The school trophy was presented by BCC President W. Michael Reaves. Other awards were presented by Joyce Hewett, BCC director of business programs. Making brief remarks to the contestants was William Furless, vocational education director for the Brunswick County Schools.

Students from all three county high schools competed in up to five categories: computerized accounting, BASIC computer programming, beginning keyboarding, software applications, office simulation and recordkeeping.

Winners in each category were as follows:

Computerized Accounting: Crystal Baker, first, North; Melissa Thomas, second, North; and Natalie Bellamy, third, West;

Keyboarding: Gretchen Sturdivant, first, West; Bathsheba Walker, second, South; and Shelly Long, third, North;



BCC PHOTO BY ANNE MARIE BELLAMY

ATHELIA MOORE, Crystal Baker and Melissa Thomas were among the North Brunswick High School students to place in the 1993 BCC Business-Data Processing Contest.

Software Applications: Athelia Moore, first, North; Amy Sawyer, second, South; and Thelma Osborne, third, South;

BASIC Computer Programming: Larry West, first; Martha Daniels, second; and Scott Langdon, third, all from South;

Recordkeeping: Tanya Holmes, first, South; Christie Worden, second, South; and Kyna Bryant, third, West.

Small Businesses Will Be Honored Tuesday At Awards Banquet

Awards in seven categories will be presented to Brunswick County businesses Tuesday, May 11, at the Small Business Awards Banquet.

The banquet is an annual event held during National Small Business Week by the Brunswick Community College Small Business Center and the South Brunswick Islands, North Brunswick and Southport-Oak Island chambers of commerce.

This year's event is at 6:30 p.m. at The Round Table Restaurant, St. James Plantation near Southport. Attendance is by reservation, with tickets available from the chamber of commerce offices for \$13.50 through May 7.

Gil McGregor will be the keynote speaker. He is the spokesperson for the National Basketball Association Stay-in-School program and is in-

volved with United Carolina Bank's Partners in Education program and serves as an academic advisor at Wake Forest University. He has extensive experience with basketball both on and off the court, including work as a sports analyst with various media.

Entrants in the annual contest were judged by SCORE, the Service Corps of Retired Executives, in Wilmington. Nominations were submitted by peers, employees or customers as follows in these categories:

Community Service: Convenient Tours & Travel, Shallotte; Craig Realty, Holden Beach; Dorothy Essey & Associates, Long Beach; For Kids Only Child Development Center, Shallotte; WCCA-FM Radio Station, Shallotte; and Joe & Moe's Auto Service, Shallotte.

Innovation: Brunswick Surveying, Holden Beach; and Industrial Pump Service, Leland.

Employee Relations: Oak Island Jewelers, Southport; Dykes Tires, Shallotte; and Margaret Rudd & Associates, Oak Island and Southport.

Family-Owned Business: Complete Cleaning Service, Brown's Landing; Crow's Nest Grill, Southport; Dykes Tires, Shallotte; Lots-A-Tots Nursery, Leland; and Roberto's Pizzeria, Ocean Isle Beach.

Appearance: Bobby's Auto Parts, Inc., Shallotte; Coastal Development & Realty, Holden Beach; Margaret Rudd & Associates, Southport; and The Interior Tailor, Southport.

Customer Satisfaction: Cheney's Gifts, Seaside; Coastal Development & Realty, Holden Beach; Coastal Pain, Seaside; PJ&A Plumbing Contractor, Holden Beach; Shuckers, Long Beach; and Hewett's Tire & Muffler, Shallotte.

Small Business Person of the Year: Bobby Williamson, Bobby's Auto Parts; Clark S. Callahan, Calabash Nautical Gifts; Mark Saunders, Coastal Development & Realty; Dykes Hewett, Dykes Tires Inc.; Homer Wright Jr., H.E. Wright Jr. Inc.; Rifton Hewett, Hewett's Tire and Muffler; Glenda W. Walker, Lots-A-Tots; Paula K. Potter, PJ&A Plumbing Contractor; and Robin A. Schuster, Robin's Nest Child Development.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Beacon Publisher Elected To Press Association Board

Beacon publisher and advertising director Carolyn Sweatt was elected to the board of directors of the Eastern North Carolina Press Association Saturday at the group's annual convention.



SWEATT

She and her husband, Eddie Sweatt, editor and publisher, represented the Beacon at the association's 48th annual gathering at Atlantic Beach.

Earns Certification

Robert Bemish of Holden Beach, a personal fitness trainer and owner of One-On-One Fitness, recently earned certification as a personal trainer by the American Council on Exercise (ACE).



BERNISH

The exam is developed through research by industry experts in anatomy, kinesiology, exercise physiology, health screening, exercise programming and fitness testing.

The ACE personal trainer certification qualifies Bemish to instruct on a one-on-one basis, either as a fitness center staff member or as a private trainer.

Bemish has been an instructor for more than three years and recently moved to the Shallotte area. He is a member of the American College of Sports Medicine and has a diploma in fitness and nutrition.

Appraiser Certified

William (Bill) Todd of Holden Beach was recently certified as a residential real estate appraiser by the N. C. Real Estate Commission.

He is a staff appraiser, and has been associated with Appraisal Associates of Ocean Isle Beach since 1989.

Two Attend Trade Show

Crystal Floyd, director of professional services at Comprehensive Home Health Care, and G. Wayne Long, director of Well Care & Nursing Services Inc., recently attended the 21st annual convention and trade show of the N.C. Association for Home Care.

Passes Tax Exam

George L. Matthews of Calabash has received his enrollment license to practice before the Internal Revenue Service after passing all four parts of the special enrollment examination, according to a news release from the National Association of Tax Practitioners.

The license gives Matthews the designation of Enrolled Agent and entitles him to represent taxpayers at

all levels of the IRS. Enrolled Agents must meet continuing education requirements to maintain their licenses.

Matthews holds a master's degree in taxation and a bachelor's degree in accounting. He operates ACT Accounting and Taxation at Seaside. He is a member of the National Society of Public Accountants and the National Association of Tax Practitioners.

Accepts Position

John Leslie Bell of Supply has accepted a position with R.W. Beck and Associates, an engineering consulting firm, as assistant analyst for environmental services in the Minneapolis, Minn., office.



BELL

Bell received a B.A. in economics from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and in May 1992, a master's of science degree in environmental planning from the University of Iowa.

He is the son of Bertha Bell and the grandson of Annie R. Bryant, both of Supply.

Promoted By BB&T

Reginald D. Stanley has been promoted to assistant vice president of the Branch Banking and Trust Co. by the BB&T Board of Directors in Wilson.

Stanley is a business services officer in Wilmington. He joined the bank in 1989 and has worked as a management associate in the management training program in Wilson.

A native of Shallotte, Stanley is a graduate of UNC-Wilmington with a degree in finance.

He is treasurer of the N.C. World Trade Association, the Wilmington Ownership Pool and the Wilmington Jaycees. He attends Jennies Branch Baptist Church.

Register Of Deeds Reports \$53,067 In March Collections

A total of \$36,633 in fees and taxes were collected by the Brunswick County Register of Deeds office during March, according to a monthly report.

Recordings and fees include 521 deeds, \$4,442; 442 deeds of trust, \$6,104; 51 plats, \$1,020; 145 financing statements, \$1,160; 343 deed of trust cancellations, \$1,765; 381 miscellaneous recordings, \$3,657; 25 marriage licenses, \$1,000.

A total of \$31,779 in excise tax was collected. There was \$2,140 collected for other services.

As required by law, half of the county's excise tax (minus 2 percent collection costs), or \$15,572, was

sent to the N.C. Department of Revenue.

Half the marriage license collections, or \$500, was remitted to the N.C. Department of Administration for the Domestic Violence Center fund, which helps support the Hope Harbor Home in Brunswick County. Another \$125 of those collections was sent to the state treasurer for the abused children's fund.

Among the expenditures reported during the month were: supplemental retirement, \$1,471; telephone, \$29; postage, \$361; service maintenance contracts, \$350; and travel and training, \$321.

Wages are not included in the report.

March Jobless Rate 16 Percent

State Employment Security Commission figures listed Brunswick County's unemployment rate at 16 percent for March.

Brunswick was among nine counties of the state's 100 counties with unemployment rates greater than 10 percent.

The state's lowest unemployment rate was 2.8 percent in Orange County; highest was 27 percent in

Graham. ESC analysts regard 5 percent unemployment as "a near full-employment situation."

ESC lists the Brunswick labor force at 20,440. In March, the agency says 17,130 persons were working and 3,310 unemployed.

March jobless rates for other rural coastal counties included Pender, 7.7 percent; Onslow, 5.6; Carteret, 10; and Dare, 13.4.

POSITION AVAILABLE—PUBLIC WORKS SUPERINTENDENT TOWN OF HOLDEN BEACH

Responsible for supervision of all public works and related operations including street maintenance, water systems, sanitation, and automotive and heavy equipment maintenance. Must be able to operate road grader and backhoe. Good public relations and communications skills required. Assist in preparation of budget. Salary based on experience and qualifications. Salary range \$20,768-\$29,225. Applications may be obtained by contacting Town of Holden Beach, 110 Rothschild St., Holden Beach, NC 28462 or by calling (919) 842-6488. Deadline for applying is May 21, 1993.

Car Wrecks Are Dangerous To Your Health!

Almost every auto accident causes neck or lower back injury which the victim may not be immediately aware of. Watch out for those danger signals:

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NOTICE OF MEETINGS OF THE BRUNSWICK COUNTY BOARD OF EQUALIZATION AND REVIEW

Pursuant to Chapter 105-322 of the General Statutes of N.C., the Brunswick County Board of Equalization and Review will meet as required by law.

PURPOSE OF MEETINGS

To hear upon request, any and all taxpayers who own or control taxable property assessed for taxation in Brunswick County with respect to the valuation of such property, or the property of others, and such business as required by laws.

TIME OF MEETINGS

Meetings will begin Tuesday, April 27, 1993, 5:00 P.M. Final adjournment will be 6:00 P.M., May 25, 1993.

PLACE OF MEETINGS

Brunswick County Government Center, Commissioners Chambers, Highway 17, Bolivia, N.C. Requests for hearing must be received no later than Tuesday, May 18, 1993.

FOR APPOINTMENTS, PLEASE CONTACT

BOYD WILLIAMSON
BRUNSWICK COUNTY TAX ASSESSOR
Brunswick County Tax Office
P.O. Box 269
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