



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

ALICIA PETERSON, Brunswick County Literacy Council volunteer, accepts the literacy month proclamation from Don Warren, chairman of the Brunswick County Board of Commissioners.

Literacy Month Observances Set

A Sept. 7 proclamation by the Brunswick County Board of Commissioners designates September as "Brunswick County Literacy Month" and encourages citizens "to assume an active role in literacy education to alleviate this condition in Brunswick County."

The proclamation is a special observance meant to increase public awareness about the importance of literacy in the county. The proclamation was supported by the Brunswick County Literacy Council, Brunswick Community College and the Brunswick County Library in conjunction with a similar proclamation by Governor James B. Hunt.

"It is estimated that one in five residents in Brunswick County are functionally illiterate," said Alicia Peterson, a literacy council volunteer. "This condition affects all residents in the county and impacts education, employment, health and the overall quality of life."

The literacy council will celebrate the month with several events, including a free tutor training workshop on Friday, Sept. 17, from 6 until 9:30 p.m. and continuing Saturday, Sept. 18, from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. Trainer Rich Dixon will lead the workshop in the Laubach Way to Reading, a phonics-based reading method. Interested

persons should contact the literacy council office to pre-register.

The council will coordinate its annual "Elementary School Read-Ins," where volunteers will read to children in every county elementary school. On Sept. 16, volunteers may read at Union Primary School; Sept. 20, at Waccamaw Elementary; Sept. 22 at Bolivia Elementary; Sept. 23 at Southport Elementary; Sept. 28 at Lincoln Primary; and Sept. 29 at Supply Elementary. Anyone interested in volunteering should call the literacy council.

On Sept. 30, the literacy council will hold its annual Adult Spelling Bee. Everyone is invited to attend the free event at Brunswick Community College Student Center at 7 p.m. There will be free refreshments and an opportunity to watch friendly competition in spelling prowess between the entered teams.

Pronouncers this year are Frances Weller of WECT-TV6 and Dick Lee of WCCA radio. The event is coordinated each year by the literacy council to raise funds for free one-on-one tutoring to adults throughout Brunswick County.

For more information, call the BCLC office at 754-7323.

Local Volunteers Sought For October Health Fest

Volunteers are being sought to participate in Heart Fest, an effort by the American Heart Association to reach the public with information that will help them avoid heart and other health problems.

Held Oct. 11-17 this year, displays are planned in five food stores across Brunswick County—two each in Southport and Shallotte and one in Seaside.

During some of the busiest times of the week, volunteers will encourage shoppers to pick up display materials and give out discount coupons for heart-healthy foods. At other times, the materials will simply be on display.

Anyone who could give a few hours one or two days during Heart Fest is asked to call the Brunswick County Cooperative Extension Service office at 253-4425. Give any preference for location and/or date, along with name, address and tele-

phone number.

A training session for volunteers will be held at the Extension office Sept. 16 from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Judy Howard, regional director of the American Heart Association, and Roy Stepp, president of the Association's Brunswick County Chapter, will give volunteers further information about what their role will be and work out schedules for the different locations with those attending.

This opportunity is open to all interested persons, male or female, and to groups as well as individuals. Any church or civic organization or group of friends that would like to help can call the extension office number given above or Roy Stepp, at 842-4041.

Anyone with questions about nutrition and health may contact Mary

L. Russ, the home economics extension agent working with foods and nutrition with the Brunswick County Center of the N.C. Cooperative Extension Service.

Shallotte Rescue Fund Drive Begins

Shallotte Volunteer Rescue Squad is conducting its annual fund drive this month, offering those who make a pledge to the department a complimentary family portrait.

The drive is being conducted in cooperation with Community Support Services, Inc., a professional fundraising organization based in Goldsboro.

Funds received by the squad will be used for training and to buy new equipment.

Artists Group Offers Pottery Instruction

Registration for beginning, intermediate and advanced pottery students, 18 and older, is open at Franklin Square Gallery pottery studio in Southport.

The self-supporting classes are offered through the Associated Artists of Southport, a nonprofit organization. Instructor is Kimberly Smithe Caroon, who holds a bachelor of arts degree in art education from Ohio State University.

Students can register from 9 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Franklin Square Gallery pottery studio in Southport.

Class times available are 9 a.m. to noon, 2:15 to 5:15 p.m. and 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. Instruction will be offered through Nov. 23.

There is a \$55 registration fee, payable to the Associated Artists of Southport, in addition to the cost of supplies.

For more information, call Caroon at 845-8999 or at 457-9993 on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

County Fair Date Set, Oct. 14-23

The New Hanover County Fair will be setting up its midway, rides and agriculture display areas in just one month.

Oct. 14-23 marks the dates for the 30th annual agriculture fair, the only county fair in the Brunswick, Pender and New Hanover county region.

This year's official ribbon-cutting ceremony will be Thursday, Oct. 14, and will include a hot air balloon, clowns, musicians and a parade. The New Hanover County Fair Horse Show follows on Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 16-17, with 92 classes included in the equestrian competition.

The rest of the week will offer entertainment featuring local talent, including country, Christian, gospel and jazz musicians; a martial arts demonstration by the actors from "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles"; and local dancers, singers and other performers.



Four Generations Together

Zachary Aaron Batson poses with three older generations of his family. From the left are his great-grandmother, Annie Smith of Ash; his mother, Stephanie Batson of Shallotte; and his grandmother, Helen Inman, also of Shallotte.

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