



STUDENTS honored by the Calabash Elks Lodge at a recognition dinner held March 4 were (front, from left) Tonia Jackson, Tamara Stanley, Bridget Van Mater, Melissa Robinson; (middle row) Kippy Sellers, Kristie Gibson, Nicole Norris and Nadia Bryant. Pictured at the rear are lodge committee chairmen Bob Manfred, Hoop Shoot; Hugh Coulter, Scholarship; and John Martocci, Americanism.

Elks Lodge Honors Student Winners

Calabash Elks Lodge No. 2679 recognized student winners of its annual Hoop Shoot, scholarship and essay contests, their parents and guidance counselors with a dinner Friday, March 4.

Five seniors from West Brunswick High School received scholarships. Kristie Gibson, Nicole Norris, Nadia Bryant, Bridge Van Mater and Melissa Robinson will share a total of \$3,750 in awards.

In the patriotic essay contest two Shallotte Middle School students Tonia Jackson and Kippy Sellers placed first and second respectively in statewide competition for eighth graders. They wrote on the subject "What the American Flag Says to Me." Jackson received \$400 in U.S. Savings Bonds, while Sellers received \$250 in U.S. Savings Bonds.

In the Hoop Shoot competition, Tamara Stanley placed second in

state competition for girls ages 10 and 11.

Students representing 33 BPOE lodges statewide enter the essay and Hoop Shoot competitions.

Chili Cookoff April 2 In Southport

The fifth annual Chili Cookoff, sponsored by the Robert Ruark Foundation Inc., is set for Saturday, April 2, in Southport's Franklin Square Park.

Organizers are preparing for record attendance at this year's cookoff, which has grown since its inception five years ago, according to Bette Leggett, foundation president. The one-day event includes an arts and crafts show and bake sale.

Open to individuals, civic organizations, businesses and church groups, the event has attracted chili cookers and crafts exhibitors from North and South Carolina and Virginia, Leggett said, adding that inquiries were received as early as last fall for this year's event.

Entry fee for chili cookers is \$25, and for arts and crafts booths, \$35. Civic organizations may participate for \$25 and businesses for \$50.

"This is an excellent opportunity for local civic organizations to raise funds," said Leggett, "and we encourage church groups to prepare good for the bake sale. We do not charge a commission, so other than the entry fee, these organizations keep all profits from sales at their booths."

Judges will award first and second prizes for chili, and a prize for best-decorated booth. The public will determine the people's choice award. First prize is \$500, second is \$250, people's choice is \$100, and

best booth award is \$100.

Music, entertainment, food vendors and an Easter egg hunt for children will be part of the special activities, Leggett said. Entry forms and rules for chili cookers and arts and crafts exhibitors may be obtained by calling (910)457-5494.

Arts and crafts booths may be set up anytime before 10 a.m. on Saturday, April 2, and the exhibits will close at sundown.

Proceeds from the chili cookoff are used to sponsor an annual short story contest and, for the first time this year, a poetry contest, both of which are open to North Carolina residents age 18 and older. "Last year we had nearly 200 entries in the short story contest, and 1994 competition will be open to residents of South Carolina and Virginia as well," Leggett said.

The literary contests commemo-

rate Wilmington native Robert Ruark, who achieved worldwide acclaim for his journalism, novels and short stories. His best-selling book, "The Old Man and the Boy," was based on experiences from boyhood summers spent in Southport with his grandparents.

Established in 1989, the Robert Ruark Foundation seeks to promote the visual, literary and performing arts through sponsorship of several special events, Leggett said. In addition to the fiction and poetry contests, the foundation will also sponsor an art exhibit and awards program in the fall.

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Nominations Sought For YWCA Women Of Achievement Awards

Nominations are being accepted for the YWCA Cape Fear Women of Achievement awards.

This year marks the tenth anniversary of the award, and this year's recipients will be honored along with nearly 100 women recognized in the first nine years.

Nominations are accepted in the categories of arts, business, community service, education, entrepreneur, government, human services, industry, professions, sports/recreation and teen leader.

To get nominating materials, call (910)799-6820 or write the YWCA at 2815 S. College Rd., Wilmington NC 28412. Deadline for submitting nominations is Friday, March 25.

The recognition event will be Thursday, May 26, at the Wilmington Hilton with a reception and cash bar at 6 p.m. followed by dinner at 6:45.

Tickets are \$30 and are available for purchase at the YWCA or by mail.

Crab Festival To Include Essay Contest

An essay contest will be held in connection with this year's Little River (S.C.) Blue Crab Festival.

Entries must be 5,000 words or less and will be judged on originality, accuracy if of a historical nature, general interest and overall quality. There is no limit on number of submissions. Deadline for entries is April 25.

The winning entry of each of the following categories will be published, with a grand prize going to the overall winner:

- History of Little River: unique historical studies of the area;
- Historic residents: people who have contributed to the area;
- Waterfront recreation, including boating, fishing, crabbing;
- Humor/general
- Food/seafood: how-to's of removing meat from the crab, etc.

To get entry forms, call the Little River Chamber of Commerce at (803)249-6604. All entries become the property of the festival.

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