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Olde Mill Motors Celebrates Opening of New Facility

Angier, NC --- Miss North Carolina 2000 Lorna McNeill was on hand Thursday, June 28, 2001, to help celebrate the ribbon cutting and grand opening of Olde Mill Motors' new office facility. McNeill, pictured center, is flanked by Olde Mill Motors employees: Sales division Manager- Jay Locklear, Accounts Manager- Millicent Locklear-Hatcher, Brent Barrett, Alex Gonzalez, Chris Robinson, Miguel Garcia and Horace Locklear. Among the 40 special guests who enjoyed a brief ceremony and a reception were Harnett County Register of Deeds Kim Hargrove, Harnett County Economic Development director Jerry Hartgrove, Angier Chamber of Commerce President Craig Strickland and town commissioner Wanda Gregory. Olde Mill Motors, located on Hwy. 55 in Angier, N.C., specializes in pre-owned auto sales and on-site financing.

Weinstein Says, "NC Needs a Fair and Fiscally Responsible Budget"

RALEIGH- With new revenue projections showing the state's economic slump worsening, lawmakers must work hard to enact a fair and fiscally responsible budget that puts education first and strengthens North Carolina's economy, Sen. David Weinstein said today.

"We knew we were facing tough economic times, but we have learned that they are even tougher than we thought," said Weinstein, D-Robeson. "We shouldn't patch together a Band-aid budget that keeps our state living hand to mouth- we need to have a responsible plan that makes the right investments to protect our economic health in both the short term and the long term."

New revenue forecasts show North Carolina's economic crisis worsening by at least another \$160 million, mainly due to a slowing economy and job losses.

Weinstein, a member of the conference committee that will negotiate the final version of the budget, said the final budget must:

Continue North Carolina's progress in education- particularly by reducing class sizes, helping at-risk kids and increasing school accountability;

Reduce government bureaucracy to save money and give North Carolinians the efficient government they deserve;

Be fair and fiscally responsible by closing corporate tax loopholes that allow businesses to avoid paying their fair share of taxes; and

Strengthen the economy by replenishing low reserve funds and protecting the AAA bond rating that allows the state to borrow money cheaply.

"We need to make the responsible decision and pass a final budget that makes the right investments for our state and its families," Weinstein said.

FirstHealth's Magazine Receives National Award

PINEHURST- FirstHealth of the Carolinas Magazine has been recognized in the national Healthcare Advertising Awards competition sponsored by Healthcare Marketing Report.

The quarterly publication received one of four Merit (honorable mention) awards in the Health Care System Category in the 18th annual awards program. The Gold (first-place) Award went to St. Luke's-Shawnee Mission Health System in Missouri, while the Silver (second-place) and Bronze (third-place) awards went to Loyola University Health System in Illinois and Iowa Methodist Medical Center, respectively.

Health care systems in Georgia, Arizona and Ohio received the other Merit awards.

The monthly Healthcare Marketing Report covers news on market strategies, concepts and trends in the health care industry. Its coast-to-coast circulation includes hospitals, health systems, HMOs, PPOs, psychiatric facilities and medical practices.

The Corporate Communications Department of FirstHealth of the Carolinas publishes FirstHealth of the Carolinas Magazine with design and publication coordination provided by Signature Publishing of Raleigh. The winning Summer 2000 entry centered on a Men's Health theme and included articles on men in mid-life, life after coronary bypass surgery and violence in young men.

Stories, which featured photography by local photographers Shane Bufmeyer, Glenn Dickerson and Don McKenzie, were written by Susan Pashley, Kathy Batton and Brenda Bouser of the Corporate Communications staff and by free-lance writer Dick Broom. Bouser also serves as the magazine's editor.

Most of the 70,000 copies of the magazine's circulation are distributed to households throughout the 16 counties in the FirstHealth service area. Magazines are also available at all FirstHealth locations throughout the region.

Headquartered in Pinehurst, FirstHealth of the Carolinas is the region's first integrated not-for-profit health care system. Its flagship operation is FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital in Pinehurst.

Clinical Social Workers Fight to Continue to Provide Mental Health Services in Nursing Homes

Raleigh, NC- More than 100 leaders from the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) will appeal to members of the United States House and Senate today calling for their support of the Clinical Social Work Medicare Equity Act of 2001 (CSWMEA) (H.R.2294, S. 1083). This legislation would restore the ability of clinical social workers to bill Medicare Part B directly for mental health services provided to skilled nursing facility patients. Clinical social workers, unlike other mental health providers, such as psychiatrists and psychologists, are currently not exempted from the Medicare Part B Prospective Payment System (PPS) requirements.

"Not exempting clinical social workers must have been an oversight by Congress since other mental health providers are exempt," stated Kathy Boyd, President of the North Carolina Chapter of NASW. "If clinical social workers are unable to receive Medicare Part B reimbursement for the mental health services they render in skilled nursing facilities, patients in rural and other medically underserved areas will suffer." Clinical social workers are the largest group of mental health providers in the United States. Often clinical social workers are the only mental health professionals practicing in rural and underserved areas, so that is why the passage of the Clinical Social Work Medicare Equity Act is critical.

Kathy Boyd, Executive Director and Lavern Oxendine, President of the North Carolina chapter of NASW are meeting with the offices of Senator Edwards, Senator Helms and Congressman Mike McIntyre (D-7th District) to discuss how the current law is affecting people in their state. If CSWMEA is not passed, the cost of mental health services to skilled nursing facility residents could increase by 25% in our area if offered by other high cost providers.

NASW has more than 150,000 members nationally and 3,600 members in the North Carolina chapter. Members of NASW are employed in a variety of settings, including public and private human services agencies, mental health facilities, schools and colleges, hospital, industry, and private practice.

Volunteer Families for Children

VOLUNTEER FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN of NC, Inc. in Cumberland and Robeson County is looking for volunteer host families who are willing to offer time and their home to provide short-term care for children who are in emergency or crisis situations for a period of 1 to 21 days. Volunteers receive a great deal of satisfaction knowing they have helped a child through a difficult time. Training and support are provided. Speakers are available to speak to your staff, organization, club, or church about Volunteer Families for Children. For more information about VOLUNTEER FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN, in Cumberland County area call Maxine Geiger at (910) 436-3477 or Fax: 436-5563. In Robeson County call Linda Sealey at (910) 628-8525.

Harley-Davidson Bike Show Planned Saturday

The Harley-Davidson Bike Show will be held on Saturday, July 21, beginning at 2 P.M. and lasting until 5 p.m. at Lumberton Senior High School. Registration for the show begins at 1 p.m. and the fee is \$10. The event is being co-sponsored by Safe Kids Coalition and local businesses. The People's Choice Bike Show will include food and drinks and \$5 donations. The Bike show includes a live band, trophies, prizes, a bake sale and 50/50 drawing. The show is being held to benefit the Southeastern Family Violence Center. Rain date for the event is July 28. For more information call 739-8622.

Burnt Swamp Baptist Association Holds Workshop

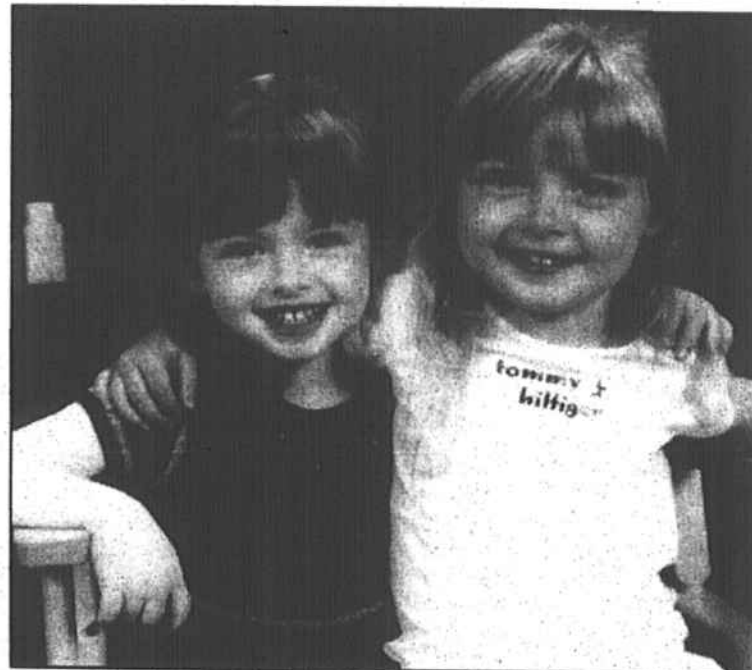
Burnt Swamp Baptist Association invites church music leaders to a workshop on music and worship at Berea Baptist Church, Tuesday, July 24, 2001 from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm.

The workshop will be led by Rev. and Mrs. Mitch White of High Springs, Florida.

Reverend White is a graduate of the University of Central Florida and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Rev. White is the son of Mr. and Mrs. James White and the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. John Deese.

For more information Call 521-9850.



"Double the Pleasure - Double the Fun"

That's the way Mike and Lori Jones of Davenport, Iowa, describe their twin daughters, as they celebrate their 3rd Birthday.

Fraternal twins, Jade and Jacey turned out to be just what the doctor ordered, with one looking just like mommy and the other just like dad, and both very charming!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY GIRLS from Carolina and an equally proud "Gramma". Atelia Mary (Chavis) Jones of Shannon, N.C.

Native American goes to AAU Junior Olympic Games

Troy White, a 2001 graduate of Lumberton Senior High, is well on his way to the Junior Olympic events held in Norfolk, VA. White has made many accomplishments during his high school career. Some of his accomplishments include several gold, silver, and bronze medals. This season White set a school record in the 800-meter race. At Midseason his blistering 1:56 put him as one of the front runners state-wide in the 800 meter. White's two warm-ups in the 1500 meter show came when he won a qualifying event in Charlotte, NC, June 24th of this year, with a 4:17.4 clocking and was fourth at the Junior Olympics southeast Region meet at Savannah Georgia on July 8th. He hit the tape at 4:15.7. White is currently in Anchorage, Alaska on a 10-day training tour.

Troy has won the following awards and honors: Apex Lions Relay-1600 Meter- Gold, Apex Lions Relay-4X8 Meter- Bronze, Apex Lions Relay-1600 Meter -Gold, NCHSAAAA Regionals 1999- 1600 Meter- Silver, NCHSAAAA Regionals 2001- 1600 Meter- Bronze, Apex Lions Relay-1600 Meter Bronze, NCAAU State Champion- 1500 Meter- Gold, and NCAAU Regionals - 1500 Meter-4th Place.



He is looking to attend Robeson Community College this fall, run Junior Olympic events, and then transfer to a school with a running program in the spring.

White will have to pay his way on any training and meets he attends. Donations for lodging and travel will be greatly appreciated and can be sent to: Rose and Glenn White, 2904 Olsen Drive, Lumberton 28358.

Attention: Seniors and Physically Challenged

Senior citizens and physically challenged persons now can continue to live at home and remain independent with the help of the "Seniors in Motion" program.

This program provides mobility equipment usually at no cost to the patient. The equipment available in this program includes: Motorized and manual wheelchairs, scooters, and other mobility equipment.

This program features free in-home evaluations and equipment fittings. Also, all paperwork is completed by the "Seniors in Motion" staff working directly with the patients' physician. Equipment is delivered directly to the patient with safety and operation instructions given.

Call 1-800-594-1225 for a "mobility needs" consultation and free in-home evaluation. There is help!

Pembroke Business and Professional Women's Organization News

The Pembroke Business and Professional Women's Organization has begun their new year with new officers and preparation for an exciting year ahead.

The officers include: President-Marie Moore, President Elect Yvonne Barnes Dial, Vice-President-Colette Locklear, Treasurer-Dorothy Blue, and Secretary-Sylvia Blue.

This year's high school recipient for the Grace Epps Scholarship was Myranda Javon Chavis, a graduate from South Robeson High School.

President Marie Moore and treasurer, Dorothy Blue attended the state convention June 14-18 in Sanford with the theme, "Lighting the Way to the Future 200-2001." Mrs. Moore and Mrs. Blue attended various workshops. District V served as host as Mrs. Moore attended the Foundation luncheon on Saturday and Mrs. Blue served as a timekeeper at the third business session also on Saturday. The major business consisted of amending the bylaws, voting for officers, voting on two resolutions, and adopting the 2001-2002 BPW/NC legislative platform. A recommendation from the board of director was presented to change the fiscal year from June 1- May 31 to July 1- June 30 with the recommendation passing. A final note from the convention reminded the attendants to remember to "Be Positive Women."

The organization discussed and voted to plan and develop a gift agreement with UNC-Pembroke to create a Pembroke BPW Career Advancement Endowed Scholarship to provide scholarships to women who wish to pursue a college degree. For years the organization has provided funds for women who have been in the work force and later chose to enroll in college to receive a college education.

Members, Marie Moore, Dorothy Blue, and Tessie Hunt attended the national BPW convention in Portland, Oregon July 10-14.

The organization invites persons of interest in its goals and concerns as advocates for women and children to contact Marie Moore at 521-4421. Meetings are held every first Monday of each month at 7:00 P.M. upstairs in the James B. Chavis Center at UNC-Pembroke with guest speakers sharing information of informative issues and topics. by Yvonne Barnes Dial

McIntyre Announces Over \$21 Million Available for N.C. School Construction Needs

Washington, D. C. -U. S. Congressman Mike McIntyre announced today that the State of North Carolina is scheduled to receive \$21,998,045 from the U. S. Department of Education for the School Renovation program approved in last year's budget.

Congressman McIntyre stated, "Crowded schools and classrooms lead to learning and discipline problems, and our kids deserve better. These funds are a step in the right direction, but we need to do more to ensure that the issue of overcrowding in our classrooms be addressed. While our kids are 23% of our population, they are 100% of our future, and we must do everything we can to ensure they have a safe, modern, and well-equipped learning environment."

The funds, which became available July 1, will be released to the state after the state's application is approved. Once these funds are released to the state, the states will use a competitive grant process to determine how funds are distributed to local school districts. 75% of the funds in the program will be reserved exclusively for school renovation, and the remaining 25% will be used for meeting educational technology and IDEA needs.

Congressman McIntyre is also supporting the America's Better Classrooms Act that would provide federal tax credits to support \$25 billion in school construction and repair. Under this bill, North Carolina would receive \$488 million. In 2000, McIntyre released a report that found over 92% of south-eastern North Carolina children in kindergarten through the third grade are forced to learn in overcrowded classrooms.

WoodHaven to Hold Yard Sale and Bake Sale

WoodHaven Nursing and Alzheimer's Care Center will hold a combined yard and bake sale on Saturday, July 21 to raise money for equipment for the center's beauty shop. The sale will be held in the parking lot, located at 1150 Pine Run Dr. in Lumberton, from 7 a.m. until 3 p.m. For more information, contact Barbara Morris at 671-5704.

Pembroke Middle School Schedule Change and Open House

New hours have been set for the instructional day at Pembroke Middle. Class will begin at 7:45 a.m. and end at 3:00 p.m.

Open house will be held Thursday, August 2, 2001 from 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Students may pick up their schedules and meet their teachers.