

Budget cuts could hurt Smart Start, More at Four

■ Week of the Young Child slated for April 10-16 by Partnership

By PHYLISS BOATWRIGHT
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The child care industry in Person County contributes \$9.36 million to the local economy, but state budget cuts could negatively impact that figure.

Judy Batten, executive director of the Person County Partnership for Children told the Person Board of County Commissioners this week that 152 full-time jobs in child care are provided by 40 small businesses here, and that Smart Start and More at Four funding from the state helps to support those businesses, create jobs, and allow parents to work.

More at Four provides help for at-risk pre-kindergarten children in North Carolina and Smart Start is the state's

infrastructure to assess early childhood needs and provide local resources to meet those needs.

Batten said, "For the current year, we have a Smart Start budget of \$843,711 dollars. If we apply the same multiplier (2.12) that we used for the 152 folks working in the field, there is a \$1,788,668 Smart Start impact to the local economy. If you apply Dr. [James J.] Heckman's (the Nobel Peace Prize winning economist) figure of \$7 return on every dollar spent, that economic impact would be \$5.9 billion."

Batten continued, "We also draw in \$597,740 in More at Four funds. Using that same multiplier, that would be a \$1,267,208 impact. Again, using Dr. Heckman's \$7 multiplier would yield a

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TDA seeking storefront locale in county-owned property on Main Street

By TIM CHANDLER
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Person County Tourism Development Authority (TDA) director Margaret McMann asked the Person Board of County Commissioners Monday night to consider a lease agreement to move the TDA office into county-owned property at 217 N. Main St.

The building, currently vacant, formerly housed Roxboro Florist.

The TDA office is currently located at 315 N. Main St. in the parsonage building on the campus of the Person County Museum of History.

"We would like very much to entertain a lease agreement," McMann told commissioners Monday night.

McMann said the possible move would give TDA a storefront location in Uptown Roxboro, which would also provide "good visibility for the public." She said the location would be ideal for a visitor's center.

McMann went on to say that she felt the move would be a "win-win situation" for TDA and the county.

McMann told commissioners that TDA did not have a budget to pay rent on the facility, but would be willing to "upfit" the building prior to any potential move.

McMann also added that TDA would agree to pay the utilities for the facility.

Commissioner Ray Jeffers said he would like to know "what needs to be done" to the county-owned building and that he was "not ready to make a decision" Monday.

Commission Vice Chair Kyle Puryear suggested that County Manager Heidi York "have dialogue" with McMann and the TDA board and "come back to us with the best possible" scenario.

Commissioner Sam Kennington added that he would like York to "bring all potential options" back to commissioners.

In a letter to Commission Chairman Jimmy Clayton dated March 31, Charlene Bullock, chairman of the TDA board, wrote that the TDA "first inquired about the use of this facility in January 2010 in a meeting" with York.

"Seeing a need for improved accessibility and visibility to the public and in an effort to keep our overhead expenses down, we are seeking a location with a close proximity to the Roxboro Area Chamber of Commerce, the Kirby Gallery and Theater, as well as the Roxboro Development Group Office," Bullock added. "This could be what commissioners envisioned several years ago, to make economic development groups more centralized."

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WICKED WEATHER



Tim Chandler / C-T

RUDE AWAKENING — Many Personians got an unwelcome wake-up call early Tuesday morning when a line of powerful thunderstorms roared through the area shortly after 3 a.m. Person County Emergency Management Director Michael Day said there were few reports of damage related to the thunderstorms, which packed heavy rain and wind, but some areas did see some damage. Orlando Bailey, who resides at 698 Woodsdale Rd., said he heard debris hitting his home early Tuesday and later discovered that multiple trees had fallen near his home. In the photo above, Bailey and his neighbor, Bruce Lyons, see if any damage was done to a truck outside Bailey's home when a tree fell striking part of the vehicle. At right, a trio of trees were among the ones toppled beside Bailey's home early Tuesday. Day said there were several reports of trees and limbs down, along with some power outages at other locations in the county as well.



Person County Schools Teacher of Year to be named on April 26

The Person County Teacher of the Year (TOY) for 2012 will be announced on Tuesday, April 26 during a banquet to be held at the Homestead Steak House.

The 11 site candidates are Michelle Larson at Earl Bradsher Pre School;

Crystal Tattersall at Helena Elementary; Glynnease Greene at North Elementary; Dustin Martin at North End Elementary; Ellen Matthews at Northern Middle; Joanne Adams at Oak Lane Elementary; Allison Bowers at Person High; Derek

Edmisten at South Elementary; Judith Clayton at Southern Middle; Lisa Davis at Stories Creek Elementary; and Jane Forton at Woodland Elementary.

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BARGAIN SHOPPER: Timberlake woman saving big \$\$\$ with coupons

By GREY PENTECOST
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For those who are serious about saving money on groceries there is a practice called "couponing" where the thrifty maximize coupon and store savings to get the best deals when they shop.

Nichole Oakley of Timberlake started couponing a little over a year ago so she could start saving her family (husband Daniel and two children) money on food, leaving more to spend on other things. While running a home daycare and selling handcrafted hair bows for little girls through her own business "Clippies by Nichole," Oakley finds time to coupon while the children are napping, or after

her own two children have gone to bed at night.

She peruses both the coupons found in the Sunday News & Observer and those she finds on the Internet.

"I use several sites to find out about good deals," said Oakley. "These sites tell you what's on special, and will also tell you what coupon to use."

Her favorite sites are www.afullcup.com/forums and www.southern savers.com. She is also linked to several couponing blogs and Web sites through Facebook, allowing her to receive alerts about good sales.

While couponing can be time consuming, Oakley said she doesn't do it every day. The Web sites, she said, do a lot of the work for her.

Oakley does most of her shopping

on Saturdays and Sundays. The only time coupons dictate her shopping schedule is on "Super Doubles" days at Harris Teeter. When Oakley shopped there during such an event on March 26, she calculated the total cost of her purchases at \$119.44 before coupons and e-VIC specials. She ended up only paying \$24.85.

Oakley said she tends to find the best deals at Harris Teeter, which she said doubles the face values of coupons every day, and has "major coupon events" each month.

While she goes to Durham to shop at Harris Teeter, Oakley said she also shops at CVS, Rite Aid, Food Lion and Lowes Foods in Roxboro.

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Photo submitted

MAKING SHOPPING PLANS — Nichole Oakley looks through coupon inserts to help her plan out her next shopping trip.