

Development Group Forms Adult Education Council Vice Presidential Service Award Set For Military

"The lack of basic education is a root problem in the district." This sentence is an excerpt from the "First Stage of Overall Economic Development Programs Study" conducted by Southeastern Economic Development Commission.

Statistics show that the education level in this district is much lower than the state's. Only 50% of the people in our district have a high school education. There were 43,200 functional illiterates in the district, Dave Alexander, executive director, said.

In the district, state and nation, males have a lower median of education than females. The median years of

education for males in this district fell 3 years behind the median for the nation. 18.4% of the district's adult population are illiterate. This average is above the state's and about twice that of the nation. About 23% of the adult population in the Redevelopment Area Counties have had less than five years of education. Of these four counties Bladen County had the lowest percentage of illiteracy and Robeson County the highest. In the Non-Redevelopment Areas there shows a serious deficiency of education.

As a result of this study, SEDC Dave Alexander, and Community Services Consultant

of Elizabethtown Eugene Williams coordinated efforts to form a council of citizens to define problems and make recommendations for the improvements and/or participation in ABE.

The first meeting of the Southeastern Council on Adult Basic Education (ABE) was held July 22, at Southeastern Community College. The welcome address was delivered by William L. Wilson of Southeastern Community College, and Eugene Williams, Community Service Consultant, was program moderator.

Leroy Trevathan from the Department of Social Services, Bladen County, spoke of the important needs of Adult Basic

Education. He stated that the majority of these under privileged people are those from low-income families and that even children from age eleven and under have come to his office asking for help.

Jimmy Gaylord, the Director of Extension Services of Bladen Technical Institute spoke of the ABE problems facing Community Colleges. Gaylord stated that most of these people are embarrassed because they cannot read or write to complete applications to obtain jobs.

Eugene Williams, spoke of ABE problems involved in the community and the need for agencies to combine efforts to work on the problem.

Last, suggestions were opened to anyone who wished to express themselves concerning ways to improve ABE.

Mrs. Grace Hixon, from the

Department of Social Services, New Hanover County, said "that the major problem was transportation and a stationary place to hold these classes." She also said "that when you approach the people and tell them that the course will be given at a college they (the people) freeze up." Therefore, everyone agreed that the proper place should be somewhere the people can feel relaxed, such as a home or small building.

Gaylord, was nominated as Chairman of the Council. Mrs. Pearl Fowler, Columbus County Department of Social Services was nominated as secretary. The next meeting will be held in the basement of the Bladen County Courthouse in Elizabethtown, N.C. on August 20, at 2:00 p.m.

The following agencies were represented at the meeting: Department of Social Services;

Bladen County, New Hanover County, Columbus County, Brunswick County, and Cumberland County, Technical Institutes: Sampson, Robeson, Bladen, Cape Fear Tech., of Wilmington, Fayetteville Tech., and Southeastern Community College, Whiteville, N.C., Miller Motte Business College, Wilmington, N.C. and the Layman's Council of the Clarkton District of A.M.E. Methodist Church.

Vice Presidential Service Award Set For Military

WASHINGTON (ANF) — President Richard Nixon has issued an executive order creating the Vice Presidential Service Certificate and the Vice Presidential Service Badge. The award will be issued in the name of the vice president to members of the armed forces who have been assigned to duty in the Office of the Vice President for

at least one year subsequent to Jan. 20, 1969. The certificate and badge may be awarded upon the recommendation of the military assistant to the vice president by the secretary of the appropriate branch of service. The badge may be worn as part of the uniform both during and after the duty.

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Proposed FTC Rule Says Unordered Goods Gifts

Receiving unordered merchandise in the mail may become a thing of the past if a rule proposed by the Federal Trade Commission is adopted. R. Palmer Wilcox, President of the Raeford-Hoke Chamber of Commerce said today.

"Unordered merchandise, already the subject of action in a number of states," Wilcox said, "would be classified as an outright gift by the FTC, leaving recipients free to keep it without worrying about paying for it."

He said that the National Better Business Bureau, with which the Chamber is affiliated through membership, has long condemned the sending of unordered merchandise through the mail as an unethical business practice.

According to NBBB, the states have acted against unordered merchandise took the same step being considered by the FTC — making it unprofitable by removing any obligation by the recipient.

Even without the law, however, says NBBB, people who receive unauthorized goods by mail are under no commitment to pay for them, return them, or take good care of them. They may keep them for the sender to pick up, and they can charge the sender storage for keeping the

material. It is up to the sender to have the goods retrieved. No expense or effort is required of the recipient.

NBBB advises persons receiving unordered merchandise to ignore dunning letters, for there is little possibility the sender will take any action. If demands for payment are accompanied by threats, they should be turned over to the Post Office.

Federal law prohibits use of the mails as a medium for threats to injure a person's reputation, person, or property, that of another person, or the reputation of a deceased person.

Two Attend Church Camp

Two Hoke County girls are attending a week of camp at the expense of the Missionary Society of the Baptist Church.

Julia Turner and Brenda Sue Brewer are spending the week at a church camp in Asheboro.



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