

BUSINESS BRIEFS

BCC Offers Business Seminars

The Small Business Center of Brunswick Community College is presenting two seminars that are open to the public and free of charge.

How to Protect Your Investment from Investment Fraud will be offered today (Thursday) at two locations; at noon at the Southport-Oak Island Chamber of Commerce Building, Long Beach Road, and at 6 p.m. at the BCC main campus at Supply in the teaching auditorium. Seminar leader Roy H. Everett, investor protection specialist with the NC Department of State Securities Division, will give information needed by businesspeople to be armed against potential fraud.

An *Ideas To Dollars* seminar, offered Tuesday, Sept. 17, at 6:30 p.m. in the BCC teaching auditorium, will be led by Harry Overby, a management consultant. He will illustrate some costly mistakes often made by budding business owners.

Pre-registration is strongly recommended; phone BCC at 754-6961 or 457-6329 for more information.

Coleman Appointed

Brunswick County Cooperative Extension Director Milton Coleman has been appointed to a two-year term on the Extension Programs Committee for the National Association of County Agricultural Agents.

As vice-chairman for the southern region, he will be responsible for coordinating the committee's work for 13 southeastern states.

The Extension Programs Committee conducts programs for professional improvement in four categories: "Search for Excellence," "Environmental Protection Through Responsible Use of Pesticides," developing and conducting a biotechnology seminar, and scheduling the annual meeting and the Extension Service's national initiatives.

"I'm extremely pleased to have this honor," said Coleman. "This is a golden opportunity to have access to outstanding educational programs conducted throughout the nation."

New Realtors Inducted

Five new members were inducted by the Brunswick Islands Board of Realtors on Sept. 4.

They are Elizabeth Simmons of Simmons Realty, Calabash; Macon McDavid of Red Carpet Somerset & Assoc.; Belle W. Hewson and Wilson T. (Thom) Arnold of Century 21 Sunset Realty, and Robert B. Neill Jr. of Robert Neill Construction and Realty.

Members of the Brunswick Islands Board of Realtors are also members of the North Carolina Association of Realtors and the National Association of Realtors.

Resident Featured

Theresa Mintz, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Mintz Sr. of Shallotte, was recently featured in the *People & Places* tabloid of the *Greensboro News & Record*.

A counselor by profession, Ms. Mintz operates Social Outreach & Renewal (SOAR), a counseling and consulting service in Greensboro that offers seminars on various aspects of personal growth from a combined theological and psychological approach.

In the article, she says that her experience working in her father's downtown Shallotte drugstore—a center of community life where residents came together to talk and exchange ideas—influenced her decision to become a counselor with an emphasis on community outreach.



WARREN CAUSEY

Local Men Pass Bar

Two area men have joined local law firms after earning their juris doctor degrees in May and passing the North Carolina Bar Examination in July.

Marion R. Warren, the son of Willie R. and Betty B. Warren of Ash, has joined the law firm of Stanley & Stanley in Shallotte as an associate.

B. Joseph "Joey" Causey Jr., the son of B.J. and Eloise Causey of Shallotte Point, will practice as an associate in the law office of Michael T. Cox of Shallotte.

Both Causey and Warren are 1984 graduates of West Brunswick

High School, where Causey was class valedictorian.

Warren was a Bryan Scholar at Campbell University at Buies Creek, where he received a bachelor of business administration degree in trust management with a minor in financial planning in 1988 and a juris doctor in 1991 from Campbell's Norman Adrian Wiggins School of Law.

Causey earned a bachelor of arts degree in 1988 from Duke University at Durham, double majoring in economics and public policy studies. He received his juris doctor in 1991 from the University of North Carolina School of Law at Chapel Hill.

BBB Expands To Area

The Better Business Bureau of Coastal Carolina Inc. has expanded into Brunswick and four surrounding counties, which are being served from the BBB's Myrtle Beach, S.C., office, said Evelyn Causey, president and chief executive officer.

The private, not-for-profit, membership organization operates on dues from businesses willing to sign a commitment to uphold the bureau's standards or risk expulsion.

Five basic services are available through the bureau: reliability reports to verify the reputation of companies; discrete dispute resolution; advertising review to assure that advertisers maintain the public's confidence; reports of charities with disclosure of percentages spent on fundraising and administration; and consumer/business education in the community.

The chamber's local membership representative is James Chambers, 754-2264. Assistance from the bureau is available from the Myrtle Beach office, 1-800-868-3222 or 803-497-8667.

Breeden Joins Firm

David "Michael" Breeden of Quail Run Estates, Ocean Isle Beach, has joined Brunswick Insurance Services as a sales representative.

He plans to expand the agency's services toward the Seaside area, representing all lines of insurance, both residential and commercial.

After vacationing at Ocean Isle Beach for a number of years, Breeden and his wife Barbara moved to the area in December from Laurinburg. He was previously associated with Breeden Insurance Agency of Laurinburg.

Breeden attended the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

Accountants To Meet

The Georgetown-Myrtle Beach Chapter of The Institute of Management Accountants (formerly the NAA), holds its first meeting of the year today (Thursday) at The Days Inn in Surfside Beach.

Speaker Graham Edwards, vice president of Santee Cooper, will speak on the utility's financing program at the 6:30 p.m. meeting.

The public is invited, said Bill Lassiter, chapter president.

Turf Field Days Set

Brunswick County will be the site of an Oct. 2-3 Turf Field Days program sponsored by the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service offices in Brunswick, Pender and New Hanover counties, the Cape Fear Golf Course Superintendents Association and the Turfgrass Council of North Carolina.

Most seminars will be held at the N.C. Baptist Assembly at Fort Caswell, Oak Island, with visits to field trials at Oak Island Golf Course, Fox Squirrel Golf Club, Brunswick Turf Farms and Brunswick Plantation Golf Course.

Sessions will address using tissue and soil testing to "fine tune" a turf grass fertility program, special problems in coastal golf course management and mole cricket control. A separate workshop is planned on bentgrass.

Information on registration for one or both days, the bentgrass workshop and a golf tournament is available from Jetty Gore at the local extension service office in Bolivia.

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Builders Provide Fencing

Randy Hurst (left), president of the South Brunswick Islands Home Builders Association (SBIHBA), and Robert Neill, vice-president, were among the crew when SBIHBA contributed and installed a privacy fence Sept. 5 at Hope Harbor Home shelter for victims of domestic violence. The \$1,000 donation of service and materials came from proceeds of the organization's first golf tournament, held Aug. 17.

County To Help Rest Home Seek \$225,000 Block Grant

BY TERRY POPE

Brunswick County Commissioners agreed Monday to help developers of a 60-bed rest home planned for Supply to seek \$225,000 in Community Development Block Grant funds.

The 4-0 vote came following a second public hearing on the project, which will be built beside The Brunswick Hospital off of U.S. 17. Commissioner Gene Pinkerton was out of town on business.

"I'm getting a little gun shy on some of these projects," said District 5 Commissioner Donald Shaw, "but probably this is a very worthy cause here."

The CDBG will be used to help finance the \$1.4 million Lockwood Pines Rest Home, whose investors are Fred Lesh of Supply, D.D. Miller of Dunn and W.E. Blackmon of Smithville.

"You'll be proud of the project," Lesh told the board after its vote. "We're going to work hard."

Commissioners expressed concern that two CDBG grant recipients in Brunswick County have closed and defaulted on their loans. Chairman Kelly Holden said his major concern with this application was "government intervention with private enterprise."

JB Enterprises of Goldsboro will construct the facility on about four acres of land beside the hospital, with room to expand to 120 beds in the future. Local banks had refused to loan the investors all of the money to build the home, said Lesh, a Supply businessman. He found two investors who "shared the same dream and excitement of enhancing care for the elderly," but still came up short of funds, Lesh told the board.

"We feel like it's a win-win situation for everyone," said Lesh. "With the strength of the project, we feel that we can get the money back to you."

Because Brunswick County has been identified as a "distressed"

county for the issuance of CDBG funds, the loan will be repaid to the county, not the state or federal government, said David Harris, of Harris and Associates, who will assist Lockwood Pines in applying for the grant.

"You can look at that, hopefully, as money coming back to the county," said Harris. "It's something you can establish locally, to make available to other businesses in your area."

The county will not be responsible for repaying grants when companies default, said Thomas Monks, executive director of Brunswick County Resources Development Commission. He said the funds are targeted for counties with high unemployment rates.

"It's there," said Monks. "If we don't take advantage of it, someone else will."

The previous two grants, to Lifescape and Striplap Hose Manufacturing Co., were issued before Monks' tenure at the RDC office.

"I would not have recommended either of those two," said Monks, comparing all three companies.

Part of the proposed CDBG grant, \$25,000, will cover the county's cost in administering the grant.

In April 1990, Brunswick County had 158 rest home beds for the elderly, or 22.1 beds per 1,000 residents over 65, said L.F. Amburn of JB Enterprises. The state ratio is 30.1 beds per 1,000 residents over 65, he said.

"Brunswick County is underbedded," he added.

The Brunswick Hospital has tried to locate a facility for the elderly on its campus since 1984, said Lesh, who lost a bid two years ago to obtain a state certificate of need permit to build a nursing home facility there.

Rest homes do not require certificate of need permits and would serve elderly individuals who do not require 24-hour nursing care.

Volunteer To Become Involved In Chamber

BY HOLLY RICHARDS, EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT
South Brunswick Islands Chamber of Commerce

Yes, folks it's here! This Thursday, Sept. 19 is Blitz Day. If you are not a member of the chamber's "Charter of Champions" or you haven't renewed your membership investment, expect to see a chamber volunteer ambassador at your door.

Now if you're not sure what the South Brunswick Islands Chamber is all about, read on my friend.

The chamber is a voluntary organization of business and professional people who have joined together for the purpose of promoting the civic and economic progress of our community. (The key word here is voluntary.) Our area's economic well-being is directly related to the caliber of work that is done by your chamber. Our chamber has a major impact on business, income and future growth of the area.

Your chamber is expanding in the areas of education and economic development. You have recently seen tangible results from our efforts to improve education by donating personal computers to Shallotte Middle School and helping West Brunswick High School place 11 students in after school jobs. This is only the beginning.

We want you to be a part of the fastest growing chamber in the state of North Carolina. The ambassadors that will be calling on you to invest, and the word is invest, in your chamber believe wholeheartedly in the South Brunswick Islands Chamber of Commerce, as do I personally. The things your chamber is doing is the reason that I left a promising career in my native Raleigh. I had to be a part of the very positive atmosphere that is taking place right here in Brunswick County. Remember I've talked about "moving and shaking?" You too can be a "mover and a shaker" by being a part of the positive things your chamber is doing. Don't just pay your money to the chamber, become involved in the chamber by volunteering. Be a "mover and a shaker," be part of what's happening here. I promise you'll reap more than you sow.

I hope to see all of you at Village Pines in Shallotte at 5:30 Thursday for Volunteer Appreciation Day/Business After Hours. And don't be surprised if you see me before then either.



RICHARDS

Blitz Wrap-Up, Recognition Of Volunteers Scheduled

Appreciation Day and Membership Blitz Wrap-up will be celebrated by the South Brunswick Islands Chamber of Commerce Thursday, Sept. 19, at Village Pines Office Park from 5:30 to 7 p.m.

The day is set aside by the chamber for its members, volunteers and blitz participants to get acquainted, and to thank individuals for their service supporting community events promoted by the chamber of commerce.

Sponsored by Village Pines Office Park, the day will be a picnic-style event. Village Pines is located at 628 Village Road, Hwy. 179, Shallotte.

Door prizes will be awarded. Participants are asked to register up-

on arrival and must be present to win.

As a wrap-up of the chamber's annual membership drive, prizes will be awarded to competing volunteers. The volunteer with the most points will win a vacation for two at the Bahamas Princess Resort and Casino, including a non-stop flight from Raleigh/Durham.

Other prizes will include a three day/two night golf package at Maggie Valley Resort and Country Club, and a three-day/two-night hang-gliding weekend for two students. The students will stay at the Nags Head Inn and flight lessons will take place over Corolla Beach.

More prizes will be awarded to team members, teams, and volunteers.

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