

BUSINESS *Update*

Business news and information brought to you by the Kinston Lenoir County Chamber of Commerce

► At the CHAMBER

Prayer Breakfast set for May 1

Please join us for the Fourth Annual Kinston-Lenoir Community Prayer Breakfast.

This is an event that unites Kinston-Lenoir County with an hour of prayer for our community, schools, state and nation.

Lenoir Community College Gym
 231 N.C. 58 South
 Kinston, NC
 May 1
 7 a.m.-8 a.m.

\$10 tickets are available at the Kinston-Lenoir County Chamber of Commerce at 301 N. Queen St.; telephone, (252) 527-1131.

Tickets can also be purchased in bulk by contacting Corey Fader at (252) 560-0868.

Also on the calendar ...

Teacher Mini Grant Fundraiser

Help our local schools and teachers have the necessary funds to offer additional educational projects. The Lenoir County Education Foundation is sponsoring a special drawing to help fund teacher mini grants. To purchase tickets contact the Chamber office at 527-1131.

Week of the Young Child

To celebrate Week of the Young Child 2008, the Partnership for Children is sponsoring Community Reader's Day on April 16.

On this day, community leaders will visit childcare facilities throughout Lenoir and Greene counties and read to the children.

Week of the Young Child is organized each year by the National Association for the Education of Young Children to honor young children and thank teachers and all those who make a difference in young children's lives.

Anyone interested in being a community reader should contact Jessica at 939-1200, Ext. 230, to sign up.

Happy anniversary

Congratulations to the following Chamber members:

DuPont, 55 years!
Lenoir Community College, 50 years!

How to reach us

To learn more or to become involved with the KLCC contact us at:

Phone:

252-527-1131

E-mail:

info@kinstonchamber.com

Web site:

www.kinstonchamber.com

► Chamber HAPPENINGS



Submitted Photo
 Wendy Rhodes owner of Liberty Tax Service welcomed all to a special Business After Hours networking event on March 20. Liberty Tax Service is located at 1208 W. Vernon Avenue across from Blockbuster and is a leader in the industry of income tax preparation. They are certainly doing their part in our community as they have been providing free tax preparation to senior citizens that meet certain guidelines. Several Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors, community leaders and others were on hand to meet Ms. Rhodes and her staff.



Submitted Photo
 The Kinston-Lenoir County Chamber of Commerce along with the Appearance Commission recognized the new Visitors and Information Center on U. S. 70 as the recipient of the Visual Improvement Award. Lucy Marston, Lenoir County tourism director, was on hand with several others to accept the award.

► Festival on the NEUSE

Festival to feature food and fun

Have a great time in downtown Kinston — enjoy beach music, art shows and the best Feast in the East as we celebrate the 27th Annual Festival on the Neuse and Wil King Hog Happenin' on April 25 and 26.

The tantalizing aroma of barbecue will be wafting down the banks of the Neuse as the Kinston-Lenoir County Chamber of Commerce hosts the annual Hog Happenin' Cookin' Contest. A preliminary competition to the "Super Bowl of Swine" the Hog Happenin' will host 40 award-winning barbecue cooks including some of the North Carolina's top scoring barbecue teams.

Bring along your shaggin' shoes and get ready to party, as Steve Hardy and his Original Beach Party will be the master of ceremonies on both Friday night and Saturday for the Festival on the Neuse.

Hardy will emcee Friday night's show that features the Hip Pocket Band brought to you by The Pride of Kinston.

The hot new Hip Pocket Band will bring to the Festival on the Neuse a Motown, soul, dance and beach music show that will offer great entertainment for everyone.

New this year will be the Chamber Burger Bash and Pigmiania Parade Friday evening.

Barbecue plates will be available on site Saturday with a new location for drive through pick-ups.

Call the Chamber office at 527-1131 to pre-purchase your barbecue tickets for \$6, which includes a half-off entry discount to the Kinston Indians baseball game Saturday evening at Grainger Stadium.

Trolley Rides, the Great Neuse River Rubber Duck Race, ARC Bark Parade & Amateur Dog Show and many other Family and Children Activities hosted by The Partnership for Children and The Community Arts Council will provide fun for all ages during the two-day Festival on the Neuse sponsored by the Kinston-Lenoir County Chamber of Commerce.



Upcoming ribbon cuttings

Today

Faithful Friends Veterinary Hospital, PA
 N.C. 11 North, Grifton
 10 a.m.

Join us as we celebrate the opening of Faithful Friends which is a full service veterinary hospital, that is family oriented offering high quality medicine and surgery with compassionate care. They opened their doors for business yesterday and invite everyone to stop by today at 10 a.m. as Mayor Buddy Ritch cuts the ceremonial ribbon.

Directions: On N.C.11 North, travel towards Greenville. It's approximately 1 mile from the Grifton exit. The entrance is on the right hand side.

Wednesday, April 9

Adriana's
 222 North Heritage Street
 10 a.m.

Adriana's Gifts and Home Décor is located in beautiful downtown Kinston. Join us as we officially welcome them to Downtown Kinston and browse their extraordinary shop that is filled with wonderful gifts and accessories for you home.

Business After Hours

Thursday, April 17

Ham's Restaurant
 3021 North Heritage Street
 5:30 p.m.

Join us for this Chamber of Commerce signature-networking event that will definitely satisfy your taste buds. Bring plenty of business cards and be prepared to meet others that are interested in building business contacts and relationships.

Ham's restaurant offers fun and casual dining- "A Good Time" combined with great food. Ham's in Kinston provides a family friendly, laid-back atmosphere where you can enjoy a wide variety of the very best meals. Today as in years gone by, they strive to provide only top-notch service. Their friendly staff members price themselves in making sure every Ham's patron gets a fun, relaxing experience — every visit. They don't just sell food to customers; they are in the business of creating "A Good Time" in Kinston.

To register, call Jean at 527-1131 or go to www.kinstonchamber.com.



► Member SPOTLIGHT

Moss Hill Elementary

Donna B. Grady -Principal
 6040 Hwy 55 West
 Kinston, NC 28504
 Phone: 252-569-5071
 Fax: 252-569-1405

Moss Hill Elementary is a K-5 school located in the southwest area of Lenoir County near Seven Springs. Its main building was constructed in 1917 and still serves the students of the community. Moss Hill's principal Donna B. Grady was selected as the 2007 Lenoir County's Wachovia Principal of the Year.

New programs and activities that have been implemented this year include:

■ The Jammin' Tigers, a 5th grade chorus that travels and sings at special events

■ The "Jump-It" Club, a 4th and 5th grade club that promotes physical fitness through rope jumping

■ Tiger Academy, after-school reading and math tutoring program to prepare students for the EOG

Moss Hill Elementary is cultivating excellence. Come watch us grow!

► Chamber AT WORK

Chamber, Small Business Center offer hiring tips

Behavioral Interviewing and the Law

Presenter: Stewart Levine
 Kinston Enterprise Center

Thursday, April 17

Registration: 8:30-9 a.m.

Class: 9 a.m.-noon

Registration Fee: \$10

The costs associated with hiring the wrong person for a job is staggering. This program explains interviewing practices that dramatically improve the likelihood of hiring the right person for the job. Topics covered include 5 steps to a successful interview, determining critical job requirements, the behavioral interview process, obtaining information in a legal manner, and accurately analyzing responses to interview questions.

For additional information please call Greg Hannibal at (252) 522-4676, Ext.2021, or Linda Murray at Ext. 2022.

Chamber schedules awards ceremonies

Register today to attend the Administrative Professional Banquet and Award Ceremony.

April 23

Southwood Christian Church-
 1027 Hwy 58 South
 12:30 p.m.

Register online at www.kinstonchamber.com or by calling 527-1131

The \$25 registration fee includes a wonderful lunch, fashion show and door prizes. Plus the 2008 Administrative Professional of the Year will be announced!

It's a perfect way to say thank you to your employees.

Small Business, Minority Business and Micro Enterprise Business Awards will be presented at the Kinston Rotary Club luncheon meeting at 1 p.m. on Thursday, April 17.

President's Club

Gold

Harvey Fertilizer and Gas
 Progress Energy

Lenoir Memorial Hospital

Silver

Advantage Printing

Best Diamond Packaging

Coastal Connections Marketing

Corporate Resources

Down East Protection Systems

Embarq

First Flight Federal Credit Union

Fasco, Inc.

Grady Dental Lab

Kelly Services

Lenoir Community College

Minges Bottling Group, Inc

Neuse Sport Shop Inc.

Perry Management, Inc.

Sylvia Chiropractic Center

The Beauty Box

U.S. Cellular

Press "Play" to win.....

We're looking for the "Best School Video"

Win \$250 For Your School

When something interesting is happening at your school, teachers and students need to get it on tape - and get it on www.kinston.com. If it is the best video submitted during April - as determined by votes of kinston.com users - your school will win \$250 from The Free Press. Videos can be submitted online anytime in April. Voting will take place the first two weeks in May.

www.kinston.com

To submit a video, go to www.kinston.com and follow the instructions under "Want to Submit a Video." For technical assistance call, 559-1083.

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