

ECWDB Staff:

Tammy Childers, Executive Director
Robert Kehres, Assistant Director
Lisa Harvey, MIS Coordinator
Trina Hale, Accounting Technician
Joe McCarthy, Youth Coordinator
Jessie Bode, Fiscal Monitor
Rebecca Thomas-Suchenski, Public Information Specialist
Pat Moss, Administrative Assistant
Victor Horrell, Business Services Coordinator

Communicate with Us!

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

Youth Council Meeting

at the ECWDB offices in New Bern
August 2, 2005, 6:00 pm

JobLink Committee Meeting

at the ECWDB offices in New Bern
August 11, 2005, 6:00 pm

WIA Oversight Committee

at the ECWDB offices in New Bern
August 18, 2005, 6:00 pm

Business Expo

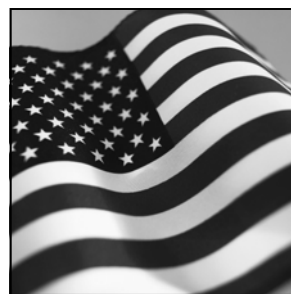
at New Bern Riverfront Convention Center
August 18, 2005, 9:00 am- 4:00 pm

Executive Committee Meeting

at the ECWDB offices in New Bern
August 25, 2005, 6:00 pm

ECWDB/Consortium Meeting

at the ECWDB offices in New Bern
September 1, 2005 6:00 pm



Thank You...

*I can't shake every hand.
I can't put flowers on every grave.
I can't console every family member.
But I can say thank you.*

*You have given me the freedom I enjoy today.
Your blood was shed in place of mine.
Your family grieved so mine could rejoice.
All I can say is thank you.*

*There are not words big enough.
There is not a hug strong enough.
There is not a smile wide enough.
All I can offer is thank you.*

*You are my hero.
You are in my thoughts.
You are in my prayers.
For all you've done, thank you.*

~ Lily Michaels

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*Serving the North Carolina Counties of Carteret, Craven,
Duplin, Greene, Jones, Lenoir, Onslow, Pamlico and Wayne*

July 2005

Volume 6, Issue 6

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Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Update Easley vows to keep NC most military friendly state in the nation.

Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) recommendations did not include any base closures in North Carolina, which is home to six major military installations and more than 100,000 military personnel. To prepare for the U.S. Department of Defense's BRAC announcement, the State has been targeting strategic investments to support its bases, surrounding communities, members of the military and family dependents since 2001.

Recommendations for NC are as follows:

- expansion at Fort Bragg Army Base, gaining 4,078 military and 247 civilian jobs
- realignment of Pope Air Force Base, with the loss of 4,821 military jobs and gain of 808 civilian jobs
- realignment at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, gaining 345 military and 17 civilian jobs
- realignment at Marine Corps Air Station

Cherry Point, gaining 48 military and losing 656 civilian jobs

- realignment at Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, losing 182 military and one civilian job

"We anticipate growth on the East coast, in particular with North Carolina bases, as we go forward. We will continue to aggressively make our case for all of these jobs," said Governor Easley.

Source: Office of the Governor

Progress Energy to Hire 1,000 Employees Huge early retirement exit makes room for new employees.

Progress Energy offered early retirements to 3,500 veteran workers to cut 450 jobs and trim up to \$100 million in annual operating expenses.

The response was overwhelming, as 1,477 employees opted for early retirement buyouts rather than face potential layoffs. "Successful beyond our intentions," summarized Bill Johnson, Progress Energy President.

Progress Energy, the only Fortune 500 company based in the Triangle, is now scrambling to fill about

1,000 vacancies created by the early retirements. This will be one of the largest hiring sprees in the company's history.

Progress Energy officials want workers to leave gradually, so each month for the rest of 2005 will bring a fresh round of exits. The departing workers will be training others to do their jobs.

What group of workers is leaving? Every department is affected. Divisions with the greatest impact are in the Power Operations group, which is

losing 322 power plant operators, engineers, mechanics, electricians and others in the Carolinas and Florida. Progress Energy Carolinas is losing 289 workers, primarily linemen, engineers and customer service reps. The largest numbers of retirees, 591 people or 41 percent, are linemen, electricians, power-plant workers, mechanics and people in other similar jobs.

The JobLink Career Centers will be used to hire positions in North Carolina.

Source: The News & Observer

"A candle loses none of its light by lighting another candle." ~Unknown



Slate of Officers: July 1, 2005 – June 30, 2006

- Chief Elected Official: Joseph Wiggins, Jones County
- Chairman: Don Harris, Onslow County
- Vice Chairman: James Garner, Carteret County
- Secretary/Treasurer: Gary Mastrodonato, Pamlico County

Carteret County: Lynda Clay, Chief Elected Official
Mike Kraszeski, *Veneer Technologies, Vice President*
Dave Inscoc, *Carteret County Economic Development, Executive Director*
James Garner, *Creative Outlet, Owner*

Craven County: Lee K. Allen, Chief Elected Official
Tom Taylor, *Aflac Insurance, Retired Executive*
Kimsey Welch, *Vocational Rehabilitation, Director*

Duplin County: David G. Sussell, Sr., Chief Elected Official
Jerome Shepard, *National Spinning, Plant Manager*
Alex Asbun, *Duplin Gen. Hospital, Director of Latino Health Care Access*
Patricia Vinson, *Smithfield Foods, Senior Financial Analyst*

Greene County: Mary Betty Kearney, Chief Elected Official
Bud May, *Greene Lamp, Inc., Executive Director*
Judy Darden, *Darden Bookkeeping, Owner*

Jones County: Joseph Wiggins, Chief Elected Official
Frank Emory, *Emory Construction, Owner*
Thelma Simmons, *Jones County DSS, Executive Director*
Adrienne Fiedler, *Jones Co. Partnership for Children, Early Ed. Specialist*

Lenoir County: George Graham, Jr., Chief Elected Official
Brantley Briley, *Lenoir Community College, President*
Bruce Parson, *Kinston-Lenoir Chamber of Commerce, President*
Debbie Beech Burrell, *FACILITATE, CEO*

Onslow County: Lionell Midgett, Chief Elected Official
Tracey Brown, *Onslow CHIP, Director*
Don Harris, *Stanadyne Diesel, Retired*
Ralph Leeds, *Employment Security Commission, Manager*
Mona Padrick, *Jacksonville-Onslow Chamber of Commerce, President*

Pamlico County: Christine Mele, Chief Elected Official
Dorothy Lupton, *Buckhorn Books, Owner*
Carla Byrnes, *B & B Yacht Designs, Owner*
Gary Mastrodonato, *The Masters, LLC Wealth Mgmt., CEO/President*

Wayne County: J.D. Evans, Chief Elected Official
Bonnie Carlton, *KAN SEEK, Owner*
Melanie Sanders, *Position Control Specialist, Caswell Center*
Fletcher Bizzell, *Ex-cell Home Fashions, HR Manager*

Most Memorable People in the World

Pop Quiz (*and it doesn't count if you look up the answers*):

1. Who were the highest paid CEOs for the past 3 years?
2. Who were the last three Heisman trophy winners?
3. Who were the last three winners of the Miss America pageant?
4. Who were the last three winners of the Pulitzer Prize for Literature?
5. Who were the last three recipients of the Nobel Peace Prize?
6. Who won the last three Academy Awards for Best Actress? Best Actor?

So, how'd you do? You probably left more than a few answers blank. But don't worry—you're not alone. Few people remember yesterday's news. And that what these folks are. Sure, they're the best and brightest in their fields, the wealthiest, the most attractive, and the most successful. But sooner or later, the applause dies, the beauty fades, the awards tarnish. And the wealth? Well, you can't take it with you.

Okay, now try this quiz:

1. Name three teachers who helped you get through school.
2. Name three friends who helped you through tough times.
3. Name three people who've taught you valuable lessons.
4. Name three people who've made you feel loved and appreciated.
5. Name three people whose company you enjoy.
6. Name three personal heroes whose stories have inspired you.

Bet this one was easier. The people who truly make a difference in our lives are rarely the ones with the biggest names, the most money, or the greatest number of accolades.

They're the ones who care!

You Can Make a Difference...

There's an oft-told story of an old man walking along the beach with his grandson, who picked up each starfish they passed and threw it back into the sea. "If I left them up here," the boy said, "they would dry up and die. I'm saving their lives."

"But," protested the old man, "The beach goes on for miles and miles, and there are millions of starfish. What you are doing won't make any difference."

The boy looked at the starfish in his hand, gently threw it into the ocean, and answered: **"It makes a difference to this one."**

ECWDB News...

Jessie Bode, ECWDB Fiscal Monitor, is returning home to Wisconsin.

Jessie Bode, ECWDB's Fiscal Monitor, will be leaving the ECWDB in August. Jessie's husband is being sent to Iraq and she will be going back home to Wisconsin with her two-year old son Jacob.

Jessie came to the ECWDB in June 2001 as a temporary employee through TESI, and was hired on as a full-time employee in September 2001.

Jessie knows first-hand the responsibilities and sacrifices of being a military wife, as well as being a full-time employee, a mother, a student, and an entrepreneur. She has juggled these

roles with such ease and grace, that many are surprised to hear of her many duties.

Her husband was stationed in Iraq for 6-months during her pregnancy with son Jacob, and missed his birth by a week. A year later, her husband was away for over 6 months in Florida while attending Air Traffic Control training. Now, less than a year later, he will be stationed in Iraq for another 6 months.

We will miss Jessie, but support her and her family for the sacrifices they, and so many other military

families, have had to make.

Good luck, and thank you for hard work and contributions to the ECWDB! We will miss you!



Jessie Bode with son Jacob

ECWDB hires Business Services Coordinator to identify and address employers' needs.

The ECWDB has hired Victor Horrell as the Business Services Coordinator. Victor will serve as a liaison between the ECWDB, JobLink Career Centers, and local businesses to identify effective business services and strategies that address the needs of employers.

Victor was born and reared in Wilmington, NC and graduated from East Carolina University in Greenville with a bachelor's degree in Psychology and a minor in English.

Victor, and his wife Jean Mallard Horrell, live in Trent Woods in New Bern. They have two daughters and

three grandchildren.

Victor's hobbies are gardening, camping with his grandchildren, and working with computers. He is also a confessed "gadget freak."

A little about his professional career... Victor enjoyed a thirty-two year career with Progress Energy Company, where most of his time was spent in marketing and general management in Raleigh and eastern North Carolina. Since his retirement from Progress Energy, he has worked in Marketing for a large construction company, as a General Manager of a heating and air conditioning company,

and Transportation Services for Jones County School system.

We are excited to have Victor join our team of workforce professionals!



Victor Horrell

Monique Grannum has a new addition to her family—Madison Sky

Monique Grannum, ECWDB's former Program Assistant, gave birth to Madison Sky Grannum on June 22. At birth, Madison Sky weighed 6lbs. 11ozs and was 19.5 inches long.

Monique left the ECWDB in March because of her husband's military transfer to California. She hopes to be back on the East Coast in

January, when her husband finishes his training in California.

Monique and family are doing well. She stays in touch and likes to keep up with ECWDB happenings. She is missed at the office as a valuable asset, as part of a team, and as a friend.

Congratulations to the Grannum family on their beautiful baby girl!



Madison Sky Grannum

"There's something wonderfully rewarding in being part of an effort that does make a difference."
~Brian O'Connell



Workforce3One: www.workforce3one.org

Workforce3One is a collaborative effort built on partnerships with the public workforce system, employers, education and training providers, and economic development professionals. The Workforce3One Integrated web space offers innovative features to foster collaboration, promote partnerships, respond to the needs of employers, meet the needs of job seekers, and focus on becoming demand-driven.

Features Include:

➤ **Webinars and Self-Paced Learning**

Register for Workforce3One to participate in free learning events that support and promote the demand-driven initiative. Webinars provide a real-time interactive platform for connecting with peers and experts. Self-paced learning events allow learners to study at their own pace, and at a time and place convenient to them.

➤ **Research and Information**

Workforce3One contains a comprehensive, searchable knowledge database of new and existing research and information. Resources consist of web sites, contact information, case studies, project summaries, project templates and plans, presentations, presentation templates, regional data, and more. This free knowledge base is continually updated through regular contributions by partners and other community members.

➤ **Solution-Based Tools and Products**

Workforce3One contains solutions-based tools and products designed to help launch demand-driven services within an organization. These tools and products go beyond simply demonstrating why being demand-driven is important; they show how to implement it.

➤ **Communities**

Workforce3One is categorized by community so that members can collaborate with others who share similar interests.

➤ **Ongoing Updates**

Workforce3One is continually updated with new research and information, Webinars, self-paced learning, and more.

➤ **Promising Practices**

Workforce3One also contains numerous examples of Promising Practices from organizations that have successfully transitioned to demand-driven services. Learn how these organizations continue to achieve their goals!

Membership is FREE...

Become a member of Workforce3One today! To join, simply visit www.workforce3one.org and click the "Register" link to complete the quick registration process.

New Job Search Tool available for North Carolina's Job Seekers

North Carolina's JobLink Career Center system now offers jobseekers access to a powerful new search engine through www.ncjoblink.com. This new job search engine accesses job openings from both the public and the private sector's webpages. Simply enter the job skills you have or the job you are looking for and type the search area. Visit ncjoblink.com today!

Director's Report

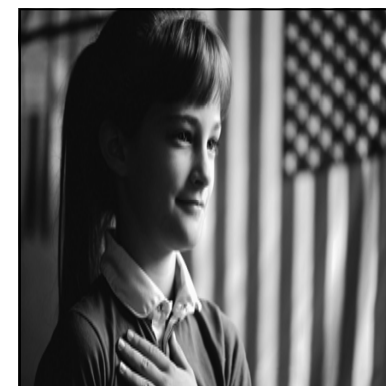
Dear Colleagues,

I hope that everyone had a Happy Fourth of July holiday. We have so much to celebrate and be thankful for. As Lee Greenwood so eloquently sings "I am proud to be an American, where at least I know I'm free, and I won't forget the men who died and gave that right to me." Let us never forget! To all our Veterans, Servicemen and Women, we owe so much! May God protect them and richly bless them for their sacrifices and service to our great country.

As some of you may know, I just returned from my first mission trip to El Progreso, Honduras. Everyone told me that it would be life-changing and they were right. The level of poverty was beyond anything that I could ever imagine. Words, nor pictures can adequately capture the overwhelming sense of hopelessness that I experienced in witnessing the living conditions of hundreds of people. Those images will stay with me forever. Like all places, there were areas of prosperity, but surrounded by extreme poverty. I saw many homes made of sticks and mud, women and children carrying food and water for what seemed to be miles, people selling their handmade goods and produce on the sides of the road, men cutting grass with machetes, and many people walking or riding bicycles (and horses) as a means of transportation. And for the one textile plant that I saw, at least 50 or more people were literally lined up outside the locked and guarded gate, hoping to be called into work, for what I understand to be less than a \$1.00 per hour. The company had school buses lined up where they transported their workforce to and from pick up points. For those people, that income was above anything they ever earned. They were grateful. We were told that the average income for manufacturing workers is between \$1,000-\$2,000 a year, but for more than half of the country's 2.1 million workforce, they earn less than \$1,000 per year. Yet despite the poverty, the strong spirit of the Hondurans that I met was amazing. Where they were lacking economically, they were rich in their faith.

As Americans, we have so much to be thankful for. We are so blessed to live in the land of the free- the United States of America. We have so many opportunities to pursue our dreams and build the quality of life that we want. We live in a beautiful country, we have the best education system, government system, jobs, homes, and the best everything. God has truly showered our great Nation with His favor, grace, and blessings. One way to thank Him is to help others, especially the economically disadvantaged in our own communities. It is my hope, that each of us will live up to our potential in service to others. In workforce development, one way of service is by promoting the many services that are available through our network of JobLink Career Centers where individuals can access information, career planning advice, education and training resources, and job search assistance they need to get or keep good jobs, as well as provide employers with skilled workers. Education is the key to a better future. Pass along that key to someone today. We have so much to be thankful for.

Tammy Childers, Executive Director



The American's Creed

"I believe in the United States of America as a government of the people, by the people, for the people; whose just powers are derived from the consent of the governed; a democracy in a republic; a sovereign Nation of many sovereign States; a perfect union, one and inseparable; established upon those principles of freedom, equality, justice, and humanity for which American patriots sacrificed their lives and fortunes. I therefore believe it is my duty to my country to love it, to support its Constitution, to obey its laws, to respect its flag, and to defend it against all enemies."

Note: William Tyler Page, Clerk of the U.S. House of Representatives, wrote "The American's Creed" in 1917. It was accepted by the House on behalf of the American people on April 3, 1918.

Local Area Unemployment Rate Decreased to 5.1% in May

Unemployment rates dropped in 6 counties from April to May.

The Eastern Carolina Local Area unemployment rate in May 2005 decreased to 5.1 percent from the April 2005 level – 5.3. Unemployment rates dropped in six (6) counties from April to May (see chart below).

Local Area unemployment rates for the Metropolitan Statistical Areas were: Goldsboro- 5.1 percent, down from 5.2 percent; Jacksonville- 5.3 percent, down from 5.5 percent.

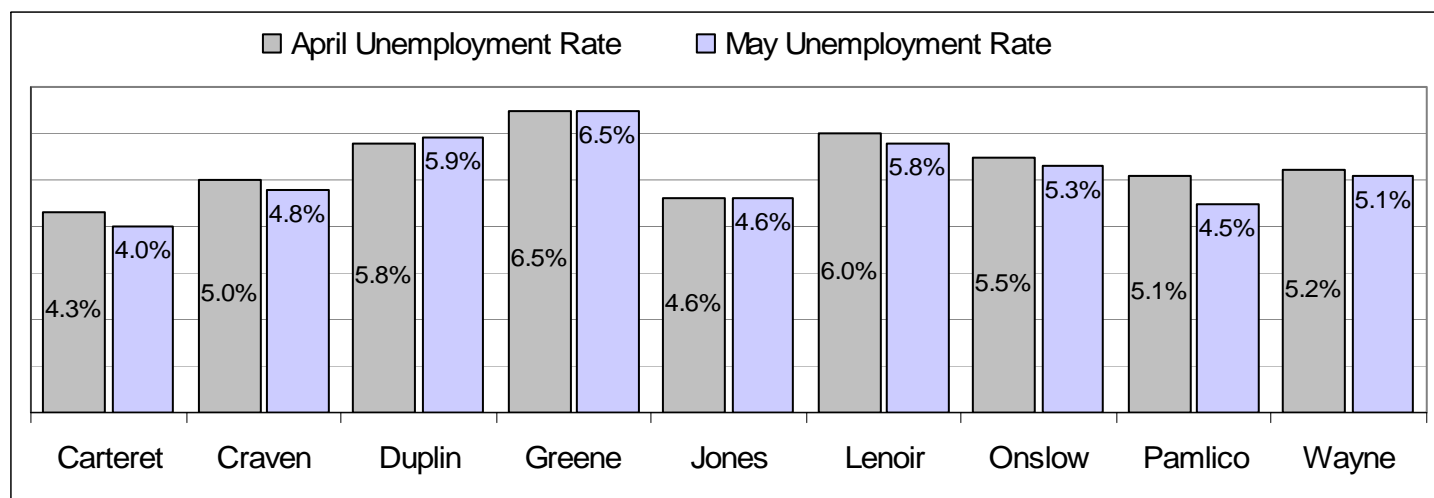
Unemployment rates for the Micropolitan Statistical Areas in our Local Area were: Kinston- 5.8 percent, down from 6.0 percent; Morehead City- 4.0 percent, down from 4.3 percent; New Bern- 4.7 percent, down from 4.9 percent.

In May, \$3.5 million in unemployment insurance benefits were paid to individuals in the Eastern Carolina Local Area (approximately

\$500,000 more than the previous month).

Onslow County received the highest amount- \$701,277, followed by Wayne- \$674,161, Lenoir- \$517,562, Craven- \$517,121, Duplin- \$467,310, Carteret- \$283,306, Greene- \$211,359, Pamlico- \$67,385, and Jones- \$53,268.

Source: ESC of NC



Around the Globe*

Canada

- Canada is currently enjoying its lowest unemployment rate in 25 years –6.8%
- The unemployment rate of low-educated workers is double that of workers with higher education
- The country's labor market is undergoing a transformation due to three main factors: an aging workforce, the introduction of new technology, and globalization

Ireland

- The unemployment rate has dropped from 15.7% in 1993 to 4.4% in 2004 and the Irish GDP per hour worked measured 4% above the U.S. levels in 2003
- Some reasons for the growth include: improved quality of labor, and increased supply of labor, sustained government investment in education and training (free colleges and universities)

New Zealand

- Focused on a demand-driven approach to deliver employment service
- The country had an unemployment rate of 3.9% in March 2005
- The country's system features contracted services and work brokerage

United Kingdom

- Focusing efforts on aging and a skilled deficient workforce
- The GDP per hour is less than Germany, France, and the United States
- Partnerships with all parties are being encouraged
- The country's new national employment and training program is demand-driven

*Source: www.WorkforceInnovations.org

The ECWDB Holds 4th Annual Empowerment Conference

Over 200 attended the “Celebrating a New Me” event.



The Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board, Inc. held its 4th Annual Empowerment Conference at the New Bern Riverfront Convention Center on June 10, 2005.

The theme of the event was “Celebrating a New Me,” which was attended by over 200 people.

The guest speaker was Dr. Earl Suttle, who is President of Three E Corporation, a published author, and motivational speaker.

Participants had the opportunity to attend the following workshops:

- “Making Ends Meet” — how to manage money and make wise financial decisions
- “Using Your Talents to Create Income”— learn strategies on using your talents to start own business
- “A Watchful Eye Handling Yourself in a Confrontation” — various approaches to handling oneself in a tight spot
- “The Empowered Parent: Being the Best Parent I Can Be” — helpful tips about parenting
- “Finding a Nutritional Balance” —

a broad range of nutrition topics and how they related to health

A special thanks to everyone who helped make this year's event such a success, including the Empowerment Conference Committee, the workshop presenters, and the exhibitors.

“The conference was a great experience and enjoyable. I am thankful for the opportunity to attend.”

“This was a good conference, keep it going. We need all the empowerment and motivation we can get.”

Greene County JobLink Recognizes Excellent Employees

Bettie Hooker and Judy Hill were recently named “Employee of the Month.”



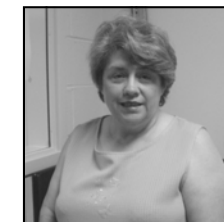
Bettie Hooker

Bettie Hooker, was the Greene County JobLink's Employee of the Month for May. Bettie is retiring after 31 years of service with ESC and over two years with the Greene County JobLink.

Judy Hill was named Employee of the month for July. Judy is part of the

JobLink Team, representing Greene Lamp, Inc. She is a case manager for the YELL/WIA Out-of-School Youth Program in Greene County.

Congratulations to the Greene County JobLink Employees of the Month! Thanks for your hard work in serving the citizens of Greene County!



Judy Hill

ECWDPA Annual Luncheon

The ECWDPA recognized outstanding participants and elected new officers.

The Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Professional's Association (ECWDPA) held its Annual JobLink Partners Appreciation Luncheon on May 19, 2005. The guest speaker for the event was Myra Poole, Dean of Student Services at Lenoir Community College.

The following outstanding

participants were recognized at the Luncheon for Program Year 2004-05: Sarah Halsey (Adult Participant), Elliott Rooks (Dislocated Worker), Michael Knapp (In-School Youth), and Keshana Hill (Out-of-School Youth).

ECWDPA also voted on a new slate of officers for 2005-06. The new officers are as follows:

- President: Dianne Beckwith
- Vice President: Reid Taylor
- Treasurer: Sandra Shepard
- Secretary: Cristy Lewis

A special thanks to the outgoing officers for all of their hard work: Nick Theuner, President; Duane Clark, Vice President; Laurie Schultz, Treasurer; Lea Thornton, Secretary.



YELL/WIA Participant Appointed to Serve as Governor’s Page

Timothy Davis, of Wayne Community College, is recognized for excellence.

Timothy Davis has been selected as a Governor’s Page in Raleigh and as a candidate for the 2005 National Youth Summit in Washington, DC.

The Governor’s Page Program, a year round program established in 1973, provides an opportunity for high school students to spend a week in Raleigh and learn of the roles and functions of state government.

Timothy is an ambitious participant of the WIA/YELL Program and Basic Skills Department at Wayne Community College (WCC).

Since his 2004 enrollment in the Adult High School Program, Timothy has demonstrated outstanding academic and leadership achievements. Timothy served as a Marshall for WCC’s Basic Skills Graduation and he was a recipient for the “Outstanding Participation Award”.

Timothy has also accomplished the academic honors list and participated in various WIA/YELL activities such as, the Youth Quiz Bowl, YELL Club, and the Empowerment Conference.

Source: Brandy Thomas, WCC



Timothy Davis

Local Area Youth to Attend National Youth Summit in D.C.

Youth will attend workshops, hear exciting speakers, and discuss what’s important.

Local Area Youth will attend the 2005 National Youth Summit in Washington, DC on July 28-30. The theme of the event is “Youth in Action—Making a Difference.” The youth will attend workshops, hear exciting speakers, meet inspiring young people, and have plenty of opportunities to discuss what is important to them.

The National Youth Summit (NYS) brings together youth and adults from across the country to celebrate the strengths and accomplishments of America’s young people. First Lady Mrs. Laura Bush will serve as the Honorary Chairperson of the 2005 National Youth Summit, “**Youth in Action – Making a Difference.**”

The 2005 Summit is for youth in

action who make a difference as well as adults who work with, learn from and support America’s dynamic young people. This year’s summit will explore youth & public policy, youth & the economy, youth & community service, and youth & creativity.

Each Summit includes skill-building sessions, networking, and time to share ideas. In addition to attending the sessions, youth will assemble "Gift of Art" packages, for Iraqi youth and prepare the boxes for shipment during a youth service activity. The summit will end with "What's Next? — How To Make a Difference Back Home" where youth will learn how to plan and get funding for future service projects. Using a planning journal to jot down their reflections and ideas, youth will

learn how to create an action plan to make their project a reality.

The ECWDB is sponsoring the following future leaders at the 2005 National Youth Summit: Lindeshia Barrow, *Lenoir Community College*; TyAtris Bumpers, *Greene County Schools*; Virginia Aaron Howard, *Greene Lamp Jones County*; Roberta Scheffer, *Greene Lamp Greene County*; Amanda Stark, *Greene Lamp Carteret County*; Yassmin Williams, *Greene Lamp Carteret County*; S.B., *Dobbs*; Timothy Davis, *Wayne Community College*; Antonio Dodd, *Lenoir Community College*; Deanginique Smith, *Greene Lamp Onslow County*; Jamil Sutton, *Greene Lamp Greene County*; Donquirius Hall, *Jones County Schools*.

Carteret County’s Youth Leadership 2005

Four YELL/WIA students from Carteret County Schools participated.

Carteret County’s Youth Leadership 2005 involved 21 high school juniors. The three-day tour of Carteret County included leadership training, exposure to cooperatives and positive impact sessions, where students visited businesses, government offices, the hospital, and the community college.

The occupational exposure tour was sponsored by the Carteret County Chamber of Commerce, Carteret County JobLink, Employment Security Commission, and the Carteret County School System.

The event was held at the Trinity Center on Pine Knoll Shores. Speakers included Bob Usery from NC State University speaking on how businesses worked using a model known as "Make It Fly" that involved the students in hands-on methods.

The four Carteret County Workforce Investment Act (WIA) participants who took part in the summer work program are pictured at right touring the nursing lab at Carteret Community College.

Source: Carteret Community College



(Left to right) Amber Patridge (West Carteret H.S.), Moncetta Murray (Cape Lookout Marine Science H.S.), and Thyais Simmons (East Carteret H.S.) listen as Gurney Mizell, CCC’s Health Sciences Director, discusses the life-like health science manikins.

North Carolina Named “South’s State of the Year”

Southern Business & Development recognized NC for region’s largest business deals.

North Carolina was named the “South’s State of the Year” by Southern Business & Development (SB-D) magazine. Each year, SB-D ranks Southern states according to the top job and investment announcements for the previous calendar year.

North Carolina and Alabama were ranked in the No. 1 spot for the

region's largest business deals in the magazines 13th annual Top 100 issue. In 2004, NC announced 18,312 new jobs and \$2.8 billion in investment.

“North Carolina continues to earn national recognition for our favorable business climate, our highly skilled workforce, and our low cost of doing business,” said Gov. Easley. “We will

continue to make the necessary investments in education, worker training, and infrastructure to bring quality jobs and businesses to our state.”

For more information, visit: www.SB-D.com

Source: NC Office of the Governor

North Carolina’s Community Colleges Assisting Businesses

Economic and Workforce Development Division addresses business and industry needs.

The North Carolina Community College System (NCCCS) provides business services and training opportunities through the Economic and Workforce Development Division. Business training and services include:

New & Expanding Industry Training

This training is aimed at helping businesses maintain their competitive edge, as attracting and training a skilled and motivated workforce is crucial to any new or expanding company.

Occupational Continuing Education

Short-term occupational skill training courses are offered at each of the state’s community colleges to train, retrain and upgrade individuals for current or future job skills.

Small Business Center Network

The Small Business Center Network, comprised of 58 Centers throughout NC, supports the development of new businesses and the growth of existing businesses by providing training, counseling, and resource information.

Human Resources Development

The Human Resources Development program educates and trains individuals for success in the workplace.

Focused Industrial Training (FIT)

FIT is a special training program for NC’s manufacturing industries to upgrade workers’ skills.

Workforce Initiatives

The Workforce Investment Act of 1998 was designed to meet the needs of businesses, job seekers, and those who want to further their careers.

BioNetwork

This initiative connects community colleges to provide specialized training, curricula and equipment for the biotechnology, pharmaceutical and life sciences industries. The Centers, each with an area of specialization, share information, innovations and resources.

Source: www.ncccs.cc.nc.us/

Kinston Receives Entrepreneurial Grant for Small Businesses

Grants were awarded to 7 rural communities to help create business opportunities.

Gov. Easley announced that seven communities have received a combined total of \$2.25 million in grants through NC’s Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Entrepreneurial Incubator Provisional Grants program.

These funds will be used to purchase telecommunication equipment and to build or renovate buildings for newly-formed small businesses in rural areas.

“More and more rural leaders are recognizing that homegrown jobs are the key to local prosperity,” Easley said. “These funds will help create business opportunities in small

- communities throughout our state.”
- The grants were awarded to the following communities:
- Ashe County: \$260,700
 - Bladen County: \$400,000
 - **Kinston: \$210,800**
 - Transylvania County: \$400,000
 - Wadesboro: \$400,000
 - Wilson: \$355,000
 - Yancey County: \$223,500

Incubation programs are designed to create jobs in a community, enhance a community’s entrepreneurial climate, retain businesses in a community, build or accelerate growth in a local

industry, and diversify local economies.

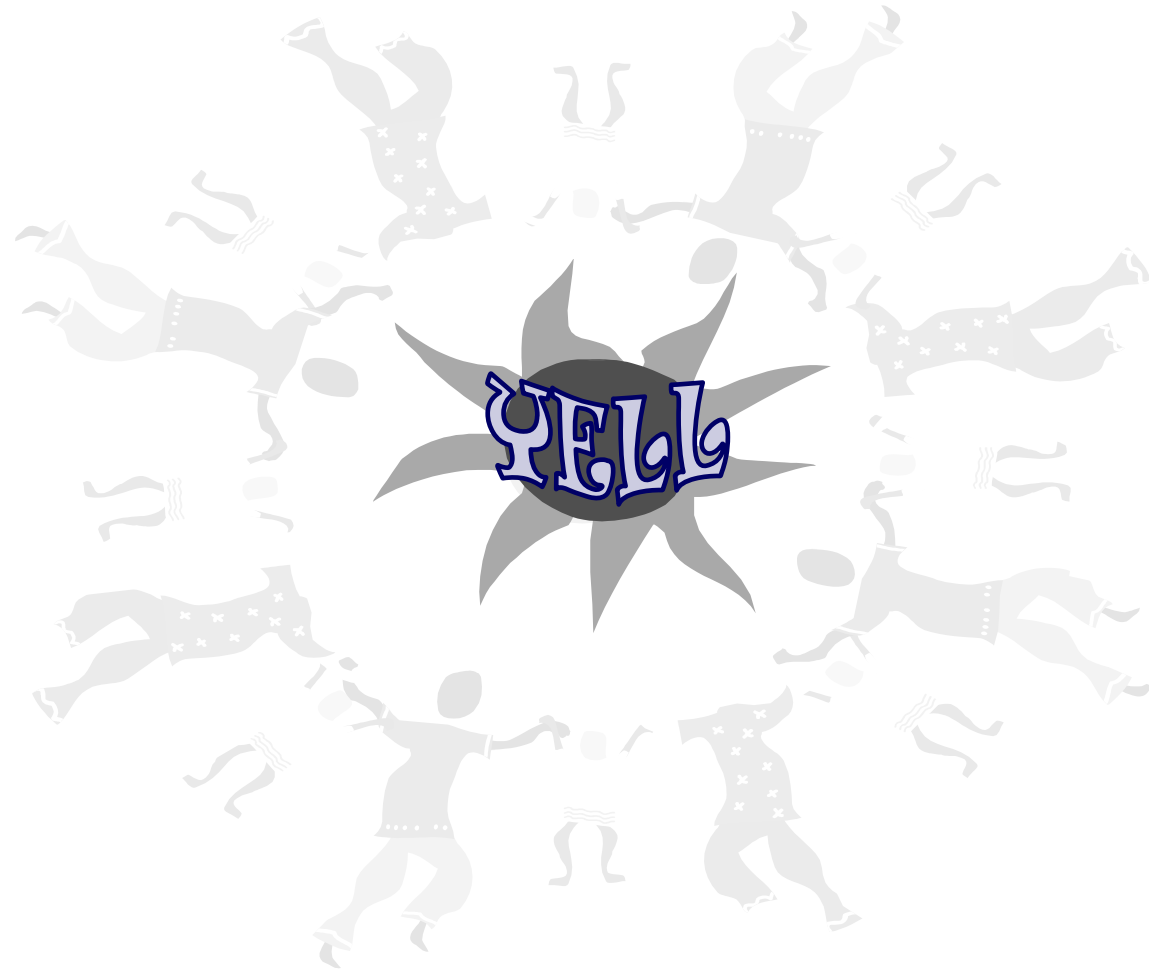
These grants are used to help local governments with community and economic development projects. All small cities in the state are eligible to apply for funds, with the exception of 23 cities and two urban counties that receive funds directly from HUD. In 2004, the state received more than \$50 million in CDBG funds.

For more information about Community Development Block Grants and/or the Division of Community Assistance, visit www.ncdca.com/cdbg.

Source: NC Office of the Governor

YELL...

The YELL (Youth Excelling in Lifelong Learning) Program is all about brightening your future! This program is FREE to eligible youth and offers a variety of services to help achieve academic & employment SUCCESS.



HOW YELL CAN HELP YOU:

- tutoring, study skills training
- dropout prevention strategies
- alternative secondary school offerings
- summer jobs linked to academic & occupational learning
- occupational skill training
- paid/unpaid work experiences
- internships & job shadowing
- adult mentoring
- comprehensive guidance and counseling
- supportive services

Get involved with your local Youth Program!

Call Joe McCarthy, ECWDB Youth Coordinator, for more information at (252) 636-6901.

It's Your Future!

Greene Lamp's YELL/WIA Graduates

Graduates include Youth Council members Jamil Sutton & Trate Dixon.

Six Greene County YELL/WIA participants received their GED certificates during Lenoir Community College's Commencement Ceremony. One Jones County participant received her Adult High School Diploma during the ceremony.

These youth are continuing with higher educational goals. The President of Lenoir Community College expressed our sentiments in his

congratulatory letter by saying, "I commend you for your commitment, discipline, and courage in successfully reaching this goal. You have brought your dreams for a better tomorrow one step closer to reality. You now have the educational tools to move to a higher level of reality - to new jobs, to new educational goals, to new opportunities."

Source: Rebecca B. Barrow, LCC



(left to right)
Tajma Johnson, Trate Dixon, Aaron Howard, Lakeyisha Croom, Amanda Brown, Jamil Sutton, Stephanie Morales

Carteret County School's YELL Graduates

All 14 of Carteret County's YELL/WIA seniors graduate.

All 14 of the Carteret County WIA/YELL seniors graduated and completed their youth goals! A little bit about these Carteret County WIA/YELL graduates and their goals...

Sh'von Sherrod graduated from West Carteret High School and will attend the RN program at NC Central University in Durham. She also joined the NC National Guard & is off to 13 weeks of basic training.

Felicia Shepard graduated from East Carteret High School and will attend Fayetteville State University to pursue a teaching degree.

Matthew Anderson graduated

from Croatan High School. He has started his own landscape/yard work business and has purchased his first work truck. Matthew expects to enroll in Carteret Community College in January 2006 to begin work on his Associate in Applied Science Degree in Horticulture Technology.

Cedric Montford graduated from Croatan High School and will attend the Culinary Arts School in Charlotte.

Michael Knapp graduated from East Carteret High School and is attending Carteret Community College. Michael is in his 2nd year as a NADEP co-op student working on

base at Cherry Point.

Tony Murray graduated from East Carteret High School and is attending Georgia Military Academy on a full basketball & football scholarship.

Tamika Vann graduated from East Carteret High School and will attend Elizabeth City State University to pursue a teaching degree.

Brittney Pierce graduated from East Carteret High School and has been hired as an Environmental Services Technician at Carteret General Hospital, following a successful WEX there.

Source: Phyllis Bowen, WIA Case Manager

Lenoir Community College's YELL Graduates

Participants Daryl Dudley and Marketta Harris graduate.



Daryl Dudley

Lenoir Community College had two YELL/WIA participants to graduate—Daryl Dudley and Marketta Harris.

Daryl Dudley participated in the 2005 spring commencement activities as an Adult High School (AHS) graduate. Daryl is now a LCC Business Administration major and has completed the spring semester with

excellent grades.

Marketta Harris also completed her AHS diploma and her basic training for the Army National Guard. She is currently at Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD, where she is working on her Advanced Individual Training (AIT). She expects to complete this training in August and plans to return to Kinston for a job in the clerical field.



Marketta Harris