



Groundbreaking Ceremony for Lowes

The groundbreaking ceremony for Lowes Aviation was held Wednesday, March 3 at the Statesville Municipal Airport. Lowe's Companies chose the Statesville Municipal Airport to house their corporate jets. The airport's current runway will be extended an additional 2,000 feet, and construction of a new hangar is scheduled to begin in May. The Lowe's company web site address is: www.lowes.com



Left to right: Statesville Mayor John Marshall, Margaret Klutz-attending for Senator Elizabeth Dole, Susan Hatfield-attending for Representative Richard Burr, L.A. Parks-Statesville Airport Commission, Kevin Monroe-attending for Senator John Edwards, David Peeler-W.K. Dickson, Chandler Bryan-Statesville Airport Commission, Iredell County Commission Chairman Steve Johnson, Jim Hurd-Statesville Airport Commission, C.O. Johnson-Statesville City Council, Bob Tillman-CEO Lowes, James Rogers-Statesville Airport Commission, Wayne Dixon-Statesville Airport Commission.

New Advertising Company Locates in Statesville

The Ad Kitchen began operations March 15 in a 15,000 square foot facility in the Crawford Road Business Park. The company will hire 10 – 20 people in 2004, and plans to employ 30 people at the facility by the end of 2005. The Ad Kitchen will be providing advertising consultation, design, photography and production services to national, state and local business. Their specialty is retail advertising and they currently do business with Lowe's Companies, Inc. – Mooresville, NC. They are also serving local and regional

companies providing corporate identity graphics, brochure and signage design. Their company web site address is: <http://www.theadkitchen.net>



Morgan-Dollar MotorSports Opens at Airport Park

A NASCAR Craftsman truck series team has located its business in a 34,200 square foot building in the Airport Industrial Park. Morgan-Dollar MotorSports began operations this year and employ approximately 25 at their Statesville facility. Dennis Setzer is driver and has been driving for Morgan-Dollar MotorSports since 2001. Their web site address is: <http://www.dennissetzer.com>



GSDC Holds Annual Meeting

The Greater Statesville Development Corporation held their annual meeting January 29 at the Statesville Civic Center. Guest speakers were Jim Fain, Secretary of the Department of Commerce, and Phil Kirk, President of the NC Citizens for Business & Industry. Mr. Fain addressed economic development from the State's perspective. Mr. Kirk discussed "what's hot in Raleigh".



Left to right: Jim Fain, out-going GSDC chairman, John McCalla, and Phil Kirk

Mitchell Community College Holds Ground breaking Ceremony

Despite the cold and wind, community members, Mitchell Community College employees and area officials gathered March 22 at a site on West Front Street for the official ground breaking of the first new building to be constructed by the College in 25 years. The new Technology/Workforce Development Building at 701 West Front Street is expected to be ready for occupancy in the fall of 2005.

"This is a special event for the college and the community," said MCC President Dr. Douglas O. Eason. "Days like today occur because so many people get involved in the planning and funding and find a way to make it happen."



Plans for the \$4 million, 30,000-square-foot building arose out of the College's 10-year master facilities plan that was completed in 1999. A technology building was one of the most pressing needs for the community, according to the plan. The construction of a workforce training facility was listed in the long range goals, but a collaborative effort between Mitchell Community College, the Board of Trustees and the Iredell County Board of Commissioners led to the decision to construct a facility that would meet both needs simultaneously. Four college programs currently housed on MCC's Main Campus will be relocated to the new building. These are electronics engineering, machining, heating/air conditioning and CAD drafting. There will also be space for the College's Small Business Center, additional classrooms, a conference room and training facilities.

Submitted by Dr. Doug Eason, President-Mitchell Community College
<http://www.mitchell.cc.nc.us/>

Iredell County JobLink Center Plans Annual Career/Job Fair

The Employment Security Commission / JobLink Career Center and Mitchell Community College invite employers in the area to participate in our annual Career/Job Fair on Wednesday, April 21, 2004 from 10am-2pm in the Montgomery Student Center at MCC. This is just one of the joint efforts that we as JobLink Partners participate in throughout the year. There will be over 160 graduates of Mitchell Community College's Vocational/Technical programs, as well as job seekers

from throughout the area. So, if you have current openings or anticipate openings in the near future, we invite you to talk with the Mitchell graduates and other job seekers in the area. If you do not currently have openings, this would be an opportunity to speak to freshmen from the college about possible career or co-op opportunities with your company or business. You would additionally be able to meet some potential future employees for your company or business from the current unemployed population as well as those seeking a job change.

Registration/check-in will begin at 9am. The Career/Job Fair will be from 10am – 2pm. Tables and electrical outlets will be provided. A luncheon will be held from 1pm-2pm. Faculty, advisors and representatives from the college's Co-op/Job Placement and Career Center will be available to talk with you about their students and ways to address your employment needs. Representatives from the ESC/JobLink Career Center will also be available to talk with you about your employment needs as well. There is NO registration fee for the Career/Job Fair. There is a registration form that does need to be completed and returned by Friday, April 9, 2004. You may obtain this form from Randall Willie, Director of Cooperative Education at MCC by calling 704-878- 4263.

On the Job Training

If you are about to hire a person who has been unemployed for several months or recently laid off, and you need to train that person on at least 80% of the job duties, then contact the ESC. By speaking to one of the WIA (Workforce Investment Act) workers, we can make a preliminary determination as to whether that person may qualify to be under an On the Job Training program. If so, then you, as the employer, can benefit by having part of the person's wages paid while you are training them. If you want more information about this program, please call Jenny Brown, or Sharon Little at ESC/JobLink Career Center at (704)878-4241.

Articles submitted by Jean Manall, Mgr. / Empl. Security Commission jean.manall@ncmail.net

Civilian Labor Force Estimates Iredell County

	Dec 2003	Jan 2004	Feb 2004
Labor Force	70,983	70,176	69,998
Employed	66,716	65,691	65,571
Unemployed	4,267	4,485	4,427
Rate %	6.0	6.4	6.3

Source: Employment Security Commission: www.ncesc.com

Chamber of Commerce Upcoming Events

Business Before Hours - Brookdale Coffee and Bagel
Tuesday, April 13th 7:30 - 9:00 AM

Workers Compensation Insurance and Pre-Injury Management Techniques - Holiday Inn I-77
April 15th 8-10:00 AM - \$24 per person
2004 Compensation Survey Registration Deadline:
April 15th

Doo Wop V Show featuring "Little Anthony and the Imperials" with "The Entertainers" - Civic Center
Friday, April 16th at 7:30 PM
\$35 tickets and \$500 tables are still available at the Chamber.

Chamber Membership Breakfast Club - Statesville Depot
Tuesday, April 20th 7:45 AM - 9:00 AM
Sponsored by Trophy House Treasures

Business After Hours - Statesville Country Club
Thursday, April 22 / 5-7:00 PM
Co-sponsored by CCI Telecom

Special Governmental Power Breakfast -
with Chamber Board, City Council, County Commissioners,
Troutman Town Board and Iredell/Statesville School Board
Tuesday, April 20th 7:45 - 9:30 AM
**Special guest speaker: Former Governor
Jim Martin.**

Topic- Amendment One: Self Financing Bonds which will be on the November ballot.
Sponsored by BellSouth

Submitted by Danny Hearn, President / Statesville Chamber
www.statesvillechamber.org

Growth and Development Help Families, Communities Prosper

Residential growth and development sustains jobs, families and communities by providing local communities with fees, taxes and employment. According to an NAHB study, the construction of one single-family home generates \$8,540 in local taxes, revenues and fees in the year of construction plus \$3,930 every year as long as the home is occupied. The construction of a new, single-family home also produces 2.5 jobs in the metropolitan area where the home is built during the year of construction. Those jobs translate into \$100,000 in local income, wages and salaries during the year of construction. Every time a new home is built, it affects the area in a variety of ways. Wages earned by construction

workers, payments for transportation and building materials, payments received by support staff, and fees and taxes collected by governments are only a few of the financial impacts. Some of these impacts, such as the wages of construction workers, occur only once, when development and construction take place. Others, such as the payment of real estate taxes, continue to occur and sustain a community year after year. While some of the impacts of construction are national in scope, such as the purchase of lumber from mills around the country, many others are local. For example, construction workers typically live within commuting distance of the construction site and spend a substantial part of the wages they earn in the same area. Also, permit and impact fees are usually collected by local governments. These are just the first in a series of economic "ripple effects" as the wages and profits earned during construction are spent by local workers and business owners on locally supplied goods and services. The continuing effects from recycling income back into the community produce more jobs, wages and local taxes. The economic impacts referred to above occur just once, due to the construction of the home. However, there are other effects that recur year after year, such as increased property taxes and spending by the family that lives in the home. These spending patterns cause their own ripple effect throughout the community.

For example, the building of 100 single-family homes in a typical US city generates \$7 million in local income, which is divided between business owners (\$2.1 million), and wages and salaries (\$4.8 million). The homes also generate \$655,000 in local taxes and support 158 jobs during the year of construction activity. That spending produces "ripple" effects of \$3 million in local income, which is divided between business owners (\$518,000), and wages and salaries (\$2.5 million), and also generates \$199,000 in local taxes and supports 94 jobs. Year after year, those homes-the property taxes paid on them and the money the families who live in them spend in the local economy-contribute \$2.4 million in local income, which is divided between business owners (\$416,000), and wages and salaries (\$1.9 million). The homes also generate \$393,000 in local taxes and support 76 jobs. These numbers are for a typical metropolitan area using national averages. The local impact of home building will vary from place to place due to differences in local incomes, average house prices, the value of raw land and the local tax and building fee system. **Submitted by Robb Collier, Regional Vice Pres.**

NC Home Builders Assoc. rcollier@statesville.net

Business & Industry

New Industry:

The Ad Kitchen

Square Footage: 15,000
Jobs: 30

Morgan-Dollar MotorSports

Square Footage: 34,200
Jobs: 25

The Building Center

Square Footage: 50,000
Jobs: 35
Investment: \$3 million

The Big Red, Inc.

Square Footage: 20,000
Jobs: 10

Expansions:

Porches & Yards (Storage)

Square Footage: 20,000

Lunch on the Lawn Scheduled For Tuesday, May 18 in Raleigh

The 7th Annual Lunch on the Lawn trip to Raleigh has been set for Tuesday, May 18, 2004 from 11:30 am – 1:30 pm. We again plan to visit Raleigh and provide a lunch to thank our legislators, elected officials, and the Department of Commerce staff for all their help and support in our economic development efforts.

We hope you will be able to ride with us or meet us there. Look for your invitation in the mail soon. If you have any questions, please call GSDC at 704-871-0062.



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