



The Growing Edge

Greater Statesville Development Corporation

In This Issue

KOOKS BREAKS GROUND AT STATESVILLE BUSINESS PARK

KEWAUNEE SCIENTIFIC EARNINGS UP

EVERNHAM BUYS LINCOLN COUNTY SPEEDWAY

Issue: # 5

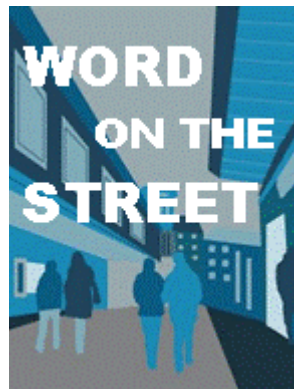
DEC 8 '08

Hot Topics

Ever read an article in *The Growing Edge* and wish you could comment on it? Now you can! The Growing edge is now a weblog where you can read and comment on the most current issues affecting the Greater Statesville business community. Have your say today at thegrowingedge.wordpress.com.

You have probably noticed that this is the first *Growing Edge* you have seen since early November. For those who might not be aware of it, I was in an automobile accident on November 11th. I was not badly injured, but did require surgery to repair a broken nose, and, unfortunately, missed several days of work in the month of November. Be assured, however, that *The Growing Edge* will resume its every-other-week publication schedule beginning today.

Iredell County will be featured in the February edition of NC Magazine. This profile will consist of 15-20 pages of Iredell-centric



Mitchell Community College Gets Grant To Support Advanced Manufacturing Training

Mitchell Community College will receive a \$177,500 grant from Duke Energy to fund an Advanced Integrated Manufacturing System (AIMS) lab to address the growing need for advanced technology skills training for manufacturers in Iredell County.

The AIMS lab will provide hands-on training to curriculum and continuing education students for careers in manufacturing. In today's global market, manufacturers are shifting processes from labor intensive to capital intensive in order to stay competitive.

This shift is driving a demand for qualified maintenance technicians who can operate, troubleshoot and maintain equipment. The AIMS lab will be equipped with state-of-the-art maintenance equipment and will provide training in the areas of motors and controls, programmable logic controls (PLC's), electrical installation and maintenance, electrical power distribution and welding applications.



"The potential impact of an AIMS lab within Iredell County is significant," said Carol Johnson, Mitchell Community College's

articles, photos and advertising. If your business or organization would be interested in advertising in this special section of NC Magazine, please contact Chris Tutino toll free at (800) 608-7500.

Save The Date

December 11-13, 2008

Performance Racing Industry Show
(Represented by Charlotte Regional Partnership)
Orlando, FL

December 11-13, 2008

4th Annual Live Nativity
Iredell County Fairgrounds
Troutman, NC

December 15, 2008

GSDC Executive
Committee/Committee of 100 Board
meeting
Chamber Meeting Room
Statesville, NC

December 24-26, 2008

GSDC offices closed for the
Christmas holiday

vice president for continuing education and workforce development. "The lab will enable us to more effectively meet specific training requests from our industry partners so the county can retain current industry and to attract new industry."

"At a time when local business and industry is challenged by a tough economy, we are grateful to Duke Energy for giving us this grant that will contribute significantly to training and retraining residents of Iredell County, said Douglas Eason, Mitchell Community College's president.

Projects funded through the grant, which has a maximum individual award of \$250,000, must address training, retraining and other efforts to strengthen manufacturing, and must fall within Duke Energy's service area. Mitchell partnered with several local manufacturing firms who are also Duke customers to develop the plan and submit the application.

KOOKS BREAKS GROUND AT STATESVILLE BUSINESS PARK

LARGE CROWD GATHERS FOR EVENT DESPITE BLUSTERY WEATHER



Representatives of Kook's Custom Headers joined Iredell County and Greater Statesville business and government leaders on Monday, October 27th to break ground on the construction of the new Kook's Custom Header facility.

Despite temperatures that hovered near freezing and a steady northerly wind, more than 30 well-wishers joined the Kook family, Statesville Mayor Costi Kutteh, Iredell County Commissioner Charmain Marvin Norman and GSDC Executive Director Mike Smith in celebrating the first new company to break ground in the city-owned business park in more than 13 years.

Kooks is the largest manufacturer of custom automotive exhaust systems on the east coast. Their customers include many of the top racing teams, as well as custom car shops and car enthusiasts. The SBP facility will house both administrative and manufacturing functions.

Kooks Custom Headers president George (Papa) Kook Sr. spoke eloquently about his decision to relocate his business from Long Island to Statesville, and how happy he was to finally be "moving dirt," as earth-moving machines chugged away in the background clearing the way for what will eventually be a \$4 million facility employing more than 50

Just For Fun



The 50 Worst Cars Of All Time!

Now that the "Big 3" have had their say on Capitol Hill, Time/CNN takes a nostalgic look back at some of the worst -- or just plain weird -- cars ever to roam the highway. How weird, you ask? How about the 1899 Horsey Horseless, a car with a wooden horse head attached to the front, so as not to "scare" the horses in the street, or the 1920 Briggs and Stratton Flyer, powered by a 2 hp motor!

Click [here](#) to go to this Time/CNN special report.

Quick Links

[GSDC Website](#)

[The Growing Edge Blog](#)

[Mitchell Community College Website](#)

[PSNC Website](#)

Join Our List



skilled laborers.

Construction of the facility is scheduled to be completed in January, with manufacturing operations commencing by the end of the 1st quarter 2009.

KEWAUNEE SCIENTIFIC EARNINGS UP

Statesville-based Kewaunee Scientific Corp. reported a 21 percent increase in earnings for its second fiscal quarter ended Oct. 31. Kewaunee earned nearly \$1.5 million, or 57 cents per diluted share, in the latest quarter, up from more than \$1.2 million, or 47 cents per diluted share, a year ago.



Kewaunee cites increased sales and ongoing manufacturing efficiencies.

Sales rose 12 percent to \$27.7 million from \$24.7 million a year earlier.

"Thus far, we have not noticed any significant impact of the global economic slowdown on the markets we serve, either domestically or internationally," says William Shumaker, chief executive. "We believe Kewaunee is on track for a solid third quarter, and we remain optimistic about our progress continuing in the fourth quarter."

EVERNHAM BUYS LINCOLN COUNTY SPEEDWAY

Ray Evernham has purchased the assets of the East Lincoln Speedway in Lincoln County from founders Ralph and Joanne Nantz. Financial terms weren't disclosed.



The East Lincoln Speedway is a 3/8-mile dirt track on Mariposa Road. The 2009 season will mark the track's 19th year of operation. The speedway hosts races among various classes of cars, ranging from micro-sprints to late-model modified sportsman. The track typically operates from April through September.

Evernham won three NASCAR Sprint Cup championships as Jeff Gordon's crew chief and led Dodge's re-entry into NASCAR. He remains a minority owner of Statesville-based Gillett Evernham Motorsports and is a motorsports analyst for ESPN.

[Forward email](#)

[SafeUnsubscribe®](#)

This email was sent to john.marek@jbmarek.com by jmarek@greaterstatesville.org.
[Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

Email Marketing by



Greater Statesville Development Corporation | 115 East Front Street | Statesville | NC | 28677