

briefs & announcements

dispatches

Piedmont Biofuels wins stimulus money

Pittsboro's Piedmont Biofuels Industrial won a \$139,249 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act grant for innovative clean energy research and development, U.S. Sen. Kay



Hagan announced Nov. 24. "Last year, I visited Piedmont

Biofuels and saw firsthand their groundbreaking work in green energy," Hagan said in a press release. "Today's grant is a critical investment in a North Carolina small business that is helping to ensure that the state is a leader in the sustainable energy economy."

The money will be used to develop biodiesel production processes that cut water usage and waste byproduct, and that use lower-grade feedstocks, such as poultry renderings.

Conference targets domestic violence

The Coalition for Family Peace (CFP) will host its 7th annual Working Together to Keep Families Safe conference, Friday, December 11,



Domestic violence expert Lt. Mark Wynn will be the keynote speaker at the Dec. 11 Working Together to Keep Families Safe conference in Pittsboro.

8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. at CCCC's Pittsboro Campus, Building 2.

Keynote speaker is retired detective Lt. Mark Wynn, who served 20 years with the Nashville Metropolitan Police Department, including as Lieutenant to the Domestic Violence Division and as a member of the Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team for 15 years. He is the recipient of 121 commendations and 51 awards and certificates including the 1998 Nashvillian of the Year Award and the National Improvement of Justice Award. Wynn is also a survivor of domestic violence as a child.

"We are so excited to offer this training," said Kathy Hodges, co-executive director of Family Violence & Rape Crisis Services and coordinator for CFP. "Mark is one of the most inspiring trainers in this topic that I have seen in my more than 20 years of work in the field. His experiences, both personal and professional, give him an insight that is unmatched. This is such a wonderful opportunity for law enforcement and other community professionals."

For information, call 919.542.5445 or visit www.fvrc.org

briefs

Reindeer Run takes to hoof

It's a beautiful winter morning. At 8, a gun sounds and about 100 pairs of feet dash off from the Central Carolina Community College Campus through historic Pittsboro.

This is how the second Saturday in December has started for participating runners and walkers in the Active Chatham Reindeer Run 5K for the past four years. The fifth running of the event will take place on Saturday, December 12.

The race will start in the parking lot of CCCC. Sheriff Webster will have the duties of blowing a bullhorn to start the race. Santa will help Sheriff Webster hand out awards again this year.

Proceeds from the race will be used to enhance facilities for physical activity in Chatham County. Active Chatham in partnership with the Chatham County Public Health Department sponsors the race. Active Chatham is a collaborative effort of community members and agencies advocating for health through active living.

Fees for the race are \$22 before December 7 and \$25 on race day. There will be no family one mile walk event this year. Register at

www.sportoften.com. For info, call 919.545.8518.

Mayor Voller wins Marshall Fellowship

Pittsboro Mayor Randy Voller was among 54 emerging American leaders from 18 states and the District of Columbia to win a Marshall Memorial Fellowship from the German Marshall Fund of the United States. During the 24 day traveling program, fellows develop extensive knowledge of political, economic and social institutions and issues facing the United States and Europe.

Literacy Council needs tutors

The Chatham County Literacy Council needs volunteers to provide one-on-one tutoring for adults who need help with grammar, reading comprehension, writing and math.

Students include people working on their high school equivalency diplomas and some who need stronger English-language communication skills to get a job or to get a promotion. They also include people who simply want to be able to read to their children, to fill out an application form or to understand the directions on a bottle of medicine.

BRIEFS continued on page 12.

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Chatham County Line is a community newspaper serving all of Chatham County as well as the southern part of Orange. Our mission is to inform our community by providing a forum "where all voices are heard." We seek all views and ideas about our community, and we report on important matters — including our cultural life — comprehensively and in depth. Our commitment is to create the best-written, best-edited and most stylish community newspaper anywhere. Chatham County Line is published ten times a year.

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