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Fed chief sees positive change

ADAM BELL

It helps to have friends in high places, and billionaire **David Murdock** has plenty of those.

The latest example came when Federal Reserve Chairman **Ben Bernanke** came to Charlotte recently to accept the **Charlotte Chamber of Commerce's** annual Citizen of the Carolinas Award.

Bernanke grew up in Dillon, S.C., and has family in Charlotte.

The world's most powerful central banker spoke about his wariness of an economy that's giving off mixed signals.

Bernanke also said North Carolina reflects challenges seen in other parts of the country in replacing old-line manufacturing jobs that no longer exist.

As an example, he cited the 2003 closing of **Pillowtex** in Kannapolis, which cost more than 4,000 jobs in Cabarrus and Rowan counties as part of the largest mass layoff in N.C. history.

But then he said what is happening at the former Pillowtex site serves as a high-profile example for transformation around the region.

Murdock, the owner of **Dole Food**, is building the \$1.5 billion **North Carolina Research Campus** at that site in collaboration with several N.C. universities, including **Duke, UNC Chapel Hill** and **N.C. State**.

"Though the loss of manufacturing jobs is painful," Bernanke said, "the ongoing development of the Pillowtex site as the North Carolina Research Campus illustrates this region's ability to shift resources from industries that are shrinking to those that are expanding."

Canine Cafe opening Friday

Christie's Canine Cafe is set to open Friday, owner **Christie Crouch** said. The restaurant at 2608 S. Ridge Ave., Kannapolis, is open from 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Friday through Wednesday. There will be doggie treats, a fenced-in yard and theme parties available at the cafe, as well as pet toys and clothing for sale.

Crouch said she wanted to run a business where she could bring her own dogs to work.

Moose Pharmacy marks 125 years

We normally don't do much with anniversaries, but once a shop passes the century mark, it likely will get our attention.

That's the case with family-owned **Moose Pharmacy** in Mount Pleasant, which will mark its 125th anniversary Saturday. The store at 8374 Franklin St. W. is the pharmacy's original location; it also has stores in Concord and Midland.

The Mount Pleasant anniversary party is free and runs from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The Moose family is in its fourth generation running the business.

HAVE A TIP?

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