

## Excellence in Education Seminar

**T**he Greater Rome Chamber of Commerce recently sponsored a meeting of the Georgia Partnership for Excellence in Education. This is one of a series of regional meetings brought to communities across the state from the Georgia Partnership for Excellence in Education and the Georgia Chamber of Commerce.

The two leaders of the organizations, George Israel, President of the Georgia Chamber, and Dr. Stephen Dolinger, Partnership President, say the people of Georgia, especially the business leaders, need to understand how important education is to our state.

Their goal is to emphasize the role quality education plays in building a strong economic climate and in supporting Georgia's capacity to compete globally.

When Economics in Education was introduced in 2003, the critical message about the impact of quality education on economic development was undeniable. Two things have changed since then: increased globalization and competitiveness. The consistent message that is being heard is that globalization is reshaping our workforce.


Globalization is placing a premium on education and the skill level being obtained. Inadequate skill levels are narrowing individuals' opportunities and threatening long-term economic viability, and workforce development across the U.S.A. including Georgia.

Georgia is widely viewed as an area of critical challenges and opportunities for improving business competitiveness. "Rome and Floyd County are already doing a great job working on education and business



**Dana Davis, Georgia Highlands College, and Dan Derby, Communities In Schools, discuss the presentation at the Excellence in Education Seminar.**


relations. Now the only thing to do is find out how to make it better," said Dolinger.

The briefing provided information on what communities stand to gain or lose when their education systems are excelling or not achieving. It takes work to ensure success and the presentation provided ideas on how to get involved. The State of Georgia is already taking steps toward improvement by requiring a fourth mathematics class to complete high school. With the support of educators, parents and the business community, Rome and Floyd County have the potential to be well prepared. 

### Shorter College Now Offers a Masters in Education Degree

**S**horter College now offers a Masters of Education with a major in curriculum and instruction. This new MBA will be offered through the Professional Studies (adult-degree) Program in Rome and at the three metro-Atlanta campuses.

"Our process now includes a full set of steps for students to start from square one and move all the way to earning a master's degree," says **Dr. Bill Brown, Dean of the School of Education and Social Sciences.**

Having received approval from the Professional Standards Commission and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools the new Master of Education Program will be offered by Shorter's School of Education beginning this fall. 

### Dempsey Lord Smith ...

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**North Georgia Equipment Co., Division 9 Construction, Inc., Midian Roofing, Smith-Evans Supply Co., Alarm Systems, Inc., Tanner Paint, Bohannon Brothers Glass, Basic Ready Mix and Basic Materials, Builders Hardware and Supply, Rome Hydro Test, Carver and Carver Plumbing, Pinson's, Inc., M&N Millwork, Inc., Helbing Construction, Inc., Riddle Page Office Products, Vast Industrial Supply, AMR Waste, GEO Hydro Engineers, Porta-Toilets of Rome, and Best Way Construction Co., Inc.** "The neat thing about this project is that we were able to use all local people," said **John Lord.** "This is a free enterprise building. We borrowed money from **Citizens First Bank** and did it the old-fashioned way," said Smith.

DLS employs seven people and with the move, they are looking to hire six to ten more in the future. The company wants to expand their offices in the Northwest Georgia region. 