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New business cements itself in Haines City

By Jessica Levco
News Chief staff

HAINES CITY - The newest business stakeholder in Haines City was treated to a steak lunch at the Haines City Commission chambers on Tuesday.



Jessica Levco/News Chief

Metromont Corp., headquartered in South Carolina, announced to government officials and business leaders at the luncheon that the company is building in Haines City.

"We're looking forward to our time here and the support we'll get in the city," Rick Pennell, president and chief executive officer of Metromont said to the crowd of about 40 people.

The corporation is a pre-cast and pre-stressed concrete company. It is involved with the parking structures market, but will later focus on schools, office condominiums, industrial plants and stadiums, company officials said.

"Everything we do is custom-made," Pennell said. "We can offer different shapes and sizes."

The corporation has manufacturing facilities in South Carolina, Georgia, Tennessee and North Carolina.

Phil Hinkle, Haines City commissioner, said he was pleased with the development.

"Haines City wants you," Hinkle said to the Metromont representatives. "We'll do whatever you need us to do to make sure you're successful. We're glad you're here and happy to support you."

The corporation will be located on an 83-acre site near old Bannon Island Road. Pennell said the building will be about 50,000 square feet.

Building construction will start in late summer and is projected to be finished in the spring of 2008, officials said.

In the beginning, the corporation will offer between 30 to 50 jobs, according to Pennell. Within the next three years, there will be a total of 100 jobs offered through the corporation.

Pennell said the average pay will be between \$30,000 to \$35,000 for skilled carpenters, welders, concrete finishers and electricians.