

Randolph County Developments

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Energizer Expanding

Energizer Holdings, Inc, whose predecessors have been in Asheboro for nearly 75 years, has [announced](#) a major expansion to increase battery production and packaging capacity. Energizer will invest \$43 million in equipment and add 178 new jobs over five years. The types of jobs and salaries will vary but will provide an average wage of \$54,169, exceeding the county average of \$43,080. Energizer’s long-term success in Randolph County and the decision to expand here is a testament to our area’s workforce, education, and infrastructure systems. This was confirmed by Plant Manager Abe Prandini who stated, “Our decision to invest in our Asheboro facilities is a testament to the great workforce in the area and we’re looking forward to calling Asheboro our home for many years to come.”



Business News & Announcements



Klaussner Home Furnishings has [named](#) Jeff Horn as Executive Vice President and Chief Revenue Officer. CEO David Cybulski stated, "Jeff's experience and knowledge in the sales management space, and his experience leading and developing sales teams, will be an incredible asset to Klaussner. We are on a path of innovation and growth, and bringing on Jeff is a natural next step in our evolution." Horn has worked in the furniture industry for over 30 years, most recently serving as SVP of Sales for Ashely Furniture's Stationary Division.



The parent company of Archdale-based Brookline Furniture has [rebranded](#) to Artisan Lane. The company stated, "The shift to the Artisan Lane name recognizes the individuality of the brands, along with the company's mission to bring unmatched innovation in comfort, style, quality, value, and speed to the furniture industry. "



After a yearlong search, RCC has [named](#) Shah Ardalan its seventh President. Ardalan joins RCC from Houston, Texas where he served as President of Lone Star Community College – University Park. While Ardalan has been in Texas since 2012, he is no stranger to the Piedmont. Ardalan attended UNC-Greensboro where he received a Bachelor of Science in Physics and a Master's in Electrical Engineering from NC A&T University. Ardalan also has a Doctorate in Community College Leadership from Roueche Graduate Center at National American University in Austin, Texas.



Furniture maker Thayer Coggin will be the [first](#) company to display its furniture at the [new](#) American Home Furnishings Hall of Fame in High Point. The museum, which opened to the public in May, will feature a rotating exhibit of different companies' new products and styles. In addition, the museum will feature many interactive exhibits where visitors can interact with the furniture.



Asheboro-based Technimark was recently [named](#) a sustainability leader and awarded a silver medal by Ecovadis. Ecovadis is the leading sustainability rating organization and assesses companies across 21 indicators in four themes: environment, labor, human rights, and sustainable procurement and ethics. Technimark's rating put it in the top 9% of companies worldwide.



Braxton Culler has [appointed](#) Clay Ackard as the new Executive Vice President of Operations. Ackard brings over 40 years of furniture industry experience and most recently served as the Vice President of Sales for Linon Home Décor.

Employees from Post Consumer Brands recently [partnered](#) with the Christians United Outreach Center (CUOC) to pack food kits for families in need. As a part of National Volunteer Month, local employees have met every Wednesday in April to pack food kits that will stock the CUOC's food pantry. Post employees have packed 300 kits a week, totaling 1,200 food kits. This effort represents a part of Post's company-wide "Ingredients for Good" initiative which engages employees with local charities serving people in need.



Starpet recently [celebrated](#) its 20th year in Asheboro at an event attended by employees, company leaders, and local and state officials. In 2003, Indorama Ventures acquired then Tiepet and opened Starpet, its first operation outside of Thailand. Indorama Ventures now boasts 28 sites in the US, and across seven states. Indorama founder Alope Lohia spoke fondly of Asheboro and Starpet, "It is a people business. This site, when we acquired it, didn't have a single customer. It started with Pepsi. This one site led customers to believe in us and support us."

The EDC extends a warm welcome to Hannah Smith, the new Plant Manager at Timken. Hannah joins Timken from the company's Gaffney, South Carolina plant where she also served as Plant Manager.



The EDC extends its condolences to United Brass Works company and the family of long time United Brass Works President Mike Berkelhammer, who passed away in April. Read more about Mike in his obituary [here](#).

Elon Aviation Taking Off

Congratulations to one of our Investor Partner **Elon Aviation, LLC** for opening its third location at the Asheboro Regional Airport. EDC staff attended the ribbon cutting, along with members from the Asheboro-Randolph Chamber of Commerce, Asheboro City Council, and more. Elon Aviation provides flight instruction and aircraft rental services out of its locations in Burlington, Asheboro, and Greensboro. We are thrilled to welcome Elon Aviation to Randolph County and look forward to seeing them take flight.



Elon Aviation leadership cutting the ribbon on their new Asheboro location.

Petty Honored at New Randleman Tribute Park

The City of Randleman recently honored Richard Petty and his late wife Lynda with a new statue in Richard Petty Tribute Park. Years in the making, this sculpture was created right here in Randolph County by one of our Investor Partners, renowned sculptors Ed and Melissa Walker of **Carolina Bronze Sculpture**, located in Seagrove.



Richard Petty with the new statue in Richard Petty Tribute Park, Randleman, NC

Randolph County EDC News



The EDC is excited to announce the hiring of Brantley Craft as the new Existing Industry Director. Brantley has been with the organization for the last year as an Intern while he completed his Master of Public Affairs at UNCG. EDC President Kevin Franklin had previously handled the existing industry duties in addition to his role as President. Craft's hiring will allow the organization to build out a more robust existing industry program. Feel free to reach out to him at bcraft@rcedc.com.

EDC Partnership News

The Randolph County Partnership is the member organization of the EDC. Through annual dues, our members invest in economic development in Randolph County by supporting marketing, recruitment, existing business and industry services, and industrial product development. Partner members are [listed on the EDC website](#), included in existing business and industry directories, and they benefit from services and referrals from the EDC.

We greatly appreciate recent **Investor Membership renewals** by the companies listed below. We currently have 117 [private sector members](#) and always welcome new partners. Please direct membership inquiries to Lisa Bennett at 336-626-2233 or lbennett@rcedc.com.

Diamond (\$2,500)

J L Darr & Son, Inc.

Platinum (\$1,500)

StarPet/Indorama Ventures

Gold (\$1,000)

First Bank
Graham Personnel Services, Inc.
Sedia Systems, Inc.

Silver (\$500)

Fibertex Personal Care
Fourth Elm Construction
Oliver Rubber Company, LLC

Bronze (\$250)

DS Smith Packaging Asheboro
Gavin & Cox
McKenzie Properties & Investments
Summey Engineering Associates, PLLC
Supertex, Inc.
T & L Construction Company, Inc.
Trotters Sewing Company

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