



# RANDOLPH COUNTY DEVELOPMENTS

A publication of the **Randolph County Economic  
Development Corporation**

**336.626.2233** [www.rcedc.com](http://www.rcedc.com)

**Volume 20, Number 1**

**North Carolina's Industrial Center**

**March 2008**

## ***Board of Directors***

**Gene King – Chairman**  
Seagrove Pottery

**Greg Spainhour – Vice Chairman**  
CommunityOne Bank

**Wayne Thomas-Treasurer**  
Wayne Thomas  
Chevrolet/Cadillac

**Mike Karaman- Past Chairman**  
The Timken Company

**Donald Andrews**  
Randolph County Schools

**Stan Byrd – Stan Byrd Realtors**

**Carmen Dabiero – Sealy Inc.**

**J B Griffith III**  
Liberty Advisors

**Duffy Johnson**  
Carolina Bank

**Jorge Lagueruela**  
Trinity Furniture

**Steve Ridgill – Dart Container**

**Larry Small**  
Acme McCrary Corporation

**Fred Smith – Randolph Electric**  
Membership Corp.

**Darius Stutts**  
Wayne's Appliance & Repair

**Lynwood White**  
Randolph Hospital

**Rhonda Winters**  
Randolph Community College

**Richard Wells– County Manager**

## **Our MSA - Tops in the US**

*Site Selection* magazine has released its annual ranking of states and communities with the most new and expanded capital projects for 2007. The Greensboro-High Point MSA that includes **Randolph County** and Rockingham County is Number One of all metro areas with populations of 200,000 to 1,000,000. Our MSA reported 30 new capital projects for 2007 including expansion projects for Technimark, Wayne Industries, and Hafele, as well as X-Spooler and Marquis Seating's new locations in Randolph County.

This is the second year in a row that our MSA has ranked first in the nation in the *Site Selection* rankings. In 2006, we were named Top Metro and Malt-O-Meal was the largest project for the year.

The magazine focuses on new *corporate* location projects with significant impact. It does not track retail and government projects, or schools and hospitals. New facilities and expansions included in the analyses must meet at least one of three criteria: 1) involve a capital investment of at least US \$1 million, 2) create at least 50 new jobs or 3) add at least 20,000 sq. ft. of new floor area. *Site Selection* has reported these rankings since 1978 and their annual analyses have become the industry scorecard for corporate real estate analysts.

North Carolina ranked 4<sup>th</sup> for the total number of projects with a total of 291 for 2007. Ohio won the Governor's Cup for the largest number of projects followed by Illinois, and Tennessee. The Piedmont Triad region has many reasons to smile as we not only won Top Metro area for the three county MSA but also the Thomasville-Lexington community ranked as the nation's Number 1 micropolitan area for corporate projects.

## **EDC Endorses Quarter Cent Sales Tax Referendum**

The Randolph County EDC Board of Directors unanimously approved a resolution in support of the May 6<sup>th</sup> Quarter Cent Sales Tax Referendum at its Board meeting on February 28. Citing the importance of an educated, skilled workforce and infrastructure to economic success, the EDC Board acted in favor of the resolution. Randolph County government has responsibility for many services including public school construction for the Asheboro City and Randolph County Schools as well as Randolph Community College. The county is implementing a plan to connect the water systems of the county along major highway corridors. These responsibilities and others are funded by property tax and sales tax.

Last year, the state legislature relieved counties of shared Medicaid expenses and reduced the amount of sales tax revenue allocated to counties to pay for it. The state allowed counties to assess an additional quarter

cent to meet local needs if approved by a vote of the people. In Randolph County, the quarter cent would generate \$2.5 million annually, equivalent to 2.5 cents on the property tax rate. In its action the EDC Board also cited the importance of reducing the pressure on the property tax rate, stating that it is important to keep the property tax rate as low as possible to make the county more attractive to business and industry.

All residents and visitors including tourists pay sales tax, not just those who own property. The EDC Board pledged to educate and inform its members and citizens about the importance to jobs and progress of the approval of the sales tax referendum. Visit <http://www.co.randolph.nc.us/referendum> for more information.

## Business Opportunities

**The North Carolina Green Business Fund** is soliciting applications for a new grant program. Eligible applicants are businesses with fewer than 100 employees that are engaged in the development and commercialization of certain innovative green technologies. Grant deadline is April 30, 2008 and the maximum grant is \$100,000. The grant is designed to promote innovation in the following priority areas:

1. The development of the biofuels industry in North Carolina.
2. The development of the green building industry in North Carolina.
3. Attracting and leveraging private sector investment and entrepreneurial growth in environmentally conscious clean technologies and renewable energy products and businesses.

Grant guidelines and applications are available at:

[http://www.ncscienceandtechnology.com/NCGreenBusinessFund/Solicitation\\_FY0708GBF.htm](http://www.ncscienceandtechnology.com/NCGreenBusinessFund/Solicitation_FY0708GBF.htm).

**The North Carolina Military Business Center** is hosting two subcontractor events in conjunction with Whiting Turner Contracting Company next week.

**Title:** The Whiting-Turner Contracting Company Subcontractor Events

**Locations:** Jacksonville and Fayetteville, North Carolina

**Date:** 18-Mar-08 (Jacksonville, NC) and 19-Mar-08 (Fayetteville, NC)

**POC:** Jennifer Burrell, 910-355-1610, [burrellj@ncmbc.us](mailto:burrellj@ncmbc.us)

**Description:** The Whiting-Turner Contracting Company is currently seeking subcontractors across all disciplines for various awarded projects at MCB Camp Lejeune, Fort Bragg, and other locations, including the \$217M Marine Corps Special Operations Command Facilities East and their portion of the \$52M COSCOM/MEDCOM Barracks Complexes.

Contractors of all sizes and specialties are invited to attend one or both of the following subcontractor fairs:

**March 18, 2008**

Coastal Carolina Community College, Jacksonville, NC

Time: 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

**March 19, 2008**

Fayetteville Tech Community College – Spring Lake Campus, Spring Lake, NC

Time: 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Online registration is required at: <http://www.ncmbc.us/Whiting-TurnerSubcontracting.php>

## News Around Randolph County

**Job Loss update** – It has been a rough start to 2008 with succeeding announcements of consolidations with permanent layoffs at Klaussner Furniture Industries and Ramtex followed by the closing of Hanesbrands' Asheboro plant. More than 270 jobs were affected in those three announcements. Ifco Systems closed their Staley operation in January, displacing another 50 workers. Collier Keyworth, a division of Leggett & Platt, is consolidating its Liberty operation to Guilford County. Jobs are not being eliminated in that move. These announcements were followed this week by the news that Pilgrim's Pride will close its Chatham County operation, affecting 830 workers. The hatchery and feed mill in Staley that supplied the Chatham facility will close in early May, impacting 35 workers. These announcements are a sad reminder that Randolph County companies are being impacted by changes in the national and global economy. It has been five years since our county has seen such a large number of lost jobs in a short time. The EDC is working to market facilities that are vacated. Numerous agencies are working together to assist workers affected by job loss. The Randolph County EDC is redoubling our marketing and outreach to attract new opportunities to Randolph County and to support our existing business and industry.

**Movie Foods**, a division of Great Western Products, has leased a 35,000 square foot facility in the Archdale Industrial Park for a new distribution operation. The company distributes everything needed by a movie theater except the movie itself. They will support the Carolinas and Virginia from the new operation as well as a growing export market. Movie Foods expects to employ 6-8 and opened in mid-February.

**Pyramid Services** has received a \$7.8 million contract for base operating support services at the Naval Air Facility, El Centro. The contract has options that if exercised, are expected to bring the total value to \$91.8 million. Pyramid Services is headquartered in Asheboro and provides a variety of contracted services for federal installations.

**Trinity Furniture** has been awarded a 2008 ThinkGlobal/Commercial News USA Exporter of the Year award by the US Department of Commerce. Trinity Furniture is a manufacturer of high-end executive seating and table furniture. The company reported total export sales of \$3.8 million in 2006. Exports are 45.5% of the company's total sales. Jorge Lagueruela is the President and CEO of Trinity Furniture and has been exporting since he founded the business in 1984.

**RE/MAX Central Realty** owner Vickie Gallimore was named 2007 Broker Owner of the year for the Carolinas. She was also named top 10 Commercial/Industrial Team Leader for the Carolinas for 2006 & 2007 by RE/MAX. Congratulations Vickie!



### Partnership News

We thank and recognize the members of the Randolph County Partnership for their support for economic development in Randolph County. Each member is linked on our website at [www.rcedc.com](http://www.rcedc.com). We encourage you to support these businesses for your business and professional needs.

#### Thanks to the following new members of the Randolph County Partnership:

-  **BPR Properties, LLC**
-  **Elite Real Estate Professionals**
-  **EVH Supply Company, Inc.**
-  **Randolph Packing Company, Inc.**
-  **S&ME, Inc.**
-  **Supertex, Inc.**

#### Thanks to the following members who have renewed their membership:

##### Gold

Ace/Avant Concrete Construction  
Energizer Plants 1 & 2  
Progress Energy

## **Silver**

Braxton Culler  
Caraustar Custom Packaging  
Carolina Bank  
Dart Container Corporation  
EMBARQ  
Pyramid Services  
Rheem Sales Company  
Technimark  
The Courier-Tribune  
Thomas Built Buses  
Trigon Engineering

## **Bronze**

Acme McCrary  
Allen Precision Industries, Inc.  
Arrow International  
Asheboro Nissan, Inc.  
Asheboro Ready Mix, Inc.  
Asheboro Recycling  
Asheboro-Randolph Board of Realtors  
Bank of the Carolinas  
BJ Con-Sew, Inc.  
Carolina Precision Plastics, LLC  
CF Properties, LLC  
Cherry, Bekaert & Holland, LLP  
ECS Carolinas, LLP  
Elastic Therapy  
Gavin, Cox, Pugh & Wilhoit, LLP  
Hafele America Company  
Hampton Inn- Asheboro  
Hbl-Hanesbrands, Inc.  
JL Furnishings, East  
Liberty Advisors  
Matlab, Inc.  
Mid-State Toyota  
NC Zoological Society  
North Carolina Pottery Center  
North State Communication  
Petty Enterprises, LLC  
Powell Appraisers  
Pugh Funeral Home  
S. E. Trogdon & Sons, Inc.  
Sandhills Business Times  
Sapona Manufacturing Co., Inc.  
Seagrove Pottery  
Security Savings Bank  
Strider Buick GMC Subaru  
Summey Engineering Associates  
UltraCraft  
Village Printing  
Wachovia