

RANDOLPH COUNTY DEVELOPMENTS

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The Heart of North Carolina's Economic Future

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Partners in Progress Award

The Randolph County EDC presented its highest honor to two long time business and community leaders at the Annual Meeting held on June 24. The award was created in 1998 to recognize individuals, agencies and businesses that make a significant and unique contribution to economic development.

J B Davis, retired CEO of Klaussner Furniture Industries and **Bill Redding**, retired CEO of Acme McCrary Corporation were jointly honored for their leadership and commitment to keeping their companies strong while keeping jobs in Randolph County. Both men spent decades leading two of Randolph County and Asheboro's largest companies. They each demonstrated a strong commitment to maintain manufacturing excellence in the US and our community, despite the challenges of globalization.

Davis and Redding built strong companies delivering quality product and excellent service provided by the hard working and dedicated workforce in Randolph County. Each man shares an emphasis on innovation and a focus on the customer. Both understand how to leverage a global marketplace to increase success. The companies they led are the backbone of our economy. Their consistent dedication and personal leadership have made our economic and community a better place for all. In accepting the awards, both Davis and Redding offered the credit to their employees for their hard work, loyalty and service.

Interested in economic development?....Join a new committee

EDC Chairman Laura Wilson invites all interested EDC stakeholders to get involved by joining newly formed committees. Wilson challenged those attending the EDC Annual Meeting to share their energy and talent in support of our community's economic development program. She is leading the effort to bring new voices and perspective to help implement the recommendations of the target industry study and communicate the benefits of economic development.

Three committees will focus on membership and value to stakeholders, industrial product development, and marketing. Goals of the committees include 1) Explore avenues to reach out to all stakeholders in Randolph County to ensure that they have inclusion in the process of economic development, 2) Review, recommend and plan to meet the need for industrial product in our county, and 3) Create awareness of our attributes to those looking to locate in our area and to increase awareness of the work of the EDC and its value to the community.

The timeline is to begin meeting by the end of August. More than 25 volunteers have stepped forward already and more are needed. Please contact Laura Wilson for more information and let her know your interest. She can be reached at lwilson@pyramidsvc.com or 336.636.5551 or you can send an email to the EDC at lbennett@rcedc.com. Thanks in advance for your interest and support for economic development in Randolph County.

Good News...Jobs and Expansions Underway

IMMI has opened a new operation in High Point in northwestern Randolph County. IMMI is a leading provider of school bus seats with lap-shoulder belts and a supplier to Thomas Built Buses. The company will begin manufacturing SafeGuard seats at the new operation at the Corporation Drive facility. The company will create 10 new jobs and invest \$150,000 in the new plant. Thomas Buses is the nation's leading manufacturer of school buses and is located in Archdale and High Point.

Allen Precision Industries is planning an expansion of its precision tooling and machining company in Asheboro. The company plans to construct a new 50,000 square foot manufacturing facility in south Asheboro. The project will be contingent on securing grants for water and sewer extension from the North Carolina Department of Commerce for an Community Development Block Grant and Industrial Development Fund grant as well as the NC Rural Center's Economic Infrastructure program. The project would create 14 new jobs in addition to the 32 existing employees and invest \$2.8 million.

The Town of Seagrove may be gaining a new retail grocery soon. The EDC is working with local businessman Kevin Hill and the Town of Seagrove to secure grants for water and sewer from the NC Rural Center to extend water and construct the first ever sewer collection line in Seagrove. Town officials will begin the process to apply for grants immediately. Seagrove residents named a grocery as their number one priority in strategic planning meetings held two years ago.

Randolph Community College has received two grants to support additional training capacity. Duke Energy awarded a \$248,222 grant to establish a welding program at the Archdale campus. Funds will be used to purchase welding equipment and a welding simulator. RCC also received a \$200,000 grant from the Golden Leaf Foundation to purchase machining equipment for its expanded machining technology program. Both programs will support training for high growth jobs in the advanced manufacturing and specialized industrial service sectors.

EDC News

New Officers and Directors were elected to lead the EDC for 2010-2011. Laura Wilson, President of Pyramid Services was elected EDC Chairman for 2010-2011. Wayne Thomas, President of Wayne Thomas Chevrolet Cadillac was elected Vice Chairman and Duffy Johnson, Senior Vice President of Carolina Bank was elected Secretary-Treasurer. Bonnie Renfro was elected President and Dale Lambert, Executive Vice President and General Manager of Randolph Electric Membership Corporation will serve as Past Chairman.

Directors elected for three-year terms include Scott Darr, LLC Manager of Darr Construction Company in Archdale, Dr. Diane Frost, Superintendent of Asheboro City Schools, Walker McCrary, Director of Sourcing and Corporate Secretary of Acme-McCrary Corporation, RuthAnn Scott, owner of Express Employment Professionals, and Dr. Robert Shackelford, President of Randolph Community College.

Each newsletter will feature a member of our Board to help you know our leadership better. Our new Chairman is Laura Wilson, President of Pyramid Services, a government services contracting firm. She is a native of Alamogordo, New Mexico, graduate of New Mexico State University, and Past Chair of the Otero County Economic Development Council. She was recently recognized as owner of the largest female owned business in North Carolina and listed in the Top 50 privately owned businesses in North Carolina. Nationally, Pyramid Services is in the Top 500 privately owned and women-owned businesses in the US. Wilson received the 2007 Enterprising Woman of the Year Award, Triad Fast 50 Award in 2007, 2008 and 2009, and 2008 Department of Homeland Security Small Business Achievement Award. She and her husband Dr. James Wilson live in Asheboro and have three children.

EDC President Bonnie Renfro was elected Vice President of the North Carolina Economic Developers Association at the Annual Conference in June. NCEDA is a statewide professional association of economic developers with 600

members across North Carolina. Renfro was also elected Chairman of the Economic Developers Advisory Council of the Piedmont Triad for 2010-2011, a group representing the professional economic developers of the 12-county Piedmont Triad region.

Legislative actions provided a boost to economic development in North Carolina. The 3J tax credits, scheduled to sunset at the end of 2010, were extended until 2013. The credits provide tax credits for job creation and investment in machinery & equipment for eligible taxpayers in Randolph County. The Qualified Business Venture credit was also extended to encourage private equity investment in qualified companies. Additional legislation provided targeted credits for data centers, interactive gaming, and film production. Legislators passed a law clarifying that private companies receiving incentives will not be subject to additional and redundant environmental review. The EDC thanks our local representatives, **Senator Jerry Tillman, Representative Harold Brubaker and Representative Pat Hurley** for their support for common sense regulations and performance based incentives.

Partnership News

The Randolph County Partnership is the member organization of the EDC. Through their dues, members support economic development in Randolph County in marketing, recruitment, existing business and industry services, and industrial product development.

Partner members are listed on the EDC website, included in existing business & industry directories, and receive services and referrals from the EDC. Please visit the website, www.rcedc.com for member information and click on Development Team. The EDC salutes our members for their commitment to economic development as we work together to grow jobs and investment in Randolph County.

Thanks to the following companies for renewing their membership with the Randolph County Partnership.

Bronze

Bossong Hosiery
JL Furnishings, East
Petty's Garage
Randolph Land Development
S&ME, Inc.
Supertex/Liberty Industries, Inc.

Randolph County EDC Board of Directors

Laura Wilson - Chairman
Pyramid Services

Wayne Thomas – Vice Chairman
Wayne Thomas Chevrolet &
Cadillac

Duffy Johnson- Sec/Treas.
Carolina Bank

Dale Lambert –Past Chairman
Randolph Electric Membership

Bonnie Renfro - President
Randolph County EDC

Ann Bailie -City of Trinity

Brad Craven – Fidelity Bank

Scott Darr- Darr Construction

Dr. Diane Frost
Asheboro City Schools

H R Gallimore
RE/MAX Central Realty

Don Harter
Rheem Parts Operation

Walker McCrary
Acme McCrary Corporation

Larry McKenzie
Branco Enterprises

Mike Murray – Sealy

RuthAnn Scott – Express
Employment Professionals

Dr. Robert Shackelford
Randolph Community College

Aaryn Slafky - Randolph Telephone

Michael Somero
Ace Avant Concrete Company

Richard Wells– County Manager