

# RANDOLPH COUNTY DEVELOPMENTS

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The Heart of North Carolina's Economic Future

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## Business Announcements

**2010** was a record setting year for new capital investment announcements in Randolph County. Twenty-five companies announced investment of \$206,700,000 that will create 564 new jobs and annual income in excess of \$16,400,000. 2011 has started with a bang with more good news for job creation and business growth.

**Paul Brayton Designs** has announced the launch of a new furniture manufacturing division to produce high end custom furniture for the office and hospitality markets. Brayton is considering a building formerly occupied by Bobby Labonte Racing in Archdale for the new operation. The company expects to employ 100 in the first year of operation. Brayton is committed to high quality product produced by American craftsmen and has a stellar track record of decades of business success in home furnishings.

**Style Crest Inc.** is locating a new distribution and fulfillment operation in Archdale, leasing a 220,000 square foot building at 537 Archdale Boulevard. The company plans to employ 14 and to be in operation by the end of May. Style Crest is based in Fremont Ohio and distributes building supplies for residential and manufactured housing.

**Americhem Inc.** announced plans in December to locate a new manufacturing campus at Liberty Business Park. The company is proceeding with initial renovation at the former Times Fiber facilities with plans for production in the third quarter of 2011. Initial hiring of 27 will commence in the second quarter. Americhem produces customized colorants and additives to the polymer industry.

**Wright of Thomasville** has expanded its Showroom Solutions division into a 20,000 square foot facility at the Turnpike Industrial Park in Trinity, adding 16 new jobs. The company provides marketing services and support in the home furnishings, carpet and bedding industry.

**Randolph Hospital** will construct a new outpatient surgery center in Asheboro. The Central Piedmont Surgery Center is a partnership of the hospital, a local physician group and Nueterra Healthcare, a first joint project of this type. The \$3.1 million project will address the need for more operating space and plans to be open in October.

**Acme-McCrary** and FLS Energy unveiled a new solar thermal system at the company's Asheboro manufacturing facility. The project will reduce annual carbon emissions by 249,000 pounds and generate electricity used to heat water for the dyeing process. Acme McCrary is a 102 year old hosiery company focused on innovation and sustainability.

**Klaussner Furniture Industries** has been approved for Foreign Trade Zone sub-zone status at its Randolph County and Montgomery County facilities. Foreign Trade Zone status allows a company to defer or eliminate tariff duties on imported materials. The company expects the FTZ status to lead to more jobs in North Carolina for cutting and sewing of upholstered fabrics.

**Hughes Furniture Industries** in Randleman is constructing additional warehouse and distribution space to accommodate expanded product lines for a growing customer base. The company is a major employer in the home furnishings industry with multiple facilities in Randleman. The warehouse is located on Pointe South Drive.

## Site Selection Magazine – Top Ten Again

**For the fourth year in a row**, Site Selection Magazine recognized the Greensboro High Point MSA that includes Randolph, Guilford and Rockingham Counties as Top Ten in the US for business growth. Our MSA ranked 7<sup>th</sup> nationally for the number of corporate real estate projects of \$1 million or greater during 2010. Over the last four years, the three county area has ranked Number One twice and Number Seven twice. The end result is new jobs and new tax base for the region and local community.

## Economic Development News

**Join us for the State of Randolph** on Friday March 25, hosted by the Triad Business Journal. Mark your calendar for a breakfast and panel discussion on the **State of Randolph County**. A panel of community leaders, moderated by *The Business Journal's* Executive Editor Justin Catanoso, will discuss the opportunities ahead and challenges faced by Randolph County. Attendees will have the opportunity to participate in the stimulating discussion with their own questions to the panelists. The Panelists include Darrell Frye, Randolph County Commissioner, Dr. Bob Shackelford, President of Randolph Community College and EDC President Bonnie Renfro. Register by copying this link into your browser <http://www2.bizjournals.com/triad/event/35221?sid=ba0b7d23ef0a3c963449b363a7b4d172> or call 336.271.6539. The event will begin at 7:30 am and will be held at Pinewood Country Club. Cost is \$15. Sponsors include Century Link, Sun Trust Bank, Malt-O-Meal Cereal, and Piedmont Natural Gas.

**Find the latest news about Randolph County EDC on Facebook. Visit our Facebook page by visiting [www.rcedc.com](http://www.rcedc.com) and click on the Facebook icon. We hope you will “like our page.”**

The Randolph County EDC and our member governments plan an April workshop focused on **Property development – the opportunities and barriers**. This is a recommendation from our annual planning retreat held last month.

What: Economic development summit  
Purpose: Business & Industry Growth in Randolph County  
When: April 12, 2011  
Where: Asheboro Public Works facility at 1312 N Fayetteville St. 27203  
Who: Municipal and county staff, developers, business leaders, elected officials, state agencies

The economic development summit will focus on how to stimulate additional development of properties suitable for industrial, commercial, or business use AND how to ease the path for project development. Two breakout sessions will be held on 1) Creative strategies to increase the number of developable sites and 2) Align government policies to ease barriers to development including land use, permitting, signage and infrastructure. Call the EDC office at 336.626.2233 for more information.

## New Financing Programs

Two new programs are now available to assist small businesses in securing needed capital for growth. They are the North Carolina Capital Access Program, administered by the NC Rural Center to provide financing to businesses with fewer than 500 employees. Visit <http://www.ncruralcenter.org/business-programs/capaccess.html> for detailed information and a list of participating banks.

The second is the SBA 504 Refinancing Loan for small businesses seeking to refinance eligible fixed assets without an expansion. The temporary program launched on February 17, 2011 and will continue until September 27, 2012. Call or email the EDC office for a fact sheet or contact April Gonzalez at the regional SBA office at 704.344.6811.

## Partnership News

The Randolph County Partnership is the member organization of the EDC. Through their dues, members invest in 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](http://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 new members of the Randolph County Partnership:

- ✓ **ECS Carolinas LLP** is a premier provider of environmental and geotechnical engineering as well as construction observation, testing and industrial compliance services across North and South Carolina. Visit [www.ecslimited.com](http://www.ecslimited.com).
- ✓ **Smith, Alexander & Morgan LLP** is a law firm with deep roots in Asheboro and Randolph County, North Carolina. The firm has represented residents and businesses in Randolph County for nearly 65 years, offering assistance in Real Estate, Estate Planning and Administration, Business, Traffic, Litigation, Domestic, and General Civil Practice matters.
- ✓ **The Cranford Group** provides consulting for corporate health and wellness programs as well as textile sales and marketing services. Call Larry Small or Rhonda Holliday at 336.521.4222 for more information.

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

### Diamond

Duke Energy  
J L Darr & Son, Inc.  
Technimark

### Platinum

Pyramid Services

### Gold

Ace/Avant Concrete Construction, Inc.  
Asheboro Elastic Corporation

### Silver

Acme McCrary  
Braxton Culler, Inc.  
Cherry, Bekaert & Holland, LLP  
Dart Container Corporation

### Bronze

Allen Precision Industries, Inc.  
Allen Tate Relocation  
Asheboro-Randolph Board of Realtors  
Bank of the Carolinas  
Elastic Therapy, Inc.  
Elite Real Estate Professionals  
Fairfield Inn & Suites  
GARCO, Inc.  
Gavin & Cox  
Hampton Inn  
NC Zoological Society  
Powell Appraisers  
Pugh Funeral Home  
Pugh Lubricants  
Randolph Packing Co., Inc.  
Security Savings Bank  
Summey Engineering Associates, PLLC  
The Courier Tribune