



# RANDOLPH COUNTY DEVELOPMENTS

A publication of the Randolph County Economic Development Corporation

The Heart of North Carolina's Economic Future

May 2013

## Duke Site Readiness Grant

Duke Energy selected a Randolph County site in this year's site readiness program. The 200 acre Asheboro site will be evaluated by a top site selection team with follow up site development recommendations as well as marketing assistance to industrial prospects. The site was one of 10 selected across the state for 2013. The program focuses on utilities, transportation, land characteristics, location, and workforce as key criteria for business locations.

Duke's program is widely recognized as a top program to identify and qualify potential and emerging sites in their service area. Site readiness is a key factor in successful economic development as the timeline for projects has accelerated along with a strong impetus to minimize risk. "Prepared Communities Win" is a consistent message of McCallum Sweeney Consulting, the consulting firm that has worked with Duke since the program's inception in 2005.

Randolph County has participated in the program twice in previous years and used the Duke program as a template to evaluate other sites across the county. Duke provides follow up matching grants to continue the site evaluation and preparation for selected sites. This is a great opportunity to work with a strong ally and great partner to plan and prepare for economic development success. The EDC recognized Duke as its Partner in Progress in 2007 for their economic development leadership in this program.

## EDC Annual Meeting is June 20

Mark your calendars for the EDC Annual Meeting on June 20 at AVS Banquet Centre in Asheboro. Ted Abernathy, Executive Director of the Southern Growth Policies Board, will be the speaker. He is a well known leader in economic development policy and planning. His 33-year economic development career has included work for cities, counties, regions and the private sector. The Southern Growth Policies Board, where Ted has served as executive director since 2008, is a 42-year old public policy think tank that provides economic development research, strategic planning and policy advice for 12 Southern states and for communities and organizations across the south. Current work includes state innovation, local economic development planning, innovative regional clusters, workforce-economic development alignment and civic engagement.

The EDC will award the Partner in Progress Award and elect new directors and officers at the meeting. Retiring directors will be recognized. Invitations will be mailed to members, elected officials, and allies in the next few weeks. This is the 28th Annual Meeting of the Randolph County EDC and a great opportunity for networking and celebration.

## Upcoming Events

**A Cloud Seminar** will be offered on May 15 by Century Link, designed for business users. **"Breakfast in the Cloud"** will be held at 7:30 am at the Asheboro Randolph Chamber of Commerce. Cloud solutions are in tremendous demand. Most business owners know they need it, but most are also confused by it. This brief educational seminar will help businesses understand how they may save time, money and resources by using the Cloud for data storage, software services, collaboration tools and more. This is for businesses of all sizes, even the smallest. There is no cost to attend but space is limited. Reserve your seat by email at [jessica.s.routh@centurylink.com](mailto:jessica.s.routh@centurylink.com) or calling 336.625.1606.

### Global Connections Conference presents exporting strategies for NC Companies

Registration is now open for the 2013 Global Connections Conference  
Thursday, May 23rd, 2013  
Airport Marriott, Greensboro, NC

Plan to join **Jay Bryson**, economist with Wells Fargo; **The Honorable Sharon Allred Decker**, Secretary of the NC Department of Commerce; **Walter Bastian**, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the U.S. Department of Commerce; as well as other experts in the field of exporting and international trade for a useful and informative workshop to help companies develop and improve strategies for global trade.

Conference Brochure - <http://www.piedmonttriadnc.com/gc2013flyer2.pdf>

Preliminary Agenda - <http://www.piedmonttriadnc.com/gc2013agenda.pdf>

Registration - <http://globalconnections2013.eventbrite.com>

*The \$99 registration fee includes continental breakfast and lunch. Reserve your seat now!*

#### Who Should Attend?

- *Representatives of companies who are considering an export program in the future*
- *Representatives of companies who want to increase their export markets, or increase their volumes in current markets*
- *Community development officials supporting export promotions*

Questions? Please contact Debbie Strader (336-333-5345; [Debbie.Strader@trade.gov](mailto:Debbie.Strader@trade.gov)).

**SBA** offers Encore Entrepreneur Event for Entrepreneurs ages 50 and over

- May 22 from 12:30 pm - 3:00 pm
- Nussbaum Center, 1451 S. Elm Eugene Street, Greensboro NC
- Sponsored by SBA, AARP, Guilford Tech, SBTDC Greensboro and Triad SCORE
- Registration Link: <http://aarp.event.com/SBAGreensboro2>

## Business Announcements

**Powder Works** has expanded their Trinity location, adding 4,000 square feet to provide enhanced production capacity. The company serves the furnishings, automotive, and transportation industries with powder coat and finishing services. The company is located in Turnpike Industrial Park and employs 19.

**Klaussner Furniture Industries** celebrated its **50th Anniversary** at the April Home Furnishings Market. The company was started by Stuart Love in 1963 in Asheboro and has grown to become one of the nation's largest upholstered furniture manufacturers. KFI commissioned a painting by NC artist William Mangum that featured long time employee Casey Spinks and his artistry and craftsmanship in recognition of the outstanding employees that have made the company so successful over the decades. KFI is the largest manufacturing employer in Randolph County with over 900 employees.



**StarPet** celebrated ten years of operations in Asheboro in April under the ownership of Indorama Ventures Ltd. Indorama is based in Thailand and is the world's leading producer of polyester products. The Asheboro facility produces PET, that is extruded or molded into plastic bottles and containers for food and beverage as well as personal care products. The Asheboro facility has transformed from textile grade polymers in 1996 to a state of the art PET processor in 2000. Indorama has a global footprint across four continents.

**Apprenticeship is a great workforce development strategy.** On March 30, the EDC sponsored a youth apprenticeship information session at RCC. Twenty-one representatives from Randolph County industry and education turned out for a great presentation by NCDOL apprenticeship consultants Sarah Jones and John Downing. They provided broad information about apprenticeship, and then talked specifically about the benefits of the youth apprenticeship program. According to Jones and Downing, NCDOL works closely with participating companies to get them registered and then helps customize a program that meets the needs of each individual business. The business then engages the assistance of the local schools to identify interested students who display the necessary aptitude for the apprenticeship.

Nelson Smith, owner of IV-S Metal Stamping in Archdale and an advocate of youth apprenticeship, strongly encouraged those in attendance to consider participation in the program. "This is a wonderful program," stated Smith, "and it can be such a help to your company and these students." Response from attendees was positive, with at least two businesses expressing a desire to participate and identify a student apprentice for the fall semester. The EDC is committed to helping support the growth of a vibrant apprenticeship program in Randolph County and will be happy to provide additional information upon request.

## Partnership News...

Randolph County Partnership is the member organization of the EDC. Through their dues, our 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. **Partnership members are listed below in their billing cycle.**

Please visit the website, [www.rcedc.com](http://www.rcedc.com) for member information and click on Development Team.

**Thanks to the following companies that recently renewed their membership with the Randolph County EDC Partnership.**

### Gold

AEC

### Silver

Cherry Bekaert LLP

### Bronze

Asheboro Nissan, Inc. Asheboro Honda, Asheboro

Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep, Ram & Mazda

GARCO, Inc.

Hampton Inn-Asheboro

Hunt Country Components, Ltd.

McKenzie Properties & Investments

PEMMCO Manufacturing

Pugh Funeral Home

Randolph Land Development

Sapona Manufacturing Co., Inc.

**240** people like our page and the EDC has **350** friends –Like our page.

facebook

[Randolph County Economic Development Corporation - Organization - Asheboro, NC | Facebook](#)