

# BUSINESS Update

Business news and information brought to you by the Kinston-Lenoir County Chamber of Commerce

## Member SPOTLIGHT

Farm Bureau Insurance  
John Tyndall - Agent

1386 Hwy. 258 N.  
PO Box 6099  
Kinston, NC 28501  
(252) 522-3911  
Fax: (252) 522-3658

North Carolina Farm Bureau Federation, Inc. is a private, non-profit, grass-roots organization that has been actively promoting farm and rural issues since 1936 through governmental relations, marketing, field representation, agricultural education, member services and other programs.

John also serves on the Chamber of Commerce Membership Services committee as an active ambassador.



## Now YOU KNOW

Carolina Military Business Center (NCMBC) is a business development organization and a collaborative effort between North Carolina business and the North Carolina Community College System. Funded in 2004 by the North Carolina General Assembly and opened in 2005, the NCMBC operates under the supervision of Fayetteville Technical Community College and has offices at eleven Community Colleges across the state.

The mission of the Military Business Center is to leverage military and other federal business opportunities for economic development and quality of life in North Carolina.

## Organizational goals are:

Contracts - To increase military and federal business for existing North Carolina companies

Employment - To integrate transitioning military personnel and family members into the work-force

Recruitment - To support recruitment and development of defense-related businesses in North Carolina



## Just the FACTS

63% of all consumers are more likely to buy from a Chamber member  
Of these 63%, 37% earn \$60,000 and  
16% earn over \$100,000



## Contact the CHAMBER

Phone: (252) 527-1131  
Email: info@kinstonchamber.com  
Web site: kinstonchamber.com

## At the CHAMBER



Mayor Buddy Ritch cuts the ribbon at the chamber's first ribbon cutting in 2009. Recently the Chamber celebrated Liberty Tax Service's second location at 2405-F.N. Heritage St. Their mission statement is to: Set the Standard, Improve Each Day & Have Some Fun! Liberty's income tax preparation offices give you fast and accurate service with a money back guarantee. Their team of professionals makes customer service its priority. Liberty Tax provides computerized income tax preparation, electronic filing and refund loans. Audit assistance and free checking of income tax returns are also part of Liberty's commitment to service.  
For more information call 252-523-8800 at the Heritage Street location or 252-522-1040 for their 1208 W. Vernon Street office.

The Kinston-Lenoir County Chamber of Commerce recently held its Annual Meeting and announced this year's Citizen and Ambassador of the Year. Outgoing Chairman, Brantley Briley, LCC President, welcomed everyone and highlighted accomplishments for 2008 which included record number of ribbon cuttings, a growing membership services committee, a variety of successful events and the formation of the Young Professionals of Lenoir County. The Chamber ended the year \$2,398.49 in the black. The incoming Board Chair, Gram Spear, Perry Management, stated that the Chamber has an aggressive 2009 Program of Work thanks to everyone that participated in the recent planning sessions. Most notably is the commitment to develop a program encouraging everyone to do business in Lenoir County keeping our tax dollars here. The Chamber will also unveil a member stimulus plan featuring a menu of programs, events and benefits designed to help businesses during these challenging times.



Cameron McCrae, Tands, Inc./Bojangles, Citizen of the Year and Jessica Wilson, Partnership for Children, Ambassador of the Year

## Young Professionals NEWS



Center  
327 North Queen Street  
Please register in advance by calling 527-1131, emailing yplc@kinstonchamber.com or by going online at www.kinstonchamber.com. For more info contact Diadra Powell at Diadra.Powell@ci.kinston.nc.us

■ Professional Development  
■ Speaker and Speed Networking  
Thursday, January 29  
5:30 - Check in/Social Time and Light refreshments  
Part One: "How to Be Marginally Successful" (10-20 min)  
Speaker: Donald Fader, SMC Home Finance  
Great information delivered with a bit of humor.  
Part Two: Speed Networking Session  
Bring business cards & be ready to "network"  
Get ready, get set, gooooooooooooooooooooooo!  
The Details:  
Kinston Enterprise Center in LCC Small Business

Pay at the door:  
\$2 for YP members (be sure to wear your YP label pin to receive discount)  
\$5 non-YP members  
Please bring exact change or write check out to Kinston Chamber of Commerce  
Sorry, no credit card transaction  
Want to learn more about joining YPLC? Call 527-1131 or go online at www.kinstonchamber.com

## Chamber AT WORK

In 2008 the Governmental Affairs committee of the Chamber hosted a "Meet the Candidates" gathering. The event gave our residents the opportunity to speak with many of the 2008 candidates. Recently, Alice Tingle, Chairperson of the Governmental Affairs committee received this letter:

Dear Alice,  
I have been meaning to write you for some time but with everything that has gone on, it has just slipped through the cracks.  
I want to tell you how much I appreciate the Chamber putting together the Meet and Greet event for the candidates and voters. I thought it was a great way for people to meet on a one on one basis and have an opportu-

nity to discuss any items of importance. I know it took a lot of work to put this together but I would certainly encourage you to continue this for the next elections.

It has certainly been my pleasure to meet and greet the people of Lenoir County and I appreciate the role that the Chamber has played in making this opportunity available for me.

I wish for you and yours the very best holidays and look forward to seeing you in the near future.

With best regards, I am  
Very truly yours,  
Charles P. Gaylor, III  
Gaylor for District  
Court Judge

## Chamber HAPPENINGS

**February 4**  
Maximize Your Membership session  
Learn what the chamber can do for you!  
8:30 a.m. at the Chamber office  
phone 527-1131 or go online to www.kinstonchamber.com to register  
There is no charge for this fast, fun and informative session



**February 13**  
Annual Valentines Show and Dance at 7 p.m.  
Part of the proceeds will benefit the Lenoir County Education Foundation.  
Grab your sweetheart and join us for an evening of romance, great entertainment, and delicious hors d'oeuvres as Steve Hardy's Original Beach Party, the Kinston-Lenoir County Chamber of Commerce and King's proudly present Steve Hardy's Original Beach Party's Annual Valentines Show and Dance on February 13th, 7:00 pm at King's Restaurant.  
Register for free Bailey's Box for your sweetheart and door prizes!  
Admission \$10.00 per person  
Tickets available at the Chamber and King's.



## Chamber AT WORK

Lenoir Community College Small Business Center and Kinston-Lenoir County Chamber of Commerce present:

Managing Unacceptable Behavior in the Workplace

Presenter - Mike Collins  
Kinston Enterprise Center  
Wednesday, January 28, 2009  
Registration: 8:30-9:00 am  
Registration: \$10.00  
Class: 9:00 am-12 noon

A How does your organization deal with unacceptable behavior? Do you address it or ignore it? Are employees habitually late, underperforming, and resistant to management? Do you have more serious problems such as substance abuse, bullying, or theft?

Eighty percent of unacceptable behavior can be dealt with in low-stress, non-confrontational ways. In this workshop you will learn:

- How to confront problems without being confrontational
- How to determine if an issue is a "problem" or an "annoyance"
- Why different people may think unacceptable behavior is acceptable
- How to use discipline as a positive tool
- How to communicate effectively in employee meetings
- How to prevent unacceptable behavior from happening in the first place

For additional information please call Greg Hannibal at 252-522-4676 ext.2021 or Linda Murray at ext. 2022

## President's Club

- Gold**  
Harvey Fertilizer and Gas  
Progress Energy  
Lenoir Memorial Hospital
- Silver**  
Advantage Printing  
Best Diamond Packaging  
Cherry Energy  
Coastal Connections Marketing  
Corporate Resources  
Down East Protection Systems  
Embarq  
First Flight Federal Credit Union  
Fasco, Inc.  
Grady Dental Lab  
Kelly Services  
Lenoir Community College  
Liberty Tax Service  
Minges Bottling Group, Inc  
Neuse Sport Shop Inc.  
Perry Management, Inc.  
Sylvia Chiropractic Center  
The Beauty Box  
U.S. Cellular  
West Pharmaceutical Services



# KINSTON Bridal Fair



DEADLINE  
BRIDAL FAIR  
TUESDAY, FEB 10

Sunday, February 22 • 1:00 to 5:00 pm  
Vernon Park Mall, Kinston, NC

The Daily News 910-219-8403 Sun Journal 252-635-5658

The Free Press 252-527-3191 Marriage News 252-444-1999

Free Press Bridal Edition  
Inserts Sunday, February 22  
Deadline: Friday, January 23

Call to reserve your space today  
252-635-5658  
or visit www.encShows.com

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