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Region News

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Allendale • Bamberg • Barnwell • Hampton Spring 2011

Savannah River Nuclear Solutions Locates Division in Barnwell To Launch Small Modular Reactor Test Facility

SouthernCarolina
Regional Development Alliance
1750 Jackson Street
Barnwell, SC 29812
803.541.0023

www.southerncarolina.org

IN THIS ISSUE

- SRNS Launches Facility.....Cover
- SE Renewable Energy.....3
- Le Creuset to Expand.....3
- SCT Creates Jobs.....4
- Kronotex Expansion.....5
- ReadySC.....6
- Horsehead Success.....7
- SC Econ.Dev. Ambassadors.....8-9
- USDA Grant.....10
- Masonite.....11
- Nuclear Commission.....11
- Regional Champions.....12
- Allendale Business Association.....13
- Small Business Resources.....14
- Rural Summit.....15
- Boone to Head Tourism.....15
- Southern Carolina Commerce Park.....Back Cover

(Barnwell, S.C.) – SouthernCarolina Regional Development Alliance has announced that Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, LLC, the management and operations contractor at DOE’s Savannah River Site, will locate an office in the Southern Carolina Business Center, located at 54 Irving Street in Barnwell, SC. The location of the office and staff at the Southern Carolina Business Center is the first initiative in launching a small modular nuclear reactor cold test facility to establish commercial nuclear and alternative energy-focused spin-off operations as part of a long-term economic development program in the Southern Carolina region.

“We welcome the Savannah River Nuclear Solutions team to the Southern Carolina Region,” said SouthernCarolina Alliance CEO Danny Black. “SRNS is once again demonstrating their commitment to our community through assistance in the development of future jobs off-site that will improve the economic landscape of our region—even during the downsizing of current operations at Savannah River Site.”

“The office is being established using corporate funds, reflecting SRNS’s commitment to the local communities,” said Garry Flowers, President and CEO of Savannah River Nuclear Solutions. “Additionally, while the small modular reactor cold test facility is being pursued using private funds, it will closely match



Pictured, L-R, in front of the Southern Carolina Business Center: Barnwell County Councilman Lowell Jowers, Chairman of the Regional SRS Committee; Mike Navetta, Manager of the U.S. Energy Freedom Center; Kay Still, SCA Board of Directors Executive Committee; Ron Schroder, Vice President, Savannah River Nuclear Solutions; James Pinkney, SCA Board of Directors Executive Committee; Johnny Williamson, Chairman of SCA Board of Directors; DeThane Johnson, Vice Chairman of SCA Board of Directors; and Bob Hurst, SCA Board of Directors Executive Committee.

Enterprise SRS, a new vision for the future of SRS.”

Black added that SRNS has been working closely with SouthernCarolina Alliance and leaders at the regional, state, and federal levels to assist in developing a long-term economic development plan to create and recruit commercial opportunities and research outside of the SRS site boundaries.

According to Black, establishing a test facility and recruiting industries to locate in the Southern Carolina region of S.C. will generate significant benefits to both the community and to DOE by: fulfilling DOE’s goals of positively impacting the local community; creating jobs and stimulating the economy in one of the most economically challenged areas of the

MWV (continued from back cover)

Economic Development Director, expressed the enthusiasm that permeates Hampton County. “The Southern Carolina Commerce Park is an aggressively competitive property that can comfortably accommodate any size industry. Hampton County is prepared and poised to do business, and we eagerly anticipate welcoming new industry to our area!”

Southern Carolina Commerce Park is one of eight commerce parks that MWV is currently developing in six Lowcountry counties.

In December, Southern Carolina Alliance, Hampton County, and MWV held an announcement ceremony and luncheon at Market Square in Varnville. More than 85 business and community leaders attended to hear about economic development plans for Hampton County and the Southern Carolina region.

“We were delighted with the participation in the announcement celebration, as well as the ongoing support from the community and our regional and corporate partners,” said SCA Vice Chairman DeThane Johnson. “We believe that good economic development is key to improving the quality of life for all of citizens, and we commend Meadwestvaco for investing in our community through this development partnership.”

About MWV:

MeadWestvaco Corporation (NYSE: MWV), provides packaging solutions to many of the world’s most-admired brands in the healthcare, beauty and personal care, food, beverage, home and garden, tobacco, and commercial print industries. The company’s businesses also include Consumer & Office Products, Specialty Chemicals, and the Community Development and Land Management Group, which sustainably manages the company’s land holdings to support its operations, and to provide for conservation, recreation and development opportunities. With 19,000 employees worldwide, MWV operates in 30 countries and serves customers in more than 100 nations. MWV manages all of its forestlands in accordance with internationally recognized forest certification standards, and has been named to the Dow Jones Sustainability World Index for the seventh consecutive year.

The company’s Community Development and Land Management business, headquartered in Summerville manages nearly 800,000 acres across the Southeast. The sustainable real estate business includes two masterplanned communities totaling over 80,000 acres, eight commerce parks, and a robust rural land lands program. For more information, please visit www.mwv.com. To view the Southern Carolina Commerce Park, visit our website: www.SouthernCarolina.org or www.hamptoncountyledc.com

Savannah River Nuclear Solutions (continued from page 1)

country; and utilizing industrials sites in the region, such as the S.C. Advanced Technology Park, which were developed adjacent to the Savannah River Site specifically for commercially viable energy-related industries.

“Through partnerships, we will be able to create opportunities for private investment and development in an area where the largest part of Savannah River Site is located,” said Barnwell County Councilman Lowell Jowers, who serves as Chairman of Southern Carolina Alliance’s SRS Regional Committee. “The commitment by SRNS to locate their planning team here is the first step to effecting change in this part of the state.”

Black said that the development of the test facility has emerged from discussions with private partners and elected officials who share mutual goals to create new, efficient energy sources for the country, while finding ways to minimize nuclear waste and use of our natural resources.

“Our region is a natural fit for the development of the test facility and other industries because of the proximity to the Savannah River Site, where the world’s most advanced, skilled workforce is located,” said Black. “Combined with a region which is the most supportive community of nuclear and alternative energy operations and our planned industrial sites, our area is perfect for the development of the next generation of alternative energy industry and technology.”

Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, LLC, moved a division of their planning organization into the Southern Carolina Business Center on May 16.

“We are proud that SRNS will serve as one of our major corporate partners,” said SCA Chairman Johnny Williamson. “This is just the beginning of many energy-focused economic development projects to come, and our regional leadership is committed to aggressive recruitment of private partners in this effort.”

Southeast Renewable Energy To Construct New Facility in Allendale County

Investment expected to create 20 new jobs

The South Carolina Department of Commerce, Allendale County and Southern Carolina Alliance have announced that Southeast Renewable Energy will build its new renewable energy facility in Allendale County. The \$50 million investment is expected to generate 20 new jobs over the next five years.

Southeast Renewable Energy will build a 15-megawatt biomass energy plant in Allendale County that will be fueled using timber residues. The company will sell the green power to Santee Cooper, and the plant is expected to be completed in late 2012. It is expected that the new plant will also create many indirect jobs in the logging, trucking and forest product industries.

The company also has plans for a similar plant in Dorchester County. The company has an agreement to sell green power in both cases to Santee Cooper for 30 years.

"We welcome Southeast Renewable Energy to our community, and we appreciate their investment in Allendale County," said Allendale County Council Chairwoman Theresa Taylor. "We look forward to working with their team and creating the best environment for a successful operation."

"Southeast Renewable Energy will be an asset to our regional economy, where the alternative energy and forest product industries have played key

roles in job creation and capital investment here for many years," said Danny Black, president and CEO of the Southern Carolina Regional Development Alliance. "From our local workforce to our regional industrial community and infrastructure, we believe Southeast Renewable Energy will find our area a perfect fit for this exciting project."

The company will begin requesting applications for the positions in early 2012.

Southeast Renewable Energy was founded in 2000 and is a growing leader in the biomass energy market. The company's focus is on developing biomass facilities with strategic partners and helping others navigate the development phase. For more information, please visit www.sereneew.com.



Le Creuset to Expand in Lowcountry Industrial Park

Le Creuset, the French cookware manufacturer, has announced that the company will triple the size of its Hampton County distribution center, investing \$3.6 million at the site and creating 25 new jobs in Hampton County.

"Hampton County is working closely with Le Creuset to support and assist with their expansion plans," said Sandy Fowler, executive director of the Hampton County Economic Development Commission. "Le Creuset is a wonderful corporate citizen in our county, and we are delighted with their investment in our region. We look forward to their continued success and growth in our community and pledge our full and enthusiastic support!"

"We are proud to have this internationally recognized company flourishing in the Southern Carolina region," said Southern Carolina Alliance President Danny Black. "Le Creuset continues to expand their operations and invest in Hampton County. We want to thank Faye Gooding and the entire team at the North American distribution facility in Early Branch for their commitment to the people of our area."

"Le Creuset chose an excellent site in Hampton County just off I-95 for their distribution headquarters, and they have expanded several times since then," said Hampton County Council Chairman Hugh Gray. "We appreciate the good jobs that they have provided over the years and the new jobs they are creating through this expansion."

Council Chairman Hugh Gray added that the company has

succeeded under the leadership of CEO Faye Gooding, stating "Le Creuset's success is a source of pride for all of us, and we often point to their investment in our county as an indication of the strength that our workforce and our location have to offer other domestic and international companies in terms of distribution."

According to SCA Vice Chairman and Hampton Economic Development Commission Chairman DeThane Johnson, Le Creuset's international reputation and continued growth in the region are utilized in marketing the area.

"We have European and Canadian companies who have selected this area of South Carolina for both manufacturing and distribution," said Johnson. "The success of Le Creuset, in particular, is one of the reasons we are marketing a new mega-site adjacent to the Le Creuset facility, which has proven to be a great location for port and interstate access, as well as workforce. We are appreciative of Le Creuset's direct job creation, as well as the indirect benefits of having this internationally recognized company growing here."

Founded in northern France in 1925, the company now markets its high end enamel cookware globally. Le Creuset sells its products through more than 1,000 stores in such national upscale shops as Williams-Sonoma, Bloomingdales and Sur La Table. For more information, please visit www.lecreuset.com

South Carolina Tissue LLC to Locate in S.C. Advanced Technology Park

Investment expected to create 200 new jobs over five years



South Carolina Tissue (SCT) will locate its new \$140 million production facility at the S.C. Advanced Technology Park in Barnwell County, a project that is expected to generate 200 new jobs over the next five years.

"We have spent over a year working diligently with the State of South Carolina to find a location for our new plant. In the search for our location, we were seeking a business-friendly environment with a talented work force and logistic superiority; we have found that in Barnwell County. We sincerely appreciate all of the support we have received from both the state and local governments, specifically Bob Marriott, Danny Black and Marty Martin, without whom this plant would not be a reality," said Marc Gilson, senior vice president of Development for SCT.

SCT will be installing state-of-the-art tissue manufacturing equipment and advanced post-consumer fiber recycling processes to supply the tissue machine. The facility will be designed to meet LEED Gold Standards. Tissue parent rolls produced by SCT will be sold to converters that supply the consumer and away from home markets.

"The announcement is a positive indication that the region's skilled workforce and the state's focus on the business fundamentals such as keeping taxes and regulatory burdens low are working to attract new investment and jobs. From Dixie Narco's expansion to Horsehead's significant investment to Kronotex's recent announcement, good things are happening in Barnwell County, and South Carolina Tissue's decision to locate here is more good news for the area. The community's strong leadership and regional support are to be commended and have been a key element in attracting new jobs and investment. The Department of Commerce congratulates South Carolina Tissue on its investment and wishes the company much success in its endeavors," said Joe Taylor, former Secretary of Commerce.

The facility will produce parent rolls of tissue, towel and napkin.

"On behalf of SouthernCarolina Alliance, we extend our cooperation and our welcome to the S.C. Tissue team and a project which will benefit the four-county area through

the multi-county agreement" said SouthernCarolina Alliance Chairman Johnny Williamson. "We look forward to working with them to create the best conditions for a successful start-up."

"The proposed \$140 million capital investment and the estimated 200 jobs announced by SC Tissue represents what will be a significant boost to Barnwell County's economy. This news follows closely the \$45 million capital investment and 40 jobs associated with Kronotex USA's announced expansion and is another strong indication that Barnwell County is a great place to do business," said Marty Martin, Barnwell County's Economic Development Director.

"We welcome SC Tissue to Barnwell County's corporate community. This is another example of what partnering can accomplish and special thanks go to the Town of Snelling, Barnwell County, SouthernCarolina Alliance, City of Barnwell and the Department of Commerce in making this announcement possible," stated Barnwell County Economic Development Commission Chairman Pete Grady.

"The people of Barnwell County appreciate the job creation and capital investment that South Carolina Tissue plans to bring to our region in the coming years, and we stand ready to assist them in any way that we can," said Thomas Williams, former Chairman of Barnwell County Council. "We appreciate the support and hard work of our local, regional, state, and corporate partners in working with the South Carolina Tissue team to bring new jobs to our communities."

"The people of Snelling always welcome good jobs and investment in our area," said Snelling Mayor Paul Moore. "It's good news for our community."

SCT will be working alongside local and state workforce agencies to meet its staffing needs. SCT is expected to begin hiring three months prior to the commissioning of the plant to provide adequate time for new hire selection and training. Anyone interested in job opportunities with the company should forward their resume to HR@sgtisue.com.

South Carolina Tissue LLC is a privately owned company. The principals are Ray Stoveken, CEO and Andrew Thompson, Chief Financial Officer. The company produces parent rolls from post consumer fiber and sells the parent rolls to converters to produce tissue products.

Kronotex USA Has Major Expansion Underway

Sales Office Has Moved to New Site

The announced expansion of the Kronotex Flooring, LLC manufacturing facility at the S.C. Advanced Technology Park in Barnwell is well underway, with the sales office and showroom moving into the new location. First announced in August 2010 by Norm Voss, President and CEO of Kronotex USA Holdings, Inc., the construction project will enhance clean energy development and increase production capacity by 60% with the installation of a third set of high speed laminating and profiling lines.

“The expansion of our Barnwell facility will enable us to produce a complete line of high-end laminate flooring products with improved design, which were previously only produced in the company’s European factories and imported by Kronotex USA,” said Voss. “The increase in both capacity and capability will create new jobs in Barnwell while providing our customers with higher value products more quickly and more reliably, in addition to reducing their delivery costs and working capital requirements.”

Kronotex’s expansion project, which includes 225,000 square feet of additional warehouse space and new factory, administrative and sales offices, will create 40 new jobs with a capital investment of \$45 million.

On April 9th, the company moved its sales offices and showroom from the Southern Carolina Business Center on Jackson Street, where they have been located for the last year, to the newly constructed building at the S.C. Advanced Technology Park.

“This significant investment during a time of weak economic growth is a testimonial to the excellent quality of our products and our work force in Barnwell,” continued Voss. “We could not have continued to grow our business during these tough economic conditions if it weren’t for the close working relationships we have developed with our customers and critical vendors.”

“Norm Voss and the entire team at Kronotex USA have once again demonstrated their ability to compete internationally, even in the toughest economic conditions,” said SCA Chairman Johnny Williamson. “Their announcement is a testament to the work ethic of our local workforce and to the company’s commitment to our community.”

“Kronotex has been an important part of our industrial community since they first located at the S.C. Advanced Technology Park,” said SCA President Danny Black. “We are pleased that Kronotex has not only located here, the company has grown and flourished. We look forward to

working with them for many years to come.”

For more information on Kronotex USA, call (866) 334-9923 or visit www.kronotexusa.com.

Kronotex U.S.A., Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of the Swiss Krono Group, is one of the largest laminate flooring manufacturers in the world.



Norm Voss, President and CEO of Kronotex USA, discussed his company's expansion with the SCA Board of Directors. L-R: Kronotex CFO Robert Dichiara, Kronotex President Norm Voss, Barnwell County Councilman Lowell Jowers, SCA President Johnny Williamson, and Senator Brad Hutto.

Horsehead Benefits from Workforce Training Through readySC

Ask a handful of industry leaders to name their most important business assets, and “people” is likely to be a popular answer.

A quality workforce definitely ranks highly for Eric Stroom, plant manager for Horsehead Corporation in Barnwell County. Horsehead, based in Pittsburgh, is the largest zinc producer in the nation and the leading manufacturer of value-added zinc products.

Choosing to locate in a rural county such as Barnwell didn’t raise concerns for company leaders about the potential difficulty of finding qualified workers, thanks to the efforts of the State of South Carolina’s workforce training program, readySC™, which played a pivotal role in recruiting the company to the Southern Carolina region. The readySC program is nationally renowned for providing customized workforce training to new and expanding business and industry in South Carolina.

Says Stroom, “ReadySC’s services played a significant role in Horsehead’s decision to locate in South Carolina and it’s a decision we haven’t regretted.” That decision had a significant economic impact in Barnwell: \$88 million in investment and the creation of 55 new jobs since Horsehead’s grand opening last year. What’s more, 98 percent of the people who’ve come to work for Horsehead were previously unemployed.

A competitive advantage

ReadySC, part of the South Carolina Technical College System, is widely regarded as one of the nation’s top workforce training programs. One aspect of the program that makes it attractive to prospective businesses is its price. The program provides qualifying new and expanding businesses with training, instructors, dedicated and specially upfitted training space, and other associated items at no cost.

Kelly Steinhilper, director of communications for the Technical College System, notes some additional aspects of readySC that distinguish it from other states’ workforce training programs. “ReadySC acts as the company’s one point of contact for workforce training and

recruiting,” she says. “ReadySC will guide the company through the recruiting and training process, working with and leveraging partners such as the state

Department of Employment and Workforce, the local technical college, and others as needed.”

Another selling point is the fact that “readySC customizes the solution for the client, no matter the size of the project,” Steinhilper continues. “The largest and the smallest project get a customized solution designed specifically for their needs and a dedicated project manager to walk them through the process.” ReadySC’s assistance includes recruiting support, pre-hire training for applicants, post-hire training for new employees, and “train the trainer” instruction, to ensure that knowledge is successfully transferred within the organization on an ongoing basis.

“[The pre-hire training] dealt with leadership, our core values, health and safety aspects with regard to operation, and took a real nice deep dive into our processes, so that [new employees] could come into our operation on Day 1, and could contribute immediately,” says Stroom.

Once employees were hired (to positions including production operator, maintenance planner, and technician), the customized curriculum developed by readySC and Horsehead included a variety of hands-on activities, simulations, and workstation/classroom training on topics ranging from teamwork and problem solving to job responsibilities, performance measures, and lean manufacturing.

“This program was an essential ingredient in providing our new employees with a basic understanding of Horsehead’s mission, expectations, technologies, and processes,” says Stroom. “Our start-up was a tremendous success, due in large part to the preparation of our workforce through readySC.”

“People are the greatest asset of any company,” says Stroom, “and readySC has a lot of talented people within their organization that can come in and help contribute . . . One of the things that most impressed me about readySC was

that it’s an organization of professionals who have previously served in industry, so they’re very knowledgeable and understanding about what a business has to go through in developing and recruiting people .”

“Our workforce training programs provided by our state technical college system and the readySC team are second to none,” said SCA President Danny Black. “Their reputation and their continued success are critical to our recruitment efforts. ReadySC played a critical role in the recruitment process, and they have delivered more than we promised to the company. It’s been a win-win for all of us.”

Continues Stroom, “It’s been a great experience all the way around, and readySC has been an excellent partner.”

The readySC™ 3D Model

ReadySC™’s process for creating the perfect workforce training program for new or expanding South Carolina companies consists of three stages; together these comprise readySC’s “3D model”:

Discovery: readySC staff works with subject matter experts from the client company to determine the skills, knowledge, and abilities needed at the new facility. Staff members from each entity also discuss the culture and working environment that the company expects to maintain.

Design: readySC and the client company work together to design a recruiting and training program, including curriculum, materials, trainers, and delivery options, to meet the company’s needs.

Delivery: readySC facilitates the entire recruitment and training process, including placing advertisements, screening and providing pre-hire training to applicants, securing and upfitting a training location, reproducing and constructing training manuals, hiring and certifying instructors, and monitoring and adjusting training for quality assurance, along with many other services.

www.readySC.org

Horsehead Corporation Celebrates Success

Horsehead Corporation, which celebrated the start-up of their \$88 million zinc recycling facility at the S.C. Advanced Technology Park with a ribbon-cutting ceremony in August, has received a welcoming reception from the region and the state. In addition to holding a luncheon and ribbon-cutting ceremony attended by more than 200 local and state leaders, including Congressman Joe Wilson and former Governor Mark Sanford, Horsehead Corporation has received recognition and assistance through several South Carolina programs.

Horsehead Corporation's Barnwell plant manager Eric Stroom was named as S.C. Economic Ambassador for Barnwell County earlier this year and was honored by Governor Nikki Haley, Secretary of Commerce Bobby Hitt, and House Speaker Bobby Harrell in January during a ceremony held on the State House grounds.

In addition, Horsehead Corporation has been featured statewide for their participation in South Carolina's worker training program, readySC, in their newsletter. Horsehead Corporation is also taking advantage of the Apprenticeship Carolina program offered by the S.C. Technical College system to create an apprenticeship program for electromechanical technicians; currently, there are 8 enrolled.

"Horsehead Corporation has had a

successful start-up, out of the gate," said SCA President Danny Black. "Horsehead is an industry leader with a great deal of investment in our community. That investment is paying off for both the company and our region, and we are so pleased that they are able to utilize the renowned training programs that our state has to offer."



Senator Brad Hutto



Congressman Joe Wilson was among the elected officials who addressed the crowd at the Horsehead Ribbon Cutting ceremony.



Governor Mark Sanford joined Chris Phillips, SC Director of Industrial Development for CSX and Horsehead Corporation's Eric Stroom for the ribbon cutting ceremonies in August.



The delegation cuts the ribbon at the Horsehead Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies, l-r: Senator Brad Hutto, Southern Carolina Alliance Board of Directors; Marty Martin, Barnwell EDC; Mayor Paul Moore, Town of Snelling; Former Governor Mark Sanford; Eric Stroom, Horsehead Plant Manager; Jim Hensler, President and CEO of Horsehead Corporation; Thomas Williams, Chairman of Barnwell County Council; Johnny Williamson, Chairman of Southern Carolina Alliance; Representative Lonnie Hoseney; and Congressman Joe Wilson.



Apprenticeship Carolina, a program of the SC Technical College System's Competitiveness division, has announced that Horsehead Corporation is sponsoring an apprenticeship program for Electromechanical Technicians. This three year program consists of 945 hours of instruction delivered by Denmark Technical College. The program currently has eight apprentices enrolled.

Apprenticeship Carolina facilitated banding together the partners to make this program a success for Horsehead Corporation. ReadySC, the state's flagship economic development recruiting and training program provided initial training upon recruitment as well as seed funding for the program. Denmark Technical College is providing onsite training with mobile equipment. The state Workforce Investment Board pro-

vided a grant, and the local Workforce Investment Board provided an Incumbent Worker Training grant.

"People are a valuable asset. As a company, we are focused on operating and maintaining a work place that protects our people, the environment and honors our commitments to customers and stakeholders. A highly skilled workforce is essential to achieving this goal. This apprenticeship program allows us to demonstrate our commitment to growing the workforce here in Barnwell," said Eric Stroom, plant manager of Horsehead Corporation's Barnwell facility.

"Denmark Technical College is proud to work with Horsehead Corporation to provide this essential training. The benefits of this program are far-reaching. The technicians, Horsehead and the community all reap the rewards of this invest-

ment in people and skills," said Dr. Michael Townsend, president of Denmark Technical College.

An apprenticeship is a time-tested method of employee development that combines supervised on-the-job learning and job-related education. A program "registered" with the U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) shows an employer's visible commitment to developing a high-quality workforce that meets nationally recognized training standards. Registered apprenticeship programs also enable employees to receive incremental wage increases as they demonstrate new competencies throughout the training program.

www.apprenticeshipcarolina.com

Business Leaders Are Named as S.C. Econ

Four business leaders from the Southern Carolina region have been named 2011 S.C. Economic Development Ambassadors as part of South Carolina's Industry Appreciation celebration. Each year the Department of Commerce joins local communities to thank businesses for their vital contributions to South Carolina's economy, recognizing individuals throughout South Carolina as Ambassadors for Economic Development.

The ceremony took place at the Statehouse and highlighted 47 individuals from 46 counties for their exceptional efforts to bolster community and economic development activities in South Carolina.

"Secretary Hitt and I have one very clear focus – to make our state the best and most competitive in the country for business development. . . We need partners across South Carolina to grow the businesses we have, recruit new ones and help put our people back to work, and that's what [this celebration] is all about," said Gov. Nikki Haley.

"Serving as examples of economic success, our state's existing businesses are one of our most valuable economic development tools," State House Speaker Bobby Harrell said. "These private sector leaders are at the frontlines of job creation and industry promotion for South Carolina and they do more for our economy than government can ever contribute. Our Ambassadors for Economic Development serve as a true asset to our state and deserve real credit for their leadership."

"The health of our state's economy hinges on the important contributions made by business leaders and entrepreneurs throughout South Carolina. Whether it is bringing more capital investment and jobs to our state or supporting initiatives that bolster economic activities in communities, these ambassadors are committed to improving economic opportunities for all South Carolinians. We congratulate each Ambassador for Economic Development and thank them for their efforts," said Bobby Hitt, Secretary of Commerce.



Governor Haley, Mr. O'Neal and Rep. Harrell

Mr. Bradley O'Neal
Coosaw Farms
2011 S.C. Economic
Development Ambassador
For Allendale County

Bradley O'Neal is owner of the family-operated business Coosaw Farms in Fairfax. Bradley is a third-generation farmer/fresh produce grower in Allendale County and a leader both locally and nationally in the field of agriculture. He serves on the Board of the Farm Service Agency in Allendale County. As a participant in the "Certified South Carolina Grown Program", the Coosaw Farms brand can be purchased through local retailers (i.e., Bi-Lo, IGA,

Piggly Wiggly) thus serving as an Allendale County agricultural products ambassador from New York to Miami and beyond.

"We are delighted that the Governor and the State Legislature are honoring Bradley O'Neal this year," said Bill Robinson, SouthernCarolina Alliance's Economic Development Director for Allendale County. "Mr. O'Neal has been a major employer in the region for years, and his innovative business practices and commitment to the community have been assets to Allendale County."

"We congratulate Mr. O'Neal, and we are proud to have him as part of our regional industrial community," said SouthernCarolina Alliance President Johnny Williamson. "Bradley's agribusiness is an important part of the regional economic landscape, and the jobs he has created affect not only the families of his employees, but the many retail and service providers who benefit from his company's presence in the region."



Governor Haley, Mr. Ellis and Rep. Harrell

Mr. Tim Ellis
Denmark Lumber Company
2011 S.C. Economic
Development Ambassador
For Bamberg County

In 2008, Tim Ellis purchased the property and assets of Coastal Lumber Company in Denmark, which had ceased its operations and displaced 32 employees. He re-opened the mill as Denmark Lumber with a staff of 13. Under Mr. Ellis's ownership, Denmark lumber has expanded and presently employs 40 individuals.

Economic Development Ambassadors for 2011

"We are so pleased to have Denmark Lumber honored by the Governor, and we are very appreciative of the job creation and capital investment that Tim Ellis and his company have made in our community," said Kell Anderson, SouthernCarolina Alliance's Economic Developer for Bamberg County.

"Bamberg County Council is pleased to congratulate Mr. Ellis and the Denmark Lumber team," said Alzena Robinson, Chairwoman of Bamberg County Council.

"SouthernCarolina Alliance stands ready to assist Denmark Lumber in any way that we can to ensure their continued growth and success," said SouthernCarolina Alliance President Johnny Williamson of Denmark. "Communities are built on good jobs, and Tim Ellis is a great example of how an investment in the people of our community can grow a business and improve the quality of life. He's a true economic ambassador."



Governor Haley, Mr. Stroom and Rep. Harrell

Mr. Eric Stroom Horsehead Corporation 2011 S.C. Economic Development Ambassador For Barnwell County

Under Mr. Eric Stroom's leadership, Horsehead Corporation has committed to a capital investment in Barnwell County in excess of \$70 million and the creation of 65 jobs. According to Barnwell EDC Chairman Pete Grady and EDC Director Marty Martin, who nominated Mr. Stroom, he has also been responsible for developing strong relationships with readySC, Denmark Technical College and Apprenticeship Carolina, which has led to the successful hiring of employees.

"Mr. Stroom made sure that local businesses were used in the construction phase of the project and continues to support local businesses in their day-to-day operational and administrative supply needs," said Martin.

"We are proud to have The Horsehead Corporation team as part of our industrial community," said Barnwell County Council Chairman Travis Black. "We congratulate Eric Stroom, and we look forward to working with the entire Horsehead team for many years to come."



Governor Haley, Mr. Butler and Rep. Harrell

Mr. Greg Butler Oakwood Products 2011 S.C. Economic Development Ambassador For Hampton County

When Oakwood Products' Hampton facility was destroyed by a fire in May 2010, Greg Butler worked hand-in-hand with Hampton County to establish a temporary facility near the site, explore rebuilding options and ensure that Oakwood Products would remain in the county. Because of his hard work and commitment, the new facility has been rebuilt at the site of the previous one. In addition, Mr. Butler has pledged to assist Hampton County with recruiting

other industries. He is prepared to serve as a solid referral for the community by sharing his experiences of operating a business in Hampton County, the support of existing industries and the positive environment that he and the company have enjoyed in the county.

"Greg Butler's investment in Hampton County and her people demonstrates his commitment to his business, as well as his employees," said Hampton County Council Chairman Hugh Gray.

"We are proud to have Oakwood Products choose Hampton County, not once, but twice, as the location for their chemical manufacturing and research operations," said DeThane Johnson, Vice Chairman of SCA and Chairman of the Hampton County Economic Development Commission. "Oakwood has found a home in Hampton County. In turn, we have a strong economic development ally in Greg Butler, and Oakwood Products is an asset to our industrial community."

"Hampton County and Oakwood Products have worked hand-in-hand to ensure that the good jobs provided by this company stayed in Hampton County," said Sandy Fowler, Director of Economic Development for Hampton County. "We look forward to working with the Oakwood Products team as this company continues to grow in Hampton County. We congratulate Greg Butler on this well-deserved honor."

SouthernCarolina Alliance Provides Economic and Community Development through USDA Grant



L-R: SCA Vice Chairman Carl Gooding, Leadership Institute Director Ann Rice and USDA State Director Vernita Dore.

SouthernCarolina Alliance has been awarded a \$199,900 Rural Business Enterprise Grant through the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development Business and Cooperative Programs. SouthernCarolina Alliance is utilizing the grant to provide technical assistance and training programs to improve economic and workforce development in the four-county area of Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, and Hampton Counties and has contracted with USC Salkehatchie Leadership Institute to assist in carrying out these initiatives, which include: small business assistance; tourism development/marketing; advanced leadership training; and workforce training focusing on the nuclear industry.

Vernita F. Dore, State Director for USDA, made the grant presentation, stating, "The partnership between SouthernCarolina Alliance and the USC Salkehatchie Leadership Institute is

important to the economic growth of this four-county area. USDA Rural Development is pleased to assist this partnership with funding to build a stronger rural economy so that rural communities remain the best places in South Carolina to live, work and raise a family."

"The USC Salkehatchie Leadership Institute has always worked in partnership with SouthernCarolina Alliance on projects, but this project funded by USDA Rural Development gives us the opportunity to build on that partnership as we work together to build this region," said Anne Rice, Director of the USC Salkehatchie Leadership Institute.

"SouthernCarolina Alliance appreciates the support of USDA Rural Development in our economic development efforts. The funding from Rural Development for our regional small business center, leadership development and training for the nuclear industry

addresses a critical need in our four-county area. We look forward to directing this effort and to working with our partners at the USC Salkehatchie Leadership Institute to bring these crucial services to serve the people of Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell and Hampton Counties," said Danny Black, President of SouthernCarolina Alliance.

USDA Rural Development's mission is to deliver programs in a way that will support increasing economic opportunity and improve the quality of life of rural residents. Rural Development promotes economic development by providing loan and grant programs to finance and foster growth in business development, homeownership, and critical community and technology infrastructure. For more information regarding USDA Rural Development programs, contact the area office at (803) 649-4221, or by visiting USDA's web site at:

<http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>.

Lifetime Doors Now Masonite



Masonite Inc. has announced the acquisition of Lifetime Doors Inc. ("Lifetime"), headquartered in Farmington Hills, MI. Lifetime is an interior flush door manufacturer specializing in molded, veneer, prefinished, and bifold doors. Lifetime was founded in 1947 in Livonia, Michigan, by William Gilbert and has been manufacturing and selling high quality door products since its inception. Lifetime Doors operates a facility in Denmark, where 130 are employed.

"Lifetime is a natural fit for Masonite. Lifetime's geographic coverage, along with strong customer relationships will complement Masonite's operations and create exciting new opportunities for our customers, employees, and suppliers and enable Masonite to continue delivering on its strategic growth initiatives," stated Larry Repar, Masonite's

Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer.

"We are excited to join the Masonite team," said John Hauss, Lifetime's President. "Masonite's business provides customers with innovative products and industry leadership on a worldwide scale. We look forward to partnering with Masonite to serve our current and future customers and to achieve our long-term business goals."

Mr. Hauss, a 20+ year veteran of the molded door industry, will remain with Masonite in a senior advisory role. Key members of Lifetime's sales organization will also join Masonite, adding additional capabilities to Masonite as the Company continues delivering on its strategic growth initiatives.

This acquisition is the fifth transaction

executed by Masonite in the last year. In March 2010 Masonite acquired Ledco, Inc., an interior door manufacturer in the US. In June and July 2010 Masonite closed three additional transactions establishing Masonite as a clear leader in the fast growing molded door market in India.

"We welcome the Masonite team and look forward to working with them," said Bamberg County Economic Development Director Kell Anderson.

"Masonite is a national leader in the industry, and we are pleased that they have chosen Bamberg County as a home by purchasing the Lifetime Doors operation," said SCA Chairman Johnny Williamson. "We are proud of our local workforce and industrial community, and we believe that Masonite will not only be an excellent match for our workforce, but an asset to our community as well."

Black Testifies Before President's Nuclear Commission "SRS Counties Ready for New Jobs and Investment"

President Barak Obama's Blue Ribbon Commission on America's Nuclear Future held hearings on January 7th in Augusta, where Southern Carolina Alliance President Danny Black testified before the panel at the invitation of the commission's co-chairmen, former National Security Advisor General Brent Scowcroft and former Indiana Congressman Lee Hamilton.

"Our community supports full utilization of the Savannah River Site's impressive capabilities in meeting the country's challenges," said Black, who pointed out that the Savannah River Site region is uniquely positioned and motivated to handle the country's future nuclear energy needs.

Black, who was invited to speak for not only the counties of the Southern Carolina Alliance Region (Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell and Hampton Counties), but for all of the Georgia and S.C. communities affected by Savannah River Site, reminded the commission members that the federal government has a responsibility to provide a permanent repository for commercial spent fuel and high level defense waste, and a failure to do so could negatively impact future economic development efforts throughout the region.

"Regardless of what waste management option is chosen, a repository will still be necessary and should be pursued without further delay," Black told the Commission.

"The absence of a permanent waste storage solution is a potential impediment to economic development as many worry that SRS will become a de facto permanent repository."

"For more than a half century, the Savannah River Site has possessed outstanding capabilities in spent fuel processing. In that time, SRS has assembled an unequalled team of experts and has built an enviable record of performance and safety that exceeds any other facility in the DOE complex," said Black.

"Those same proven capabilities and that same unparalleled expertise can now be re-directed to meeting national needs identified by your Commission. We are confident SRS can play a major role in helping to close the fuel cycle ... minimize the volume of waste ... and put the country back on track with respect to ultimate disposal."

Black also cited facts related to the establishment of Savannah River Site in the early 1950s, when thousands of families were displaced under eminent domain to make way for construction of the site; two-thirds of the 310 square miles of Savannah River Site lies in Barnwell and Allendale Counties. Black pointed out that while the Site once employed as many as 4,000 from the four-county area, our region is now challenged by the downsizing of

missions at SRS, as well as the reduced tax base caused by the acquisition of land by the federal government.

Because of these issues, the Southern Carolina region of South Carolina does not benefit from the economic development and job creation that the other DOE sites enjoy.

The Southern Carolina Alliance represents Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell and Hampton Counties. Its mission is to aggressively market the Southern Carolina region to industry and business as a preferred place to locate and grow.

Black is also a member of the Board of Directors and Executive Committee of the SRS Community Reuse Organization. The five-county, two-state organization, which includes Barnwell and Allendale Counties, has formally gone on record opposing the Government's decision to abandon the Yucca Mountain project in Nevada which was to serve as the nation's permanent waste repository.

The President's Blue Ribbon Commission will submit its preliminary findings to the President next year.



Danny Black

**Congratulations to Our Reigning 2010-2011
Regional Industry Appreciation Celebration Champions!**

**SouthernCarolina Alliance
Regional Industry Appreciation
Celebration Marksmanship
Event Sponsored by
Government Training Institute**

**SCA Regional Industry Appreciation Celebration
Golf Tournament Award Winners**

Award Winners:

First Place, Individual

Doug McLeod, *Scotsman*

Second Place, Individual

Jake Scott, *Collum's Lumber Products*

Third Place, Individual

Sonja Hiers, *Barnwell EDC*

Fourth Place, Individual

Drew Stevens, *Shaw Areva*

Dick Cheney Award

John Fleming, *HGB&D*

Closest to the Pin on #3

Steve Maskas
Four Star Industries

Closest to the Pin on #6

Dallas Smith
SRNS

Closest to the Pin on #10

Paige Carlton
TiGroup Architects

Closest to the Pin on #14

Dee Norwood
SWCC

Longest Putt #17

Randy Maxwell
*Bamberg County Hospital
Board*

First Place Team

Britt Wall
Wall Timber Products

Howard Bush
B&B Ford

Dennis Hutto
The Bookworm

Webb Boleman
Webb's Hardware

Second Place Team

John Bozarello
SRNS

Don Houck
Allendale EDC

Roger Riley
Barnwell County Government

Heyward Barnwell

Third Place Team

Eddie Folk
Goodrich Delavan

Paige Carlton
TiGroup Architects

Eric Stroom
Horsehead Corporation

Charleston Myler

D.A.L. Award

Dee Norwood
SWCC

Dallas Smith
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For photos from our Industry Appreciation Celebration, visit us on facebook at SouthernCarolina Alliance to view our photo albums.



Allendale County Business and Industry Association Launches Membership Drive

More than 40 business and industry leaders participated in the first Allendale County Business and Industry Association event, held recently at the organization's new office in downtown Allendale. The event, organized by the group and Southern Carolina Alliance, was sponsored by Savannah River Remediation, LLC (SRR), the Savannah River Site's liquid waste contractor.

Rick Gooding, a founding member of Allendale Business Industry and Commerce Association, said the turnout exceeded their goals for the launch event.

"We were pleased with the interest expressed by a diverse group of leaders, in that we had in attendance the owners of local industries and small businesses, as well as managers of the major industrial companies," said Gooding. "This is a group of business leaders who are serious about revitalizing the business community and making Allendale County the best environment for recruiting and growing business—which, of course, means job creation."

Among the business leaders attending were: Neil Sanders of APC; Bobby Lawrence of Allendale Hardware; Bea Gregory of THA Group; Henry Laffitte and Hal Bennett of Palmetto State Bank; Dave Olson, President of Savannah River Remediation, LLC; Gail Grant of Big G Enterprises; Dr. Ann Carmichael, Dean of USC Salkehatchie; Mickey Scott, Collum's Lumber; Daniel Bessinger and Michel Trawalter of Clariant Corporation; Dr. and Mrs. Simon Sharivker of Climax Global; Dell Priester, Scotsman; Dean Campbell, SRR; Robert Connelly, Connelly Farms; Mayor Moses Cohen of Fairfax; Wade Pitts, SC Manufacturing Extension Partnership; Brookie Taylor and Chuck Hallman of SRP Federal Credit Union; Mayor Ronnie Jackson of Allendale; and Anne Rice and Terri Boone of the USC Salk Leadership Institute.

The newly formed Allendale County Business and Industry Association received a boost from a corporate donation made by Savannah River Remediation.

"Savannah River Remediation's generous donation will go a long way to help the association create a supporting network for our local business community," said Gooding. "We intend to use the money to fund our initial service programs and our membership drive as we

move forward in our mission to foster the growth of our existing business community and to promote Allendale County as a good location to start a business."

Dave Olson, SRR President and Project Manager, remarked that his company feels that supporting the communities surrounding the Savannah River Site is not only the right thing to do, but also part of his company's mission.

"It just makes good business sense for our company to encourage and support the Allendale County Business and Industry Association's efforts to improve the business friendly conditions in the Allendale area," said Olson. "Revitalizing the local business association to assist local business owners as they grow, prosper, and create jobs for the community is an important component to homegrown success."

Gooding added that the Allendale County Business and Industry Association will focus on promoting local retail outlets, small businesses, service providers and industries. The organization will be led by a founding board of local business owners: Bobby Lawrence of Allendale Hardware, Neil Sanders of Sanders Truck Sales, Rick Gooding of Gooding Advertising and WDOG Radio, Bobby Thomas of Lowcountry Mobile Homes, and Gail Grant of Big G Enterprises.

The founding board has requested and received assistance from Southern Carolina Alliance, the regional economic development organization for Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell and Hampton Counties, to launch and manage the association's organizational efforts.

The association has launched their inaugural membership drive and has opened an office at 186 Main Street North in Allendale. For more information, please contact Allendale County Business and Industry Association Director Allanna Donahue at (803)584-9200.



L-R: Allendale County Business and Industry Association Founding Members Bobby Thomas of Lowcountry Mobile Homes; Bobby Lawrence of Allendale Hardware; Gail Grant of Big G Enterprises; Rick Gooding of Gooding Advertising and WDOG Radio; and Neil Sanders of APC.



David Olson, SRR President, addresses the crowd at the Allendale County Business and Industry launch reception.



Allanna Donahue, ACBIA Director

Small Business Resource Day

Sponsored by:



WHAT

Free Small Business Seminar detailing services and assistance available through SBA and its partners.

WHEN

Wednesday, June 15th
10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

WHERE

Southern Carolina
Business Center
1750 Jackson Street
Barnwell, SC

SCHEDULE

10:00-10:30: SBA partners
10:30-11:30: Financing
11:30-12:30 Lunch Break
Lunch will be provided
12:30-1:30: Contracting
1:30-2:00: Q&A

QUESTIONS?

Call 803-584-3446 x 154
or email:
booneter@mailbox.sc.edu

Wednesday, June 15th

10 a.m. until 2 p.m. (lunch will be provided)

Southern Carolina Business Center

1750 Jackson Street, Barnwell

DO YOU NEED...

- SOUND BUSINESS ADVICE?
- FINANCING FOR YOUR SMALL BUSINESS?
- FEDERAL CONTRACTS TO GROW YOUR CLIENT BASE?

Come to the *Small Business Resource Day*, a free seminar presented by the Small Business Administration, which details their programs and resources. The SBA was created to aid, counsel and assist the nation's small businesses. At the Resource Day you will learn about:

- Financial assistance—SBA loan programs and eligibility
- Business counseling and training—through SBA partners like SCORE and Small Business Development Centers
- Federal Contracting programs and certifications for Small, Disadvantaged, Disabled Vet, Women, and HUBZone businesses

To register, return the form below to Resource Day, PO Box 617, Allendale, SC 29810, or fax it to 803-584-5180. You can also call Terri Boone at 803-584-3446 x 154 or email your registration information to: booneter@mailbox.sc.edu.

June 15 Small Business Resource Day Registration

Name Business Name Phone number

Address City/State/Zip Email address

What topic are you most interested in?

How did you hear about Resource Day?

Sound Business Advice Financing your business Contracting opportunities

Local Leaders Participate in Rural Summit with Governor Haley

Governor Nikki Haley and the South Carolina Department of Commerce gathered leaders from across South Carolina for the 21st annual Rural Summit on March 8th to hear an informative and inspiring program that challenged attendees to return home to improve their local community. The 2011 South Carolina Rural Summit was held at the Newberry Firehouse Conference Center in Newberry, S.C. Several leaders from the Southern Carolina Alliance region of Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell and Hampton Counties participated in the conference, including Southern Carolina Alliance Vice Chairman DeThane Johnson and Southern Carolina Alliance President Danny Black.

The Rural Summit is an annual educational event at which rural community leaders, economic developers, state officials and specialists share ideas, experiences and practical knowledge to improve rural South Carolina. Governor Nikki Haley and Secretary of Commerce Bobby Hitt spoke at this year's Summit to share their vision and ideas for further development and improvements in rural areas throughout the state.

"As a native of Bamberg, I understand the challenges facing the rural communities and the importance of local involvement. Bringing jobs to every region of our state - not just to Charleston and Greenville and Lexington - is the highest priority of my administration, and today was a great chance for many of the players in that effort to get together. The good news is, I'm on the phone every day with companies looking to relocate - and they want to call South Carolina home. It's up to us to get them here, quickly, and as I always say, can't is not an option," said Governor Haley.

"For all areas of South Carolina to prosper economically, it takes creative, courageous and committed leadership to step out of the box and facilitate change on the local and regional levels," said Secretary Hitt.

"We were pleased with the Governor's remarks about the importance of rural South Carolina and her commitment to economic development in the rural areas," said SCA Vice Chairman DeThane Johnson. "The Rural Summit provided a great forum for sharing ideas and networking with those whose com-

munities share our goals and challenges."

According to SCA President Danny Black, "We are looking forward to working with Governor Haley and Secretary Hitt of the Department of Commerce. They have met with the regional alliances and made clear to us their commitment to economic development."

Black added, "Both the Governor and the Secretary of Commerce have roots in Bamberg County, so they have a perspective and understanding of the unique needs of our rural region."

Other local leaders who attended the Rural Summit include Barnwell County Councilman David Kenner, EDC Director Marty Martin, and Barnwell Downtown Development Association Director Lynn Cox; Bamberg County EDC Director Kell Anderson; SCA Marketing Manager Kay Maxwell; Hampton County EDC Director Sandy Fowler and County Administrator Sabrina Graham; and Allendale County EDC Director Bill Robinson.

For more information on the S.C. Department of Commerce, visit the website at: www.sccommerce.com.

Boone to Head Tourism and Small Business Programs



Terri Boone

Terri Boone has been named Assistant Director of the USC Salkehatchie Leadership Institute, where she will be working with Southern Carolina Alliance and the

USC Leadership Institute staff to implement the USDA Rural Business Enterprise Grant awarded to Southern Carolina Alliance for economic, workforce and community development.

As part of her duties as Assistant Director at The Leadership Institute, Ms. Boone's focus will be on community development projects and small

business development services. She will manage regional tourism marketing and related economic development initiatives in Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell and Hampton Counties; direct and implement small business development activities within the four-county region under the guidance of SCA; and work with local businesses, community organizations and agencies to facilitate community enhancement projects.

Already Terri has met with community development leaders in Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell and Hampton Counties to offer assistance in bringing their current and ongoing projects to fruition. She has been involved in an array of projects, including several downtown enhancement efforts in the towns of Allendale, Bamberg, Yemassee, Denmark, Barnwell, and Williston. She has also worked with

the Southern Carolina Alliance staff to offer U.S. Small Business Administration services and training to businesses in the Southern Carolina region, including a Small Business Resource Day, which is scheduled for June 15th at the Southern Carolina Business Center.

Ms. Boone is the co-owner of Red Bluff Lodge and formerly served as Chief Financial Officer of Low Country Health Care System (2000-2005). She holds a Master of Health Science in Healthcare and Hospital Administration and a Master of Business Administration from the University of Florida, where she also earned a Bachelor of Science in Marketing. Terri may be contacted at the USC Salkehatchie Leadership Institute at 803.584.3446 or at booneter@mailbox.sc.edu.

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MWV, Hampton County, Southern Carolina Alliance Announce Southern Carolina Commerce Park

The Hampton County Economic Development Commission, MeadWestvaco, and Southern Carolina Regional Development Alliance have announced the development of the Southern Carolina Commerce Park.

Located on South Carolina Highway 68 in Hampton County, five miles from I-95 and equal distance from both the Ports of Charleston and Savannah, the park is uniquely located to support manufacturing or distribution operations. The 1380-acre site, owned by MWV, is served by CSX railroad. Site certification with the South Carolina Department of Commerce (www.sccommerce.com) has been completed, and site certification through McCallum Sweeney Consulting (www.mccallumsweeney.com) is underway.

Kenneth T. Seeger, MWV President of Community Development and Land Management commented, "MWV is

pleased to partner with the Hampton County Economic Development Commission and Southern Carolina Alliance to bring new jobs to Hampton County."

"We are excited about the opportunities for our region created by MeadWestvaco through development of the Southern Carolina Commerce Park," said SCA President Danny Black. "As our corporate partner, MWV lends international recognition and expertise to the marketing and development of this strategically located industri-



Local leaders celebrate the announcement of the Southern Carolina Commerce Park with MWV. Pictured, L-R: Tom Upshaw, CEO of Palmetto Electric Coop; SCA Vice Chairman and Chairman of Hampton County EDC, DeThane Johnson; Bill Hager, SCE&G representative and Hampton County EDC member; Danny Black, President & CEO of Southern Carolina Alliance; Norm Brody of Meadwestvaco; Hampton County EDC Director Sandy Fowler; Maceo Nance, Director of Community and Rural Development Director for the SC Department of Commerce; Hampton County Council Chairman Hugh Gray; and Representative William K. "Bill" Bowers, SC House of Representatives.

al property. The park will be a catalyst to economic development for our region, with its location at Exit 38 on I-95."

Sandy Fowler, Hampton County