



Darlington County
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP

Quarterly Update

IN THE NEWS



Darlington Raceway announces \$7 million plan to improve seating, fan experience

Florence Morning News, by Scott Chancey, January 31, 2018

"DARLINGTON, S.C. - Darlington Raceway is embarking on a capital improvement project worth \$7 million from its parent company, International Speedway Corporation.

The project, starting today and titled "A Better Darlington ... The Tradition Continues," will renovate Tyler, Wallace and Colvin grandstands to give fans more comfortable seating when they attend this year's Bojangles' Southern 500 Weekend.

Darlington Raceway President Kerry Tharp said the project will be finished by mid-August.

"We're not going to let any grass grow under our feet," he said. "We've got a race come Labor Day."

[Read more here](#)

Economic Development Partnership talks planning

by Melissa Rollins, Editor, News and Press, January 23, 2018

"An infrastructure study is being done to see what possibilities Darlington County holds for perspective developers and also to see what is holding the county back. That information was part of Frank Willis' Director's Report during the Jan. 17 meeting of the Darlington County Economic Development Partnership.

Willis told Board Members that one potential pitfall is the lack of water and sewer availability throughout the county. He said that there is land between Hartsville and Darlington, as well as land in Society Hill, that could attract investors if not for the fact that certain utilities are not currently in that area."

[Read more here](#)

In This Issue

In the News
DCEDP Spotlight Event

PROGRESS MEMBERS

Next Board meeting:
March 1, 2018
at noon at SiMT

DCED Workshop:
March 7, 2018 10:30-1:00 pm at
SiMT Conference Room
RSVP by March 1 to
mperry@dcedp.com

Share your news

Do you or your company have any Darlington County news to share?

If so, email us [here](#) and we'll include it in our next newsletter and on our website.

Join Our Mailing List

Contact Us

Monica Perry
Darlington County Economic
Development Partnership
843-413-3210



Local Graduates: Bobby Kilgo and Jack Marchette

SC Economic Development Program Graduates Announced

[Columbia Business Monthly, November 16, 2017](#)

"The S.C. Department of Commerce (S.C. Commerce) and S.C. Economic Developers' Association (SCEDA) announced that approximately 45 state and community leaders have graduated from two statewide economic development training programs. Five individuals completed the S.C. Economic Developers' Advanced Symposium (Advanced Symposium), while more than 40 graduated from the S.C. Economic Development Institute (Institute).

A collaborative effort between S.C. Commerce and SCEDA, these two programs are designed to arm participants with development approaches for implementation in local communities. Each program features a highly-interactive curriculum, allowing participants to obtain greater hands-on economic development learning experience."

[Read more here](#)



Entrepreneurs honored at gala in Florence

[By Rebecca Cross, Florence Morning News, November 16, 2017](#)

"FLORENCE, S.C. - Seven entrepreneurs were honored for their innovation at the 2017 Entrepreneurial Forum Gala on Thursday evening at Florence-Darlington Technical College.

"The purpose of this forum is to forge meaningful connections between business leaders and the college in order to foster a spirit of growth and entrepreneurship in our students, in our community and in our future," said Jill Lewis, vice president of institutional advancement at Florence-Darlington Technical College.

Honorees were James Aikens, co-owner of Rita's Italian Ice; Karen Aikens, co-owner of Rita's Italian Ice; Wanda James, co-owner of McDonald's; **Danny Johnson Jr., North Industrial Machine vice president**; Britt Poston, co-owner of Zaxby's; Jim Poston, co-owner of Zaxby's; and Grey Raines, president of Raines Hospitality."

[Read more here](#)

Darlington County
Economic Development Workshop:

Resources for Manufacturing Success

Featuring:

- ▶ **Adrienne Temple**
SC Manufacturing Extension Partnership (SC MEP)
- ▶ **Teri Luther**
Apprenticeship Carolina
- ▶ **Norris Thigpen**
International Strategy & Trade, SC Commerce
- ▶ **Daniel Beaty**
Existing Industry Manager, SC Commerce

Wednesday, March 7, 2018
10:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

At Southeastern Institute of
Manufacturing Technology (SiMT)
1951 Pisgah Rd., Florence, SC 29501

Sponsored by:



Please RSVP to Monica Perry:(843)413-3210 or mperry@dcedp.com



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