

Brightleaf

JANUARY 2006
Volume 11, Issue 1

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January Calendar of Events	2
Nominating Committee Report	2
Human Resources Committee to Meet	2
John Penn Ballot Nominations Due	2
South Council to Meet	2
New North Carolina Laws	3
Welcome! New Chamber Member.....	3
Government Forum Committee.....	3
KUDOS	4

**GRANVILLE COUNTY
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE'S
MISSION STATEMENT**

"The Granville County Chamber of Commerce seeks to promote a healthy economy with good business conditions, support good government, improve community relations and market services and programs for Chamber members."

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65TH ANNIVERSARY

2007 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP BANQUET

Presenting Program Sponsor: Progress Energy

Sponsors: BB&T, EMBARQ

The Executive Committee and the Board of Directors of the Granville County Chamber of Commerce invites members to mark their 2007 calendars for an exciting Annual Banquet on Monday evening, January 22, 2007 at 7:00 pm at the Civic Center of Vance-Granville Community College.

Clarinet background music will be provided by Carl Cantaluppi as guests arrive, followed by a buffet dinner beginning at 7:00 pm. Cindy S. Joy will be providing piano background music during dinner.

This year's entertainment will be Vickie Yates Allen and her sister Elaine Yates Woodlief, local talent. The Yates family is well-known for their love and involvement in singing since childhood. In earlier years they performed on the Peggy Mann Show; on Hart Curl's radio show; the Sammy Jackson Show, a dance show on WRAL; and every talent show around. Most recently, they have appeared a couple of time a month at Pergamon's Restaurant in Creedmoor. The Butner-Creedmoor News did a feature story on the sisters and their trip to Las Vegas where they recorded a song with Collin Raye. We look forward to them sharing their talent with us.

In observance and celebration of the 65th Anniversary of the Chamber, the Meetings Committee is pleased to announce that Jeanne S. Robertson is returning to entertain and delight attendees. Jeanne Robertson reached her 6'2" statue at age thirteen. Perhaps it was an indication of a future speaking career that would soar to great heights.

No, professional speaking might not have been predicted when Jeanne was in the seventh grade in Graham, NC, when and where she would have been voted most likely to make the basketball team and least likely to be a contestant in the Miss America Pageant. She did make the team — averaging more than thirty points per game in her junior and senior years — but as Miss North Carolina 1963 she also competed in the Miss America Pageant where she was name Miss Congeniality.

It was her participating in and perhaps even her losing of the Miss America title that turned Jeanne's life into a succession of events which led her to be one of the funniest, busiest and most popular professional speakers in America today. Because she was asked to speak every day as Miss North Carolina, Jeanne traveled her native state for one year speaking at pageants and addressing civic clubs and corporations. When that time was over, she found that people were willing to pay her to come and address their groups and conventions and loving every laughing minute of it. They wanted Jeanne — not just a title holder — and they wanted her because she made them laugh.

Jeanne enjoys making people laugh. Audiences hold their sides and wipe tears from their faces as she makes her point clear. Perhaps that is why thousands of meeting planners make their point clear when they say: "THE MEETIN' AIN'T OVER 'TIL THE TALL LADY SPEAKS!"

We have had the pleasure of having Jeanne speak at two past Chamber banquets, the last being five years ago. It is exciting that the 2007 Banquet, celebrating the 65th anniversary of the Chamber, will feature such an outstanding performer. Robertson's appearance is being sponsored by Presenting Program Sponsor **PROGRESS ENERGY**, with **BB&T** and **EMBARQ** also being sponsors.

Chamber members have received formal invitations to the 2007 65th Anniversary Banquet. Please respond promptly in order to secure seats for the occasion.

Human Resources Committee To Meet At Employment Security Commission

The Chamber's Human Resources Committee will reconvene on Thursday, January 18th at 12:00 noon at the Employment Security Commission's Oxford office, 518 Lewis Street.

Member Al Carraway will host the lunch meeting (in his usual delicious style) and coordinate planning program hosts and topics for the 2007 year.

Also, HR member, Johnny Balmer, Carolina Sunrock, is coordinating an update and information session, "Career and Technical Education Advisory Council." Members will want to be sure to attend this meeting.

Members will receive an e-mail reminder with a request for response one week prior to the the meeting.

JOHN PENN BALLOT NOMINATIONS DUE

A REMINDER: There are many county citizens who are worthy of recognition of the John Penn Award.

A nomination form was enclosed in the November and December issues of THE BRIGHTLEAF. Additional copies may be obtained from the Chamber's website, granville-chamber.com.

Nominations must be received by the Chamber no later than January 2, 2007.

South Council Meets on Monday, January 8

The Chamber's South Council will hold its first meeting of 2007 on Monday, January 8th at 12:00 noon. Granville County's new manager, Brian Allgood, will be the guest speaker. The meeting will be at Bob's Barbecue.

Watch for further details from Glenda. Hope to see you there!

JANUARY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

1		New Year's Day observance	
2	8:30 am	Downtown Oxford Roundtable	Chamber Boardroom
8	12:00 noon	South Council Meeting	Bob's Barbecue
9	8:00 am	Board of Directors Meeting	Chamber Boardroom
9	12:00 noon	Recognitions Committee Meeting	Chamber Boardroom
12	8:00 a.m.	Government Forum Meeting	Chamber Boardroom
15		Martin Luther King Holiday observance	
18	8:00 am	Leadership Granville Steering Committee	Chamber Boardroom
18	12:00 noon	Human Resources Committee Meeting	Employment Security Commission, Oxford office
22	7:00 pm	CHAMBER'S ANNUAL BANQUET 65TH ANNIVERSARY	VGCC's Civic Center

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT TO THE CHAMBER

Vickie Bailey, past-president and chairman of the Nominating Committee, along with committee members, have submitted the following slate of officers and directors for the 2007 Chamber year:

President	Thomas Combs	Union Bank
President-Elect	Johnny Balmer	Carolina Sunrock
Vice-President	Mark Averette	Bandag
Treasurer	Jason Finch	Capital Bank
Past President	Hugh Currin, Jr.	Royster, Cross & Currin

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

<i>Terms expire 2008</i>	Julia Overton	Stovall's Gifts
	Dorwin Howard	Granville County Schools
<i>Terms expire 2009</i>	Jon Zbonack	Knight Custom Homes
	Linda Taylor	Coldwell Banker Advantage
<i>Terms expire 2010</i>	Melinda Pritchett	Merle Norman
	Lillian Gray	Dutchville Builders
<i>APPOINTED</i>	Brian Allgood	Granville County Manager
	Jack Day	Mayor of Stem
	Bob Schaumleffel	Manager, City of Creedmoor
	Tommy Marrow	Manager, City of Oxford
	Tom McGee	Manager, Town of Butner
	Janet Parrott	Mayor, City of Stovall

Newly-filled positions are Vice-President and two Board of Directors terms (expire 2010).

As stated in the Chamber's By-Laws, the following will apply:

C. Nominations by petition. Additional names of candidates for directors can be nominated by petition bearing the genuine signature of at least ten (10) qualified members of the Chamber. Such petition shall be filed within ten (10) days after the notice has been given of the names of those nominated. The determination of the Nominating Committee as to the legality of the petition shall be final.

D. Determination. If no petition is filed within the designated period, the nominations shall be closed and the nominated slate of two (2) candidates shall be declared elected by the Board of Directors. Installation of the Executive Committee and the Board shall take place at the Annual Banquet with responsibilities beginning in February of the new year at the Board of Directors Meeting.

NEW NORTH CAROLINA LAWS

A number of laws became effective in North Carolina on December 1, 2006 or will become effective on January 1, 2007. These laws will have an impact on retailers in North Carolina. Listed below is a short summary of these laws. Please feel free to contact the North Carolina Retail Merchants Association, 1.800.662.7211, for additional information on compliance with these laws.

EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 1, 2006

1) State Sales and Use Tax Reduced by .25%. The state sales and use tax rate is slated to drop to 4% on July 1, 2007.

2) Keg Purchase-Transport Permit. All retailers selling kegs in quarter-barrels or half-barrels of malt beverages are required to issue a purchase-transport permit to purchasers of these items.

3) Prohibition Against Alcohol Retailers Employing Certain Employees. Effective December 1, retailers who sell beer and wine are prohibited from knowingly employing someone who has been a past holder of a beer and wine permit whose permit was revoked within the past 18 months, and the person was the permit holder at the location where the person would be employed.

4) Authority to Embargo Food. The Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources or a local health director has full power to exercise embargo authority concerning food or drink that is misbranded or adulterated if the location where the food is located is regulated by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources or there is a threat of the spread of communicable disease. They do not have authority over any area of a store that is under inspection or otherwise regulated by the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services or the USDA.

5) Seat Belts Mandated Throughout Vehicles. Effective December 1, every passenger in a vehicle must use a seat belt when the vehicle is operated on the highway. A violation will result in an infraction and a \$10 fine for a passenger in the back seat while a passenger in the front seat will also receive an infraction and pay a fine of \$25 plus court costs of \$50. A vehicle cannot be stopped just for the failure to wear a seat belt.

6) Cell Phone Ban While Driving for Those Under 18 Years of Age. Effective December 1, no person under 18 years of age may use a mobile phone or technology provided through a mobile phone while operating a vehicle. The prohibition does not apply when the mobile phone is being used to call an emergency response operator, a hospital, physician's office, health clinic, public or privately-owned ambulance company or service, fire department, law enforcement agency, parent, legal guardian or a spouse. A violation results in an infraction and a \$25 fine but does not result in license points, insurance surcharge or court costs.



EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2007

1) Minimum Wage Increases to \$6.15. Effective January 1, 2007, North Carolina's minimum wage for all workers increases from \$5.15 to \$6.15 per hour.

2) Tax Credit for small business employee health benefits. Effective January 1, 2007, a business with 25 or less employees is eligible for a Credit. A small business that provides health benefits for all of its eligible employees during the taxable year is allowed to take up to a \$250 tax credit per employee to offset its costs in providing health benefits for its eligible employees. An employer can not take a tax credit for someone making in excess of \$40,000 annually. To be eligible to take the tax credit, the employer must pay at least 50% of the premiums for health care coverage.

GOVERNMENT FORUM COMMITTEE

Pat Kiesow and Lois Pauluzzi have arranged for Brian Alligood, Granville County's new manager, to make a presentation at the Friday, January 12 meeting of the Chamber's Government Committee.

We hope to see all interested citizens that morning at 8:00 a.m. for this interesting presentation by Mr. Alligood as he gives us the Granville County updates.

NEW MEMBER

BUTNER PUBLIC SAFETY is the Chamber's newest member in the associate category.

Chief M. Wayne Hobgood and his staff have been active in many Chamber events, and we welcome them as official members.

Located at 611 Central Avenue in Butner, they may be contacted by phone at 919.575.6561, by fax at 919.575.6045, or via email at whobgood@nccrimecontrol.org.

Butner Public Safety provides police and fire protection 24/7 to the residents and many institutions in their community.

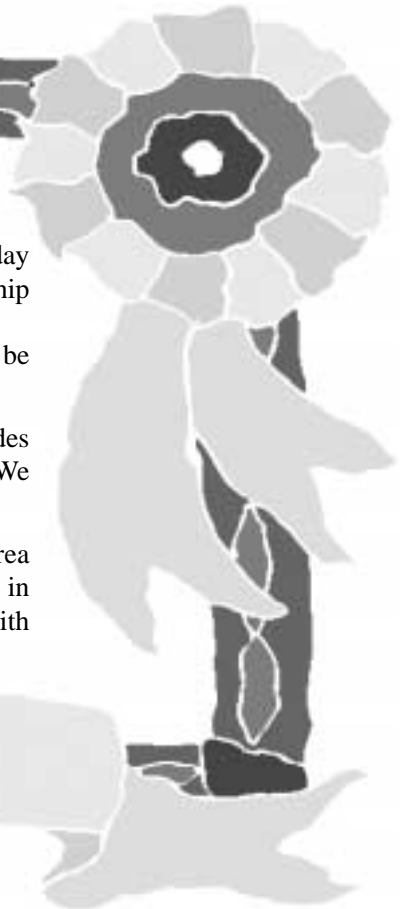
KUDOS . . . KUDOS . . . KUDOS!

CAPITAL BANK, Jason Finch and staff, for the wonderful Holiday Business After Hours that they hosted for our membership. The food, fellowship and entertainment were incredible!

Chamber member **Simply Delicious Catering, Debbie Vaughan**, is also to be commended.

Chamber member **ASHLEY JORDAN'S FLOWERS AND GIFTS** provides seasonal arrangements for the front office of the Chamber's Oxford office. We appreciate them sharing their talent with us so it may be enjoyed by visitors!

ROYSTER, CROSS & CURRIN collected items to donate to Area Congregations in Ministry (ACIM) at Thanksgiving. Their staff took the lead in supporting and donating to ACIM, which has been suggested in collaboration with the Chamber's Thanksgiving breakfast.



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