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## Lieutenant Governor Visits SPCC to Discuss How Students Are Preparing for Manufacturing Jobs

North Carolina Lt. Gov. Dan Forest visited South Piedmont Community College on Monday to learn more about the college's vital role in preparing men and women for the good, but highly skilled, manufacturing jobs available right now in our area.

The Lieutenant Governor began his visit with a tour of South Piedmont's new Center for Technology and Health Education, which houses the college's advanced manufacturing and industrial maintenance programs.

Forest then led a panel discussion with local education and industry leaders, including Rick Little, technical services director for Scott Safety; Bill Moody and Tony Alexander with Vanguard Pai Lung; Chris Platé, executive director of Monroe-Union County Economic Development; Dr. John Jones, assistant superintendent of instructional programs for Union County Public Schools (UCPS); Matt Nelson, CEO of Turbomeca Manufacturing, and Dr. Stan Sidor, president of South Piedmont Community College.

Among those in attendance and asking questions of the panel during the lively discussion were representatives from the local legislative delegation, the Union County Board of Education, Union County Board of Commissioners and the Union County Chamber of Commerce as well as business and economic development leaders and SPCC trustees and foundation board members.

Much of the discussion focused on answering questions about where the next generation of skilled manufacturing professionals will come from and if we are doing enough—through both public and private efforts—to prepare students for these jobs that pay well and will be in high demand for the foreseeable future. In many cases, the panel agreed, it's battling misconceptions about what modern manufacturing is.

"It's about fundamentally changing the way we think," Forest said. "If one of the main goals of education is to prepare young people for jobs in the future, they need to know that these jobs exist. Union County is doing a great job of that."

Sidor said that what's working well is engaging employers to help with training so that students learn entry-level requirements for precision machining. "Addressing both the short-term and long-term employment needs of local manufacturers, the collaborating partners are creating a deeper and broader labor pool than what exists," said Sidor after the event.

Earlier this year South Piedmont Community College was awarded a \$345,000 grant from the Golden LEAF Foundation. The Machining Credential to College Credit & Apprenticeship Project is helping unemployed and underemployed adults as well as graduating high school seniors from UCPS Central Academy of Technology and Arts (CATA) enter high-skill, high-wage careers in advanced manufacturing.

"The project is part of a broad college strategy in collaboration with Union County Public Schools and the Union County Advanced Manufacturing Consortium to create journeyman machining apprenticeship and internships programs," said Sidor. "Combining training and on-site work experience prepares our people to enter jobs that they can confidently and competently perform."

## Foreclosure Prevention Effort Expanded to Recent Veterans, Furloughed Workers

Program has already helped nearly 14,000 keep their homes

The successful N.C. Foreclosure Prevention Fund has been expanded to help veterans recently separated from service and military or civilian workers who are currently furloughed or facing an impending furlough. The state-designed foreclosure prevention program has already helped nearly 14,000 workers who have lost their jobs save their homes. Funding is available to assist another 7,000. The Fund makes mortgage payments for qualified unemployed workers as well as homeowners who have suffered certain other hardships, such as divorce, illness or death of a co-signor, while they look for work or complete job training. It is funded by the U.S. Department of the Treasury.

Eligible veterans include those who have been honorably discharged from the military since Jan. 1, 2008, and who have a Certificate of Release of Discharge from Active Duty (DD14). Unlike other applicants, veterans do not need to be receiving unemployment benefits to qualify. "Transitioning from military to civilian life can be daunting," said A. Robert Kucab, executive director of the N.C. Housing Finance Agency, which designed and manages the Fund. "When the men and women who have served our country come home from protecting us, we want to help them protect their homes."

Eligible veterans may be able to get help in one of three ways:

- 1) one-time assistance to bring the mortgage current
- 2) a zero-interest, deferred loan of up to \$36,000, paying monthly mortgage and related costs for up to 36 months while the veteran completes job training and looks for work. If the owner continues to live in the home for at least 10 years, the loan is satisfied and no repayment is required.
- 3) a zero-interest loan up to \$30,000 to pay off a second mortgage. This can help homeowners who find new jobs at reduced incomes by reducing their total monthly payment to an affordable level.

Furloughed workers with a demonstrated need are eligible for short-term assistance that pays their mortgage until they are back at work. Eligible workers can only receive this assistance for an 18-month period and may receive multiple series of furlough payments during that time.

Homeowners do not need to be behind on their mortgage payments to apply for assistance. They can apply through 41 participating HUD-approved counseling agencies statewide or online at [www.NCForeclosurePrevention.gov](http://www.NCForeclosurePrevention.gov). Homeowners can find an agency and learn more by calling 1-888-623-8631 or at [www.NCForeclosurePrevention.gov](http://www.NCForeclosurePrevention.gov).

## Protect Yourself from Fraud Related to Health Care Reform

Insurance Commissioner Wayne Goodwin warns North Carolinians to beware of scam artists who may try to take advantage of the confusion surrounding federal health care reform. "Scammers may pose as insurance agents or representatives of the federal government in an attempt to sell fraudulent policies or collect your personal information," Goodwin said. "The best way to protect yourself is to be informed and recognize red flags."

- Health Insurance Marketplace - New Health Insurance Marketplaces, or exchanges, opened on Oct. 1. These online portals ask consumers to enter information about themselves and select the level of coverage they desire to receive a list of plans they can purchase. North Carolina's Health Insurance Marketplace is run by the federal government and can be accessed at [www.healthcare.gov](http://www.healthcare.gov). Beware of bogus websites that give the appearance of being part of the new Marketplace. You should also be suspicious of anyone who charges a fee to inform you about the Marketplace or in connection with enrollment.

- New "Obamacare" Insurance or Medicare Cards - Another common ploy involves unsolicited calls from scammers who claim to have your new "Obamacare" insurance card...they just need to get some information before they can send it to you. The caller then asks for credit card numbers, bank account information or your Social Security number. A variation of this trick specifically targets seniors on Medicare; the caller claims that for them to get their new Medicare card and continue receiving their benefits, they must verify their bank account and routing numbers. Some callers ask for their Medicare numbers, which are identical to Social Security numbers.

Medicare beneficiaries are not required to obtain a new insurance or Medicare card under the Affordable Care Act. Also, anyone who is a legitimate representative of the federal government will already have your personal and financial information and should not ask you to provide it.

Don't Be Misled. Here are some other important red flags to watch out for:

- The salesperson says the premium offer is only good for a limited time. Enrollment in the exchanges will be open from Oct. 1 to March 31, and rates for plans in the exchanges will

have been approved for the entire enrollment period. Be skeptical of someone who is trying to pressure you into buying a policy because the rate is only good for a short time. Remember, if the offer sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

- You receive an unsolicited phone call, email or visit from someone trying to sell insurance. The federal government and state insurance departments will not be contacting individual consumers to sell insurance. Do not give any sensitive information to anyone who calls or comes to your home without your permission, even if they claim to be with the federal government, your state insurance department or a navigator for the exchange.

If you have questions about health insurance, call NCDOT's Health Insurance Smart NC program at 877-885-0231.

If you have questions about Medicare, call SHIIP, the Seniors' Health Insurance Information Program, at 800-443-9354.

To find local assistance with enrollment through the federal Health Insurance Marketplace/exchange, call 800-318-2596 or visit [www.healthcare.gov](http://www.healthcare.gov).

## Update on New Emergency Services Center Construction

Shown here is the most recent aerial photograph of the new Emergency Services Center on County Club Road in Wadesboro. The construction project is still on schedule to be completed in December 2013, and the project is still on budget. Anson County Manager Lawrence Gatewood said, "We continue to work closely with our partners at Moseley Architects, Messer Construction Company, Uwharrie Bank and the North Carolina 911 Board to make sure that the facility is well constructed and equipped, and completed on time and within budget. I'm more convinced than ever that this building is going to serve us well for a very long time. We're delighted with the progress on all fronts."

Gatewood continued, "Sheriff Tommy Allen and I have formed a relocation planning team to be sure that the move to the new facility goes smoothly. Members of that team, which is being headed by Sheriff Allen, include Rodney Diggs (Emergency Management director and Fire Marshall), Holly Mullis (911 Call Center director), Randy Gulledd (IT Services), Bret Blalock (Anson EMS interim director), Bonnie Huntley (Clerk to the Board) and me."



# One HOLIDAY AUCTION

27th Annual Holiday Auction  
Benefiting Hospice of Union County and Hospice of Anson County

Saturday, November 16, 2013  
First Baptist Church | 109 Morrow Ave. | Monroe, NC

REGISTRATION AND PREVIEW  
8 a.m. to 9 a.m.

LIVE AUCTION  
9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

SILENT AUCTION  
9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For more information on items available for bid, visit [CarolinaHealthCare.org/hospice-holiday-auction](http://CarolinaHealthCare.org/hospice-holiday-auction).

To donate an item to auction, contact Wayne Berg at 704-292-2130 or [Wayne.Berg@houc.org](mailto:Wayne.Berg@houc.org).



Carolinas HealthCare System

# HOME IMPROVEMENT SAVINGS CENTER

## Garages Sale

12x20	\$4,995.95
16x24	\$6,999.95
20x20	\$7,495.95
20x24	\$8,999.95
24x24	\$9,995.95
24x32	\$11,995.95
24x48	\$16,995.95

Concrete Floor, Vinyl Siding, 1 Entry Door, 1 9'x7' Door & 1 Vinyl Window On Level Land

## Decks

4x4	\$299.95
6x6	\$399.95
8x8	\$499.95
8x12	\$699.95
10x12	\$799.95
12x12	\$999.95
12x16	\$1,299.95

Built or Delivered on Your Lot

## Mini Barns

8x8	\$899.95
8x10	\$1,099.95
8x12	\$1,199.95
10x12	\$1,299.95
10x16	\$1,695.95
10x18	\$1,895.95
10x20	\$2,199.95
16x16	\$1,799.95

Built or Delivered on Your Lot

Carpet & Floor Covering Starting At \$4.99/sq. yd.

RHEEM Hot Water Heaters On Sale Now!!

Low Boy or High Boy \$249.95

Carpet & Vinyl Remnants On Sale Starting At \$39.95

# LUMBER

Treated	Treated	Treated	Treated				
2x4x8	\$3.49	2x6x8	\$4.49	2x8x8	\$6.49	4x4x8	\$7.99
2x4x10	\$4.49	2x6x10	\$5.49	2x8x10	\$6.99	4x4x10	\$10.99
2x4x12	\$5.49	2x6x12	\$6.49	2x8x12	\$7.99	4x4x12	\$12.95
2x4x16	\$6.99	2x6x16	\$8.99	2x8x16	\$11.95	4x4x16	\$17.95
Pine	Pine	Pine	Decking Board				
2x4x8	\$2.49	2x6x8	\$3.99	8'	\$3.99		
2x4x10	\$3.49	2x6x10	\$4.99	10'	\$4.99		
2x4x12	\$4.49	2x6x12	\$5.99	12'	\$5.99		
2x4x16	\$5.99	2x6x16	\$7.99	16'	\$7.99		

**WADESBORO LUMBER & BARN**  
213 Salisbury Street, Wadesboro, NC • Hours: Monday-Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Saturday 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.  
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