2021
ANNUAL REPORT
THANK YOU LEADERSHIP

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LETTER FROM THE CEO

In April, 2021, Sanford and Lee County landed its largest new site location announcement in more than twenty years when Abzena Holdings announced its purchase of Shell Building Two in Central Carolina Enterprise Park, echoing the success of the prior year in which the Sanford Area Growth Alliance’s economic development and marketing efforts yielded four of the top 25 job-creating economic development projects in the state.

With a total capital investment of $213 million, and the creation of 325 new jobs, Abzena chose Sanford and Lee County for its new cGMP biologics manufacturing facility over intense competition from San Diego, Philadelphia, Trenton, New Jersey, Austin, Texas, and Tulsa, Oklahoma. This win further validated Sanford’s selection by Area Development Magazine as its #5 Top-Performing Micropolitan area for 2020, and solidified Lee County’s growing reputation as a leading global site for life sciences manufacturing operations.

Not to be outdone by the newcomers, Lee County’s existing business community, large and small alike, once again demonstrated its strength and resilience in the face of a persistent global pandemic, keeping the economies of Sanford, Lee County and Broadway on a positive trajectory in fiscal 2020-2021. Unlike many similar communities around the state and region, Lee County local sales tax revenues and property tax base reached all-time highs, driven in part by the surge in both residential and commercial construction activity associated with the prior year’s announcements.

When SAGA and its partners celebrated the Certified Site status of a still nascent Central Carolina Enterprise Park in the summer of 2016, we boldly predicted the Park’s potential to generate as much as $250 million in capital investment from ten projects over a ten-year period. Today, CCEP is already home to four projects with an announced capital investment of nearly $350 million and almost 600 new jobs, far exceeding our most optimistic expectations from just five years ago.

As this extraordinary community partnership enters its seventh year, we have proven the value of a shared vision and the power of collaborative effort to achieve unprecedented results. With the proceeds of this recent success, we have the rare opportunity to reinvest strategically and actually shape the future of our community in ways that most other communities can only dream about.

This is a rare opportunity, and a great responsibility, and we are grateful to all the public and private sector partners and investors who are engaged with SAGA in this important effort. In a highly competitive global marketplace, the work of growing and sustaining a prosperous economy never ends, and our community is counting on each and every one of us to diligently continue this good work.

Jimmy Randolph
CEO
Sanford Area Growth Alliance
GOAL: MARKET LEE COUNTY

SAGA’s marketing efforts target internal customers and stakeholders through local media and printed materials to maintain communication on goals, strategies and accomplishments. External marketing efforts, including contract-ed services through DCI, have been successful in extending the Sanford/Lee County brand through social media and search engine optimization activities. Outreach marketing partnerships such as Research Triangle Regional Partnership and co-op programs through Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina as well as direct mail have also proven to be a successful method of advertising/promotion, especially with site consultants.

STRATEGIES:

- Create common community vision for economic development
- Maintain strong Investor, Member and Stakeholder relations
- Continue external marketing to promote area as a destination and business location

MEASURES:

Website Traffic

- New User (88.8%)
- Returning User (11.2%)
- 65.9K Pageviews
- Total Users 21.4K

Top Countries
1. United States
2. Canada
3. Germany

DID YOU KNOW: SAGA has a weekly segment on WWGP 1050 AM / 95.1 FM.

Tune in every Thursday at 9:35 AM where Margaret Murchison is joined by a different member of the SAGA staff, to discuss both current highlights of the organization as well as the community as a whole.

“Joining us now...”
GOAL: NEW BUSINESS RECRUITMENT

As the lead agency for new business recruitment, SAGA has utilized its increased resources to build stronger relationships with site consultants, state recruiters and industry decision-makers. Going forward, SAGA’s more robust recruitment budget will ensure a competitive effort commensurate with rival communities.

STRATEGIES:

- Actively market Lee County for business recruitment
- Focus external marketing resources on the following Target Sectors: customers and future suppliers of Megasite tenants and existing businesses; advanced manufacturing; life sciences; defense technologies; energy; and agriculture and related business sectors.
- Support retail recruitment
- Ensure competitiveness of recruitment efforts

MEASURES:

![Graph showing Visits, Inquiries, and Wins from 2019 to 2021]

### Fiscal Year 2020-2021

**2019**

- Inquiries: 20
- Visits: 8
- Wins: 3

**2020**

- Inquiries: 18
- Visits: 7
- Wins: 2

**2021**

- Inquiries: 16
- Visits: 6
- Wins: 1

**Lee Co. Average Annual Wage**

- 2017: $42.5K
- 2020: $42K
- 2021: $41.5K

**Tax Base Increase 2020 - 2021**

- **Actual**: $205.5M

**New Payroll 2020-2021**

- **Announced**: $19.5M

**ABZENA SELECTS SANFORD FOR NEW FACILITY**

Abzena, a life sciences group headquartered in San Diego, California with other sites across the US and Europe, will open a new facility in Lee County, Governor Roy Cooper announced Tuesday, April 13, 2021. The company now occupies the 117,000 square foot Shell Building #2 in Central Carolina Enterprise Park and will create 325 jobs at an average annual salary of more than $60,000. The company will be investing $213M in Sanford.
GOAL: RETAIN AND EXPAND EXISTING INDUSTRY

Typically, existing industry expansions account for 75-80% of new capital investment and job creation in communities. Recent facility expansions and headcount increases by large employers like Pfizer, Caterpillar and Pentair as well as incremental headcount increases by smaller employers helped mitigate job losses among service sector employers impacted by the COVID pandemic, in addition to reductions in force at GKN, Moen and Marelli. SAGA will continue to advocate for a strong pro-business climate that supports existing business, provides timely and valuable information, fosters communication and connects local business with necessary resources. SAGA’s ongoing commitment to a dedicated staff member in support of existing industry will ensure these strategies are effectively deployed.

STRATEGIES:

- Actively support expansions and retention
- Advocate for business climate and policy changes that will support existing industry
- Foster industry synergy by building relationships and community engagement to continue effective communication channels

MEASURES:

![Lee County Employment Chart]

84 Industry Visits (Including Virtual)

Existing Industry Program Objectives
- Workforce Development and Talent Attraction
- Communications and Business Intelligence
- Supply Chain Opportunities

MOEN®

In August, 2020, Moen announced pending changes at the Sanford facility in first quarter 2021 impacting approximately 200 employees. Local management assured SAGA leaders that the Sanford facility would not be closing, and that they would work hard to expand other opportunities at the Sanford site. One year later, site HR staff indicate that employment levels will be back to between 325 and 350 by year end.
GOAL: PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT

With the completion of the first 117,000 square foot speculative industrial building at Central Carolina Enterprise Park, SAGA achieved a major product development goal set out in 2014. Available for immediate development are numerous shovel-ready, certified industrial sites ranging in size from 5 acres to 50 acres, offered at a competitive price point to other sites in the southeast. These sites are the culmination of a public private effort to gain an advantage in speed to market – a critical hurdle in attracting major industrial projects – beginning with the Duke Energy Site Readiness Certification in 2015. SAGA will continue to support development of a quality inventory of competitive buildings and sites.

STRATEGIES:

- Maintain current site and building information and make available to partners, allies, and the public
- Support the development and maintenance of a quality inventory of shovel-ready, certified sites and buildings

MEASURES:

Fiscal Year 2020-2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community Investment</th>
<th>Infrastructure and Capital Improvement</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Water and Sewer</td>
<td>‘21: $21.8M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>‘20: $1.3M</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roads</td>
<td>‘21: $987K</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>‘20: $1.2M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broadband</td>
<td>‘21: $13.8K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>‘20: $13.8K</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Product Development

Shell Building One and Shell Building Two at CCEP have been sold to end users, yielding announced capital investment of $322 million and 534 new jobs, and marketing activity around the building program has generated two additional Build-to-Suit (BTS) contracts, with four new buildings now in various stages of completion.
GOAL: EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Activities in this goal area will continue to build on successful efforts such as Central Carolina Works, our model dual enrollment program created as a response to industry needs and privately funded by SAGA leaders in partnership with CCCC. SAGA will continue leading a community-wide collaboration to grow and train a 21st Century workforce, advocating for superior public schools, promoting integration of “learn and earn” experiences and facilitating communication between the business community and all education stakeholders.

STRATEGIES:

- Support Central Carolina Works and other educational programs to develop a ready workforce through initiatives such as K-14, apprenticeships and STEAM programming
- Proactively anticipate emerging workforce needs and facilitate a connection between relevant or critical partners for business and education partnerships
- Identify workforce development needs and initiatives

MEASURES:

- 11,988 CCCC Summer, Fall, Spring Unduplicated Enrollment
- 9/10 High School Graduates earned more than a Diploma (2016-2021)
- 87.3% Lee County Schools High School Graduation Rate (2021)
- 974 CCCC Earned Career/Technical Credentials 2020-21

Even with our challenges of the past year, our community has successfully continued its unified support of economic development. The college is privileged to engage with community leaders who value a strong talent pipeline for current, expanding, and future employers. Great partners help CCCC provide the needed career pathways, and work with us to ensure our local residents can engage in exceptional learning that leads to achievable dreams.

Dr. Lisa Chapman
President
Central Carolina Community College
Central Carolina Community College

BioWork: Innovation front and center.

The BioWork certificate program, offered at Central Carolina Community College teaches students the foundational skills they need to begin a career as a process technician for a biotechnology, pharmaceutical, or chemical manufacturing company. Process technicians are responsible for the production of chemical and pharmaceutical products.

“The revamped Bioprocess Technology program is being designed with a high level of flexibility and personalized advising to support students every step of the way,” said Dr. Lisa Smelser, CCCC Lead Instructor for Biotechnology Programs. “We encourage people who have a passion for helping others by making life-saving medicines to enroll in BioWork.”

After completion, students will be able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of quality systems such as International Standards Organization (ISO) and Current Good Manufacturing Practices (cGMP).
- Measure length, volume, mass, and pressure using the metric system.
- Identify workplace safety hazards.
- Understand separation methods including evaporation, distillation, precipitation, crystallization, filtration, liquid extraction, and chromatography.
- Operate process equipment including an autoclave, incubator, microscope, balance, refractometer, pH meter, conductivity meter, and bioreactor.
- Work aseptically to minimize product contamination.
- Provide the optimal conditions for growing cells.
- Apply and interview with confidence for an entry-level process technician job at a North Carolina pharmaceutical or biotechnology company.

A Growing Industry

Home to more than 700 life science companies, North Carolina currently ranks third in the nation for biotechnology. BioWork is a certificate program which can lead to an entry-level position as a process technician. Students will learn the foundational skills needed for a career with a biotechnology, pharmaceutical, or chemical manufacturing company.

BioWork is ideal for recent high school graduates, transitioning military, or anyone seeking a new career opportunity.
CENTRAL CAROLINA ENTERPRISE PARK

• Available sites: 10 - 30 acres, NC Certified, Shovel-Ready in CCEP with infrastructure

• NEW industrial shell building in development, 117,000 sq. ft., at CCEP

• Streamlined Permitting, Pro-Business Leadership

• Adjacent to US Hwy 1 Freeway, 15 mins to I-540 with direct access to RDU International Airport

• Over 496K workers and 1.43M population within 40-mile radius, including Research Triangle Park, Fort Bragg and Pinehurst

• Within 5 minutes of Raleigh Executive Jetport (6500 ft. runway)

• Within 45 minutes of three Tier 1 Research Universities

• Home to award-winning Central Carolina Community College

Infrastructure

Electric: Duke Energy
• Distribution Line - 24 kV
• Transmission Line - 230 kV

Natural Gas: PSNC Energy
• Size of line - 6”
• Pressure of line - 150 psig

Water Service: City of Sanford
• Nearest line size - 16” & 12”
• Available capacity - 1 MDG

Wastewater Treatment: City of Sanford
• Size of nearest line: 12”
• Available capacity - 1.2 MGD

Telecommunications: Randolph Telephone Telecommunications, Inc.
• Service available: Up to 10 Gbps via Fiber Optic
Central Carolina Enterprise Park
Advanced Manufacturing Facility III

- 117,000 +/- SF warehouse (shell condition)
- 100,000 +/- SF Expansion Pad
- First Bay Engineered to accommodate Mezzanine, Office & Storage
- Column Spacing: 50’ x 54’
- Center Ceiling Height - 29’
- Eave Ceiling Height - 26’
- Dock Area Doors:
  - 13 - Dock High - 10’ x 9’ (Expandable to 22)
  - 1 - Drive-In - 14’ x 12’
- Floor Thickness: 6 inches
- Designed for Sprinkler System: ESFR
- Exterior Material: Tilt Up Concrete
- Interior Material: Steel Frame
- 17 Paved Parking Spaces (Expandable to 150)

With announcements from life-science giants Astellas and Abzena, the Shell Building Program in Central Carolina Enterprise Park has helped create 534 NEW jobs at an average annual salary of more than $71,900, as well as two build-to-suit projects bringing millions more in investment.

These projects will result in a community investment over $340 million.
Lee County Schools is deeply committed to economic development in our community. To see that, you only have to look as far as our students’ accomplishments in our district-wide “More Than A Diploma” initiative—something we began several years ago to give our students a competitive advantage for college admissions and good paying jobs. The idea, simply put, is to help all students graduate with something more than the basic high school diploma.

The numbers over the last six years have been impressive. Nine out of 10 graduates did earn more than a diploma and 276 students left high school with a college associate degree as well, without having to pay anything out of pocket. Nearly half of graduating students have earned at least one college credit with the help of Lee Early College and the Central Carolina Works program. Graduates also have completed nearly 13,000 college courses and 8,000 career and technical education certifications.

However, we are not resting on our laurels. We just completed an eight-month process to redesign the manner in which we deliver literacy instruction at our elementary schools. This effort even garnered the attention of State Superintendent Catherine Truitt and members of her Department of Public Instruction (DPI) staff who visited our district for a roundtable discussion about the process we used to “realign” literacy instruction. Superintendent Truitt and her staff attended the meeting to gather successful ideas from our teachers and administrators that might be helpful statewide as they launch North Carolina’s Science of Reading initiative.

Lee County and Southern Lee high schools already have very successful National Academy Foundation (NAF) Career Academies in Engineering, Finance, and Hospitality and Tourism. Soon, there will be another opportunity for our students. We are currently designing two new NAF Life Science Academies, one at each of our traditional high schools. The process will create academic programs developed specifically for the growing life-science technology sector to give our students promising new opportunities and enhance our local economic development efforts that make Sanford the life science hub for North Carolina. The new academies will open in August 2022.

And these are just a few of the numbers and opportunities that make our schools so successful. Our students continue to have impressive academic options that allow them to compete for college admission or jump start their careers. The great news is that our students have embraced those opportunities with enthusiasm and success. That’s good for our graduates, and it’s good for our community.

Dr. Andy Bryan
Superintendent
Lee County Schools

Lee County Schools

More than a diploma.

You have probably heard by now what great things our students are accomplishing. More than 87 percent graduate from high school, a figure that mirrors the state average, and they’re not merely graduating.

More than half leave high school with credit for college courses, and that doesn’t include the Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate courses that will earn them additional academic credit at universities throughout the world.

More than 60 percent graduate with career and technical credentials that include work readiness certificates and technical certifications awarded by companies like Adobe and Microsoft.

It takes a lot of outstanding people working together over many years for our students to achieve so much success. Dedicated education professionals at every grade level. Conscientious business leaders investing in students and academic initiatives. Civic leaders, volunteers, and faith-based organizations who unite to provide what our children need to excel.

What our students have accomplished already is impressive, but we’re still moving ahead. Because, working together, there’s no telling what we can achieve.
GOAL: CHAMPION SMALL BUSINESS GROWTH AND EXPANSION

SAGA assists emerging and growing companies through the Chamber of Commerce by providing value-added benefits, such as networking and B2B efforts for its 500+ members. SAGA continues support of the CCCC Small Business Center; partnering with other critical organizations to assist our community’s businesses in building connections to resources and advocating for business friendly public policy.

STRATEGIES:

- Maintain Chamber program to provide benefits to enhance and grow small business
- Facilitate a support program for entrepreneurs
- Advocate for funding resources and connect with new and existing businesses

MEASURES:

Through the efforts of the Real Investment in Sanford Entrepreneurs (RISE) Program, several small businesses opened during COVID, including:

- High Cotton Couture
- With Love Boutique
- The Eyelight Coffee and Comic Shop
- Seva Yoga
- Flooded Screenprints
- GiGi’s Creations

The Chamber also had the pleasure of celebrating Ribbon Cuttings with:

- Noble Auto Care
- t.l.c. home
- Sanford Yoga & Community Center
- Pinehurst Medical Clinic
- Brick City Boba
- Vaternation Inc.
- Salvation Army of Lee County Navigation Center
- Seva Yoga
- Flooded Screenprints
- GiGi’s Creations

Ways to connect with the Chamber and other businesses:

NETWORK
From AM Buzz events to Public Policy Lunches, Ribbon Cuttings, and signature Chamber events, there is plenty of opportunity to make new connections.

ERVE ON A COMMITTEE
The Chamber has committees for Education and Workforce Development, Membership, Marketing and Business and Community Advancement. Let’s get to work!

MARKETING OPPORTUNITIES
Monthly events and annual signature events all have opportunities to market your business, either through participation in the event, or through event sponsorship.

LEADERSHIP SANFORD
Participation in this program allows you to closely connect with a small group of engaged professionals, all while learning more about our community and ways to get involved.

Fiscal Year 2020-2021
The inaugural SAGA-Chamber Children’s Business Fair, showcasing 23 different businesses owned and operated by Lee County’s youngest and brightest entrepreneurs, welcomed over 400 patrons on Saturday, October 17, 2020.

This event was sponsored by Acton Academy, the Acton School of Business, and the generous support of volunteers, who all believe that principled entrepreneurs are heroes and role models for the next generation.

Kids created a product or service, developed a brand, built a marketing strategy, and then opened for customers at this one-day marketplace. The children were also responsible for the setup, sales, and interacting with customers.

“We didn’t want to limit our youth to what we perceive to be a successful business. We wanted them to dream big, but also have a plan in place to succeed,” explained SAGA Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Meg Moss. “That’s why we asked participants to submit a short business plan prior to setting up shop for the day. One of the participants has been selling his products year-round since last year’s fair. He produced a video about his product, created a QR code, and can now take online payments. This is the type of success we were hoping for.”

The success of the inaugural Children’s Business Fair has allowed SAGA to plan hosting this event annually.
GOAL: PROVIDE EVENTS RESULTING IN BUSINESS GROWTH

Offering high quality business gatherings has been a long time goal for the Chamber and, with the resources now available, SAGA conducts events which provide significant value and potential opportunity for business development. As a regular part of the SAGA activities, a variety of events are held to meet different business needs.

STRATEGIES:
- Conduct monthly events to create a sense of community with business and industry
- Host special events to provide networking opportunities to build relationships and create new contacts
- Conduct Chamber Annual Membership Banquet and SAGA Annual Meeting to provide business and industry recognitions and organizational updates
- Organize and lead annual Leadership Sanford program

MEASURES:

46
Events
Held

40+
Meetings
Coordinated

Know Your Events:

AM Buzz
Monthly Morning Networking

Public Policy Luncheon
Topics for your community and business

Business After Hours
Laid back networking -- Cheers!

Ribbon Cutting
New business / Renovated location = BIG SCISSORS!

Digital Dialogue
Monthly, small-group discussions

Chamber Banquet
Recognizing Small Business Leaders

SAGA Annual Meeting
Recognizing local industry and accomplishments

Chamber Clays Championship
Ready, aim, fire! Who’s the best shot in Sanford?

SAGA Chamber Classic
18 holes on a local course -- FORE!

Business Showcase
Our community’s best -- all in one location!

The Annual Chamber Membership Banquet was held on June 24 at Sugarneck, in rural Lee County, marking the first time in the history of the annual event that it was held outdoors.

“The theme of the previous 15 months has been ‘adapt and overcome.’ This year’s Chamber Banquet was no different,” commented SAGA Events Manager Morgan Barbour. “We were excited at the prospect of still hosting the Chamber Banquet with a different flair, and we could not be more thankful for the staff at Sugarneck and all of our sponsors for helping create a perfect event.”
GOAL: ADVOCACY FOR QUALITY OF LIFE INITIATIVES

SAGA’s recent activities in quality of life, through its predecessor entities, have existed as an organizational goal since the 2008 Lee County Second Century study. Directly related to economic development goals and requiring constant attention, these strategies are designed to attract higher quality development and the creation of a strong sense of place. SAGA’s leadership in educating the community about the benefits of the Parks and Recreation bonds proved successful with the voted approval by Lee County citizens.

STRATEGIES:

- Support a Task Force for residential development
- Advocate for amenity development
- Support downtown development

MEASURES:

New Amenity Development

Residential Permits .................. ‘21: 725 issued, $219M
    ‘20: 540 issued, $50M

Commercial Permits .................. ‘21: 186 issued, $317M
    ‘20: 220 issued, $110M

Lee Grow Play Succeed

In the November 2020 election, Lee County voters approved a Parks & Rec bond referendum which entailed improvements to current parks as well as the creation of a multi-sports complex, currently in development.

Land Use Plan

We are working to complete the first step in revising our Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) to complement our comprehensive land use plan as was adopted in late 2018. The UDO is our comprehensive set of rules and regulations that sets forth the minimum standards for development.

We are actively working to on a complete overhaul of our current design guidelines for residential development with the goal to ensure that we create walkable neighborhoods with lasting character and amenities rather than disconnected and monotonous subdivisions. The adopted land use plan serves to guide developers as where they should build.

The UDO is the tool to make sure that these projects are constructed to a standard as desired by our community. We anticipate completion and adoption of these new rules in the fall of 2021. We will then move on to considering changes to our current standards for commercial and industrial development. We will also continue to monitor and tweak the land use plan as required to reflect the needs of the community.

Marshall Downey
Director
Planning and Development
GOAL: AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT

SAGA will continue efforts to engage and integrate farming and all other agri-business interests into the overall economic development program of the community. Recognizing that agriculture is a major driver of the Lee County economy, SAGA will support the goals of Lee County Cooperative Extension and work to develop creative approaches to improving the climate for agriculture related business.

STRATEGIES:

- Incorporate agriculture into all aspects of economic development
- Collaborate with agri-businesses for tourism and visitor marketing
- Support small farming strategies

MEASURES:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>NUMBER OF FARMS</th>
<th>250</th>
<th>Up 2% from 2012</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AVG. SIZE OF FARM</td>
<td>141 Acres</td>
<td>Down 11% from 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FARMS SELLING DIRECTLY TO CONSUMERS</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>Up 110% from 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACRES OF FARMLAND</td>
<td>35,170</td>
<td>Down 10% from 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>VOLUNTARY AG. DISTRICT</td>
<td>8,777.82 Acres</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOBACCO PRODUCED</td>
<td>6.2 Million lbs</td>
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<tr>
<td>MARKET VALUE OF AG. PRODUCTS</td>
<td>$54.4 Million</td>
<td>Up 57% from 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>VALUE OF CROPS INCLUDING NURSERY &amp; GREENHOUSE</td>
<td>18.8 Million</td>
<td>Up 9% from 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VALUE OF ANIMAL PRODUCTS</td>
<td>$35.6 Million</td>
<td>Up 103% from 2012</td>
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Looking Ahead

A few years back, we reframed the goals and strategies that Sanford Area Growth Alliance would pursue related to agriculture. Since this strategic pivot, I have been extremely encouraged to see the alignment of economic development and agriculture come together in a more tangible and impactful way.

Over the past year, significant progress has been made toward the development of a regional agricultural hub for central North Carolina located right here in downtown Sanford. SAGA was instrumental in connecting city and county partners with Pilgrims and their “Hometown Strong” community grant initiative, securing an initial investment of over half a million dollars to launch the “Pilgrims of Sanford Agricultural Marketplace” project.

To date, we have received over $750,000 of private donations and pledges toward the project, slated to begin construction this Fall. When completed, the Marketplace will house the Sanford Farmers Market, a Shared Use Community Kitchen, Farm to Table Restaurant, meeting and conference space, outdoor vendor pavilion, and state of the art audio visual technology. The vision is for this venue to be the premier agricultural hub of central North Carolina, a destination for regional growers, consumers, food entrepreneurs and out of town visitors.

A project of this scope and scale is not possible without a number of committed partners, and SAGA’s involvement from the outset has been critical to get us to where we are today. I am continually appreciative of the support SAGA has demonstrated for local agriculture and agribusiness, and look forward to a continued partnership in the years to come.

Dr. Bill Stone
Director
Lee County Cooperative Extension
THANK YOU

SAGA INVESTORS

Adcock & Associates
BB&T now Truist
Cargo Control USA
Carolina Commercial Contractors, LLC.
Carter Bank & Trust
Caterpillar Inc.
Central Carolina Enterprise Park, LLC
Central Carolina Hospital
Chatlee Boat and Marine
CMG Financial, Inc.
Community Properties, Inc.
Covington Collaborative
DMJ & Co., PLLC
Dominion Energy
Dossenbach’s Finer Furniture and Mattress Center
Duke Energy
Enterprise Holdings
FirstHealth of the Carolinas
First Bank
First Citizens Bank
Frontier Spinning Mills, Inc.
Gross Farms
Heritage Concrete Co
Lee County Farm Bureau
Lee Iron & Metal Company, Inc.
Lee-Moore Capital Company
Mertek Solutions, Inc.
The Normann Financial Group
Nouveau Investments, Inc.
Pfizer
Pilgrim’s
Progressive Contracting Company, Inc.
REAP Holdings, LLC
Rodeco Company
Samet Corporation
Sanford Contractors Inc.
Sanford Honda
Scott Hadley
Static Control Components, Inc.
STI Polymer, Inc.
Tri Properties | NAI Carolantic Realty Inc.
West Financial Strategies, Inc.
Wilkinson Cadillac Chevrolet Buick GMC

CHAIRMAN LEVEL MEMBERS
MEET THE STAFF

**JIMMY RANDOLPH**  
CEO  
jrandolph@growsanfordnc.com

First Job: Pumping gas at Johnsonville Grocery  
Coffee Order: Caffé Verona Black via Keurig, or Large Latte, Whole Milk, No Flavoring

**MEG MOSS**  
Chamber of Commerce Executive Director  
mmoss@growsanfordnc.com

Favorite Book: “Do They Hear You When They Cry”  
- Fauziya Kassindja and Layli Miller Bashir
First Job: Nanny to 2-year-old twin girls
Coffee Order: Light roast coffee, two Sweet’N Lows, and a splash of french vanilla creamer

**JOHN DEAN**  
Economic Development Manager  
jdean@growsanfordnc.com

Favorite Book: Hard to pick just one! I’ll stick with one of my go-to genres: historical non-fiction adventure books.  
First Job: Soccer Referee
Coffee Order: Black. Insider tip from Louisiana: include a few drops of Tabasco. You can thank me later!

**BOB JOYCE**  
Senior Director, Business Retention and Expansion  
bjoyce@growsanfordnc.com

Favorite Book: “The Road to Character” - David Brooks  
First Job: Delivery Boy for family’s Florist Business
Coffee Order: Large cup, the stronger the better  
(OK, I confess, occasionally I get a Chile Mocha, but never a Pumpkin Spice Latte)

**MORGAN BARBOUR**  
Operations and Events Manager  
mbarbour@growsanfordnc.com

Favorite Book: “A Walk to Remember” - Nicholas Sparks  
First Job: Summer Staff at Camp Dixie
Coffee Order: White Mocha (In the fall, I like a Pumpkin Spice Latte -- sorry, Bob)

**AUSTIN THOMAS**  
Marketing and Research Manager  
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Favorite Book: “How We Got to Now: Six Innovations That Made the Modern World” - Steven Johnson  
First Job: Cashier at Smithfield’s Chicken N’ Bar-B-Q
Coffee Order: Regular with Two Creams

**DARIEN THOMAS**  
Membership Services and Data Research  
dthomas@growsanfordnc.com

Favorite Book: “Queen of Shadows” - Sarah J. Maas  
First Job: Waitress at Bay Breeze Seafood
Coffee Order: Iced Caramel Macchiato

**SHINITA WILLIAMS**  
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Favorite Book: “Becoming” - Michelle Obama  
First Job: Cashier at Yarborough’s Homemade Ice Cream
Coffee Order: French Vanilla Cappuccino