

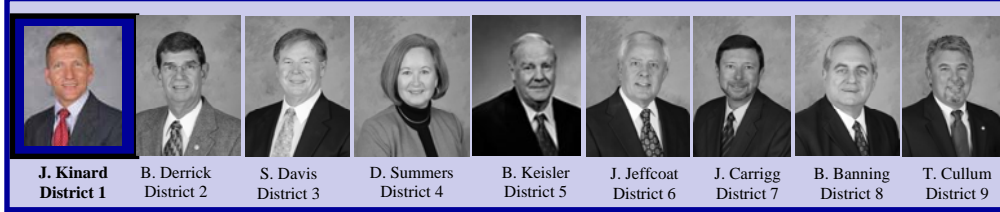


# County of Lexington

Good Friends and Great Communities

## COUNTY COUNCIL *Quarterly*

Spring 2009



### A message from your Councilmember, *Jim Kinard*:

*As I start my fourth year on Lexington County Council, and my fourth budget deliberation, I want to thank the citizens in my district for their continued support. This budget looks to be the most challenging so far. However, as we strive to provide the most service for the least cost, I am thankful that we live in Lexington County, the best county in South Carolina. I look forward to serving my constituents in the upcoming years.*

Sincerely,

*Jim*

### Council Continues to Discuss Smoking Ban



Since this time last year, Council has been debating the pros and cons of passing a Smoking Ordinance of some manner for Lexington County. The most recent version of that debate (as of 4/28/09) is leaning toward a total workplace ban. In essence, however, the debate has boiled down to a public quality of life issue versus individual rights. I have consistently taken the view that while we all want a better quality of life for our citizens, that line stops when it infringes on the rights of another citizen to provide a legal business environment in which people are free to come or go as they like. Banning smoking in public facilities, where people have to transact their business, is already allowable. Stay tuned for other developments and a public hearing in the future.

### Newsletter Spotlight

- Welcome Message
- Smoking Ban Update
- Activities Around Our District
- Contact Me!

### First Pitch

March 21<sup>st</sup> **Mayor Troy Bivens** and I joined forces to throw out the first pitch for the **Gaston Baseball League**. I hope everyone has a great season. Thanks to all the volunteers who make possible this league, and the other baseball and soccer leagues in our district.



### Economic Development Continues to Thrive in Lexington County



- In our neighboring district along highway 321, the **State Farmers Market** construction is well underway. This exciting project will bring many new opportunities to our area.
- Congratulations to **Doug McCarthy of Accurate Manufacturing** on the Grand Opening on March 27. I was invited to take a tour of this brand-new facility, just south of Swansea, and was most impressed.

- Also, the **Home Depot Distribution Center** is under construction in the **Lexington County Sandhills Park**. When operational, it should employ an additional 300 folks.



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## Congratulations Pelion Police Department!



Congratulations to **Chief Chris Garner** and the officers of the **Pelion Police Department** for being named the **2009 Outstanding Small Community Police Force**. Thank you all for your hard work.

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## Work Around the District



- I have been working with the **Lexington County Recreation and Aging Commission** to get funding to help renovate the kitchen area of the **Gaston Civic Center** in order to accommodate the soon to be organized **Gaston Senior Citizens Group**.
- The **Gaston Library** expansion project will be dedicated on Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 3:00 p.m. The community is invited to attend. This will be a great addition to the community of Gaston.
- In the **Swansea** area, the long awaited paving of **Jim Rucker Road** will begin this month. Plans call for a new hot laid asphalt riding surface to be in place within the next couple of months.

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## Recycle Regatta at Saluda Shoals Park on May 2



For those of you with an adventurous streak, join me and my daughter, Jenna, in the **Recycle Regatta at Saluda Shoals Park** this Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>. You build and sail your own “ship” out of anything that would otherwise be added to our landfills. This ought to be an interesting and fun day!

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## *A publication of Lexington County Council.*

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Questions or comments? E-mail us at [countycouncil@lex-co.com](mailto:countycouncil@lex-co.com) or call 803-785-8103.



Thank you for reading this edition of County Council Quarterly. If you'd like to get in touch with me, I'd love to hear your comments. I'm proud to serve as your Lexington County Councilmember.

**District 1 – Gaston/Pelion/Swansea**

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*Jim*