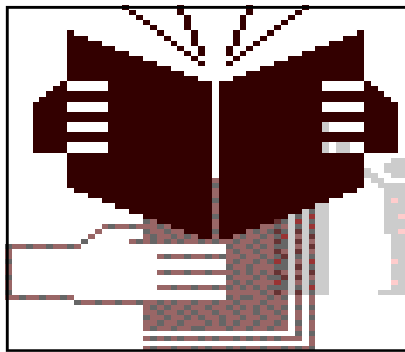


## ACOG Helps Spartanburg County Library Plan for the Future

**T**he ACOG Information Services Department recently assisted the planning efforts of the Spartanburg County Library through the preparation of 12 customized demographic maps. In order to assess the adequacy of current facilities and to evaluate the possible need for expansion into underserved portions of the county, Library Director Todd Stephens requested a demographic study surrounding each existing branch library and three additional sites under consideration for possible expansion.

The study area of each report encompassed a five-mile radius surrounding the subject site. Using *InfoMentum*, ACOG's customized GIS application, staff selected the census block groups most closely corresponding to each five-mile boundary. Population figures were then summarized for the selected block groups using data from Census 2000 and projections for 2005 and 2010 from Claritas, Incorporated.

Not surprisingly, the reports revealed the greatest population densities surrounding the West Spartanburg and Boiling Springs branches, with Census 2000 population counts of 68,994 and 43,004, respectively, within each study area. In terms of projected growth, the study area surrounding the Inman branch revealed the highest percentage of expected growth, with a projected increase of 22.9 percent between 2000 and 2010. The Duncan and Boiling Springs branches were next in terms of growth, with projected increases of 18.4 and 15.5 percent, respectively, within each five-mile study area.



These maps will assist the library in realizing its vision of "a community in which learning and reading are revered by all, and to be educated is considered a virtue." The vision also "includes free and open access for all citizens to uncensored information and records of cultural progress."

The ACOG *InfoMentum* team works with clients to create customized demographic reports. Pricing depends on the number of radius rings and requests for extra map services. For more information or to place an order, please contact the Information Services staff at 864-242-9733.



### Did You Know?

John C. Calhoun (1782-1850), United States vice president, senator, and cabinet member, made his home at Fort Hill plantation in Pickens County. His son-in-law, Thomas Green Clemson (1807-1888), bequeathed the plantation to the state for use as an agricultural college, which led to the founding of Clemson University.

## Development Corporation News

**E**ven with unemployment rates rising in the Upstate, the Appalachian Development Corporation continues to assist in funding new businesses that offer additional job opportunities.

Dr. Brian Morin worked for an Upstate textile company in research and development, earning them extensive patents in fiber technology. Dr. Morin also worked privately to develop a separate fiber product that he has patented in his personal name. In order to earn money from his developments, Dr. Morin left the textile company and formed his own company, Innegrity, LLC. Innegrity will produce the fiber for sale in the appropriate applications. The ADC provided funding, along with Branch Banking and Trust of South Carolina and investors, to purchase machinery and get the company into production. The business is locating in leased facilities in Greenville County.

Daniel Crosby was working for a major concrete company in the Upstate when he recognized that there was room for competition in the industry. Mr. Crosby and two other experienced concrete people started a new company, MetroCon, LLC, to produce concrete to supply builders primarily in the lakes areas of Pickens and Oconee Counties. The new operation will be located on the edge of Six Mile. Financing for the purchase of the land, concrete plant, and other equipment came from a combination of funds provided by RBC Centura Bank, the ADC, and investors. This new business will employ up to 20 people and should open

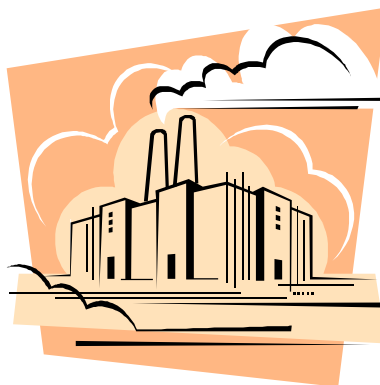
*(ADC continued on page 5)*

## Air Quality Conference Scheduled to Discuss Ozone Plan

**I**n 2002 EPA offered an innovative opportunity, known as the 8-hour Ozone Early Action Compact, for local communities to address air quality problems before they exceeded federal standards and regulatory action was required. South Carolina, and the Upstate specifically, have been leaders in the process of implementing air quality improvement measures to lower our Ozone levels and ensure we meet new air quality standards. The Appalachian Council of Governments has since worked with the task force that has encouraged partnerships of the local, state and federal governments, as well as private citizens, industry and environmental groups to increase the awareness of air quality issues by local citizens and to encourage actions that help the area maintain good air quality.

As a result of these efforts, the Upstate's air quality has seen improvement and is currently on track to meet the new federal standard for Ozone levels by the deadline of 2007. As part of the Compact's activities, the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control is planning an 8-hour Ozone Early Action Compact Summit (EAC Summit) to be held at the [Columbia Convention Center](#) on August 16 and 17 in Columbia. The EAC Summit will offer an exchange of information, ideas and opportunities to further enhance the local programs. County officials responsible for implementing the local 8-hour Ozone Early Action Plans, as well as other local, state and federal government officials, environmental groups, industry representatives, and the general public, are being invited to participate.

The agenda will include discussion of issues that affect air quality such as energy conservation, alternative fuels, commuting options and multi-modal transportation, innovative education and outreach, and health impacts.



The speakers will address the past, present and the future of each issue. Progress has been made over the last several years, but there are still many opportunities for improvement. To find out more or to register for this event, please contact Melinda Mathias at [mathiamc@dhec.sc.gov](mailto:mathiamc@dhec.sc.gov) or 803-898-3269.

## Final Report on Medicare Part D

The final report on the Medicare Part D Plan says that 516,000 beneficiaries in South Carolina now have prescription drug coverage. More than three-quarters of South Carolina's 656,000 Medicare beneficiaries now have prescription drug coverage, according to the federal Department of Health and Human Services' final report on enrollment in the new Medicare Part D program.

Those numbers include:

- 176,900 people who signed themselves up for one of the forty-six (46) different stand-alone prescription drug plans that work with traditional Medicare coverage for

*(Part D continued on page 4)*

## One Million Dollars in CDBG Funds Awarded in Two Upstate Communities

The S. C. Department of Commerce recently awarded \$1 million in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to benefit low and moderate income people in Cherokee and Pickens Counties. These grants, which require a minimum 10 percent match, are allocated to South Carolina through the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to undertake a variety of community revitalization and economic development activities.

Cherokee County received \$500,000 to construct water lines along Ninety-Nine Island Road and a portion of McGill Road, which will tie into the just-completed Old Chester Road project. The Ninety-Nine Island Road project, which includes 22,000 feet of water lines and 20 fire hydrants, will alleviate problems associated with contaminated or poor quality wells that are prevalent in the area. There are approximately 146 people who will benefit, 76 percent of whom meet HUD's definition of low-to-moderate income. The estimated cost of the project is \$581,800.

Pickens County received \$500,000 for the Catechee Village Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade Project. This project, which is estimated to cost \$716,250, will construct a new 40,000 gallons-per-day wastewater treatment plant in order to comply with a DHEC Consent Order regarding effluent discharge limits. The current plant has been owned by the Catechee Village Association since the Dan River Mill closed and will be taken over by Pickens County as a requirement of the grant.

The ACOG Grant Services Department will administer these grants to assure the funds are expended in compliance with state and federal guidelines.

For more information on these projects, or the CDBG program, contact a member of the Grants Services staff at the ACOG.

## The Pendleton District Becomes Worklink



### *Awareness Campaign is Launched to Connect People to Jobs*

(Clemson, SC July 12, 2006)

The Pendleton District Workforce Investment Board (WIB) unveiled a new emphasis on increasing awareness of its organization via a new name and brand, an improved and expanded web site and overall marketing campaign during a news conference at the Clemson University Madren Center.

Following several months of a thorough marketing and branding analysis conducted by the 10-x Group, a marketing and public relations firm of Upstate South Carolina, the Board approved a marketing plan in March 2006. This plan identified several areas to give the WIB a new image and marketing strategy for Anderson, Oconee and Pickens Counties. Primarily, the plan emphasized these main points:

- The non-profit organization was not well known;
- It needed a more clearly defined mission;
- It needed to adopt a shorter, more memorable name, especially one that communicated its role more effectively to both employers and job seekers in Anderson, Oconee and Pickens Counties.

The plan was then put into action at the Campaign Launch on July 12, including these main components that are intended to cross-promote

the new message and image on a budget:

- **A new name and brand/image:** WorkLink
- **A new promotional tagline:** "Connecting Companies & Employees"
- **A newly designed and branded web site:** [www.worklinkweb.com](http://www.worklinkweb.com), with easy navigation
- **A new design template/style guide consistency** in all marketing media
- **A Public Service Announcement (PSA) campaign**
- **Radio & television commercials** targeting youth and mass audience adult markets
- **Media awareness campaign**
- **Outdoor (billboards)**

In addition, other marketing vehicles have been planned to build awareness of the new brand and its new mission — to connect companies and employees.

"The Pendleton District's marketing makeover, new brand and strategy will greatly impact business, industry and the labor market," said WorkLink's Marketing Chairman Russ Karpick. "By building awareness of these resources, we can be the main workforce connection in the area to assist people in finding training and jobs and help employers find labor."

"I'm very excited about the results of the awareness campaign. We are already receiving response from area employers who didn't know about all the services we provide," said WorkLink Director Julia Hoyle.

*The Pendleton District Workforce Investment Board is a non-profit organization representing Anderson, Oconee and Pickens counties to connect companies to employees.*

## Municipal Council Members Training



**Elected, sworn in, and now what? Training and assistance is available for new council members.**

### *New Inman and Chesnee Council Members Get Briefed*

In July a considerable number of new municipal council members throughout the Upstate took office as a result of May and June elections. ACOG conducted an orientation at Inman city hall for five of these new council members from the Cities of Inman and Chesnee. ACOG staff briefed the new officials on home rule, the S.C. Freedom of Information Act, basic finances, government information resources, rules of procedure and good public communication practices. Both Inman and Chesnee were previous participants in the ACOG/Appalachian Regional Commission Small Towns Technical Assistance Program.

New and veteran elected officials have additional opportunities for training such as the Municipal Association's quarterly *Hometown Connection* broadcasts that are conducted in cooperation with South Carolina's ten Councils of Government. Council members may take additional classroom courses through the Municipal Association or by requesting instruction from ACOG on subjects ranging from planning to personnel.

# Family Caregiver Support Program

## Did You Know?

Nationally, 4.5 million children (6.3 percent of all children under age 18) are living in grandparent-headed households. This represents a 30 percent increase from the year 1990 to the year 2000. In South Carolina, there are 90,866 children living in grandparent-headed households (9.0 percent of all the children in the state). There are another 21,178 children living in households headed by other relatives (2.1 percent of all the children in the state).

In South Carolina, 51,755 grandparents report they are responsible for their grandchildren living with them. Of the grandparents, 29 percent are African American, 17 percent are Hispanic/Latino; 2 percent are American Indian or Alaskan Native, 3 percent are Asian; and 47 percent are White. Approximately 34 percent of the grandparents live in households without the children's parents present.

We began implementation of Kincare support through the Family Caregiver Support Program five years ago. Kincare is the care of a younger relative by a senior in their family who is over the age of 60 and has primary responsibility for the care of the child. From the statistics above, one can see how critical this program is for many children in our state and across the country.

The Family Caregiver Support Program has steadily grown and has gone from helping a handful of Kincare providers to assisting approximately 30 Kincare providers. Over \$31,000 was expended in the last fiscal year. The needs continue to grow in scope and number. Grandparent caregivers have taken on huge responsibilities in order to provide the children they care for with a home and family. We are honored to be a part of the support system in the Upstate region for these Kincare givers.

If you are a Kincare relative, or know of someone over the age of 60



who cares for a young relative, please call our office for information and assistance. Sometimes having someone with whom to talk is the relief needed; sometimes, much more complex help is needed. We are here for you and look forward to assisting you in any way that we can. If you need further information, please contact advocates Debra Brown or Sam Wiley. The local number for the Greenville office is 864-242-9733, and the toll free number is 1-800-925-4077.

## The Ombudsman Corner

### *How Can You Support a Resident in a Care Planning Meeting?*

**The Setting:** As a family member of a nursing home resident, it is extremely important to help your relative participate in planning for care. A resident might need support from family members, friends, or an ombudsman to discuss needs, preferences and wishes in care planning meetings. Sitting at a table with several professional staff members responsible for your care can be very intimidating. A resident has a right to choose someone to go with him to the meeting.

**Resident's Perspective:** A resident who cannot, or does not choose to, participate in care planning

*(Ombudsman continued on page 5)*

*(Part D continued from page 2)*

- hospital stays and doctor visits
- 29,723 who signed up for HMO-style Medicare "Advantage" plans that bundle medical services with prescription drug coverage
- 120,440 people who were previously covered under the state's Medicaid program and were automatically enrolled in stand-alone plans
- 112,774 who have employer-sponsored retiree plans that are now subsidized by Medicare
- 77,337 who have coverage under federal government retiree or military plans

The addition of the prescription drug benefit to Medicare was the single largest change to the program in its 40-year history. The change required a massive public outreach and education effort to help people understand the plan options available to them.

Help from the I-CARE (Insurance Counseling, Assistance and Referral for Elders) program is still available for individuals who run into problems with their chosen plan, who have recently become Medicare eligible, or who may have other questions. To contact I-CARE or a SHIP (State Health Insurance Program) counselor, the toll-free number to the state office is 1-800-868-9095, or contact our office at (864) 242-9733. Anyone who was eligible for Medicare drug coverage and did not sign up during the initial enrollment period will have another chance beginning in November. November and December of each year will be open enrollment periods when eligible people can enroll or switch plans for the following year.





# VIEWPOINT

Appalachian Council of Governments  
P. O. Box 6668  
Greenville, South Carolina 29606

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by September 2006.

In other Appalachian Development Corporation actions, the Board has approved loans to: Partners in Textile Innovations in the amount of \$200,000 as a second loan to this niche textile company. With SBA concurrence, a loan of \$1,498,000 has been approved through the SBA 504 program for the purchase of a Comfort Inn by Hare Krishna, LLC (no affiliation to the religious group).

(Ombudsman continued from page 4)

may appoint a representative. Facility staff needs to hear how things are going from the resident's perspective. If there are questions, staff members need you to help answer them. If there are problems, staff needs your ideas on how to solve them. It is desirable to involve the resident in care planning as much as possible, including residents with dementia. Always assume that the resident may understand aspects of the care planning conference and, on some level, be able to communicate any concerns.

**Resident Focus:** Remember that care planning is for the resident. The resident's opinions, desires, and decisions need to be heard and respected. What the resident wants may not always be what the staff recommends or what you, as family members, would choose. As you either support or represent your relative in planning for care, *be sure that your relative's views are voiced and honored*. After all, it is the resident who lives in the facility 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Without the resident's agreement, it is more difficult, if not impossible, to achieve the goals of the care plan.

**Advance Planning:** To help in properly addressing the residents' wants and needs, residents and families must plan ahead for the conference. Offer some assistance with the preparation by asking the resident to describe, or observe for yourself, a typical day in the nursing home. Does it build upon the *resident's* strengths, daily routines and preferences? If there are concerns or problems, how would the *resident* like them addressed? You can help your relative prepare by calling attention to the everyday issues such as air quality (smoke, smells), noise, privacy, toilet schedules, food service and quality, cleanliness, freedom of choice, staff attitude, or responsiveness to concerns.

Information gathered from: Burger, Sarah Greene, et al. "Nursing Homes: getting good care there." 2002.

From your local Ombudsmen: Nancy Hawkins, Supervisor, Rhonda Monroe, Celia Clark, Jessica Arnone, Sandy Dungan, and Jamie Guay, Intake Coordinator; phone 864-242-9733.