

## **Vance Happenings**

### **March 2009**

*“Vance Happenings” is a brief monthly report regarding highlights of activities occurring in Vance County government. It is an overview of events specifically associated with activities involving the Board of County Commissioners.*

***NACO Annual Legislative Conference.*** Some of the Commissioners and the County Manager attended the Annual Legislative Conference of the National Association of Counties March 7-10 in Washington, D.C. Numerous current issues and topics were discussed in small workshops, general sessions, and through legislative briefings by both state and federal officials.

***Education Committee.*** County members of the Education Committee met with staff on March 16 to finalize the funding strategy for construction of the new elementary school and to consider the construction bids. A recommendation was developed and submitted later that same evening to the full Board of Commissioners.

***Called Meeting of County Commission.*** The Board of Commissioners met at 5:00 p.m. and awarded bids for the construction of a new elementary school.

***Golden LEAF Foundation Forum.*** Several Commissioners, the County Manager, and Department Heads met with numerous other officials and citizens at the first of several planning sessions conducted by the Golden LEAF Foundation. Golden LEAF has committed up to \$2 million to assist severely distressed counties. In order to receive the funds, a community-based planning process is being used to identify and prioritize community needs.

***Retirement Receptions.*** Two long-time Department Heads were recognized by co-workers and County Commissioners for their years of dedicated service to Vance County and its citizens. Both retiring on April 1<sup>st</sup>, separate retirement receptions were held at the Farm Bureau Room of the H. Leslie Perry Memorial Library. On Wednesday, March 18, Ron Edmonson, Director of Planning & Development, was honored for his 18+ years of service. On the following Wednesday, March 25, Sam Jones, Tax Administrator, was recognized for about 34 years of service.

***County Day - Leadership Vance '09.*** Commissioners joined County staff in welcoming about 15 participants in this year's Leadership-Vance program. Participants toured several facilities and learned about many of the County's services and programs.