

## **2012 Large Business of the Year**

The Large Business of the Year award is sponsored by Alexander County Government, GDS, Republic Services of NC, Martin Starnes and Associates and Schneider Mills. We thank them for their support of this award.

This year's recipient can say they are 40 years STRONG in Alexander County! For 40 years they have steadily continued to grow, even during these last few years of difficult economic times.

During the last year they added 23 additional jobs within their company and through conscious efforts to buy raw material from local vendors they brought another 49 jobs into the County. They spent \$350,000 on a new lighting system to increase energy efficiency and reduce energy costs. They have an extensive recycling program that reduces their carbon footprint. During the last year they reduced their waste disposal over 50% by converting it into recycling material.

Their employees have a wonderful attitude. They work hard and are proud of their workplace. Over the last three years, with assistance from CVCC- Alexander Center for Education their employees have received extensive training to help not only improve the company, but to benefit their personal lives.

They work with many community organizations. They are involved with helping the County school system, Alexander County EDC, CVCC Alexander Center for Education and the Chamber of Commerce. They are a corporate sponsor of the Hiddenite Community Helpers and sponsor multiple Alexander County Youth Sports teams each year.

Please join me in congratulating Craftmaster Furniture Company on their 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and as the Alexander County Chamber of Commerce 2012 Large Business of the Year.