



Articles [dropdown] [input]

Log In

laurinburgexchange.com

# Distinguished Hospital Award for Clinical Excellence in 2012.



- Home
- News
- Sports
- Obits
- Opinion
- Local Features
- Calendar
- Entertainment
- Classifieds
- Businesses
- My Content

## Subscription Forms

### Public notice bill moves forward

by Staff and wire report

Apr 23, 2013 | 1441 views | 0 [comment] | 3 [thumbs up] | [share] | [print]

The state Senate has approved a bill allowing cities and counties to avoid paying for publication of official legal notices in newspapers by posting the information on government websites instead.

The Senate vote came Tuesday and the bill is expected go to the House for consideration.

Supporters say the bill will allow local governments to save money, while opponents argued that residents are less likely to find public notices on government websites than in local newspapers, leaving residents less informed.

Senate Bill 287 would apply to about a dozen jurisdictions, including the counties of Mecklenburg, Guilford, and most of Wake. Newspapers publish lists of delinquent taxpayers, zoning notices, new ordinances and other legal ads in print and on their websites. Legal ads are a vital source of revenue for small newspapers.

Sen. Tamara Barringer, a Cary Republican, and one of the bill's sponsors, said the counties and towns covered in the legislation asked to be included.

Others said the bill would hurt the small papers that readers count on for community news.

Most people don't get their news from national or regional papers, but turn to small papers for articles about local government, church functions, service clubs and local sports, according to Rep. Garland Pierce, a Wagram Democrat.

Pierce said that the public will be less informed if they have to rely on government websites for notices.

"Not everyone has access to the Internet," Pierce said. "We should be trying to make information about government more accessible, not less. I think it is a bad bill."

Rep. Ken Goodman, who also represents Scotland County, said that the local legislative delegation is opposed to the bill, but added that he thought passage was likely.

Civitas Media, which owns The Laurinburg Exchange newspaper, also opposes the bill.

Scott Witten, the editor of The Exchange, said local residents would be at risk of not receiving information on government action that could possible affect their lives.

"Public notices serve a vital purpose," Witten said. "Too much public information can be hidden from view if this bill passes."

Witten urged Exchange residents who are concerned about the legislation to call their legislators.

Their numbers are: Rep. Garland Pierce, 919-733-5803; Rep. Ken Goodman, 919-733-5823; and Sen. Gene McLaurin, 919-733-5953.

Share This Article |

#### similar stories

- [Goodman explains ID vote](#) | 6 days ago
- [Worth it](#) | 26 days ago
- [City attorney gets send off](#) | 16 days ago
- [Lawmakers: Sweepstakes bill a bad bet](#) | 26 days ago
- [County says no to drug testing](#) | 17 hrs ago

Comments (0)

Post a Comment

No Comments Yet

## Weather

Sponsored By:

**Chalk Banks Challenge and Water Festival**  
May 18 - Wagram

Laurinburg, North Carolina  
Partly sunny. Mild.  
75 Degrees F  
Humidity: 48% - Wind: Southwest, 8.04 mph  
[Click for Detailed Forecast](#)

**Now accepting applications for Fall Semester**

**Richmond**  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

[Click Here to Learn More](#)

## Lottery

Sponsored By:

**North Carolina Lottery Jackpots**

Game	Jackpot	Draw Date
Powerball	\$222.00 Million	WED 05/08
MEGA Millions	\$154.00 Million	FRI 05/10
Cash 5	\$137,000	WED 05/08

**We Offer Propane Refill Services**

**QUALITY OIL & GAS CO.**

**Quality Oil & Gas**  
17600 Andrew Jackson Highway  
Laurinburg, NC 28352  
**(910) 276-6045**  
Our website has full details

## Stocks

Sponsored By:

Indexes	Last	Change	Chg %
NASDAQ	3413.27	↑ 16.64	0.49%
DJIA	15105.12	↑ 48.92	0.32%

S&P/TSX Comp 12585.05 ↑ 120.94 0.97%

Get Quote

NYSE/AMEX data delayed 20 minutes. NASDAQ and other data delayed 15 minutes, Dow Jones Indexes are updated daily and reflect End of Day Pricing



Gas Prices

Sponsored By:

Average \$3.39 Lowest \$3.16 Highest \$3.72

View Laurinburg, NC Gas Prices

Featured Businesses



Multitudes Church

Multitudes is a place where people meet to worship God, and "see" the scriptures put to modern day parables, just like Jesus did. If you feel like Church is the last p...



Tony Poole's Body Shop

Tony Poole's Body Shop was established in 1979 by Tony Poole. First the business was located on S. Main St in Laurinburg, then at Hwy 401S & Academy Rd. We have...

One Hour Heating & Air Conditioning | Simmons Heating and Air

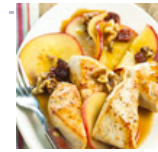
Welcome to One Hour Heating & Air Conditioning, your source for prompt, courteous, reliable heating and air service. Offering heating and air conditioning mainte...

Recipes

Sponsored By:

Chicken with Cherry-Ginger Chutney

Try this meal from our Poultry category!



[Click for More Ideas](#)

**Home**

- About Us
- Contact Us
- Subscribe

**News**

- Online Forms
- Submit a Story

**Sports**

- Submit a Story

**Opinion**

- Editorials
- Send a Letter

**Local Features**

- Contests
- Online Features
- Online Forms

**Calendar**

- Post an Event

**Subscription Forms**

- New Delivery
- Gift Subscription
- Vacation Stop/Restart
- Change of Address
- Delivery Issues
- Upgrade

Software powered by Radiate Media. Content © 2013 The Laurinburg Exchange

**Terms of Service Agreement**

The Laurinburg Exchange is in Laurinburg, NC.

**JOB + \$149 =** 

**“WHERE EVERYBODY RIDES”**