

# BUSINESS BUILDER

FEBRUARY 2008



## BBQ & BLUES HAS A NEW PRESENTING SPONSOR

Monroe Academy will be the presenting sponsor of the 4th Annual BBQ & BLUES. Monroe Academy is a SACS Accredited private school in Forsyth, GA that offers an affordable, quality education. They joined the Chamber last September and are very excited to be involved in this year's events.



## LEADERSHIP LAMAR

It's early in the year but plans are already underway for Leadership Lamar 2008. The steering committee met on January 10th to begin making plans for this year's program but its success is largely dependent on the dedication of the participants. This is an ongoing program and the Chamber needs community support! Nomination forms have been mailed out and need to be returned to the Chamber by March 14th. Candidates from every business sector in the community are welcome!

**Please take the time to fill out your nomination forms and send them in by mail or fax.**  
Mail- P.O. Box 506 or Fax- (770)-358-5886.

## NEW CHAMBER WEBSITE

Since I started in September, the most requested item by Chamber Members has been a new website. More specifically, a new website with the membership directory. The new website is being built right now! I am not going to give you any details as to a completion date but I will say it will be awesome when completed!

Now, the chamber needs something from you. On the Membership Directory link there will be a list of all of the businesses. When a browser clicks on your business, a page will come up with your information on it. I need you to email, fax, or drop by exactly what you want on your page. You can have a picture that best represents your business, 4 to 5 sentence paragraph that describes your business and/or products sold, owner's names (optional), address, phone and fax number, email, website, and hours of operation.

**This is a great opportunity for business owners who may not have a website to have a page to market their business on the Chamber Website.**

I need this information as soon as you can get it to me. The website is under construction so the quicker I can get the designer the information, the quicker it can go live.

-Amanda Rose

Happy  
Valentine's  
Day!



## JUDGES AND VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!!

BBQ & BLUES is less than 3 months away! We need as many volunteers as possible and we also need judges. Judges' applications can be found on the Chamber website at [www.barnesville.org](http://www.barnesville.org). We are also offering a Florida Barbecue Association (FBA) Judges' Certification class on Thursday, April 24th at the First United Methodist Church. Don't miss out on this amazing event!

Call Amanda at the Chamber office (770)358-5884 if you would like to volunteer on Friday, Saturday or both days of the event.



### RIBBON CUTTING

A Ribbon Cutting is scheduled on Feb. 6th at Railroad Station beginning at 11:45. Railroad Station is located at the corner of Railroad and Ice St.

Please make plans to attend!

### OPEN HOUSE/TEST DAY

On Saturday Feb. 23, 2008, an Open House/Test Day is scheduled at the Go-Kart Track on Hwy 36 West from 9am-4pm. This is your chance to come and check out go-karting and maybe even go for a test drive.

The first race is on Saturday, March 1st!

This is sure to be a fun, family event that everyone should try to attend!!

### CAREER DAY

The Lamar County Family Connection Collaborative would like to invite all Chamber of Commerce Members to participate in the Lamar County Comprehensive High School Career Day on Friday, February 15, 2008 from 8:00am-2:55pm.

Please contact Dorothy Carter by phone at (770)358-7660 or by email at [dlcbrown@bellsouth.net](mailto:dlcbrown@bellsouth.net) for questions or to sign up.

### MERCHANT'S COMMITTEE

**A Merchant's Committee Meeting is set for Feb. 12th in the Chamber Boardroom!**

### LUNCH & LEARN DATES SET FOR 2008!!

**We have set the dates for 2008! Mark your calendars because these events are great networking and learning opportunities!**

**March 13th  
July 24th  
November 13th**

**REMINDER: STOP BY THE CHAMBER AND PICK UP YOUR MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY!**

### ROTARY CLUB FUNDRAISER

The Rotary Club of Barnesville is accepting donations for a Silent Auction fundraiser on March 1st.

If you would like to make a donation, please contact Fred Morris at (770)358-6800

### BUGGY DAYS

The Buggy Days Committee is beginning to meet once a month to get things kicked off for 2008. If you would like to get involved in any way with this committee just call Amanda at the Chamber to add your name to the email distribution list.

The next meeting is Feb. 26th at 5:30 pm in the Chamber Boardroom.

**Relay for Life Kickoff  
Feb. 7th @ 6:30pm  
Tri-County Cabin**

**This is a prime opportunity to get involved  
with Relay for Life from the beginning.**

**Survivors are invited to attend and there  
will be a reception after the meeting.**

**To RSVP or get directions  
Call Kelly Hughes at (770)358-3270  
or Kim Wall at (770)584-5910**

**SPECIAL THANKS**

Thank you to Mayor Peter Banks and Joe Edwards for taking time out of their busy schedules to spend the morning with the Chamber Board of Directors at Strategic Planning. Peter and Joe shared with the board their past experiences as Board Chairman.

We would also like to thank Lori Martinez, from United Bank, for being the facilitator at Strategic Planning. Lori was a terrific facilitator with a positive attitude. The board left the session motivated to make this year the best in Chamber history!!

Individuals like Lori, Peter, and Joe, giving back to their community, is what makes our organization and the businesses we serve grow and thrive.

**Ag After Hours**

Thank you to everyone who attended the Ag After Hours. The Soil and Water Conservation District and Farm Bureau did a wonderful job hosting everyone. The food was delicious and Hudgin's Farm is an amazing facility.

Congratulations to Tom Aiken and Ralph Adamson who received special honors that night.

**Ribbon Cutting**



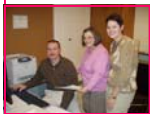
Congratulations to Cherry Creek Pre-school Academy II, who had their ribbon cutting on Jan. 22. This is a great facility with so much to offer infants and small children. If you have not stopped by to check it out, please do so!

**Thank you to everyone who has already  
mailed in their 2008 renewals.**

**Web Design Class**

The web design class has been a huge success. A full class of 31 people has met every Tuesday and Thursday since Jan. 8th. The reviews of the class have been very positive and the participants have even been considering doing a higher level class now.

The Chamber would like to thank Lamar County Schools for all their support in helping us give back to our members. Dale Royal and his Assistant, David Nibblett, have done a wonderful job instructing the class on web design and Adobe Photoshop.



Pictured are— Amberly Ferris and Jan Roundtree of the Lamar County Water and Sewer Authority and instructor David Nibblett.

The Web Design class would like to thank Becky Blount from the Red Rooster for bringing coffee to everyone participating in the class!

**LAMAR ARTS**

Be sure to check out the Lamar Arts Calendar for the month of February. They have many exciting events going on starting Feb. 1st!

For more information visit  
[www.lamararts.org](http://www.lamararts.org).

**GORDON BASKETBALL**

Gordon College is wrapping up their boys basketball season with three home games left. Please try to attend at least one of these games. Their program is growing and they have some outstanding athletes—some from right here in Lamar County.

Game Dates  
February 5th @ 7:30  
February 12th @ 7pm  
February 19th @ 5pm

**SHOP LOCAL**

**Don't forget to shop  
local this Valentine's  
Day!**

**Barnesville-Lamar  
County has great  
resources for  
wonderful gifts!**

# Renewing Members 2008

RE/MAX Traditions  
Ed Williams  
Barnesville Eye Clinic  
Hayward and Karen Cox  
Gordon College  
Charles and Jean Dukas  
Heritage Homebuilders  
Michael Brutz  
Lamar County Cooperative Extension/4H  
First National Bank  
Moore-Chevrolet-Buick Inc.  
Bottoms Associates Inc.  
McIntosh Trail Regional Development Center  
Danny Turner  
Mike and Kathy Oxford  
Hines Prescription Shop  
Loan South and Tax Services  
Ham's Auto Parts Inc.  
Lamar County Water and Sewer Authority  
Keadle Lumber Enterprise, Inc.  
Balamo Building Supply  
Jordan Forest Products, LLC  
Rayonier Wood Products, LLC  
Walters Farms  
First United Methodist Church  
Burnette Painting Company  
William Berner  
Circle A Christmas Tree Farm  
Industrial Development Authority  
Iris City Chiropractic Center, PC  
County Line Farm  
Williams Funeral Home  
Bush Farms  
Bankston Lumber Company  
Davis Cooper Ford  
East West Beverages  
Pine Timber Trucking, Inc.  
The Herald Gazette  
Simply Southern Tourism Association  
One Touch Wireless  
Brinkley's Childcare Center  
Eugene Hardwick  
United Bank  
Fred and Kendall Morris  
Jackson Beverages, LLC  
Lamar County Regional Solid Waste Authority  
Mitch's Automotive & Towing  
Georgia Rural Water Association  
Stafford Building, LLC  
Jen-Tek Graphics  
Bradley Construction  
Cindy Jones  
A Glass Act  
American Red Cross GA Piedmont Chapter  
Akins Feed and Seed Company, Inc  
The City of Milner  
Heritage Inn of Barnesville  
Georgia Department of Labor  
Hensley Office Supply and Design  
WTGA/Fun 101 FM  
Town of Aldora  
Southland Construction Group, Inc.  
West Central GA Workforce Development Corp.  
Lamar County Middle School  
Little Children of the World  
Norman Smith, Attorney at Law  
Ware Drilling Inc.  
Rehabilitation Service of Middle Georgia  
The Rock Ranch, LLC  
Southern Rivers Energy  
Timothy Turner  
Lamar County Soil and Water Conservation District  
1st Franklin Financial Corporation  
Upton Regional Medical Center  
Big Chic of Barnesville  
Barnesville Marble and Granite Company  
Riggins Farm  
Enercon Enpower LLC  
The Movie Star  
Johnstonville Garden Club  
Thomaston Ear, Nose, and Throat  
Carter's Drug Store  
Continental Fire North America- Aldora Plant  
Heritage House Floral & Gifts  
Palmetto Camp WW No. 199  
Nightingale Staffing, Inc  
Smith, Welch & Brittain  
Evans Timber Company, Inc.  
LCCHS/Griffin Resa  
Mark and Jan Hatten  
William S. Cherry Jr.  
Greg S. Williams  
McLawrin Graphics, Inc  
Ozier Studio of Dance  
Thomaston Ford, Inc.  
Billy and Jan Williams



## TURNING NETWORKING INTO PROFITABILITY

**net•work•ing 1:** the exchange of information or services among individuals, groups, or institutions;  
*specifically :* the cultivation of productive relationships for employment or business

The Business After Hours Committee of the Barnesville Lamar County Chamber of Commerce invites you to experience the power of networking. In an effort to provide value for your membership investment, the Chamber is restructuring the Business After Hours for 2008. As a member of the Chamber, your name goes into a “jackpot” drawing – however, you must be present to win!!! Additional chances can be purchased for \$1 each. Bring a prospective new member and you get another chance at no cost!! Be sure to bring business cards (we will explain when you arrive).

Call the Chamber today to book your Business After Hours. Hurry!! The dates are filling up fast!! For more information, call BAH Chairman, T J Imberger at 770-584-3448. Have you made a business contact at a Business After Hours? May we quote you? The Chamber is developing a new website and we would like to include YOUR story.

## DO NOT MISS THE NEW AND IMPROVED BUSINESS AFTER HOURS

THURSDAY, FEB. 21 FROM 5-7pm

### YARDBIRD WINGERY

(Located in the Giant Mart Shopping Center)

The theme for this After Hours is  
“Everything Patriotic”

- Be sure to study your History Trivia
- Wear something Red, White, or Blue
- Bring loads of business cards for networking
- Bring a prospective new member and get more chances of winning the **BIG JACKPOT!!!**



**SEE YOU THERE!!!**



**Barnesville-Lamar County  
Chamber of Commerce  
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Barnesville, GA 30204  
(770)358-5884  
Fax- (770)358-5886  
Email-  
LChamber5884@CharterInternet.com  
www.barnesville.org**



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30204  
Permit No. 4

## NEW MEMBERS

Tim Turner, Mark Stone, Liberty Hill Trees LLC, Southdown BBQ & Grills,  
Angel Carpet and Flooring, Yardbird Wingery

### CALENDAR

**Feb. 6– Railroad Station Ribbon Cutting**

**11:45 am at the corner of Ice and Railroad St.**

**Feb. 7– Leadership Lamar Steering  
Committee Meeting  
5:30pm in the Chamber Boardroom**

**Feb. 12– Merchants Committee Meeting  
6:30pm in Chamber Boardroom**

**Feb. 21– Business After Hours at  
Yardbird Wingery 5-7pm**

**Feb. 26– Buggy Days Meeting in Chamber  
Boardroom @ 5:30pm**



### President's Box

The Chamber Board held their Strategic Planning Session on January 17th and it was a great learning experience for me. I had never attended a meeting quite like it!

The one detail that I want to share with you is one positive (out of many) that came from our board. Continually, when the facilitator asked what our Chamber's best asset was, someone always mentioned our beautiful town and the great opportunities we have to market. The reason I want to emphasize that is because you all as business owners have the best marketing tool right at your front door. It is our charm, the people, the street-scape, and quality growth that make our community so unique.

It is a pleasure for me to market your business and this county because it is so unique in so many ways. Take pride in every aspect of your surroundings because we have a special gift.

Amanda Rose  
President/CEO