



BUSINESS BUILDER

MARCH 2008

Community Awards Banquet

It's that time of year again! The time to give recognition to those in our community who work very hard to make Barnesville-Lamar County great. The Awards Banquet will be held on May 1, 2008 at the Barnesville Civic Center at 7pm. Tickets will be available at the Chamber Office for \$25.00.

We are now accepting nominations for Outstanding Citizen and Business Person of the Year. You can mail your nominations to Amanda at the Chamber office at P.O. Box 506 or email them to Lchamber5884@charterinternet.com. The cut off for nominations will be April 18, 2008.



Dewaine T. Bell Scholarship

The 2008 BBQ & BLUES committee has developed a scholarship in the memory of the late Mayor Dewaine T. Bell. Immediately following the sudden death of Mayor Bell, the committee met and discussed ways of honoring him. What better way, then through music, education, and the school he loved most.

The scholarship will be awarded to a Lamar County High School senior who has a passion for music and plans on attending college. The scholarship will be awarded Saturday, April 26th during the Saturday night blues concert at Ritz Park.

The scholarship is paid for by sponsorships as well as paper pig sales. Cut out pigs will be sold and displayed around town at local merchants for \$1, \$5, and \$10. Be sure to purchase a pig to support this wonderful scholarship opportunity.

Incentives/Networking Tools

The Chamber is working on putting together a discount card for all chamber members. This card would allow you to give some type of discount or service to another Chamber member when they present their card at your establishment.

These cards will be credit card size, numbered, and distributed each year to the membership.

If you are interested in participating in this great incentive/networking tool, please call Amanda at (770)358-5884 or email her at Lchamber5884@charterinternet.com. Just let her know what type of service or discount you would be willing to offer. Deadline to enter is March 31st.





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.

Easter Egg Hunts

March 22nd- First Baptist Church
10am
2yr-3rd grade
Bring your own baskets!



March 22nd- First Methodist
2pm
Hunt will be held at the home of
Mrs. Jackson located at
143 Murphy Ave.

YARD BIRDS WINGERY AFTER HOURS A HUGE SUCCESS!!!

Thank you to everyone who attended the February After Hours at Yard Birds Wingery. The food and drinks were delicious and everyone seemed to really enjoy the new networking ideas. If you or your business does not regularly attend the After Hours, you are missing out on many opportunities to market your business and have a great time with local business people.



BUGGY DAYS

The Buggy Days Committee is beginning to meet once a month to go ahead and 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 office to get your name put on the email list.

The next meeting will be March 24th at 5:30 pm in the Chamber Boardroom.

Thank you to everyone who has already mailed in their 2008 re-novels.

MERCHANT'S COMMITTEE
There will be a Merchant's Committee Meeting on March 11th in the Chamber Boardroom at 6:30pm!





JUDGES AND VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!!

BBQ & BLUES is less than 2 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. We will also be offering a 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 be a volunteer on Friday, Saturday or both days of the event.



Press Release

WTGA FUN 101 has moved their tower to better serve our listeners in Lamar County. President of WTGA and Lamar County Native, David Piper is excited about the move as the new site is less than a mile from the Lamar county line meaning a stronger, better signal into Barnesville and surrounding areas.

Also be sure to listen to Lamar County Chamber Updates from Chamber Director Amanda Rose on The Morning Fun House with Bill Bailey.

Ribbon Cutting

Thank you to everyone who attended the Railroad Station Ribbon Cutting. This project was a major undertaking and has tremendously improved the area of Railroad and Ice Streets.

For more information on this project, you may contact Keith Martin at (770)468-1599.

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

Please Call and reserve your space for the March 13th Lunch and Learn. Dr. Alan Burnstein from Gordon College will be the speaker. The topic is **The Stock Market: An Academic Perspective.** Call (770)358-5123 to reserve you spot today. The cost to Chamber Members is \$15.00

LAMAR ARTS

Be sure to check out the Origins of Multiculturalism exhibit through March 8th.

March 14th will begin a new exhibit of Art by the Gordon College Students and Faculty.

Be sure to stop by Lamar Arts at the Depot to check out these awesome exhibits. We have so much talent in Lamar County and we are fortunate to have a place to exhibit.



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





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
Dr. E. H. Harris
Goggan's Florist
Anne Claxton, City Council Ward 1
Jim Cole, State Representative
Susan and Tony Byars
St. Georges Episcopal School
State Farm Insurance
B & H Electric
The Jewelry Store
Hortons' Rendezvous
Pastime

Stafford Building, LLC
Jen-Tek Graphics
Bradley Construction
JoBest Mortgage
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
WFGA/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
Upson Regional Medical Center
Big Chic of Barnesville
Barnesville Marble and Granite Company
Riggins Farm
Enercon Empower LLC
The Movie Star
Johnstonville Garden Club
Thomaston Ear, Nose, and Throat
Carter's Drug Store
Barnesville Bottle Shop
Barnesville- Lamar County historical Society
Old Jail Museum
The William Carter Company
Ad Vantage Advertising
T. Aaron Buice, MD PC
Veteran of Foreign Wars Post 6542
Circle A Christmas Tree Farm
Cara Studios
Richard Milam, District Attorney





RENEWING MEMBERS 2008 Continued



Continental Fire North America— Aldora Plant

Heritage House Floral & Gifts

Palmetto Camp WOW No. 199

Nightingale Staffing, Inc

Smith, Welch & Brittain

Evans Timber Company, Inc.

LLCS/Griffin Resa

Mark and Jan Hatten

William S. Cherry Jr.

Greg S. Williams

McLaurin Graphics, Inc

Ozier Studio of Dance

Thomaston Ford, Inc.

Billy and Jan Williams

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

Scott Leverett

Jim Fletcher

Dora Cox Realty

Miss Bessie's Tearoom

Dream Affairs Catering

Ken's Cleaner's and Laundry

Canongate Golf

G & M Enterprise

McDonald's

Trice Funeral Home

Joe Buice

AFLAC

Best Western Hilltop

BesTech Computer Solutions

Cherry Creek Preschool Academy, JJ

Dan's Automotive and Welding Inc.

ERA Connie R. Ham Middle GA Realty— Mark Farmer

Excell Homes

Georgia Sprint Karting Association, Inc

Giant Mart

Holy Smokes BBQ and Catering, LLC

Kiwanis Club

Lamar County Schools

Lamar County Primary Schools

Matt Akins Landscaping

Martin and Martin Attorneys

Monroe Academy

Ranew's Fleet Service

Red Rooster Coffee Co.

Sugar Hill Nurseries, LLC

Sunny Grove Assisted Living

The Gathering Place

The Fire Mart of Barnesville

Turner's Catering, Floral and Rental Shoppe, LLC

William D. Lindsey, Attorney

Your Choice Windows

Baby Bargains and More

REMAX Traditions— Kristin Roney

Peter L. Banks

Miles Neville

Jo Klepper

Honeywood Farms

Tommy's Sportswear

Flint River Technical College

Jay Matthews III

Capt. Aaron M. Brown, USAF Ret.

Jngles

Salon NV

Badcock Home Furniture

OMJ

New Members Since January 1, 2008

Yard Birds Wingery

Chappell Mill Trees, LLC

Federalgraphics, LLC

Angel Carpet & Flooring

Dolly Good Puppy Society, Inc.

Timothy Turner

Southdown Bar-B-Q and Grills

Impact Office Interiors

Buffalo Rock

Mark Stone



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.



BE SURE NOT TO MISS THE NEW AND IMPROVED BUSINESS AFTER HOURS



March 13th FROM 5-7pm

**Directory South
Owner Destin Smith
Located at 12 Zebulon St.**

The theme for this After Hours is
“Luck of the Draw”

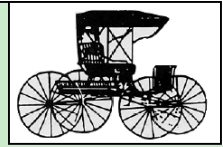
- Be sure to study your St Patrick’s Day Trivia
 - Wear something Green!
- Bring loads of business cards for networking
- Bring a prospective new member and get more chances of winning the **JACKPOT!!!**

**Jackpot Total \$50.00
SEE YOU THERE!!!**





BUGGY DAYS LEGEND RETIRES



Buggy Days legend, Dick Esco has announced his retirement as Chairman of the Buggy Days Festival after more than 30 years of coordinating this successful event. Serving also as the parade announcer for so many years, he will forever be known as the voice of Buggy Days.

As Agency Manager of the Lamar County Farm Bureau, Esco has been responsible for two events that local children look forward to each year: the Pig Chase and Old Fashioned Games. Last year marked the largest attendance in the history of the events.

Mr. Esco retired from the Lamar County Farm Bureau as Agency Manager on December 31, 2006 but has remained active with the agency by serving on the Board of Directors and being their liaison to the Chamber of Commerce. He has been enjoying his retirement by spending time with family and traveling.

Dick has also been a dedicated Chamber volunteer and board member but after more than 30 years of service he recently told Chamber Board Chairman, Scott Leverett that he wanted to step down and let some new blood with fresh ideas lead Buggy Days. He believes it will be good for the event and is looking forward to just enjoying Buggy Days in the years to come.

“Dick will be greatly missed,” stated Chamber President, Amanda Rose. “He was a devoted board member (filling a board seat as the Buggy Days Chairman) and his knowledge of and experience with this event will be a great resource for guiding us in the right direction.”

To ensure a smooth transition into the planning stages of the Buggy Days Festival, Tim Turner with First National Bank of Griffin has been named the 2008 Chairman. When asked about taking on the position, Tim stated, “I would be honored.” Turner is a life long resident of Barnesville and has grown up attending this festival. He actually rode in the first Buggy Days parade as a small child.

“We are excited about Tim leading Buggy Days this year. He will be a great asset to the board and to the festival with his rich knowledge of this community’s history,” stated Amanda Rose.

Board Chairman Scott Leverett said, “Dick will be missed but his name and effort will be carried on. The best way to honor him is to continue making Buggy Days an event this Chamber and the community can be proud of. On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank Dick for all of his years of service and dedication.”

REFERRAL CARDS

In order for you to keep track with just how many times the chamber refers your business each day, we will be sending you a referral card. It will be a bright red postcard for you to collect in order to have tangible evidence at the end of the year of just one way the chamber works for you!

To benefit St. George's Episcopal School

BLAZING THE TRAIL

2008 Get-Away-Gig

Saturday, March 8, 2008
6:00 PM
SGES Campus, Milner, GA

Live and Silent Auctions,
Student Masterpieces, and Dinner

\$60 per person
Western Casual Attire

Brought to you through
the generous support of

UnitedBank

Please mail reservation card and check to:
SGES, 103 Birch Street, Milner, GA 30257
by February 21, 2008

**Barnesville-Lamar County
Chamber of Commerce**
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P.O. Box 506
Barnesville, GA 30204
(770)358-5884
Fax- (770)358-5886
Email–
LChamber5884@CharterInternet.com
www.barnesville.org



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Calendar of Events

- March 4th– BBQ & BLUES Meeting in Chamber Boardroom @ 6pm
- March 11th– Merchant’s Committee Meeting in Chamber Boardroom @ 6:30pm
- March 17th- Leadership Lamar Meeting in Chamber Boardroom @ 5:30pm
- March 20th– Business After Hours at Directory South 5-7pm
- March 24th– Buggy Days Meeting in the Chamber Boardroom @ 5:30pm
- April 25th-26th– BBQ & BLUES
- May 1st– Community Awards Banquet



President’s Box

This month is full of luck and the promise of life. With St. Patrick’s Day and Easter in the same month, we can share our luck and God’s promise to bless our families, friends, and businesses. Everyone has their own beliefs on how blessings are truly reigned upon them, but I believe it is the Almighty that has His hand upon each of us. He blesses us beyond what we deserve because He is forgiving and loving.

I believe in luck, but also divine purpose. When I used to shoot crazy shots in a basketball game, I know it was luck at times. Divine purpose is me living in Barnesville, working at the Chamber, and having a great community to promote. I believe I am in this position, at this time, for a specific purpose. That purpose is for me to grow professionally, but also to do everything I can for you, my members, who I am truly thankful for.

I wish you and your families Good Luck and Easter Blessings.

Amanda Rose

