

BUSINESS BUILDER

APRIL
2008

BBQ & BLUES IS SMOKIN' UP!!!!

PRESENTED
BY:



SANCTIONED
BY:



Sponsors:



The 2008 BBQ & Blues Festival is only weeks away, and you can feel the excitement in the air. The teams are preparing to come and it won't be long before downtown Barnesville is saturated with the scents of BBQ smokers from across the southeast. Sixty teams will be competing for the coveted FBA, Triple Crown, and Jack Daniels National Qualifier titles making this the largest contest in the history of Barnesville's BBQ & Blues and the state of Georgia.

The festival, which will be held on April 25th-26th, will feature cook teams, a kid's park, BBQ food court, a cruise-in, and live bands. During the Saturday night concert at Ritz Park, the winner of the Dewaine T. Bell Scholarship will be announced, our special guest will be honored with the new Georgia Music Legend Award and our featured act will be Big Bill Morganfield. He is the son of Muddy Waters, and he has plans to put on a big show. You don't want to miss it!

Be sure to check out page two of the newsletter for a complete schedule of the weekend's festivities.

BBQ & Blues Promotions

The BBQ & Blues Committee is providing a raffle box to businesses to raffle off a set of tickets to the Saturday night concert.

The Committee is also selling cut out pigs in three different denominations to raise money for the Dewaine T. Bell Scholarship Fund. People will buy these pigs, put their names on them and you will hang them up in your place of business. These pigs will be great decorations for your windows, while getting ready for the festival.

If you would like to participate in the raffle boxes and/or the pig sales, please call Amanda at the Chamber office at (770)358-5884.

BBQ & BLUES MERCHANDISE

The 4th Annual BBQ and Blues merchandise is in! We have t-shirts ranging in size from small to 3XL. We have embroidered hand towels, hats, aprons, and coozies. Be sure to stop by the Chamber office to pick up these items or visit the Chamber booth during the festival.



Design on the
Back of T-Shirt

THANK YOU TO ALL OF THE BBQ & BLUES
SPONSORS AND VOLUNTEERS FOR YOUR FINANCIAL
SUPPORT AND HARD WORK IN PREPARING TO MAKE
THE 2008 BBQ & BLUES THE BEST ONE YET!!!

COOK TEAM AND JUDGE'S BAGS

If you are interested in putting a gift in the goody bags for the judges and cook teams, please call Cindy at Awards and Graphics by April 4th. Her number is (770)358-2454.

These bags are great networking tools to promote your business and services. People from all over the southeast will be in Barnesville for the event, and you never know when they may need your services.





**BUSINESS AFTER HOURS
SPONSORED BY UNITED BANK
APRIL 24TH
5-7 PM**

This will be the kick off for the 4th Annual BBQ and Blues Festival and everyone is encouraged to attend! The Jackpot drawing has increased to \$75.00, and the networking ideas have been a huge hit!

Be sure to bring some business cards, a prospective new member and be prepared to have a great time networking among other business leaders in the community!



2008 BBQ & Blues Schedule of Events



Friday Night

Family Fun Night

5:00 pm– Kid’s Park Opens

6:00 pm–9:00 pm– Cruise-In

6:30 pm–8:00 pm– Mark Henson Band

8:30 pm–10:00 pm– Master Blasters

Saturday

9:00 am–2:00 pm– Kid’s Park Open

10:00 am– Barnesville’s Georgia Cities Festival (at Depot)

11:30 am–Until– Youth Hot Dog Cook Off

12:00 pm– People’s Choice BBQ Tasting

12:30 pm– Poker Run Registration

Free Concert Featuring:

10:30 am–12:30 pm– Blugil

12:30 pm–2:30 pm– Phil Layove Soul Band

Saturday Night

Blues Concert at Ritz Park Amphitheater

Gates open at 5:30

Admission \$10.00

6:30 pm–7:40 pm– 4U2C

7:50 pm–9:00 pm– The Buckeye Band

9:00 pm–9:15 pm–

Introduction of Special Guest,

Presentation of Dewaine T. Bell Scholarship

9:20 pm–10:20 pm– **BIG BILL MORGANFIELD**

(Son of Muddy Waters)

FEATURED ACT:
BIG BILL
MORGANFIELD



25th Annual Community Awards Banquet

The time has come to once again honor those who work extremely hard, year after year, with the recognition they deserve. The 25th Annual Community Awards Banquet will be held on Thursday, May 1st at the Barnesville Civic Center at 7:00 pm. Tickets are \$25.00 each and may be purchased at the Chamber of Commerce. The deadline to purchase tickets is April 18th.

If you have not nominated anyone for Outstanding Citizen or Business Person of the Year, be sure to do so before April 11th. You can get nomination forms at www.barnesville.com or you can pick them up at the Chamber office. Nomination forms may be mailed to the Chamber office at P.O. Box 506 or by fax at (770)358-5886.

Teacher's Appreciation Luncheon

For the past several years, the Chamber of Commerce has sponsored an end-of-the-year celebration/luncheon at various locations. And this year is no exception!

As part of National Teacher Appreciation Week, which is May 5-11, the goal is to work in partnership with our community to "Take a Teacher to Lunch" on May 5th. We have invited The Varsity, OB's, Shane's, and Georgia South to come and set up shop for our county schools.

Then, to keep our other end-of-the-year traditions in the "active file," the Chamber of Commerce will sponsor a breakfast on May 27th. On this date, teachers, para-professionals, kitchen and transportation workers, some office personnel, and other employees will wrap up their school year.

As we prepare to make these two events memorable and rewarding, we ask for your help. Would you please consider doing at least one of the following – and more if you can?

- 1.) To participate in "Take a Teacher to Lunch" please send your donation to the Chamber Appreciation Lunch, c/o 3 Trojan Way, Barnesville, GA 30204. There are 450 people we are "taking to lunch". We are looking for donations of \$10 per person to cover our expenses. If everyone in your place of business would sponsor one teacher, then we can be assured of reaching our goal! We would appreciate receiving your contribution by May 2nd. (**Any checks should be written out to: LCSS with "Appreciation Lunch" on the memo line.**)
- 2.) Traditionally, many of our friends in the community have given door prizes and other kinds of gifts to distribute to the school system employees at the last gathering of the year. We are trying to keep that special occasion in place by asking that you send your gifts of quality items, coupons, cash, etc, to the BOE, 3 Trojan Way, Barnesville, GA 30204. (Please make sure we have your contribution by the morning of May 27th. Gifts will be distributed at the middle school beginning at 9:00 a.m.)
- 3.) Your physical presence at the luncheon, to help cook or supervise children, would be greatly appreciated as well.
- 4.) Some of our potential sponsors have ways to help that we have not itemized. We welcome your generosity and creativity!

As you consider how you might help make these various events successful and these people appreciated, please know that **you are appreciated**. Thank you for your help and generosity.



Relay for Life

Relay For Life will be held on May 2nd and 3rd at the Recreation Department track on Gordon Rd.

The opening ceremonies and survivor walk will begin at 7:00 pm on May 2nd.

For more information, call Kelly Hughes at (770)358-3270.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

BUGGY DAYS

April 7th at 5:30 pm in the Chamber Boardroom

MERCHANT'S COMMITTEE

April 8th at 6:30 pm on the Chamber Boardroom

LEADERSHIP LAMAR

May 8th at 5:30 pm in the Chamber Boardroom

LUNCH AND LEARN

Thank you to everyone who attended the March Lunch and Learn at Gordon College. There was a great turn out and everyone gained some useful knowledge about the stock market.

A **BIG** thank you to Goggan's Florist for donating the center pieces for the tables. They were simply beautiful.

Please mark your calendars for the next two Lunch and Learns.

**July 24th
November 13th.**

SPECIAL THANKS

The Chamber of Commerce would like to thank Destin Smith, owner of Directory South, for hosting the March Business After Hours. He had the office very festive and had great food from the Yard Birds Wingery.

Destin, we wish you and your business much success. If anyone needs a phone book or would like to place an ad in one, please call Destin at (770)358-5955.

LAMAR ARTS

On March 14th, the Gordon College Students and Faculty exhibit opened. Be sure to stop by Lamar Arts and check out these great works of art.

Lamar County has some extremely talented people and we are so fortunate to have such a great place to display them.

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.

YARD SALE

The Merchant's Committee will be hosting a Yard Sale on April 19th in Downtown Barnesville. Booth spaces are free for Chamber members and the fee for non Chamber members is \$10.00 per table. For more information please call Virginia at (770)358-0444.

Discounted Group Health Insurance From Blue Cross Blue Shield of Georgia Now Available to Chamber Member Businesses

Your Barnesville-Lamar County Chamber of Commerce business membership is now even more valuable because of *MemberCare Alliance of Lamar CountySM*, a new program that makes available group health insurance and other employee benefit products at reduced premium rates. “The Chamber, responding to concerns of our small- and medium-sized business members about health insurance costs, has joined with a statewide network of Chambers of Commerce who have used their large-group buying power to negotiate reduced premium rates for business members,” announced Amanda Rose, President/CEO of the Barnesville-Lamar County Chamber. The group health insurance plan is underwritten by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Georgia (BCBSGa).

Monye Connolly, President of BCBSGa, said, “The Barnesville-Lamar County Chamber’s program offers member businesses with 2 to 50 covered employees premium discounts of up to 5 percent, which is right in line with our strategy of service and commitment to small businesses. We are the health insurance provider for many other Chamber-sponsored programs around Georgia, and are excited to introduce this valuable plan.”

Businesses want to lower their expenses and make purchasing health insurance more predictable. Providing 12-month rate guarantees and a large-pool methodology is consistent with BCBSGa’s philosophy of affordable products and rate stability.

Lynn Zimmermann, BCBSGa’s director of agency sales, said, “Products are distributed through Chamber-member independent insurance agents, to illustrate our support of the local agent community. These professional agents play a key role by helping small business owners sort through the complexities of offering employee benefits.”

Purchasing Alliance Solutions, Inc., an employee benefits firm specializing in value-added Chamber programs, worked with Chambers and local agents to develop the statewide network of more than 120 Chambers which now includes *MemberCare Alliance of Lamar County*. For more information, please contact the Chamber at (770)358-5884 or Gary Monteith of Purchasing Alliance Solutions at (770)579-1214, ext. 3512.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!!

The BBQ & Blues Committee still needs volunteers for the weekend of April 24-26. If you or anyone you know would like to volunteer, please have them call Amanda at the chamber (770)358-5884 to be put on the volunteer list!

Thank you!

THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone who has renewed their memberships, or has just joined! Your membership is greatly appreciated. If you need any Chamber supplies, such as a membership sticker or plaque, please call the Chamber office at (770)358-5884.



2008 Renewing Members



Continental Fire North America—Aldora Plant
Heritage House Floral & Gifts
Palmetto Camp WCV 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
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
Alan and Sandra Hudson
William Carter Company
Carol Waters, CPA
Susan and Tony Byars
St. Georges Episcopal School
State Farm Insurance
B & H Electric
The Jewelry Store
Hortons' Rendezvous
Pastime
Directory South
Trice Funeral Home
Honeywood Farms
Henson Heating and Air
Lamar County Volunteer Firefighter Association

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.
Ingles
Salon NV
Badcock Home Furniture
O.M.J
Waller Transport & Equipment, Inc.
100 Black men and Women of Lamar County
Haven House
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
Flint River Technical College
Powers Engineering Services, Inc.
Woodall, Wilson, and Manley
Badcock Home Furniture Stores
Barnesville Lamar County Humane Society



2008 Renewing Members



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
City of Barnesville
Remax Traditions
Eddie L. Brannon

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
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
Upson 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
Barnesville Bottle Shop
Barnesville- Lamar County Historical Society
Old Jail Museum
Lamar County Farm Bureau
Awards and Graphics Unlimited
Jazz Printing
Spring Properties

2008 New Members

*Mark Stone
 *Tim Turner
 *Buffalo Rock
 *Yard Birds Wingery
 *Impact Office Interiors
 *Angel Carpet and Flooring

*Federalgraphics, LLC
 *Dolly Goodpuppy Society,
 Inc.
 *Southdown Bar-B-Q and
 Grills
 *Curtis Jenkins

*Purchasing Alliance
 Solutions
 *G&R Rock Climbing Ad-
 ventures
 *Pathways Center
 *Chappell Mill Trees, INC
 *Shanes Rib Shack

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www.barnesville.org



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Barnesville, GA

30204

Permit No. 4

NOTICE

Market Street and Library Street will be closed for this year's BBQ & Blues Festival from April 24th-April 26th!
For specific street and parking lot closures please call the Chamber Office at (770)358-5884.

Calendar of Events

**April 7th- Buggy Days Committee meeting
5:30 pm in the Chamber Boardroom**

**April 8th- Merchants Committee meeting
6:30 pm in the Chamber Boardroom**

**April 11th-13th- Gordon College
Alumni Weekend**

**April 12th- BBQ & Blues work Day
at Chamber Office**

**April 19th- Merchant's Committee Yard Sale
Downtown Barnesville from 8:00 am-2:00 pm**

**April 24th- Business After Hours at United Bank
from 5:00-7:00 pm**

April 25th-26th- BBQ & Blues Festival

**May 1st- 25th Annual Community Awards
Banquet at the Barnesville Civic Center 7:00pm**



President's Box

I went to Valdosta, March 18th-20th, for a Chamber Executives Conference. I know each month I go on and on in this column about how great of a town we have, but I am just amazed over and over again. The issues we have are so minor and our town is so beautiful. I was told by the President/CEO of the Perry Chamber that we had one of the nicest downtowns that she had ever seen. We have so much to be thankful for.

This month is a time to celebrate the BBQ & the Blues! Let's make April our relaxing, fun month where we take the time to enjoy the pleasures of living in the greatest town in Georgia. We have thousands of people coming through here this month, and I want them to see just how good we have it!

Get involved in as much as you can with BBQ & Blues, and I promise that you will have fun helping everyone else to have a great time! My grand advice this month is to relax, have a drink, and sing the blues!

-Amanda Rose