

Rome Floyd Chamber



Business Brief

HERE'S WHAT YOU NEED TO
KNOW THIS WEEK!

Important Dates

Click each title to learn more

- [Small Business Action Council - Learn about Small Business Taxes - 6/12 @ 8:30 a.m.](#)
- [Business After Hours at the Rome Braves - 6/15 @ 5:30 p.m. **FRIDAY**](#)
- [Ribbon Cutting Maximum One Community Realty - 6/19 @ 2:00 p.m.](#)
- [Technology SquareTable - 6/22 @ 12:00 p.m.](#)
- [Young Professionals at V3 - 6/28 @ 5:30 p.m.](#)
- [Ribbon Cutting Newby-Stahl Advisory Group - 6/29 @ 4:00 p.m.](#)
- [Small Business Action Council- 7/10 @ 8:30 a.m.](#)

Business of the Week

Comfort Suites

"When you travel, what do you need to be ready for the day ahead? At Comfort Inn hotels we think we've got a pretty good idea. With all the amenities you need, and hotels

everywhere you want to be, Comfort Inn will get you rested and ready for anything"

To qualify for Member of the Week, your business must be a Chamber member for five consecutive years and must not have been a member of the week within the past two years.



Chamber Advantage

Rome Athletic Club - 50% off enrollment fees and reduced monthly rates on all 12 and 24 month agreements.

Would you like to offer a discount? Email Jeanne Krueger, Director of Membership, at jkrueger@romea.com for details. For a full list of Chamber Advantage discounts, [click here](#).



YOUNG PROFESSIONALS OF ROME AT V3

JUNE 28TH

5:30-7:00 PM
417 BROAD STREET



JWH Transport, 300 Booze Mountain Rd, celebrates their business with a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony.

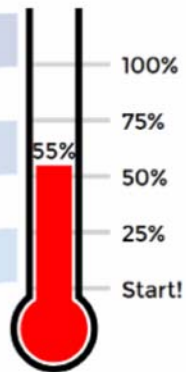
Rome Floyd Chamber Membership Drive

Welcome new members!

- Colosseum Escape Rooms
- Computer 911 Repair LLC
- Planet Fitness
- Sun Tan City
- Hunt & Associates
- HomeStar Financial Corporation
- Garden Lakes Baptist Church
- Cornerstone Insurance Solutions

Goal
\$25,000

Current
\$13,743



Welcome new members... Colosseum Escape Rooms..

This page provided by Purple Trumpet Marketing for Rome Floyd Chamber

Thank you to these companies for participating:

Cartridge World
Farmers Insurance - Alma Roman Agency
Floyd Medical Center
Georgia Northwestern Technical College
Goodwill
Greater Community Bank
Greene's Jewelers
Harbin Clinic
Hardy Realty & Development
Hawthorn Suites
Heritage First Bank
Hexalinks
Hospitality House
JEM MFG
Keller Williams Realty
McRae, Smith, Peek, Harman & Monroe
Alfa Insurance - Mark Swanson Agency
Merry Maids
Owen Security Solutions
PSI
Purple Trumpet Marketing
Redmond Regional Medical Center
Rome Cleaners
Rome Radio Partners
ServiceMaster by Twins
Smoothie King
Synovus

Noteworthy:

Unemployment Rate Falls to 18-Year Low

The unemployment rate in May ticked down to a seasonally adjusted 3.8%, the lowest since April 2000, the Labor Department said. The last time the rate was lower was in 1969.

The Georgia Department of Labor's report on Rome and Floyd County Labor Force estimated the unemployment rate for April 2018 is at 3.8%. Since April 2017 the labor force has increased from 44,109 to 44,809,

Hot air balloon festival coming to Rome



Rome News Tribune:
regional hot air balloon festival is returning this fall after a hiatus of several years, and this time it will be based in Floyd County.

The annual event drew thousands of spectators during its 2008 - 2012 run. Promoter Jeremy Kwaterski said the new incarnation, as the Rome Balloon Festival, is scheduled for Sept. 14 and 15 at Richard B. Russell Regional Airport.

"People have been begging us to bring it back so we started looking around for a bigger venue," Kwaterski said. "We're going to have 15 to 20 balloons, with about half of them special shapes like Pepe LePew, Tweety Bird, Tom and Jerry."

Airport Manager Mike Mathews said he was initially skeptical when Kwaterski approached him with the idea. But his enthusiasm grew. "The more I thought about it ... a balloon is an aeronautical craft, so it works," he said.

The festival will be set up on the west side of the facility and won't interfere with regular operations. Aircraft pilots will be directed to the main runway - the secondary runway will be closed - and the traffic pattern will shift them toward the east side.

"You don't see balloons every day." Mathews said. "I bet there are a lot of people around who have never seen these flying around, kind of like the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. That's what I'm thinking of: the kids, the community, and I think a lot of people may fly in to see this."

Kwaterski said the festival drew people from as far away as Vermont, Virginia and Florida when it was in Menlo and Summerville. And Rome is easier to get to, he added.

"We're expecting 15,000 to 20,000 this year," he said. Plans are still being finalized, but there will be inflatables for the kids to play on, about 100 arts and crafts vendors, food booths and tethered hot air balloon rides.

"The balloon rides themselves, it's hard to accommodate a lot of people. When they're tethered, you can put a whole family in there so more people will be able to have the experience," Kwaterski said.

The "balloon meister" is John Cavin, who owns five special-shape balloons and is expecting to have a sixth by the festival. The Menlo native has traveled around the U.S. and Canada to show off his collection and has even been invited to Taiwan.

Kwaterski said hot air balloon pilots are a close-knit community and the ones they're inviting to the festival are highly experienced people they've been working with for years. Helicopter rides also will be on offer.

Tigerflight, a nonprofit based at the airport, also will be doing aerial stunts and the Museum of Flight will be open with its planes out on display. Each night will end with a moonglow - a captivating display of lighted balloons.

Kwaterski said they plan to charge for parking but not for admission. The Floyd County Airport Commission and County Commission signed off on the proposal this month.

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