The Rome Floyd Chamber is excited to welcome and introduce our 2021 Chair of the Rome Floyd Chamber, Cassandra Wheeler, Regional Director at Georgia Power.

Upcoming Events:

**Small Business Action Council**

Tuesday, January 12th- at 8:30 am
Guest Speaker Richard Montanaro, SBDC
Topic: PPP Loans

via zoom

**Ribbon Cutting: Pruitt Health - Palliative Care addition**

Thursday Jan 21, 2021 at 11:00 AM

Please follow all CDC, Local and State guidelines while attending this event.
Technology SquareTable
Friday, January 22th - at noon
via zoom

Economic Briefing
Friday, February 9th - at 8:15 a.m.
via zoom

Member of the Week
WMP Crates, LLC
Wright Metal Products Crates is the leader in Steel Packaging Solutions for finished goods products in the Lawn & Garden and Power Sports Industries.


Nonprofit of the Week
Rome Mural CoLab
Rome Mural CoLab is an initiative, led by artists Xaivier Ringer and Ellie Borromeo, created to ignite spaces in Rome, Georgia through mural art—inspiring tourism, community pride and beautification.

https://www.romemuralcolab.com/

Small Business of the Week
South 93.5
Playing today's best country 24/7! Check out www.SOUTH935.com for all the latest in music, entertainment and more! Request line 706-290-0935

http://www.south935.com/
Chamber Advantage Deal

ServiceMaster by Twins - 10% off carpet & upholstery cleaning (some restrictions apply).

Would you like to offer a discount? Email Thomas Kislat at kislat@romea.com for details. For a full list of Chamber Advantage discounts, click here.

Ribbon Cutting

Photo on left: Students stand in front of the new Rome City Schools College and Career Academy.
Photo on right: Representative Katie Dempsy, Rome City Commissioner Mark Cochran, and Rome City Commissioner Bonnie Askew stand on the new practice field.

Photo on left: Superintendent of Rome City Schools, Lou Byars, addresses the group.
Photo on right: City of Rome Mayor, Bill Collins, speaks at the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony.

Photo on left: Kurt Stuenkel, President and CEO of Floyd Medical Center, speaks at the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony.
We are pleased to announce that the latest BRIDGES magazine will be published for first quarter of 2021, and now is the time for members to reserve advertising space.

A 2021 look at Chamber members, happenings, events and interesting features to start the year off. Also, the awards and recognitions that are usually celebrated at the annual meeting in January will be revealed. The winner of Small Business of the Year, Emerging Member of the Year and the Exceptional 7 Young Professionals will be disclosed in BRIDGES and virtually.

As soon as social distancing allows, the actual celebration and annual meeting will be announced.

Contact BRIDGES magazine prior to February 1, 2021, for more information or to reserve your advertising presence. Call ADI Georgia at 706-290-0202 or email GoodIdeas.com

Jeanne Krueger
President and CEO
Rome Floyd Chamber

Check out the most recent podcasts on Business Radio X.

Rome-Floyd Chamber Small Business Spotlight – Cindy Quirk of Scout and Zoe’s Pet Treats, and Trey Tanner of Comprehensive Cleaning

https://businessradiox.com/podcast/romebusinessradio/scoutandzoescomprehensivecleaning/
Spencer Brewer with Lavender Mountain Hardware, and Ian Griffin with V3 Magazine

https://businessradiox.com/podcast/lavendermountainhardwarev3magazine/?fbclid=IwAR2X9viuLZbeAouuBk26QAnaQM_QNraz9o54faMY_5onruP_kmHwBFhVvU

Rome Floyd Chamber Small Business Spotlight – Amanda Farrell of Farrell’s Frame and Design, and Charlene Mathis and Debbie Law of Last Stop Gift Shop

https://businessradiox.com/podcast/romebusinessradio/farrellsframeslaststopgiftshop/

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**Noteworthy:**

![SBA logo](https://via.placeholder.com/150)

U.S. Small Business Administration

The SBA has released new applications for First Draw and Second Draw for the Paycheck Protection Program.


The program officially reopens this week, contact your SBA approved financial institution to apply.

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**DPH Launches COVID Vaccine Locator**

Atlanta – The Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH) is launching a COVID vaccine locator on the DPH website at [https://dph.georgia.gov](https://dph.georgia.gov). The tool allows users to search by county for a vaccine provider in their community, and provides location and contact information for the provider. This is not a centralized scheduling tool.

County health departments and private providers are included in the locator. Additional locations statewide will be added when providers are ready to safely administer vaccine, and as vaccine supply allows. All health departments and most other
providers require appointments for vaccine administration. Because vaccine supply is limited, providers may not have immediate appointments available.

Effective tomorrow, Jan. 11, Georgia will be in phase 1A+ of vaccine administration. That phase includes: healthcare workers (physicians, nurses, EMS personnel, laboratory technicians, environmental services, etc.); residents and staff of long-term care facilities; adults aged 65+ and their caregivers, as applicable; and law enforcement, firefighters, 9-1-1 dispatchers and first responders.

The process of administering COVID-19 vaccine is more complicated than other common vaccines, such as flu vaccine, and requires providers to have more resources available, including an area where individuals can be monitored for 15 minutes after being vaccinated. Many providers with vaccine are still vaccinating their own staffs and patients and are not open to the public for vaccination yet.

As both Pfizer and Moderna are able to ramp up production of vaccine in the coming weeks, supply should better meet demand for each phase of allocation and administration. Until that time, providers and the public are urged to be patient as we work together to get vaccine distributed in the most efficient and equitable way possible.

All Georgians, including those who are vaccinated, are urged to continue to follow basic COVID-19 prevention measures: wear a mask, practice social distancing, wash your hands frequently and follow the guidance of Public Health and the guidelines in the Governor’s Executive Order.

For updates on COVID-19, follow @GaDPH and @GovKemp on Twitter and @GaDPH and @GovKemp on Facebook.

Congratulations to Harbin Clinic Pediatrics Rome & Women’s Center Rome who received the prestigious Amerigroup Provider of the Quarter Award! This award is presented to organizations who are dedicated to improving the lives of patients and promoting healthier communities. Full article here: http://bit.ly/ProviderOfTheQuarter
The Northwest Georgia Regional Cancer Coalition has been named an HPV Champion for their work in the fight against HPV and Cervical Cancer by the Georgia Cancer Control Consortium (GC3) HPV Work Group- HPV Free Georgia! They will be recognized for their community education and screening programs at the January 21st Cervical Cancer Awareness Day at the Capitol (virtual) and have been asked to present more about the impact of their work at that event. Kudos to Allison Agnew, their cervical cancer prevention coordinator, for all her hard work and dedication to this issue throughout our region and across the state!
**100 Most Influential Georgians: Visionary Forces**

The 2020 list of people making an impact on every corner of the state.

“There are no secrets to success,” said former U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell. “It is the result of preparation, hard work and learning from failure.”

His description could apply to the individuals included in Georgia Trend’s 22nd annual listing of the 100 Most Influential Georgians. It’s a remarkable assemblage of people who prepare, work hard and have contributed to making life better for Georgians.

In this year’s list, you’ll find CEOs, politicians, college presidents and economic development leaders, among others, who have challenged, inspired and spearheaded efforts to bring about positive change in virtually every corner of the Peach State. Some are very public figures, while others work quietly behind the scenes. Many have helmed private businesses and helped shape industries, while some are leaders of government, healthcare and nonprofit organizations. All are tireless and passionate in pursuit of their vision for a better Georgia.

Selecting the most influential leaders is a daunting task and one that involves much discussion, mulling and refinement by the Georgia Trend staff. Our initial list typically contains many more than 100
names, and there are always last minute changes as a result of retirements, power shifts and late-in-the-year hirings. However, we believe this year’s final group represents the best qualities of leadership, power, character and influence the state has to offer. Along with the most influential, we’ve included a list of Notable Georgians on page 52. These are individuals who’ve also made a significant impact on residents’ lives.

Profiles of the 100 Most Influential Georgians were written by Anna Bentley, Amy Bonesteel, Katie Gantt, Karen Kirkpatrick, Brian Lee, Michele Cohen Marill, Patty Rasmussen, K.K. Snyder, Adina Solomon and Randy Southerland. – The Editors

Gretchen Corbin
President & CEO
Georgia Lottery Corp.
Rome
Under Corbin’s leadership, the Georgia Lottery made the largest-ever annual transfer of profits to the state’s Lottery for Education account in the program’s 26-year history: more than $1.2 billion in July 2019. Since its start, the lottery has funded the HOPE scholarship for more than 1.8 million students and pre-kindergarten for more than 1.4 million 4-year-olds. – M.C. Marill
The Pre-Legislative event is extremely important to all citizens in Rome and Floyd County. As we look to increase employment opportunities, having honest and transparent discussions with our local legislators, school superintendents, and business members is critical. With a top medical community, excellent high schools and colleges, vibrant small businesses, and just being awarded as one of the Top 10 places to work in manufacturing, we have a bright future for job growth in 2021.

Read more about this event, [here](#).
Rome Police Department: Some citizens have reported receiving calls about donations to the Rome Police Benevolence Fund. While the Rome Police Benevolence Fund accepts donations they will never call/email soliciting donations or request your credit card or banking information over the phone or by email. Here are the top 10 ways to avoid being scammed, per the Better Business Bureau.

1. Never send money via gift card or wire transfer to someone you have never met face-to-face.
2. Avoid clicking on links or opening attachments in unsolicited emails.
3. Don’t believe everything you see.
4. Double check your online purchase is secure before checking out.
5. Use extreme caution when dealing with anyone you’ve met online.
7. Resist the pressure to act immediately.
8. Use secure and traceable transactions.
9. Whenever possible, work with local businesses.
10. Be cautious about what you share on social media.

COVID Testing Site Changes!

Highlighted sites will not be open Monday, January 11, due to weather concerns.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TEST SITES</th>
<th>HOURLS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bartow: Liberty Square Church, 2001 Liberty Square Drive, Cartersville, GA</td>
<td>8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Catoosa: Catoosa County Health Department, 145 Catoosa Circle, Ringgold, GA</td>
<td>9 a.m. to noon and 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dade: 71 Case Avenue, Suite H-100, Trenton, GA</td>
<td>9 a.m. to noon and 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Floyd: Rome Fair Grounds, 1400 Martin Luther King Jr., Blvd., Rome, GA</td>
<td>8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Gordon: Senior Center, 150 Cambridge Court, Calhoun, GA</td>
<td>8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paulding: Paulding Meadows, 472 Paulding Meadows Dr., Dallas, GA</td>
<td>8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Walker: Mount Zion Baptist Church, 289 Dunwoody Road, LaFayette, GA</td>
<td>9 a.m. to noon and 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.</td>
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All test sites drive-up, no appointment needed.