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April 10, 2019



Since  
**1993**

937 Opelika Road | Auburn, AL 36830  
334.821.0558 | [www.auburnmattress.com](http://www.auburnmattress.com)

-----CHAMBER NEWS-----

- 4/15 Ireland Trip Presentation**  
12 Noon or 5 pm • Opelika Chamber
- 4/16 Trillium Ribbon Cutting – Prestige Properties – Auburn Opelika Lifestyle Group**  
10 am • 1996 Rocky Brook Road • Opelika
- 4/18 Prestige Properties Business After Hours**  
5 – 7 pm • The Preserve • Auburn
- 4/30 O’ Town Ice Cream Ribbon**  
10 am • 700 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue • Opelika

**Ireland Trip Informational Meeting**

**April 15 • 12 or 5 pm • Opelika Chamber • 601 Avenue A**

**Trip: November 6 – 13, 2019**

**The Emerald Isle** is a land renowned for its **“forty shades of green”** and is filled with rolling hills, stately castles, warm people and rollicking fun! You will be traveling with Opelika Chamber Members and members of other chambers. [Details](#)

**20 Under 40 Program Gearing Up for Fall 2019**

**Applications On Chamber’s Website: April 15**

**Information Session: April 18 • 5-6:30 pm**

**Deadline for Applications: May 17**

Opelika Chamber’s 20 Under 40 program begins in August and runs through May. This program consists of 20 people under the age of 40 who live in Opelika, love Opelika and have a vested interest in shaping the direction of this city’s future. Participants will be encouraged and challenged to think of ways to make our city better and improve the quality of life. If interested or want to know more, there will be an Information Session on April 18 from 5 – 6:30 pm.

**What is an Opportunity Zone?**

**April 22 • 8:15 am • Opelika Sportsplex and Aquatics Center**

**Sponsors: Opelika Chamber & the City of Opelika Economic Development Department**

Buried in the tax reform bill that was signed into law in 2017 is a new place-based economic development program that could eventually lead to billions in investment in certain designated communities. The program offers a series of tax incentives to investors who deploy capital gains into "Opportunity Zones" - certain historically low-income Census designated by Governor Ivey in March of

2018. Alex Flachsbart, founder of Opportunity Alabama ([www.opportunityalabama.com](http://www.opportunityalabama.com)), the first statewide nonprofit educational organization around Opportunity Zones in the country, will explain the incentives that comprise this new program and how investors can receive them. He will then explore how the tool may be used to finance active businesses and real estate investment in these Opportunity Zones - and how that investment might benefit developers, business owners, and local communities. For more information or to RSVP, contact Pam, [psmith@opelikachamber.com](mailto:psmith@opelikachamber.com).

### **20<sup>th</sup> Annual Member Golf Tournament**

**May 7 • Morning Flights available • Robert Trent Jones Grand National**

Ready to Rumble??? It's a fight to the finish –NOT! This is one of the most fun golf tournaments to be a part of! Whether you love the game of golf, like to chase that little ball around or just want to have fun, be a part of the Opelika Chamber Member Golf Tournament. There are just a few team spots in the morning left and just a few sponsorships left! Contact Jill for all the details!

[jrobinson@opelikachamber.com](mailto:jrobinson@opelikachamber.com).

### **Leadership Lee County Seeking an Executive Director**

- Sponsor: Opelika and Auburn Chambers of Commerce
- Starts June 1, 2019
- Part-time / Flexible Schedule / Estimated 20 Hours a Month
- Reports to Leadership Lee County Board of Directors

[Employment Application](#)

[Job Details](#)

**ADD TO YOUR CALENDAR!!!!**

### **78<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting**

**July 10 • 11:30 am – 1 pm**

**Opelika High School Indoor Practice Facility**

**Sponsored by: Opelika Ford Chrysler Dodge Jeep**

**H & S Commercial & Industrial Supplies & Services**

## -----MEMBER NEWS-----

Visit our Community Calendar at [www.opelikachamber.com](http://www.opelikachamber.com) for more details.

### **The Lewis Cooper Jr. Memorial Library (Cooper Library) Announces Plans to Expand Personal Finance Collections • 200 South 6<sup>th</sup> Street • 334.705.5380 • [www.cooperlibrary.com](http://www.cooperlibrary.com)**

The Cooper Library received a grant from FINRA Investor Education Foundation. The additional tools and resources will help ensure that residents have the information they need when making critical money decisions as they repair, rebuild and clean up following the March 3 tornadoes that destroyed parts of Lee County. Families can obtain unbiased information to guide financial choices that have lasting impact and avoid financial potholes. For more information, contact Rosanna McGinnis, 334.705.5380.

- Filing Claims
- Accessing Government Resources
- Managing Lump –Sum Payments from Insurance Companies
- Meeting Immediate Expenses When Income Might be Disrupted

### **Small Business Administration (SBA) Opens Business Recovery Center in Lee County**

**Southern Union State Community College • Technical Building 7, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Classroom 5**

The U.S. Small Business Administration has opened a Business Recovery Center in Lee County to help businesses in Alabama affected by the severe storm, straight-line winds and tornadoes. They can provide disaster loans, answer questions and assist businesses in completing the SBA application. They are open 8 am – 5 pm Monday – Friday. For more information, contact Michael Lampton, [Michael.lampton@sba.gov](mailto:Michael.lampton@sba.gov). [Flyer](#)

### **OHTS Presents: The Little Mermaid Performance & Under the Sea Tea Party**

**• 12 – 14 • Opelika Center for the Performing Arts • Opelika High School**

Everyone loves Disney's *The Little Mermaid*. Come and see OHTS perform this delightful musical. The cost is \$15 for adults and \$10 for students. To purchase tickets, call 334.745.9715 or email [ohts@opelikaschools.org](mailto:ohts@opelikaschools.org).

**April 12 & 13 6:30 pm**

**April 14 3 pm**

### **Monkey Park After Dark: Movie: Crazy Rich Asians**

**April 12 • 8:30 - 11:30 pm • Municipal Park • Denson Drive • Opelika**

Ages 18 & up are invited to a movie date night to what this fun movie! No Charge but bring your lawn chair or blanket and popcorn!

### **SUSCC Hosting Adult Education Free Computer Literacy**

**April 15 – June 10 / Orientation April 15 • 4 -6:30 pm • Southern Union**

**Classes are on Mondays from 5 – 6:30 pm.**

Each participant has the opportunity to earn up to 10 different certificates from NorthStar Digital Literacy. All adults in the community are invited to improve their computer skills! Call Stephanie, 334.745.6437, ext. 5413 or visit <http://www.suscc.edu/adulted>.

### **Project Uplift Mentor Training Sessions for April**

**April 16 • 4 – 8 pm • Cary Hall 158 • Auburn University**

No registration is required and only one session is needed. If you are interested in becoming a mentor to children in the area between ages 5 – 12, then please attend one of the meetings. For more information, call 334.844.4430 or email [puplift@auburn.edu](mailto:puplift@auburn.edu). [www.auburn.edu/projectuplift](http://www.auburn.edu/projectuplift) / [www.facebook.com/AUprojectuplift](http://www.facebook.com/AUprojectuplift) / [@auprojectuplift](https://www.instagram.com/auprojectuplift)

### **Eggs-Citing Things Happening at Opelika Parks & Recreation**

**• Flashlight Egg Hunt • April 18**

**7:30 pm • Moore Stadium • 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Hunt for eggs in the dark! Bring a flashlight and a basket for hunting those pretty Easter Eggs! Look for special prizes and golden eggs!

**• Underwater Egg Hunt • April 19**

**5 – 8 pm • Opelika Sportsplex • Ages 6 – 10 years**

Dive underwater and find the colorful Easter Eggs!

This event is free for Sportsplex Members / \$4 for Guests

**• Easter on the Square • April 20**

**Courthouse Square • Children 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade and Under**

- **Easter Egg-Tivities ● 10-10:45 am**  
Easter Arts & Crafts, Face Painting & Visits with the Easter Bunny
- **Easter Bonnet Contest ● 10:40 am**  
Bring a handmade Easter Bonnet. The most creative bonnets will lead the parade!
- **Easter Parade ● 10:45 pm**  
The Easter Bunny and the Easter Chicken and the Most Creative Bonnet winner will lead the parade. Participants must be accompanied by an adult.
- **Gigantic Egg Hunt ● 11 am**  
Children 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade & Younger should bring their baskets to gather more than 25,000 Eggs!

### Pursell Farms Upcoming Events

**April 19 – 21 ● Hamilton Place ● 1971 Marble Valley Road ● Sylacauga, AL**

#### **EASTER WEEKEND AT THE FARM**

##### ● **Easter Brunch**

**Adults: \$64 (plus tax and fees) / Children 4 – 12: \$27.50 / Children 0-4: No Charge**

Reservations for Easter Brunch can be made between 10:30 am – 3pm.

##### ● **Accommodations**

- The Inn Starting at \$299 (plus tax and fees)
- Parker Lodge \$355 per room (plus tax and fees) \*2 night minimum
- Cabins \$275 per room (plus tax and fees) \*Only available Saturday and Sunday night

##### ● **Weekend Highlights**

- Friday Evening Spring Wagon Tour of the Farm
- Saturday Evening Complimentary Easter egg dying & outdoor family movie night
- Sunday Morning Easter Sunrise Service, Easter Egg Hunt and Brunch at Hamilton Place  
*\*Please let them know by April 19 if you plan to attend the Easter Service and the number of guests attending with you.*

#### **OPEN FIRE CAST IRON COOKING WITH SEA ISLAND FORGE**

**April 26 ● 6:30 pm ● Hamilton Place Terrace at Pursell Farms ● Sylacauga, AL**

Their signature Open Fire cast iron cooking demonstration continues around the Sea Island Forge kettles as Executive Chef Andrea Griffith prepares a variety of meats, savory garden vegetables and sweet dessert treats. Eat, mingle and sip on selections of craft beer and wine while enjoying The Farm. For more information or to make reservations, call 256.208.4402. Space is limited.

#### John Emerald Distilling Hosting Flags For Vets Benefit Concert

**April 20 ● 4:30 pm until Closing ● 706 N. Railroad Avenue ● Opelika**

This exciting musical event is sure to please! Music from Dallas Dorsey, Matt Cain, Brett McDaniel and Mutt Cooper. BBQ will also be available for purchase. All proceeds go to **Flags for Vets** to “Honor those Who have Served.” For more information, call 334.737.5353.

#### 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Unity 5K Stampede

**April 27 ● Race: 5:30 pm ● Opelika Sportsplex & Aquatics Center**

If you like to run, walk or wheel, this race is for you! There will also be some festivities and live music with Jeremy McCall. For more information, email Amy, [arogers@suscc.edu](mailto:arogers@suscc.edu).

- **Late Registration ● 4 pm**
- **Festivities ● 4:30 pm**

- Race ● 5:30 pm  
[Details and Race Application](#)

**10<sup>th</sup> Annual Alabama Rural Ministry (ARM) Bike Ride Across Alabama**

**May 3 - 5**

ARM is having its 10th bike ride across Alabama, called **Cycle of Service**. There are options for the full day ride, a 1 day century, and 1/2 day ride from Tuskegee to Phenix City. There are also options for spin and stationary bikes. Proceeds from the ride will assist with Lee County tornado relief. Register at [www.arm-al.org/cos2019](http://www.arm-al.org/cos2019) and for information see [www.cycleofservice.arm-al.org](http://www.cycleofservice.arm-al.org).

**EAMC’s Fit to Fight Event Benefiting the Robert & Marjorie Goodson Oncology Wellness Program**

**May 11 ● 8 am – 12 pm ● HealthPlus Fitness Center ● Auburn**

There are Group Fitness Classes, Skin Cancer Screenings, Chair Massages, Silent Auction and more! For more information, call 334.887.5666 or email Rachel, [carswra@gmail.com](mailto:carswra@gmail.com).

To register for walk, [Click Here](#). Register by May 3 to guarantee a Fit to Fight t-shirt. Registration is \$20. [2019 Fit to Fight Event Flyer.pdf](#)

-----**EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES**-----

**AU Office of Professional and Continuing Education Hosting Graphic Design Online**

**Adobe InDesign CC ● April 1 - 29**

Harness the power of InDesign to create materials for print, digital and PDF distribution. In this online course, you will learn type controls, graphics file management, interactive design, layer and document set up and more as you become an InDesign power user. [Register Here](#)

**OLLlatAuburn’s Wisdom Wednesday’s Lecture**

**April 10 ● 2:30 – 4 pm ● Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art ● 901 S. College Street ● Auburn**

Guest speakers are Martha Shepherd and Mical Traynor. These two speakers serve on the board of Village Friends, a non-profit organization that uses the skills and services of its volunteers to assist Seniors in need of a support system to maintain their independent lifestyle in the area. For more information, call 334.844.3105, email [olli@auburn.edu](mailto:olli@auburn.edu) or visit [www.olliaatuburn.org](http://www.olliaatuburn.org).

**Software Made Simple QuickBooks Training**

**223 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 911-A ● Columbus, GA**

These classes are from 9 am – 4:30 pm (EST) and are instructor led. For more information, call 706.332.7372 or email [training@softwaremadesimple.net](mailto:training@softwaremadesimple.net).

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|------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| ● April 17 | QuickBooks 2019 Level 1 | \$250 per person |
| ● April 24 | QuickBooks 2019 Level 2 | \$250 per person |
| ● April 30 | Excel Level 2, Level 3  | \$225 per person |

**East Alabama Society for Human Resource Management (EASHRM) Workshop**

**Navigating the New Wage & Hour White Collar Regulations**

***Proactive Tools and Solutions for Dealing with the Proposed Increased in the White-Collar Exemption***

**April 18 ● 8 am – 11:30 am (Registration begins at 7:30 am) ● SUSCC Integrated Manufacturing**

This event is a must for Business Owners, HR Professionals, Non-Profit Managers, Public Sector, Higher Ed Managers, etc. [Register Here](#) [More Details](#)

### **Emerging Leadership Training at Goodwill Career Center**

**May 3, 17 & 31 / June 14, 28 / July 12 • 9 -11 am • 3740 Pepperell Parkway • Opelika**

This is a great training to understand your strengths and how to leverage them in a positive, effective way that helps improve productivity and results. Seating is limited to 12 so make sure you get registered today! [Details](#)

## -----JOB OPPORTUNITIES-----

### **Opelika Main Street Executive Director Opening**

The Opelika Main Street board is seeking an Executive Director. The director will coordinate all aspects of the downtown Opelika historic and business districts, including historic preservation, district event and activities, and business growth. He/she is responsible for the development, conduct, execution and documentation of the Main Street program as set forth by the Opelika Main Street Board of Directors.

[Job Details](#)

### **Job Fairs at Goodwill Career Center**

**334.275.4815 • 3740 Pepperell Parkway • Opelika • [www.goodwillsr.org](http://www.goodwillsr.org)**

- **McDonald's Restaurants • April 11 • 9 am – 12 pm Noon (CST)**  
Must have photo ID and SSI Card at time of interview.  
*Management • Crew Members • Maintenance*

## -----SAVE THE DATE-----

### **MAY**

- **Noon Tunes • May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29**
- **Here Molly Girl Ribbon Cutting • May 2**
- **Garden in the Park • May 4**
- **Business After Hours – First South Farm Credit • May 9**
- **Business After Hours - Prestige Properties – Auburn Opelika Lifestyle Group • May 23**
- **Chamber Closed for Memorial Day • May 27**

**Character Trait: Tenacity**

### **The Connector Policy**

Please contact Dinah Motley, [dmotley@opelikachamber.com](mailto:dmotley@opelikachamber.com) if you have an event that you would like to put on **The Connector** newsletter which is emailed to all members on Wednesday. Our policy is to run the event for 2 weeks. Deadline is noon Monday. Because of so many members getting the newsletter on their phones, the information is limited to 3 lines and an email address, website or phone number for additional information. Check out our community calendar on our website, [www.opelikachamber.com](http://www.opelikachamber.com).

### **Registration Policy**

Because the Chamber needs to give a headcount to the venue, please register for events by the deadline. No reservations will be taken after the deadline or at the door.

**Having Trouble Registering Online?**

Here are 3 easy steps to help you. [Steps](#)

**601 Avenue A - Phone 334.745.4861- Fax: 334.749.4740**

***Become friends with the Opelika Chamber on Facebook***

***Follow us on Twitter and Instagram***