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April 17, 2019



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

- 4/18 Prestige Properties Business After Hours**
5 – 7 pm • The Village at The Preserve • 2102 Teale Lane • Auburn
- 4/24 Fetch Me Delivery Ribbon Cutting**
4 pm • Opelika Chamber • 601 Avenue A • Opelika
- 4/25 Resting Pulse Brewing Company Ribbon Cutting**
4 pm • 714 First Avenue • Opelika
- 4/30 O Town Ice Cream Ribbon Cutting**
10 am • 700 2nd Avenue • Opelika

20 Under 40 Program Gearing Up for Fall 2019

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 where you can ask questions and visit with alumni.

[Application](#) [Scholarship Application](#) [Letter to Employer](#)

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), 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.

20th 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.

78th 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

CONGRATULATIONS

• **Alabama Municipal Electric Authority (AMEA) & Opelika Power Services** announce the 2019 scholarship winners. From Opelika High: **Caroline Richie Hawkins, Thomas Whittaker Krehling** and **Jacob Hamilton Walker**. From Lee-Scott Academy: **Katherine Ann Dudley**.

• **Susan McBride** has taken on a new role with **Three Sixty {real estate}**. She now adds REALTOR® to her many duties. **Three Sixty {real estate}** is also pleased to welcome REALTOR® **Ernest Lee** to their East Alabama office.

• **Ware Jewelers Celebrating 73rd Anniversary.**

Lori Fuller (Weichert, Realtors-Porter Properties) Completes Weichert Real Estate Affiliates, Inc. Fast Track Training This training quickly brings new affiliated agents, as well as current agents, up to speed on the latest information and technology available to real estate professionals. Participants also learn how to best get started in the real estate industry, find sellers, capture a buyer's attention and list properties to sell quickly. For more information on **Weichert, Realtors-Porter Properties**, contact Stacey Sanders at (334.887.2070 or staceys@porterproperties.com).

MEMBER NEWS

Visit our Community Calendar at www.opelikachamber.com for more details.

EAMC Mend Program Provides Recovery Services to Tornado Victims

Established by EAMC as a community-wide effort to provide recovery services to individuals and families affected by the March 3 tornadoes that hit in Lee County. Mend brings together the many local service organizations, churches, civic groups and businesses, along with national and state organizations, to work on long-term recovery efforts. Mend's mission is to ensure that all affected by tragedy and disaster are able to fully recover physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually. [More Information](#)

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

Southern Union State Community College • Technical Building 7, 1st 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. [Flyer](#)

Davis Direct Offers Display Graphics

www.davisdirect.com • 1006 Opelika Road • Auburn

Davis Direct now offers banners, display graphics and other wide-format printing. For more information on Davis Direct, call 877.277.0878 or email ronnie@davisdirect.net.

Ware Jewelers Celebrating 73rd Anniversary Sale

Ends April 20 • Tiger Town in Opelika / S. College Street in Auburn

Serving their customers since 1946, Ware's will have discounts in every department up to 46% off. Don't miss this great anniversary sale!

Jewelry By Design (JBD) Bridal Event

590 North Dean Road • Auburn

JBD is now offering 0% interest for 60 month or 20% off cash purchases. Walk in and apply for their Special April Promotion and get your FREE 3-Piece Jewelry Cleaning Set! For more information call 334.821.9940. [Flyer](#)

East University Veterinary Hospital

April 17 • 10 am

The hospital will be upgrading their phone and internet system to serve their clients better. The upgrade will begin at 10 am. The phones and internet will be down approximately 1 hour.

Granger, Thagard & Associates Auction

April 18 • 1 pm • 2300 Woodcrest Place • Birmingham, AL

This auction is for a home and two lots located in Birmingham. [Details](#)

Eggs-Citing Things Happening at Opelika Parks & Recreation

• Flashlight Egg Hunt • April 18

7:30 pm • Moore Stadium • 3rd-5th 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 2nd 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 2nd Grade & Younger should bring their baskets to gather more than 25,000 Eggs!

Pursell Farms Upcoming Events

- **Easter Weekend At The Farm** ● April 19 – 21 ● Hamilton Place
1971 Marble Valley Road ● Sylacauga, AL

- **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 & 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.

Adams Beverages Hosting LifeSouth Blood Drive

April 19 ● 10 am – 3 pm ● 2800 Wyndham Industrial Drive ● Opelika

Adams Beverages will also provide lunch for those giving. Bring your family!
Every Drop Counts!

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.

Opelika City Schools Board of Education Meeting

April 23 ● 4 pm ● 300 Simmons Street ● Opelika

5th 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.

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

- Race ● 5:30 pm

[Details and Race Application](#)

Southern Union Adult Education Open House

April 30 ● 4 – 6 pm ● 1701 Lafayette Parkway ● Opelika

There will be refreshments and door prizes, but more importantly, you will be able to see the many FREE services they offer to the community. The population of students they serve is the adults who left high school before graduation and adults who are English Language Learners. They have GED Preparation and a High School Diploma option for students who are 19 years and older. They also have short-term certificates available for their students to help them move into the direction of a specific career path. For more information, call 334.745.6437, ext. 5331.

10th 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 and for information see www.cycleofservice.arm-al.org.

Graduation Brunch At Ariccia Cucina

May 4 – 6 ● 11 am – 2 pm ● 241 S. College Street ● Auburn

Celebrate graduation in style! Enjoy a buffet brunch from 11 am – 2 pm followed by the regular dinner menu. Reservations are required and may be made by calling 334.844.5140 or clicking [Here](#).

Southside Speakeasy Event to Benefit Arts Association of East Alabama

May 10

Imagine you are dressed in your best cocktail attire ready for a night out, and your destination is a secret! A limo will be waiting to take you to the exclusive undisclosed location. Your driver will reveal a code word that gets you in the door. There will be heavy hors d'oeuvres, a cash bar, live jazz for listening and dancing and other surprises! Proceeds from The Southside Speakeasy will go to The Arts Association of East Alabama in support of its more than 50-year history of bringing the best of the arts to the Opelika / Auburn community. [Purchase Tickets Here](#).

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.

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-----

SUSCC Hosting Adult Education Free Computer Literacy Class

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>.

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](#)

Software Made Simple QuickBooks Training

223 12th 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.

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

Heroes Hub of East Alabama Hosting Employment Workshop

April 25 • 9 am – 3:30 pm • SUSCC • 301 Lake Condy Road • Opelika

During the workshop, you will engage in activities to prepare you for the Veteran's Hiring event which is scheduled for the following day, April 26. Registration is free. Participating in this workshop guarantees you a ticket to the Veteran's Hiring Event. For more information, contact Greg Leikvold, gleikvold@suscc.edu. [Register Here](#)

The Auburn University Office of Professional and Continuing Education Upcoming Events

• **Korean American Grassroots Conference • April 27 • 8am – 4 pm**

The conference is organized by the Korea Corner, in joint efforts with the national Korean American Grassroots Conference in Washington, D.C., the Overseas Koreans Foundation, and the Alabama Governor's Office of Minority Affairs. They welcome all Korean Americans residing in the State of Alabama to register and attend. In particular, they strongly recommend young adults, college students and high school students to attend. The seats are limited to 90; registration required.

[Register Today!](#)

• **Graphic Design Online: Up and Running on Adobe Photoshop • May 6 – June 3 (Online)**

In this hands-on course, we will work through examples of real-world creative challenges you will encounter as you learn to master Adobe Photoshop CC. They will start from the basics and work up to more challenging and exciting techniques. You'll learn about adjusting colors, masking, retouching, and manipulating images. As a graphic designer, you will learn what it takes to work efficiently and effectively, gaining the skills needed to add Photoshop into your creative toolkit. This course is offered as part of the new online graphic design program.

[Register Today!](#)

• **AU Leadership Presents Lori King Taylor: Emotional Intelligence • May 16 • 8 am – 12 pm**

Emotional intelligence is the capacity to be aware of, control, and express one's emotions, and to handle interpersonal relationships judiciously and with empathy. As a leadership tool, emotional intelligence provides a leader with the ability to analyze, interpret, and assess the environment and use that

information to inform the decision making process. In this emotional intelligence leadership course, you will increase your personal leadership by learning how to manage your emotions in your most difficult moments, enabling you to perform and lead at your best, and connect with others in a more meaningful way. **This session is recognized by SHRM to offer Professional Development Credits (PDCs).*

[Register Today!](#)

● **Hap Arnold Lecture Series (Free and open to the public.)** ● **May 16** ● **6 – 8 pm**

In partnership with the Office of Professional and Continuing Education, the Hap Arnold Lecture Series is an outreach effort of the United States Air Force Air War College with the goal of fostering direct discussion and exchange between senior military officers and the public on matters related to national security. The platform employs a panel of senior officers, designated for their military experience, academic accomplishments and expertise in the area of national security. Held annually, this program was created to foster dialogue and to expand understanding between senior military leaders and the surrounding communities.

[Register Today!](#)

[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](#)

[Harbert College of Business Recruiter Summit](#)

May 15 ● **8 am – 3:30 pm** ● **Auburn University CASIC Building**

Space is limited and registration is required. The cost to attend is \$50, which includes breakfast and lunch. This summit qualifies for 4 CEU credit with both SHRM and HRCI.

Topics include:

- **Best Practices for Creating a World Class Internship Program**
- **Harbert College of Business Update**
- **Update on Current Hiring Practices and Strategies – What the Data Tells Us**
- **Panel Discussion with Harbert College of Business Program Representatives**

[Register Here](#)

-----**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

● **Bath & Body Works** ● **April 25** ● **10 am – 12:30 pm (CST)**

Please Dress for Success and bring your resume.

Positions: Key Holder ● Sales Associate ● Assistant Manager ● Top Seller

-----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
- Hometown Furniture & Appliance Grand Opening ● May 17
- 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 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.

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