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April 3, 2019



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

- 4/5 **Carswell Insurance Agency Ribbon Cutting (& Lunch)**
11 am • 2352 Pepperell Parkway • Opelika
- 4/5 **Firing Pin Shooting Sports Ribbon Cutting**
4 pm • 2195 1st Avenue • Opelika
- 4/10 **Connections Breakfast**
8 am • Tazikis Mediterranean Café • 2119 Interstate Drive, Suite C4
Tiger Town • Opelika -----*Open to all Chamber Members (Breakfast served)*
- 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
- 4/25 **Prestige Properties Business After Hours**
5 – 7 pm • The Preserve • Auburn

Having Trouble Registering Online?

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

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), 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.

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!!!!

78th Annual Meeting

July 10 • 11:30 am – 1 pm

Opelika High School Indoor Practice Field

Sponsored by: Opelika Ford Chrysler Dodge Jeep

H & S Commercial & Industrial Supplies & Services

-----CONGRATULATIONS-----

• **The City of Opelika** is honored to acknowledge **Lori Huguley, CEcD, Opelika's Economic Development Director**, for receiving the **2019 Site Selectors Guild Excellence in Economic Development Award** during the Guild's annual conference held this week in Salt Lake City, Utah. This prestigious award is presented to outstanding Economic Development Officers who have gone above and beyond in their work.

• **Robyn Bridges Elected To Board of Directors for the Southeast Tourism Society**

Robyn Bridges, vice president of Auburn-Opelika Tourism, has been elected to a two-year term on the board of the Southeast Tourism Society (STS). Founded in 1983, STS promotes travel and tourism throughout a 12-state region. The organization focuses on Education, Advocacy, Recognition and Networking for travel and tourism industry professionals and their respective destinations. Bridges will serve on the STS board through 2021.

MEMBER NEWS

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

The Lewis Cooper Jr. Memorial Library (Cooper Library) Announces Plans to Expand Personal Finance Collections • 200 South 6th Street • 334.705.5380 • 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, 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](#)

Opelika City Schools Hosting Kindergarten Registration –Last Day

April 3 • 8 am – 3 pm • Primary Schools

For more information call the OCS office, 334.745.9700.

To be enrolled in kindergarten, a child must have their 5th birthday no later than September 2.

You will need to bring:

Child’s Birth Certificate

Child’s State of Alabama Certificate of Immunization

Child’s Social Security Card

Proof of Residency (2 current utility bills (electric, gas or water) showing the name and address)

Parent or Guardian must show a picture ID (driver’s license, military ID, non-driver identification)

- | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| ● Carver Primary | 307 Carver Avenue | 334.745.9712 |
| ● Jeter Primary | 700 Jeter Avenue | 334.745.9723 |
| ● Southview Primary | 2712 Marvyn Parkway | 334.745.9711 |

Praise 88.7 FM's Spring Praise -A -Thon is Coming Up

April 3, 4, 5 • 6 am to 6 pm

Praise 88.7 is a non-profit Contemporary Christian Radio Station reaching fourteen counties in our area. The Praise -A -Thon is to help cover our expenses for part of the year. There will be interesting guests and music. They appreciate all those who gave in their Fall Praise A Thon. Any questions, call 334.705.8005.

Cops on Top Fundraiser

April 5 • 8 am – 8 pm • Auburn & Opelika Kroger Stores

This event is to raise funds and awareness for the Law Enforcement Torch Run and the Special Olympics Alabama - Lee County program. This event is a great opportunity to meet our local officers who work tirelessly throughout the year to keep our community safe and the amazing athletes involved in our local Special Olympics programs. Stop by and visit our athletes and special guests who will be joining them throughout the day!

Kroger – Opelika • 2460 Enterprise Drive • Opelika (Tiger Town)

Kroger – Auburn • 300 North Dean Road • Auburn

James Bros. Bikes Bikepacking Weekend

April 5 – 7 • Talladega National Forest (I-20) • Heflin, AL

This spring, James Bros. Bikes will host a more advanced bikepacking adventure with your favorite crew. No support vehicles, only you and your bike to transport everything you need for two nights/three days in the Talladega National Forest. Visit their [Facebook page](#) for more details.

2nd Annual Wolf Dash 5K & 1M

April 6 • 8 – 11 am (CST) • Lawton Chiles High School

The Wolf Dash is a fun, family, school, community oriented event that raises funds for the Lawton Chiles HS Foundation and the March of Dimes. The 5K and 1M fun, run/walk start promptly at 8 am at the bus ramp of Chiles HS. There will also be a live DJ, yummy food, a dunking booth, a bouncy house, shave ice, business / school club tables with fun things to explore, awards for top finishers and door prizes.

[Register Here](#)

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

• April 6 – 7 & 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.

April 6 6:30 pm

April 7 3 pm

April 12 & 13 6:30 pm

April 14 3 pm

• Under the Sea Tea Party

April 7 • 1:30 pm • OHS Bulldog Café • Opelika High School

Admission is \$5 per child. Please reserve your spot by email, ohts@opelikaschools.org.

Domestic Violence Intervention Center Hosting Easter Egg Hunt

April 6 • 10 am • Covington Park • Opelika

Businesses or organizations interested in participating in the egg hunt as a vendor should email Kathryn Cooper, k.cooper@dvicestatal.org.

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. www.auburn.edu/projectuplift / 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 • 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

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.

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](#)

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.

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-----

AU Office of Professional and Continuing Education Upcoming Events

● **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](#)

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 10	Excel Level 2, Level 2	\$225 per person
● 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

- **The Hotel at Auburn University** ● **April 4** ● **10 am – 1 pm / 2 -3 pm (CST)**
Apply online, www.auhcc.com before the Job Fair.

<i>Housekeeping Room Attendant ---Full Time</i>	<i>\$12.25 / hour</i>
<i>Laundry Attendant –Full Time</i>	<i>\$12.25 / hour</i>
<i>Lobby Attendant – Full Time</i>	<i>\$12.25 / hour</i>
<i>Housekeeping Supervisor ---Part Time</i>	<i>\$14.65 / hour</i>

- **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 - 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

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