



MARCH SPONSOR

March 27, 2019



3150 Capps Way
Opelika

334-737-5155

www.home2suites.com

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

- 3/28 Business Over Breakfast with Dr. Joe Summers**
Presenting Sponsor: **Glynn Smith Chevrolet – Buick - GMC**
7:30 am • Saugahatchee Country Club • Opelika
- 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**
8 am • Tazikis Mediterrean Café • 2119 Interstate Drive, Suite C4 • Tiger Town

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](#)

EAA Pre-Performance Series Reception / Business After Hours

April 2 • 5 – 6:45 pm • Red Clay Brewery

This Reception and Business After Hours will take place before the Tenting, Tine Thing Helseth Brass Ensemble that begins at 7:30 pm. [Purchase Performance Tickets](#)

What is an Opportunity Zone?

April 25 • 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 Flachsbar, 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, contact Pam, psmith@opelikachamber.com.

20th Annual Member Golf Tournament

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

The saying is that more business deals are made on the golf course than in the boardroom. Whether you love the game of golf, or just want to have fun, this tournament is one that you won't want to miss! There are a few team spots left in the morning flight and some sponsorship opportunities as well. Contact Jill, jrobinson@opelikachamber.com for all the details.

Leadership Lee County Searching for 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](#)

-----CONGRATULATIONS-----

- **Airview Church of God** is hosting their Homecoming on June 1st. The Church's Korean service is a regular event now.
- **Medical Arts Pharmacy** recently celebrated their 50th Anniversary.
- **Victory Designs** just celebrated 9 years in business!
- **Two Opelika manufacturers are expanding** – an investment of \$18.5 million in capital and 41 new jobs!
 Pharmavite – the maker of Nature Made Vitamins
 Mando America – a producer of brake calipers and suspension modules

-----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](#)

Better Bodies Massage Institute’s New Pricing Options

Receive a wonderful massage and get a discount for cash payments! They accept credit cards, debit cards, and FSA/HAS cards. Please take a look at their times of operation and schedule one today! [Details](#)

Opelika City Schools Board of Education Meeting

March 28 ● 4 pm ● 300 Simmons Street ● Opelika

For more information, call 334.745.9700 or visit www.opelikaschools.org.

Lee County Literacy Coalition “Reading Between the Wines”

March 28 ● 6 – 9 pm ● Saugahatchee Country Club ● 3800 Bent Creek Road ● Opelika

For more information, call 334.705.0001

Opelika Main Street Hosting 5th Saturday Sales

March 30 ● 10 am – 5 pm ● Downtown Opelika

Visit all the downtown shops and restaurants and get some great deals! Easter, Graduation and Mother’s Day are right around the corner. Find some unique presents or gift cards are always loved.

Opelika Azalea & Dogwood Trail Biking Tour

March 30 ● 10 am ● Corner of 2nd Avenue & 8th Street

Keep Opelika Beautiful & the Opelika Bicycle Advisory Committee are sponsoring this fun event. If you like to ride and want to see all the gorgeous dogwoods and azaleas now in bloom, just join the group on March 30. The Trail opened on March 21st. Enjoy at your leisure.

Opelika City Schools Hosting Kindergarten Registration

April 1 – 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

Project Uplift Mentor Training Sessions for April

April 1 or 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)

8th Annual Going Blue for Autism Awareness & Safety Event

April 2 ● 5:15 – 7:15 pm ● 215 9th Street ● Courthouse Square ● Opelika

Wear **Blue** and come to the annual **World Autism Awareness Day** program. There will be live music, with Clay Barker. Mayor Gary Fuller will present the Proclamation at 5:30 pm with a group photo in front of the Blue Fountain at 5:45 pm. Meet with OPD, OFD, LCSO, First Responders and also tour their respective vehicles. Safety ID kits will be done on site, with a chalk zone, and bubbles. This event is open to the public. Come and show your support for individuals and their families living with Autism in our area!

East Alabama Arts Performance Series: Tenting, Tine Thing Helseth Brass Ensemble

April 2 ● 7:30 – 9 pm ● Opelika Performing Center for the Arts ● Opelika High School

Tine continues embarking on regular tours with her ten-piece, all-female brass ensemble, tenThing. An idea that started in 2007 as a fun and exciting project to pursue with her closest musical friends, the group has gone on to play to numerous European audiences. [Purchase Ticket Here](#).

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. We appreciate all those who gave in our 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.

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 12 & 13	6:30 pm
April 7	3 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@dviceastal.org.

Pursell Farms: 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 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.*

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.

-----EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES-----

AU Office of Professional and Continuing Education Upcoming Events

- **Personal Branding for Professionals • April 2**

Are you struggling through a job search or nervous to get started in the process? This online course, will lead you through the process with guided materials to help you discover your strengths that define your personal brand and create a stellar resume to stand out from the competition.

[Register Here](#)

- **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 17** **QuickBooks 2019 Level 1** **\$250 per person**
- **April 24** **QuickBooks 2019 Level 2** **\$250 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](#)

-----JOB OPPORTUNITIES-----

Job Fairs & Workshops at Goodwill Career Center

April 4 • 10 am – 1 pm (CST) / 2 – 3 pm (CST) • 3740 Pepperell Parkway

334.275.4815 • www.goodwillsr.org

- **The Hotel at Auburn University & Dixon Center Job Fair**

Apply online, www.auhcc.com before the Job Fair.

- **Housekeeping Room Attendant – Full Time - \$12.25 per hour**
- **Laundry Attendant – Full Time - \$12.25 per hour**
- **Lobby Attendant – Full Time - \$12.25 per hour**
- **Housekeeping Supervisor – Part Time - \$14.65 per hour**

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

APRIL

- Opelika Parks & Recreation Movie ● April 12
- A-Day at Auburn University ● April 13
- Opelika Parks & Rec: Flashlight Egg Hunt ● April 18
- Easter Weekend at Pursell Farms ● April 19 – 21
- Opelika Parks & Rec: Underwater Egg Hunt ● April 19
- Opelika Parks & Rec: Easter on the Square ● April 20
- EAA Performance Series: The King and I ● April 22
- Business After Hours Prestige Properties ● April 25
- Pursell Farms: Open Fire Cast Iron Cooking with Sea Island Forge ● April 26

Character Trait: **COURAGE**

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.

[Click here if you need help registering.](#)

601 Avenue A - Phone 334.745.4861- Fax: 334.749.4740

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