

Communique

Communication: The Key to Successful Business



MAY 2010

Bessemer

Area Chamber of Commerce

UPCOMING EVENTS

05/14 & 15

Alabama State
Truckers Assoc.
Competition
@ Bessemer Civic
Center

05/18 Board of
Director's Mtg.

Noon @ Chamber
[Exec. Committee
meets at 11:30 am]

05/22 1st Annual BBQ &
Blues Festival at

Bob Sykes
Barbecue at
Tannehill State
Park's Farley Field at
Noon

05/24 2010 Jefferson
County Political
Forum @ Davis

Middle School at
6pm - Registration
Required

05/26 Scholarship Baked
Ziti Luncheon at

First Presbyterian
Church 10am-1pm
(Order form attached)

05/31 Chamber Closed
Memorial Day

06/01 Ambassador
Meeting @ 8:15 am
at Chamber

06/05 Farmers Market
Every Saturday
7am-Noon @
Watermark Place
(Rain or Shine)

06/07 City Wide Prayer
Breakfast Chamber
@ 7:30 am

06/12 Health Expo
@ Watermark Place
10am-4pm

Membership Appreciation Night Held at Woodward

Close to 200 members and guests gathered at the Woodward Country Club on Friday night April 30th to participate in the Annual Casino Night, showing appreciation for the many members who make the Chamber possible. Great food furnished by Cook's Catering and the exciting games along with the outstanding job of hosting by our Ambassadors made the evening another success. The silent auction was a hit and the live auction was tremendously competitive. Prizes, laughter, and fun made it again an evening celebrating our members. Woodward Country Club is an excellent venue for the event and all attending want to come back. (More pictures inside)



Enjoying
Casino Night,
l-r: Syble
Lamons,
Tammy
Tucker, Steve
Self, Connie
Fuell, and
LeeAnn Best.



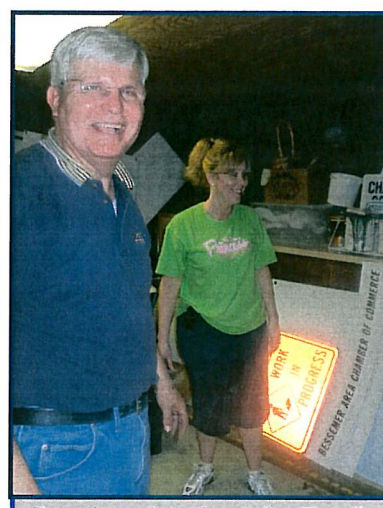
Chairman David Darby
and wife Susan enjoy the
patio at Woodward.

Community Service Week-April 19-24th

Friday, April 23rd found Chamber staff and volunteers clearing out the basement of the Chamber building as part of the Community Service Week which was held the week of April 19-24th. Heavy rain affected the work on Saturday as various projects were planned across the area. Ranging from assistance at Tannehill State Park to cleaning the Chamber projects were important to making our community better. Seen working were groups from the Navy/Marine Reserve Center, The Foundry, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and more. Chairman David Darby led the volunteers and staff at the Chamber in that effort and hauled off at least two truck loads of stuff. It was another profitable day. Governor Bob Riley proclaimed the Week as a State wide Community Service week. As you can, lend a hand to making our community look better by picking up, trimming, painting, or tearing down all the unsightly spots in Bessemer.



Chairman David Darby working hard
at Community Service project.



Ronnie and Ambassador Tyndl
Roberts working in Chamber
basement.

Ten Quotes to Make Your Day:

1. Ideas won't work unless you do.
2. Nobody raises his own reputation by lowering others.
3. Live as you wish your kids would.
4. Swallowing your pride seldom leads to indigestion.
5. People don't fail, they give up.
6. A smooth sea never made a skillful sailor.
7. Make friends before you need them.
8. It's not the load that breaks you down... it's the way you carry it.
9. The greatest of all faults is to imagine you have none.
10. Feed your faith and doubt will starve to death.

McCalla Family Dentistry Hosts Grand Opening

On April 27th brothers Dr. Ted Poczatek and Dr. John Poczatek hosted a large number of Chamber Ambassadors, patients, and well wishers to the grand opening of their new dental offices located on Pocahontas Road behind Premiere Cinemas. It is an outstanding facility, modern and spacious. The dental care available is superior and the staff and dentists are eager to make your visit a pleasant one. Contact them at 477-4242 or email mccalladental@gmail.com or go to their website at www.mccalladental.com.



McCalla Dental cuts ribbon at new facility.

Finally, The New Courthouse is Open

Jefferson County Commission President Betty Fine Collins welcomed a large crowd of citizens, judges, court workers, elected officials, Chamber members, and Ambassadors to the official opening of the new court house facility on 2nd Avenue. There was a ribbon cutting presided over by Jefferson County Judge Scott Vowell and tours of the building were provided. Representing the City were Mayor May and Council members, Sarah Belcher and Earl Cochran.



Commission President Betty Fine Collins speaks as Commissioner Shelia Smoot, Bessemer Council members Sarah Belcher and Earl Cochran look on.

BankSmartSM



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David C. Darby
Area President and
Commercial Lender

205-665-3361

BankTrust

banktrustonline.com Member FDIC


SPOTLIGHT OF SUCCESS:

Flint Hill Baptist Church
Rev. Bruce McCartney
1630 Powder Plant Rd SW
Bessemer, AL 35022
Phone 205.424.2630



Flint Hill Baptist Church was originated in 1904 as a community church meeting at the site of the Flint Hill Lodge. In 1915 the church was organized as Oak Hill Baptist Church and later in 1930 changed to Flint Hill Baptist and in 1956 it moved to its present location. Located at 1630 Powder Plant Road the church offers services beginning at 9:45 am on Sunday mornings with Life on the Hill, a worship service at 11:00 am and three age specific Wednesday night sessions. The church also offers a Christian centered K-12th grade private school. Rev. Bruce McCartney heads a main staff of 6 employees and total employees of 50.

Being a member of the Chamber has helped the church in the following ways: "being informed of community events and other business related activities, also advertisement." Emphasizing their great blend of worship music and dynamic preaching the church invites all to visit in person or go to their website at www.flinthill.net or call them at 424-2630.

View the
Bessemer Area Chamber of Commerce Calendar
(with event flyers)
@ www.bessemerchamber.com
or on
Facebook

It's Your Business

By: Ronnie Acker, President

As we prepare for the election season we must be aware of what is at stake. Each vote for any elected office means you as the voter have put your trust in and expectations for a man or woman who will make decisions for our future. Vote wisely! Encourage your employees to vote, make time for them to go and vote, and set the example by voting yourself.

We face some tough times economically but also in our security and national moral compass. We have some politicians boasting of their Christianity but acting the opposite once they are elected. Some say they are acting in a religious way when their actions, attitude, and morality are anything but religious.

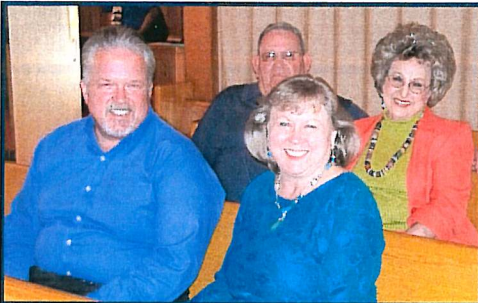
Although all are elected to be servants of the people, many politicians feel they are above the law, that we the people owe them respect, that we the people owe them much more than they deserve. They will say they act out of moral righteousness but do they live in moral righteousness?

So as we prepare to elect some new leaders, as we evaluate the record of those now serving, and as we determine who we will put our trust in make sure that the expectations you have of these individuals are set high. Make sure that you know who tells the truth and who supports your values. For our business community we need to elect men and women who appreciate the business community, who support the free enterprise system, and who will realize that in Bessemer our businesses account for about 75% of the tax revenue brought in to the City through ad valorem, licenses, fees, employment and sales tax. Make every vote count for leaders who do what they say and do not hide what they are doing.

Chamber News

Good Friday Services Hosted By First Christian Church

Rev. Kim Pilkington and First Christian Church hosted the City-wide Good Friday services held on April 2nd. Rev. Reginald Calvert, New Jerusalem Baptist Church, was the speaker and did an outstanding job. A crowd of close to 100 attended and there was an excellent lunch provided by Chamber Ambassador Sarah Beasley and the Chamber staff following.

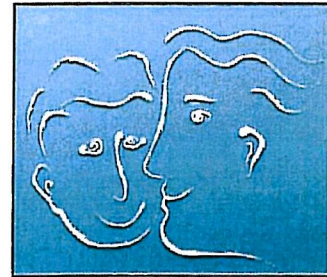


Chairman David Darby, Susan Darby, Nick Lamons and Ambassador Coordinator Syble Lamons at Good Friday services.

Chamber Partners with Birmingham Business Alliance to Host Political Forum

McAdory High School was the site of a political forum for Jefferson County Commission seat for District 3 on April 19th. All candidates participated including incumbent Bobby Humphries. Lasting about 90 minutes the forum addressed specific questions about the financial situation in the County and the Sewer debt. The theme of most of the candidates was openness and trust. The Chamber partnered with the Birmingham Business Alliance to host the event and over 70 citizens turned out to hear what their prospective candidates had to offer. This is a critical election not only at the State and County levels but in our City's election. There is a need for honest, truthful and courageous leaders. The Bessemer area needs to move in a direction that builds, not divides, and is open and transparent to all especially in the handling of City finances.

Eight candidates for District 3 Jefferson County Commission squared off at political forum.



**MCCALLA ORTHODONTICS
&
PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY**

Olga Sanchez-Hernandez, D.M.D., M.S., M.S.

205-477-8004



Minister's Committee Meets to Plan National Day of Prayer Service

The Minister's Committee, chaired by board member Rev Doug Caddell, met on April 8th to plan the 2010 National Day of Prayer Service to be held on May 6th at First Presbyterian Church downtown beginning at 11:45 am. Former University of Alabama and NFL football player Jeremiah Castille will be the featured speaker, thanks to Rev. Bill Heintz of The Foundry. A lunch will be provided following the event in the Church auditorium for a small cost. The Foundry will have music for the event and Rev. Randy Kesler and the First Presbyterian membership will be the usual outstanding hosts.

IRS Audits the Chamber - We Looked Good!

After an exhausting three days with the IRS Agent assigned to perform the audit of the Chamber, the Chamber looked great in its audit. Chamber member and accountant Larry Russell labored with the Chamber staff, specifically Jean Brown, to provide all documentation, reports, receipts, etc. as requested. We were not perfect but almost! Thanks to Larry and Jean for making this audit of the Chamber such a success. You would be proud of the care taken with the funds entrusted to your Chamber and Larry and Jean make that happen.

MORE PICTURES



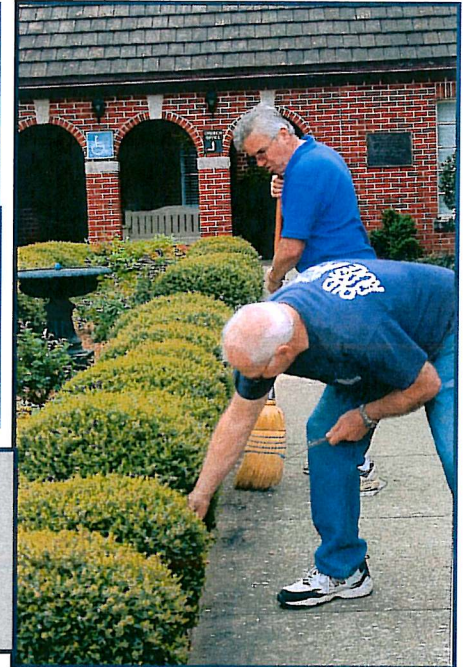
Ronnie cleaning at the Chamber for Community Service Week.



Ambassadors Sarah Beasley and Kenneth Gulley



Below - Chamber staff members Jean Brown and Mary Milan welcome members to Woodward.



→ First Presbyterian Church Members spruce up their church grounds to support Community Service Week.



← Councilman Jesse Matthews, Ambassadors Connie Fuell and Kenneth Gulley, and board member Julie Bell.

→ Commission President Betty Fine Collins, Judges Scott Vowell and Teresa Petelos, and Commissioner Shelia Smoot cut ribbon at new court house.



Chairman David Darby and Dr. Jeremy Burns, Chairman of the Casino Night Committee.



Mona Moore, Sarah Belcher and Ernestine McNair enjoying Blackjack.



Reid S. Christopher, MD
Wallace B. Purdy, MD

Board Certified, Internal Medicine

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2010 AMBASSADORS

Coordinator

Syble Lamons, Retired

Co-Coordinator

Minnie Roper, Retired

Secretary

Nelda Pate, Retired

Kay Baggett, Retired

Sarah Beasley, Joe Beasley Memorial Foundation, Inc.

Sarah Belcher, Bessemer City Council

LeeAnn Best, Lawson State - Bessemer

Leigh Dewitt, Utility Auditing

Regina Doriety, Lawson State - Bessemer

Connie Fuell, Konica Minolta

Kenneth Gulley, Lawson State - Birmingham

Lisa Hester

Louise Hickey, Legacy YMCA

Doris Lewis, City of Bessemer

Ernestine McNair, Liberty National

Claire Mitchell, Bessemer Beauty Institute

Tyndl Land-Roberts, Individual

Diane Sparks, Legacy YMCA

Katherine Taylor, Favor Realty

Tammy Tucker, Golden Living Center Meadowood

Ericka Watson, Individual

2010 Board of Directors

Chairman

David Darby, BankTrust

Past Chairman

Dr. Deborah Horn, Miles College

Chairman Elect

Keith Pennington, Medical West

Treasurer / Finance Chairman

Lynn Joyce, First Financial Bank

Dr. Cynthia Anthony, Lawson State

Julie Bell, State Farm Insurance

Dr. Jeremy Burns, Eagle Vision

Jim Byram, Development Solutions

Doug Caddell, Canaan Baptist Church

Derek Camp, Team Fever / Bama Fever

Gene Cochran, Liberty National Life Ins.

Randy Donaldson, Alabama Gas Co.

Don Holmes, Holmes Oil

Tom Nicholson, US Pipe & Foundry Co.

Billy Parsons, CPA

Erik Raymond, Rural Metro Ambulance

Allen Rice, ITT Technical Institute

Pam Segars-Morris, Sebros Realty

Steve Self, Buffalo Rock Company

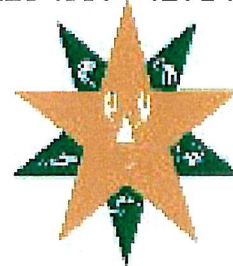
Van Sykes, Bob Sykes BBQ

Devron Veasley, Bessemer Business Incubation System

Eddie Vines, District Judge



*Specializing
in Banquets
of all types.*



**2007
Centennial
Retailer
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★★★★★ FIVE STAR RATING ★★★★★

*"The food is excellent and it really is new and
The restaurant has an amazing history and remains of
use to it's tradition through generations."
The Birmingham News - December 2007*



Make A Difference

Register.....VOTE

2010 Jefferson County Candidates

[FOR ELECTIONS TO BE HELD JUNE 1, 2010]

Political Forum

Monday, May 24, 2010 @ 6 pm

**Don't Miss This
Political Opportunity
Sign Up
Today**

**Davis Middle School
1224 Clarendon Avenue, Bessemer**

Candidates Investment = \$200

Deadline to register Thursday, May 20, 2010 @ Noon

- ★ Post Advertising - Candidate information will be featured in local newspaper on Wed. May 26th
- ☆ Pre & Post Event Advertising
- ★ Flyers will be mailed to all the local churches and businesses
- ★ Candidates will be allowed to give a 1 minute opening and a 1 minute closing
- ☆ Candidates will be asked to address 1 question based on major concerns
- ★ Flyers will be distributed throughout Jefferson County informing citizens about the forum

ONLY PAID CANDIDATES WILL BE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE AND DISTRIBUTE CAMPAIGN LITERATURE

Fax or Deliver Completed Form & Payment Info. to 321 18th Str. N., Bessemer, AL 35020

Indicate Payment method: Check Credit Card (Visa / MC) Cash

Make Checks Payable to the Bessemer Area Chamber of Commerce

ATTACH PHOTO

Name: _____ Seeking office: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Email address: _____ Contact #'s: _____

BESSEMER AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Baked Ziti Lunch

Proceeds will benefit the Ora H. Foster Community Service Scholarship Fund & the American Red Cross Heroes Campaign

1 dinner for \$7.00

Homemade Baked Ziti with Meat

{Italian Sausage & Beef covered with three cheeses, Ziti noodles & topped with marinara sauce}

Green Beans

Garlic Bread, Cookie

Beverage

(Choice of Pepsi, Diet Pepsi or Sierra Mist)



OR

Feed 8 for \$55

{sides included}

1 dinner for \$7.00

Homemade Vegetable Baked Ziti

(NO MEAT)

covered with three cheeses, Ziti noodles & topped with marinara sauce}

Green Beans

Garlic Bread, Cookie

Beverage

(Choice of Pepsi, Diet Pepsi or Sierra Mist)

Wednesday, May 26th, 10 am - 1 pm

First Presbyterian Church - 1723 Third Avenue North

~ Delivery available for 15 or more orders within 15 miles ~

Dine In or Carry Out

Complete the entire order form below, and fax it to the Chamber at 425-4979, or e-mail your order to mmilan1@bellsouth.net no later than Friday, May 21st.



Total # of Individual Orders: Meat Vegetarian

Total # of Pans of 8: Meat Vegetarian

Total Drinks: Pepsi Dt. Pepsi Sierra Mist

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE = \$ _____

PICKUP TIME: _____ **DELIVERY TIME:** _____ Phone#: _____

Company: _____ **Contact:** _____

Street Address _____

PAYMENT: Check Cash Visa MC Card # _____ Exp. Date: _____

Name/Business on Card _____

{Checks should be made payable to: Bessemer Area Chamber of Commerce}

Orders: (1) _____ (6) _____

(2) _____ (7) _____

(3) _____ (8) _____

(4) _____ (9) _____

(5) _____ (10) _____