



Seth Hammett to Speak at Business Over Breakfast

The next Business Over Breakfast on October 20 will feature Seth Hammett as the guest speaker, the newly appointed director of the Alabama Economic Development Alliance (AEDA). The breakfast will be held at the Event Center Downtown, beginning at 7:30 a.m.

Born and raised in Andalusia, Alabama, Hammett got his first taste of politics as the Chamber of Commerce President in his hometown. In 1978, He won the state representative election for the 92nd District and continued to serve as representative until recently when Governor Bentley appointed him to his current position. The AEDA was established to more effectively and efficiently utilize the job creation and workforce development assets for the state.

The cost for the event is \$20 for chamber members or \$25 for prospective Chamber members. Please call the Chamber at (334) 745-4861 to register or you may register at www.opelika.com and click on the Business Over Breakfast event.

Southern Crossings Receives Bronze Award at 2011 Retailers of the Year



Southern Crossings in Downtown Opelika was nominated by the Chamber for the 2011 Retailer of the Year award in Alabama.

Recently, at the 2011 Retail Day held in Birmingham, these hardworking ladies received the Bronze Award for their efforts! Southern Crossings has been in business since 1995 when a group of ladies, wanting to save a building in Downtown Opelika, decided to open a gift shop. The owners have changed over the years, but the pleasant and friendly atmosphere has remained, as well as the variety of merchandise. Love McGehee, Kathy Penton and Pam Hope, owners, strive to find the new, unusual, one of kind items that make their store so unique. They offer baby and bridal registries, Auburn and Alabama items and lots of accent pieces for home decorating. They also carry items for those people who are always last on the list because you just don't know what to get them. Congratulations, Ladies, a job well done!

Halloween Events

Tuesday, October 25 • FALL FESTIVAL and CHILDREN'S CARNIVAL • 6 - 8 p.m.

W. James Samford Soccer Complex • Sportsplex and Aquatics Center
Children age 12 and under • Tickets: \$.25

Children wear costumes, bring treat bags and enjoy hayrides, miniature train rides, prizes, games, inflatable giant slide, moon walk, Spiderman dunking booth, fishing booth and apple bobbing, etc. Route 66 will be the musical entertainment.

Monday, October 31 • City-Wide Trick or Treat Night •

Monday, October 31 • Opelika Main Street: Howl-o-Ween • 5 - 7 p.m.

Historic Downtown Opelika • 8th Street & Railroad Avenue

5 p.m. Canine trick or treating at local downtown merchants

6 p.m. Dog Parade and Costume Contest

For more information, contact Pam Powers-Smith, info@opelikamainstreet.org or visit www.opelikamainstreet.org. Register at Taylor Made Designs.

Chamber offering FREE Microsoft Office 2010 & Windows 7 Workshop

Led by Becky Parnell, Software Made Simple, this workshop will feature step-by-step demonstrations and helpful tips to efficiently use these new applications. The workshop, held at the Chamber, will be on October 11 or 19 from 12 - 1:30 p.m. Please call (334) 745-4861 to register.

Member News

Event Center Downtown: "Trash 2 Treasure", an Art Gala and Celebration Concert hosted by Gene and Jonna Chizik to benefit the families affected by the tornadoes in Dadeville and Lake Martin, will be 10/13 from 6 - 9 p.m. For more information, visit www.eventcenterdowntown.com or call (334) 705-5466.

Strategic HR Partners will offer HRCI credits for their **Six Sigma for Human Resources** workshop. The will be held on 10/20 & 21 at the Columbus Convention and Trade Center. For more information, call (706) 561-2465 or visit www.strategichrpartners.com.

EAMC, The American Cancer Society & Opelika Main Street will hosts its annual **"Think Pink"** walk on 10/8. Sponsorships are now available. Call (334) 528-5874 or visit www.eamcfoundation.org for more information.

Keep Opelika Beautiful's Electronics Recycling and Document Shredding is scheduled for 10/8 from 9 a.m to 1 p.m. at the Lee County Engineering Office located at 100 Orr Avenue. For more information, call KOB at (334) 749-4970.

Run to Read Jean Dean RIF will hold this 4th annual event on 10/22. Sponsorships are now available. For more information, please visit www.jeandeanrif.org or call Rich Bailey at (334) 663-2197.

The Lee Russell Council of Governments will hold **Medicare Enrollment** to answer questions about health insurance and to help people better understand Medicare benefits. The event will take place at 2207 Gateway Drive from 8:30 - 11 a.m. (CST). For more information, call 1-800-243-5463, ext. 233.

10/12 & 10/26 • 11/16 & 11/22 • 12/7

East Alabama Arts Association presents: **Civil War Voices** on 10/13, beginning at 7:30 p.m. The greatest conflict in the history of our nation comes to life! For more information, call (334) 749-8105 or email info@eastalabamaarts.org.

Chamber Meetings & Events

Chamber Meetings

Tuesday, 10/11 • Jr. Leadership Meeting • 8 a.m. • Chamber
Tuesday, 10/18 • Executive Board Meeting • 7:30 a.m. • Chamber
Tuesday, 10/18 • Ambassador Meeting • 12 Noon • Chamber
Tuesday, 10/18 • Governmental Affairs • 4 p.m. • Chamber
Wednesday, 10/19 • Board of Directors Meeting • 8 a.m. • Chamber

Chamber Events

10/11 • KOB Caboose Ribbon Cutting • 10 a.m. • Opelika Depot
10/11 • Microsoft Workshop • 12 -1:30 p.m. • Chamber
10/12 • Connections / New Members Breakfast • 7:30 a.m. • Saugahatchee
10/19 • Microsoft Workshop • 12 - 1:30 p.m. • Chamber
10/20 • Business Over Breakfast • 7:30 a.m. • Event Center Downtown

2011 Top States for Doing Business

For the second year in a row, Area Development has conducted a survey of a select group of highly respected location consultants who work with a nationwide client base, to name their top state choices in 12 site selection categories. Texas is far and away the consultant's #1 choice, but congratulations to Alabama for taking the #3 spot!

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| #1 Texas | #4 South Carolina | #7 North Carolina |
| #2 Georgia | #5 Indiana | #8 Tennessee |
| #3 ALABAMA | #6 Louisiana | #9 Mississippi |
| | | #10 California |

On the Tracks, a Food and Wine Event

The 12th Annual **On the Tracks** will be held on 10/7 from 6 - 11 p.m. in Historic Downtown Opelika. Follow the wine trail through the adorable shops, and enjoy the scrumptious food as you listen to live music with your friends! Tickets can be purchased from FlipFlopFoto, Eighth & Rail, online at www.onthetracks.org or at the event. Tables are available, starting at \$350 for ten, which includes tickets to the Hors d'oeuvre and wine trail. For more information, contact Pam, pam@flipflopfoto.com.

20th Annual Kiwanis & Letterman Club Celebrity Golf Classic

Saugahatchee Country Club will be the venue for this year's Celebrity Golf Classic on October 14 which benefits several organizations in our area. For more information on sponsorship or registering a team, contact Lisa Beck at lisa@aufc.com or call (334) 705-5466.

