If you read last month’s article, “The Fat Lady Hasn’t Sung,” you found us reminiscing about the past in all of its glory—and it was glorious. Observing the past helps us to understand the present, but more importantly, it helps us to build our future. It has been said that the only certainty is change. People hate change, yet it is the only thing that has brought progress. Our theme at the chamber this year is “70 Years of Progress.” As I understand it, progress only came about because community leaders used their visions to shift the direction of Cullman and its needs at the time. It is with this observation of the past that your Chamber is looking to the future.

Change is fun, right? It has taken me a few years to understand that everyone does not share this enthusiasm. Change is fun, right? It has taken me a few years to understand that everyone does not share this enthusiasm. In fact, I was told a few months back that the best way to make enemies is to make changes. Ouch! In an effort to stay friends, I would like to take the next few newsletters to talk about the changes you will be seeing at the Chamber. This month I would like to focus on our new logo.

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Branding, slogans, and logos—it’s a love/hate relationship. While we have had mixed reviews of our new logo, the majority of you seem to embrace it. Let me give you some background. Cullman was founded because of the railroad. (Yes, that same railroad that makes you late for an appointment because you had to drive 4 blocks down and go over the viaduct.) In 1873, if you were fortunate enough to be located near a rail station, the success of your community was inevitable. This symbol of progress is to be noted in the center of the “O” as well as the underlying track. The four icons represent the totality of what your chamber focuses on: the suitcase for tourism, the tractor for agriculture, the heart for quality of life, (community improvement, health, and education) and the handshake for business and industry. Not only does the railroad symbolize progress, it also serves as a connector to that progress. While the railroad connects cities and states, the chamber connects its members. Our role is to connect you to one another, whether it is through industry and business, tourism and health, or government and people.

I have lots more to tell you. Next month we will focus on technology and restructuring. Until then, prepare yourselves. The winds of change are blowing and there’s excitement in the air.

Leah Bolin
Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce
PO Box 1104 | Cullman, AL 35056-1104
info@cullmanchamber.org
Tel: 256-734-0454 | Fax 256-737-7443
www.cullmanchamber.org
www.visitcullman.org
MEMBER SPOTLIGHT - Be sure to visit these Chamber members for your financial needs

Alabama Credit Union
1901 Main Avenue, SW
Cullman, AL 35055
Phone: (256) 737-9885
www.alabamacu.com

Alabama Farm Credit
PO Box 639
Cullman, AL 35056-0639
Phone: (256) 734-0132
www.alabamafarmcredit.com

America’s First Federal Credit Union
300 4th Avenue, SW
Cullman, AL 35055
Phone: (256) 734-4750
www.amfirst.org

BBVA Compass
1715 2nd Avenue, SW
Cullman, AL 35055
Phone: (256) 737-1100
www.bbavacompass.com

Colonial Finance & Tax Service
1850 Cherokee Ave., SW,
Suite G
Cullman, AL 35055
Phone: (256) 739-1881

Consumer First Mortgage
1510 2nd Avenue, NW
Cullman, AL 35055
Phone: (256) 734-6012
www.mortgagescanbesimple.com

Edward Jones Investments — Chris Campbell
2015 Cherokee Avenue SW, Suite C
Cullman, AL 35055
Phone: (256) 739-6609
www.edwardjones.com

Edward Jones Investments - Jonathan Dvorak
101 2nd Avenue, SW
Cullman, AL 35055
Phone: (256) 737-7288
www.edwardjones.com

Edward Jones Investments - Greg Picogna
101 2nd Avenue, SW
Cullman AL 35055
Fax: (256) 739-6268
Phone 1: (256) 739-0111
www.edwardjones.com

Edward Jones Investments - Ronald Mann
218 2nd Street, SE
Cullman, AL 35055
Phone: (256) 734-6343
www.edwardjones.com

Edward Jones Investments - Steve Casebolt
909 2nd Avenue, NW
Cullman, AL 35055
Phone: (256) 739-5581
http://www.edwardjones.com

EvaBank
1710 Cherokee Avenue, SW
Cullman, AL 35055
Phone: (256) 255-2000
www.evabank.com

Family Security Credit Union
811 2nd Avenue, NW
Cullman, AL 35055
Phone: (256) 734-4333
www.myfscu.com

First Community Bank of Cullman
PO Box 249
Cullman, AL 35056-0249
Phone: (256) 734-4863
www.fcbcullman.com

First South Farm Credit
PO Box 1227
Cullman, AL 35056-1227
Phone: (256) 734-0133
www.firstsouthland.com

Lincoln Financial Group
5016 Spedale Court, #337
Springhill, TN 37174
Phone: (866) 544-1345
www.lfg.com

Listerhill Credit Union
1850 Cherokee Avenue, SW
Cullman, AL 35055
Phone: (256) 734-8352
www.listerhill.com

Merchants Bank of Alabama
900 2nd Avenue, SW
Cullman, AL 35055
Phone: (256) 734-8110
www.merchantsbankal.com

The Mortgage Center, Inc.,
109 1st Avenue, SW
Cullman, AL 35055
Phone: (256) 734-6193
www.themortgagecenterinc.com

Peoples Bank of Alabama
811 2nd Avenue SW
Cullman, AL 35055
Phone: (256) 737-7000
www.peoplesbankal.com

Premier Bank of the South
101 1st Avenue, NW
Cullman, AL 35055
Phone: (256) 737-9900
www.premierbankofthesouth.com

Raymond James - Morgan Keegan
711 2nd Avenue, SW
Cullman, AL 35055
Phone: (256) 737-9362
raymondjames.com/
morgan_keegan/

Regions Bank
711 2nd Avenue, SW
Cullman, AL 35055
Phone: (256) 734-1040
www.regions.com

Springleaf Financial
1728 2nd Avenue, SW
Cullman, AL 35055
Phone: (256) 737-0031
www.springleaffinancial.com

Sun Loan Company
1722 2nd Avenue, SW
Suite 11
Cullman, AL 35055
Phone: (256) 775-1328
www.sunloan.com

Superior Financial Services, LLC
3186 AL Highway 157
Cullman, AL 35058
Phone: (256) 775-4467

Traditions Bank
109 2nd Avenue, NW
Cullman, AL 35055
Phone: (256) 735-2121
www.traditionscullman.com

Wells Fargo & Company
300 2nd Avenue, SW
Cullman, AL 35055
Phone: (256) 734-5421
www.wellsfargo.com

View our full Member Directory at www.CullmanChamber.org
Chamber to host monthly ‘Fourth Friday’
Special guest speaker Shane Quick, President of Premier Productions

The Chamber’s Community Improvement Committee will host the "Fourth Friday" Luncheon on Friday, April 26, in the All Steak Restaurant Banquet Room (323 3rd Ave. S.E.). The event is sponsored by ADS Security.

Doors open at 11:30 am to allow networking opportunities before the program begins at 11:50 am. Lunch is $10 per person for Chamber members and $20 for "Future" members. Reservations in advance are required. Please RSVP by contacting the Chamber via e-mail at info@cullmanchamber.org or by calling 256-734-0454.

Getting to know Shane Quick

Shane Quick, born and raised in Cullman, AL comes from modest roots. His drive to succeed caused him to stand out as a leader from a young age. Around the age of 15 Shane’s love for music and heart for the Lord prompted him to invite his older brother, Chris, to a Christian concert. It was here where Shane’s dream was birthed. Chris gave his life to the Lord that night and was radically changed. Shortly after, in a tragic accident, Chris lost his life. Through the tragedy, Shane discovered his calling and passion for providing people access to purposeful live events. Through high school and young adulthood, Shane worked a full time job while beginning to promote local events on the side. Marrying his high school sweetheart, Kim Arnold Quick, they risked all they had to start their company Real Life Promotions. Shane and Kim’s life was turned upside-down when they ran into an up and coming Christian band called Casting Crowns, and also their vast success with the annual Cullman event, YOUTHQUAKE. This flood of success caught the eye of the world’s top Christian and Family promoters, Premier Productions. Now a partner and owner of Premier Productions, Shane has been integral in the explosive growth of Premier, and the World’s number 1 attended tour with over 500,000 annual attendees, Winter Jam. Never satisfied with the way things are, Shane and Premier have their eyes set on the future of music and live events as well as international touring. Currently, they are developing tours in Brazil, South Africa, and many other parts of the world. With a rare blend of passion and unique vision, Shane plans to help Premier expand their influence into other musical genres. Shane has always felt that Cullman is the perfect location for a country music event. After the tornadoes of April 2011, once again tragedy inspired vision. Rock the South is fulfilling one of Shane’s lifelong dreams of putting Cullman on the map as a live music destination. With a record breaking on-sale, Rock the South looks to be THE event of the year. Shane, Kim, and their son, Ethan, still reside in Cullman.

Meet Chamber Board Member Jason White

Tell us about your career and current position:
My career basically divides into thirds. The first third I spent working in various roles for a large Fortune 500 company. Then, I spent about a third of my career with a small locally owned manufacturing company. Currently, Lisa and I own and operate The Final Touch.

What is your educational background?
I graduated from Holly Pond High School and Auburn University.

Introduce us to your family:
My wife and business partner, Lisa, is a graduate of West Point High School and Auburn University. We have two wonderful children. Haley is a senior and Cohen is in eighth grade at Cullman Christian School.

What is the one thing you would like to see accomplished in the community during your term on the Board of Directors?
Narrowing down to one specific thing is a tough proposition. So, let us work to improve the community in ways that allow all the area’s residents to enjoy more of the simple pleasures that come with calling Cullman home.

Is there a specific accomplishment or project of which you are particularly proud?
I have been blessed to coach sports teams for both of my kids over the last eight or ten years. I have had the opportunity to coach at the park and recreation, at the junior high and at the varsity level. The time invested in, not only my kids, but all the others has been tremendously rewarding.

What do I like MOST about living in the Cullman area?
Cullman is home and family. We have lived in several other small towns in Alabama and always talked about ways to get back to Cullman.

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Be a part of the Chamber Relocation Packet

Ever wonder how you could get your business in front of people moving into the Cullman area? The Chamber is working daily taking phone calls, email and online requests from people planning or considering moving into the Cullman area. What better way to welcome our new community family members than to have as many options and resources listed that our area can provide. These packets are also sent to businesses and industry looking into moving into the Cullman area and are used as a valuable tool by companies with plans for growth and expansion. The Chamber is in the process of updating the service listings in our Relocation Packet. Don’t miss your chance to get in front of hundreds of people in one easy step. This listing is included in your low annual membership investment to the Chamber, along with many other member benefits that can also help promote your business. Current members are automatically included. Not a member yet? Not a problem! Call today to join the Chamber and let your business grow with us as we all work toward a thriving and prosperous community!

Apply for membership online at www.CullmanChamber.org or for more information contact Deonne Ludwig at 256-255-0726 or dludwig@cullmanchamber.org.

Make Sure Your Business Gets Seen!

Available Headings
- Apartment & Living Guide
- Financial Institutions
- Medical Facilities/Healthcare
- Insurance Agents
- Churches
- Real Estate

Limited ad space is available for those businesses that do not fall under these categories - Call the Chamber for more details - 256-734-0454

SHOP CULLMAN FIRST!

| RIBBON CUTTINGS AND GROUND BREAKINGS |

Cabin Fever - Good Hope Location
1536 County Road 437, Cullman, AL 35055
(256) 734-8393

American Family Care
1841 Cherokee Avenue SW, Cullman, AL 35055
(205) 421-2144

Queen’s Antiques
217 1st Avenue SW, Cullman, AL 35055
(256) 736-5599