

CULLMAN AREA

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
& VISITOR CENTER

Official Newsletter

Eyes of

PROGRESS

Serving the Community Since 1943

VOLUME 45 | MARCH 2014 | ISSUE 3

www.cullmanchamber.org

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CULLMAN  
DODGE CITY  
FAIRVIEW  
GARDEN CITY  
GOOD HOPE  
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SOUTH VINEMONT  
WEST POINT

From the Chamber President

XYZ: Learning the ABC's of our Workforce

When I was a kid, XYZ meant “xamine your zipper.” If you have never heard that phrase, you are probably not a part of my generation – Gen X. There is a lot of buzz talk today about generations. In last month’s article, I eluded to Traditionalists, Boomers, and Gens X, Y & Z. What does all of this generational talk mean and why should employers care?

There is a serious new problem in the workplace and it has nothing to do with downsizing or global competition. Instead, it is the problem of distinct generations – the Veterans, the Baby Boomers, Gen X and Gen Y – working together and often colliding as their paths cross.

Individuals with different values, different ideas, different ways of getting things done, and different ways of communicating in the workplace have always existed. So,

why is this becoming a problem now? Glad you asked.

This is the first time in American history that we have ever had a whopping four different generations working side-by-side in the workplace. Generational differences can affect everything, including recruiting, building teams, dealing with change, motivating, managing, and maintaining and increasing productivity.

Think of how generational differences, relative to how people communicate, might affect misunderstandings, high employee turnover, difficulty in attracting employees, and gaining employee commitment.

Research indicates that people communicate based on their generational backgrounds. I have included a generation timeline below for reference.



Leah Bolin  
President & CEO,  
Cullman Area Chamber  
of Commerce

GENERATION TIMELINE			
1922-1945	1946-1964	1965-1980	1981-2000
Veterans, Silent, Traditionalists	Baby Boomers	Generation X, Gen X, Xers	Generation Y, Gen Y, Millennial, Echo Boomers

Each generation has distinct attitudes, behaviors, expectations, habits and motivational buttons. Learning how to communicate with the different generations can eliminate many major confrontations and misunderstandings in the workplace and the world of business.

The first thing to consider is the individual and his or her underlying values, or personal and lifestyle characteristics, which seem to correspond with each generation, as shown in the following table.

PERSONAL AND LIFESTYLE CHARACTERISTICS BY GENERATION				
	Veterans (1922-1945)	Baby Boomers (1946-1964)	Generation X (1965-1980)	Generation Y (1981-2000)
Core Values	Respect for authority Conformers Discipline	Optimism Involvement	Skepticism Fun Informality	Realism Confidence Extreme fun Social
Family	Traditional Nuclear	Disintegrating	Latch-key kids	Merged families
Education	A dream	A birthright	A way to get there	An incredible expense
Communication Media	Rotary phones One-on-one Write a memo	Touch-tone phones Call me anytime	Cell phones Call me only at work	Internet Picture phones E-mail
Dealing with Money	Put it away Pay cash	Buy now, pay later	Cautious Conservative Save, save, save	Earn to spend

There are more pronounced differences between the generations today than ever before. What can one expect with the dramatic changes in our world in the last 60 years? Good business is based on understanding others.

The majority of us seem to think that the correct way (and the only way) is our way – the way that we want it to be. In business, as well as in personal life, that is just not true.

To work effectively and efficiently, to increase productivity and quality, one needs to understand generational characteristics and learn how to use them effectively in dealing with each individual. This summer, the CoC will be offering a seminar entitled: Bridging the Generation Gap. This seminar will address all of these issues and more.

Understanding these characteristics about individuals makes it easier to look at workplace characteristics and how they manifest themselves in business (see Workplace Characteristics below).

WORKPLACE CHARACTERISTICS				
	Veterans (1922-1945)	Baby Boomers (1946-1964)	Generation X (1965-1980)	Generation Y (1981-2000)
Work Ethic and Values	Hard work Respect authority Sacrifice Duty before fun Adhere to rules	Workaholics Work efficiently Crusading causes Personal fulfillment Desire quality Question authority	Eliminate the task Self-reliance Want structure and direction Skeptical	What's next Multitasking Tenacity Entrepreneurial Tolerant Goal oriented
Work Is ...	An obligation	An exciting adventure	A difficult challenge A contract	Means to an end Fulfillment
Leadership Style	Directive Command-and-control	Consensual Collegial	Everyone the same Challenge others Ask why	*TBD
Interactive Style	Individual	Team player Loves to have meetings	Entrepreneur	Participative
Communications	Formal Memo	In person	Direct Immediate	E-mail Voice mail
Feedback and Rewards	No news is good news Satisfaction in a job well done	Don't appreciate it Money Title recognition	Sorry to interrupt, but how am I doing? Freedom is the best reward	Whenever I want it, at the push of a button Meaningful work
Messages That Motivate	Your experience is respected	You are valued You are needed	Do it your way Forget the rules	You will work with other bright, creative people
Work and Family Life	Ne'er the twain shall meet	No balance Work to live	Balance	Balance

\* As this group has not spent much time in the workforce, this characteristic has yet to be determined.

Next month, we will look more specifically at Generation Y. By 2025, (that's only 11 years) Generation Y will make up roughly 75 percent of the world's workforce. Scared yet? Don't be. With a little guidance from the rest of the alphabet, Millenials have a bright future ahead.

\*FDU Magazine

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## - COMMUNITY LUNCHEON -

The Chamber will host its monthly "Community Luncheon" on Friday, April 25 in the All Steak Restaurant Banquet Room (323 3rd Ave. S.E.). Our featured speaker will be Pam Dorr.

As an entrepreneur living in rural Alabama, Pam Dorr runs 2 non-profits and 6 small businesses, creating affordable housing and economic development that provide jobs and job training. Pam is the Executive Director of the Hale Empowerment & Revitalization Organization, Inc. (HERO) and Habitat for Humanity, Hale County, Inc. As a grass roots non-profit, HERO creates community development opportunities that celebrate rural communities in the Alabama Black Belt.

The Community Luncheon program for 2014 is presented by Mickey Parrish State Farm Insurance & Financial Services. The April luncheon is sponsored by Alabama Technology Network.

Doors open at 11:30 a.m. to allow networking opportunities before the program begins at 11:45 a.m. Lunch is \$15 per person for Chamber members and \$20 for future members. \*Reservations in advance are encouraged.

Please register online at [www.cullmanchamber.org](http://www.cullmanchamber.org) or RSVP by contacting the Chamber via e-mail at [info@cullmanchamber.org](mailto:info@cullmanchamber.org) or by calling 256-734-0454.



*\* 48 hours cancellation notice or subject to billing. No payments will be taken at the door but can be invoiced or paid online.*



The Chamber's  
**Morning BLEND**

Find out what's happening in the Cullman area

Presented by:

**APRIL 16 | 8-9AM**

Chamber Building Commons Room

Sponsored by:  
**Peek Auto Parts**

Join us for a Ribbon Cutting for new Visitor Center following The Chamber's Morning Blend!  
April 16, 2014 around 9:00 a.m.

THE 2014 COMMUNITY LUNCHEON PROGRAM IS PRESENTED BY:



**Mickey Parrish State Farm Insurance & Financial Services**

256-734-4640 MickeyParrish.com



The April Community Luncheon is brought to you by:



**Alabama Technology Network**

## The Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce is celebrating our Members

**Friday, May 2, 2014**

11:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.

Chamber Breezeway

## Membership Appreciation Cookout & Open House

This member-only luncheon is a special way for the Chamber to say thank you to our members who continually invest in Cullman's future!

Please RSVP by April 30, 2014



[www.edwardjones.com](http://www.edwardjones.com)

## Dreaming Up the Ideal Retirement Is Your Job. Helping You Get There Is Ours.

It's simple, really. How well you retire depends on how well you plan today. Whether retirement is down the road or just around the corner, the more you work toward your goals now, the better prepared you can be.

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# STATE OF THE SCHOOLS

## Student & Teacher of the YEAR

Presented by:

**April 14 | 6PM**
**Wallace State Community College**  
**801 Main Street NW, Hanceville, AL 35077**

Corporate Sponsors:


**Cullman Electric Cooperative**  
 providing energy with care  
 A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

**Natural Gas**  
 Comfortable. Responsible.  
 CULLMAN-JEFFERSON COUNTIES  
 GAS DISTRICT  
 256-797-1600

**WALLACE STATE**  
 HANCEVILLE

Awards Sponsor:


**KNIGHT-FREE**  
 INSURANCE AGENCY

Superintendents Billy Coleman and Dr. Doreen Griffith, along with Wallace State President Dr. Vicki Karolewics, will deliver the State of the Schools' addresses. Additionally, the Student of the Year and Teacher of the Year will be announced. Students, parents and teachers are all invited to attend this

event. The event will be held at Wallace State Community College School of Nursing and Center for Science Building. You may preregister online at [www.cullmanchamber.org](http://www.cullmanchamber.org). Preregistration cost is \$20.00 or \$25.00 day of event.



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 Thank You North Alabama For A Great First 6 Years!

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**HWY. 31 HANCEVILLE**

Choosing a tattoo is a commitment for life. Make sure you choose the right partner.

Leah Bolin

**CULLMAN**  
Chrysler-Dodge-Jeep-Ram

**Grand Opening**  
EVERYTHING'S-ON-SALE SALE!

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<b>2014 DODGE CHALLENGER</b>  <b>ONLY \$22,888</b>	<b>2014 DODGE CHARGER</b>  <b>ONLY \$23,988</b>	<b>2014 4X4 WRANGLER</b>  <b>ONLY \$23,988</b>
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<b>THE ALL NEW 2014 RAMS AT CLEARANCE PRICES</b>		
<b>2014 25 MPG RAM TRUCKS</b>  <b>ONLY \$21,888</b>	<b>2014 RAM HEMI V8</b>  <b>STARTING AT \$25,888</b>	
<b>2014 RAM 2500 4X4 HEAVY DUTY</b>  <b>ONLY \$29,888</b>	<b>ALL NEW 2014 HEAVY DUTY RAM 2500 &amp; 3500 4X4 CREW CABS</b>  <b>\$9,000 OFF</b>	
<b>AWARD SEASON EVENT</b> 		

(1) 90 days to first payment. With approved credit. May reduce rebate of certain vehicles. (2) Price after rebate. Must use dealer financing. 90 days to first payment. With approved credit. (3) Price after rebate. Must use dealer financing.

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 300 Benchmark Way • Cullman, AL 35057 • [www.cullmandc.com](http://www.cullmandc.com)

**SATURDAY SERVICE AND PARTS!**

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Chrysler-Dodge-Jeep-Ram

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# Are You a Leader?

The program is designed to identify, prepare and build upon leadership resources within Cullman County. It brings leaders together to discuss the present and future direction of our county and prepares them for greater involvement through volunteer roles in the community.

The program consists of eight monthly meetings focused on various topics such as education, criminal justice, local government, health care, state government, economic development and quality of life. Please visit [www.cullmanchamber.org](http://www.cullmanchamber.org) under the forms tab to apply for the upcoming year!



To apply for the 2014-2015 Leadership Cullman County Class please complete the online application.

<http://www.cullmanchamber.org/pages/LeadershipCullmanCounty/>



[www.merchantsbankal.com](http://www.merchantsbankal.com)

## Chamber Helped to Celebrate Growth in the Cullman Area



### Sportsman Lake Splash Pad

1544 Sportsman Lake Rd. NW Cullman 35055

[www.cullmancountyparks.com](http://www.cullmancountyparks.com)



### Cullman Chrysler - Dodge - Jeep - Ram

300 Benchmark Way Cullman 35056

[www.cullmandc.com](http://www.cullmandc.com)



### WSCC- School of Nursing and Center for Science

801 Main St NW Hanceville 35077

[www.wallacestate.edu](http://www.wallacestate.edu)

## Schedule your Ribbon Cutting or Goundbreaking!

If your business is new to the area, under new management, have a new location or if you are breaking ground call us today at 256-734-0454!

## RE-ELECT

# SHERIFF MIKE RAINNEY



# PROVEN RESULTS

Paid Political Ad by Mike Rainney for Sheriff Campaign Fund  
811 County Road 1711, Holly Pond, AL 35083

[www.CullmanChamber.org](http://www.CullmanChamber.org)



# Welcome New Members

Thank you for your support and investment in the Cullman Area!

February 24, 2014 - March 23, 2014

**All American Auto LLC.**  
61 AL Hwy 69 N  
Cullman, AL 35055  
Primary Phone: (256) 775-3704

**ExpoDisplays / Method-1**  
3401 Mary Taylor Rd  
Birmingham, AL 35235  
Primary Phone: 205-439-8200

**Marshall Industrial Supply, Inc. - Cullman Area Contact: Paul Hollis - Sales Rep**  
P.O. Box 177  
Guntersville, AL 35976  
Primary Phone: (256) 582-2401  
marshallindustrial.com

**McPherson Insurance Agency**  
P.O. Box 1283  
Cullman, AL 35056  
Primary Phone:

**Mobility Massage Therapy, LLC**  
1400 AL Hwy 69 S  
STE 3B  
Cullman, AL 35058  
Primary Phone: (205) 907-4656  
mymobilitymassage.com

**Rookis Agency, Inc**  
3912 3rd Avenue South  
Birmingham, Alabama 35222  
Primary Phone: 205-595-2267  
www.rookisagency.com

# Thank you to our Renewals

February 24, 2014 - March 23, 2014

4D Farm  
Action Environmental, LLC  
Action Resources  
AJ Associates, Inc./ People, Inc.  
AK Equipment Rentals and Sales, Inc.  
Alabama Air Solutions, Inc.  
Alabama Archives, Inc.  
Alabama Electrical Contractors of Cullman, Inc.  
Alabama Specialty Clinic  
Alabama Web Press, Inc.  
ALFA Insurance-Buddy Kelley  
All American Auto LLC.  
All Steak Restaurant  
American Pistol Bullet  
American Proteins, Inc.  
American Trim  
America's Car-Mart  
Apel Machine & Supply Company, Inc.  
Apel Steel Corporation  
Ashley Drug Company of Cullman - Hospital Discount East  
Berkeley Bob's Coffee House, LLC  
Berney Office Solutions  
Betty Leeth Haynes  
Billy Ray Taylor Auto Sales  
Blocher Company, Inc.  
Blount Springs Materials, Inc.  
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Alabama  
Boozer Eyecare Associates, P.C.  
Borden Family Pharmacy & Market Shoppe  
Burks Brothers Pools & Spas LLC  
Business Solutions of Cullman  
Camp Meadowbrook  
Campbell's Cleaning Your Way, LLC  
Carlton's Italian Restaurant  
Castle Custom Cabinets LLC  
Charter Business  
China Garden  
Circle H Logistics LLC  
City of Cullman  
College Tire  
Comfort Care Hospice  
Computer Network, Inc.  
Computer Partners, LLC  
Concours Mold Alabama, Inc.  
Cook's Pest Control, Inc.  
Covey Chase Apartments  
Creative Design & Screen Printing LLC  
Cullman Anesthesiology & Pain Consultants  
Cullman Association of REALTORS, Inc.  
Cullman Ballet Society  
Cullman Cabinet & Supply Company, Inc.  
Cullman Caring for Kids, Inc  
Cullman Casting Corporation  
Cullman Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram

Cullman City Board of Education  
Cullman City Schools Foundation  
Cullman County Agricultural Trade Center  
Cullman County Center for the Developmentally Disabled  
Cullman County Homebuilders Association  
Cullman County Museum  
Cullman County Public Library System  
Cullman County Revenue Commissioner's Office  
Cullman Emergency Medical Services  
Cullman Guns & Ammo  
Cullman Heritage Funeral Home  
Cullman Logistics, Inc.  
Cullman Long Term Care and Rehab - Katie Smith  
Cullman Marble & Granite  
Cullman Power Board  
Cullman Real Estate Inc.  
Cullman Regional Airport - Folsom Field  
Cullman Shopping Center  
Cullman Urology, P.C.  
Cullman Veterinary Hospital P.C.  
Cullman-Jefferson Gas  
Culpepper Real Estate, Inc.  
Dale Greer  
Daystar Church  
DCA Ready Mix  
Dennis Guthrie Construction  
District Attorney's Office-Worthless Check Unit  
Doug Doggett Jewelers  
Doyle Real Estate  
Dr. Jenny G. Folsom  
Dr. Jerry D. Galin  
Dr. John T. Williamson  
Dr. Rodney Dellinger  
Dr. Samuel J. Oliver  
Dyer Poultry Supply  
East Elementary School  
Ed Harbison Realty  
Ed Holcombe Pharmacy  
Ed White Jewelers  
Edward Jones Investments— Greg Picogna  
Edward Jones Investments— Ronald Mann  
Edward Jones Investments— Steve Casebolt  
Eidson & Associates, Inc.  
ENT Associates of Alabama, PC  
ExpoDisplays / Method-1  
First Baptist Church-Cullman  
First Presbyterian Church  
First United Methodist Church  
Frankham, Lance  
Freedom Insurance, The Gloria Williams Agency  
Gentiva Hospice  
Girl Scouts of North-Central Alabama, Inc.  
Good Hope Contracting

We appreciate your continued support and investment in the Cullman Area!

Hagan Real Estate  
Hanceville Drug Company  
Hays & Son Oil Company, Inc.  
Heritage Pharmacy  
HH Technologies, Inc.  
Hibu - formerly YellowBook  
Holmes Oil Company  
Hospice of Cullman County  
Hospital Discount Pharmacies & Wellness Centers  
Inland Buildings/Schulte Building Systems  
Jack's Western & Outdoor Wear  
James R. Smith Trucking Co., Inc.  
Jet Pep, Inc.  
Jim B's Restaurant  
Jim Phillips — Coldwell Banker Hill Real Estate  
Joe C. Strickland, DMD, PC  
Johnny's Bar-B-Q  
K. A. Fisher Company  
Knight-Free Insurance Agency, Inc.  
Krout Properties  
Lee's Veterinary Hospital, Inc.  
LifeFirst - Imaging and Oncology Care Group  
Lions Club of Cullman  
Lois A. Burns  
Lynn Layton Chevrolet  
Marshall Industrial Supply, Inc. - Cullman Area Contact: Paul Hollis - Sales Rep  
Matt Dellinger DMD, LLC  
McDonald's of Hanceville  
McPherson Insurance Agency  
Medical Arts Apothecary  
Mental Healthcare of Cullman  
Mesco Building Solutions  
Michael J. Graham, DMD, PC  
Mobility Massage Therapy, LLC  
Moss Service Funeral Home  
Mrs. E. G. Plunkett  
Mullins Body Shop, LLC  
NARCOG  
National Multiple Sclerosis Society - Alabama/Mississippi Chapter  
Nationwide Insurance— Martha Burchell Agency  
North Central Neurology Associates, PC  
Northbrook Baptist Church  
Oden's Auto Glass, Inc.  
Papa Murphy's Take 'n' Bake Pizza  
Parker and Parker P.C. Attorneys At Law  
Paul D. Freeman, DMD  
Payroll Services, LLC  
Peek Auto Parts  
Peggy Smith  
Pepsi Cola Distributing Company  
Physicians Resource Network

Precision Graphics, Inc.  
Professional Weight Loss & Wellness Center  
Ray Buchmann  
Raymond James  
Realty Inc./Homes for Heroes Affiliate  
Red Door Clothing LLC  
Richard Electric Company  
RJR Mining Company, Inc.  
Rock the South  
RockTenn  
Rookis Agency, Inc  
Rumors Deli and Coffee House, Inc.  
Saint Bernard Preparatory School  
Sam's Club  
Sandra's Tax Service  
Security Finance  
Seidel Plastic Surgery, P.C.  
Servpro of Cullman/ Blount Counties  
Smith Lake Marina & Resort  
South Park Auto Sales, Inc.  
St. John & Associates, Inc.  
St. John's Evangelical Protestant Church  
State Farm Insurance— Shirley Quattlebaum  
Systemedx, Inc.  
Tankersley Chiropractic, P.C.  
The Awards Palace, LLC  
The Cullman Times  
The Final Touch  
Three Pears Shoe Outlet  
Tool Shed  
TP Country Club, Inc - Patrick Drake  
TP Country Club, Inc.  
Uniform Place of Cullman, Inc.  
Urgent Care Center  
USA Healthcare, Alabama, LLC  
Village Furniture & Gifts  
W. S. Badcock Corporation Distribution Center  
Walgreens  
Walker Brothers, LTD  
Walker's Discount Building Supply, Inc.  
Wal-Mart Distribution Center  
Warnke Insurance, Inc.  
Warren, Averett LLC  
Water Valley Flea Market LLC  
Webb Wheel Products, Inc.  
Werner's Trading Company  
West Cullman Electrical Supply, Inc.  
William E. Holcomb, MD & Associates PC  
Wisco Industries, Inc.  
Yogurt Mountain Cullman  
Zero Bullet Company, Inc.





## Who Will Have Your Nomination?

It's your off day. Or the weekend. . .

Where are you shopping, dining, visiting, staying and playing? Odds are you have a picture of your favorite places in your head. It's time to write them down on paper and nominate them for our first-ever 2014 Cullman Area Tourism Awards!

Your nomination determines which places and individuals receive these first-time awards. Make your nomination count.

To nominate your local favorites, go to [www.cullmanchamber.org](http://www.cullmanchamber.org) for a nomination form or stop by the Cullman Chamber to pick up a nomination form in person. The deadline for nominations is Friday, April 11, 2014. The 2014 Cullman Area Tourism Awards includes 14 awards in two separate categories: The Business Awards and The Individual Service Awards.

### Presenting Sponsor

The Community Shopper's Guide

### Celebrating Excellence in Tourism

for the Cullman Area

**Tuesday, May 6, 2014**

Doors Open 7:30 a.m.

Breakfast 8:00 - 8:30 a.m.

Awards 8:30 - 10:00 a.m.

### The Brown Stone Centre

at Stone Bridge Farms

281 County Road 717 - Cullman, Alabama

### Guest Speaker

Lee Sentell

Director of the Alabama Tourism Department

### Table Sponsor - \$250

Reserved seating for 8 in a prime location with table signage

### Individual Tickets

Chamber Member \$20      Non-Member \$25

### Corporate Sponsors

Hampton Inn - Cullman

Premier Productions (Rock the South)

The Cullman Times

### The Business Awards

#### Exceptional Festival or Event Award

Recognizes a festival or event that attracts visitors as well as locals, generates regional and/or state media attention and positively promotes the Cullman area.

#### Best Attraction Award

Recognizes a regional attraction (including museums, performing arts, parks, amusement parks, etc.) which attracts visitors and contributes to an outstanding tourism experience.

#### Near Nature. Near Perfect Award

Recognizes a business, organization, community or outdoor recreation area that has developed a tourism product/service that best demonstrates the ecological, cultural or historic assets of the region.

#### Spirit of Cullman Award

Recognizes an outstanding tourism or hospitality related business or organization that provides excellent service, exemplifies innovation and causes our region to shine.

#### Rockin' Retailer

Recognizes a retailer that provides an outstanding shopping experience for visitors.

#### Extraordinary Everyday Eatery

Recognizes a restaurant offering an atmosphere that provides an outstanding experience for visitors.

### The Individual Service Awards

#### The White Glove Award

Recognizes exceptional service from an individual hotel housekeeping staff member.

#### The Silver Spoon Award

Recognizes consistent superior service by a restaurant or food service employee.

#### Superior Service Award

Recognizes excellent customer service by an individual who has first contact with the public. Front desk personnel, concierges and all other guest service employees qualify.

#### Savvy Retail Sales Associate

Recognizes excellent customer service from a retail sales associate who has first contact with the public.

#### Heart of the House Award

Honors an outstanding individual who works behind the scenes to keep their institution, organization or business operating smoothly, creating a superior experience for the public.

#### Hospitality Volunteer of the Year

Recognizes any hospitality industry volunteer (i.e. entertainment venues, museums, and festival and event volunteers) who has made an outstanding contribution.

#### Rising Star Award

Recognizes an up and coming leader for their exceptional efforts to serve and enhance the experience of the public. Those individuals who have been in the tourism industry for five years or less qualify.

#### Tourism Professional of the Year Award

Recognizes a person who has made a significant contribution to the tourism industry through more than five years or more of innovation, inspiration and industry leadership.

## Pro Angler Kevin Hawk Becomes the Face of Smith Lake

The Meet & Greet held on March 7 with Pro Angler Kevin Hawk at Smith Lake Park was the ultimate kick off for the Fishing Tournament in 2014. The Cullman County Commission, Cullman County Parks & Rec and Smith Lake Park announced that Hawk would be promoting Cullman County and the Park as he travels across the country competing in the Bassmaster Elite Series.



Left: Hawk is pictured with his awesome boat emblazoned with the infamous Smith Lake Park slogan.



# CHAMBER REWIND

## Biscuits & Business Showcases Workforce Solutions

The smell of fresh baked biscuits, piping hot coffee and ripened orange juice filled the air at Biscuits & Business, the Cullman Chamber's first quarterly event of the year. This morning event was offered free of charge to the public. Held at Wallace State Community College on March 12 from 8 to 9 a.m. in the Bailey Building, the event was well attended and highly enjoyed by all.

Not only were attendees able to enjoy an informative discussion concerning workforce solutions

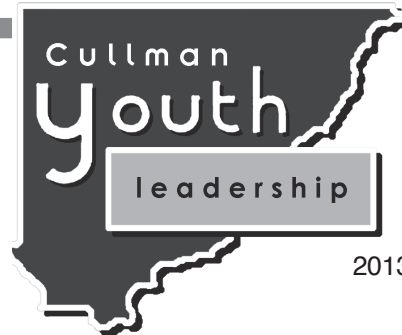
while enjoying a delicious breakfast, but the spirit of camaraderie and fellowship was also present and experienced by all. Wallace State Community College sponsored the event.

The morning edition of biscuits, business and networking was

especially enjoyable with guest speakers Dale Greer, assistant director of the Cullman Economic Development Agency, and Dr. Vicki Hawsey Karolewics, president of WSCC.



Pictured above from L to R: Dr. Vicki Hawsey Karolewics, President of Wallace State Community College; Dale Greer, Assistant Director for the City of Cullman Economic Development Agency; and Leah Bolin, President of The Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce.



## March Session Held: "Business & Industry Day"

2013-14 Cullman County Youth Leadership Program



[www.merchantsbankal.com](http://www.merchantsbankal.com)

Thank you to our Breakfast Sponsor: Krout Properties  
Facebook: Krout Properties

Thank you to our Scholarship sponsors:

Action Environmental, LLC Cullman Regional Medical Center  
AK Equipment Rental and Sales Cullman Rotary Club  
Carmen Moss DMD Heritage Diagnostic Center  
Cullman Internal Medicine Webb Wheel Products, Inc.

Our March session was a hit! We first had breakfast sponsored by Krout Properties. Then the class toured Alabama Cullman Yutaka Technologies, Cullman Economic Development Agency, Merchants Bank & Cullman Regional Airport-Folsom Field. We look forward to our April session, "Quality of Life Day" we will visit CCCDD-Margaret Jean Jones Center, CRMC, and the Good Samaritan Clinic.

To sponsor a student for the 2014-15 year contact [jmoore@cullmanchamber.org](mailto:jmoore@cullmanchamber.org).

Pictured below is the YLCC class of 2014 at Cullman Regional Airport-Folsom Field.



## Industry Reception Celebrates Cullman as #3 Micropolitan

The annual Industry Appreciation Reception was held on March 3 at TP Country Club from 5:30 to 7 p.m. This yearly event celebrates industry professionals in the community and the area's growth as a whole. The Chamber's Chairman, Jim Weidner, spoke on behalf of the Chamber's membership and the Board of Directors expressing sincere gratitude to the economic development partners at both the city and county offices for all that they continually do to promote growth in the Cullman area. Two 2013-14 Industrial Tour Host awards were given out to Jeff Curtis, director of the Cullman Area Career Center, and to Shawn Crider, president of HH Technologies, Inc. These two groups were given tokens of appreciation for opening their doors to the Chamber in order to give members a look into their facilities. A very distinct honor was bestowed upon the Cullman area

when it was revealed that our community was the number 3 top micropolitan city in the U.S. by Site Selection Magazine.

A significant contributor to this great success would be the

phenomenal growth the Cullman area experienced in 2013 with 52 expanding companies and four new businesses.



Above: Jim Weidner, CRMC; Leah Bolin, CoC; Jeff Curtis, CACC; and Shawn Crider, HH Technologies.



## Speed Networking Grows Your Business' Reach!

Where did you make 100 connections in just one night? At Speed Networking! Don't be mistaken – we didn't mean Speed Dating. The Business After Hours event was held on March 6 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at Grumpy's Italian Grill. The annually anticipated event of Speed Networking was a hit as Chamber and community members alike got to know one another in this extroverted game of wits. Participants prepared a 30 to 60 second elevator speech describing who they are and what they do. This condensed approach to networking paid off in the dividends when attendees looped around the room exchanging stories and business cards with one another.

Amid the laughter and smiles, real business connections were made as attendees were able to grow their business reach in the Cullman area. The event, sponsored by Nearen Construction, featured an array of Italian delights served up by Grumpy's Italian Grill. It was a night packed full of great company and food.



# Not a Member Yet? Not a Problem!

Your business can join for @ 50 cents a day!  
Visit [www.CullmanChamber.org](http://www.CullmanChamber.org) or call the Chamber at 256-734-0454 any time for more information.





**YOUR MISSION:**

**CASH MOB**

**TARGET:**  
Poor Little Rich Girl

**April, 8 2014 4-6 PM**  
103 1st Avenue NE Suite 130  
Cullman, AL 35055

Brought to you by: **O.F. Richter & Sons Inc**

Every month, the Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce selects a local store to mob. No, not a flash mob where people break into spontaneous dance, but rather a synchronized shopping effort, of course. During the Cash Mob, everyone brings \$20 to spend in the selected store. It's a great time to meet new people, shop for great items (often at a steal of a price), and it's a wonderful way to thank local businesses for investing in the Cullman community. Cash Mob is sponsored by O.F. Richter & Sons and is held every second Tuesday of the month. This month's Cash Mob will be held April 8 at Poor Little Rich Girl. Don't miss out on this awesome upcoming event.

## Check out our additions!

You can now find these items on our web-



All you need to know about the Cullman Area can be found in our quality of life magazine

**VISIT CULLMAN**



All you need to know about the Cullman Area can be found in our quality of life magazine

**CLASSIC CULLMAN**



### SMALL BUSINESS OF THE MONTH



(256) 737-1218

[www.alabamafarmcredit.com](http://www.alabamafarmcredit.com)

Brought to you by:

**Prestigious Pets**  
140 County Road 1332  
Vinemont, AL 35179  
(256) 734-2660  
[www.prestigiouspets.com](http://www.prestigiouspets.com)



## March Small Business of the Month – Johnny's Bar-B-Q Sponsored by: ADS Security

You've been there and you love it. With several options in the Cullman area, it is no surprise that residents love their barbecue. Family owned since 1963, Johnny's Bar-B-Q features a menu that automatically makes your mouth water.

Open from Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., this place is sure to be open and beckoning your taste buds to try their stuffed baked potatoes, delicious seafood, plates of slow cooked meats, sandwiches and freshly prepared sides.

You'll really become smitten with their dessert menu boasting such options as coconut, lemon, pecan, apple and chocolate pie among other decadent sweet treats.

Each month, the Chamber chooses a local company to bestow the admirable achievement of Small Business of the Month. The owners and staff at Johnny's Bar-B-Q feel



honored to be recognized for their efforts and legendary barbecue. They have taken great pride in offering the best barbecue and service for years around and years to come.

Nominate your favorite business by going to [www.cullmachamber.org](http://www.cullmachamber.org)

## Member Spotlight

Be sure to visit these Chamber Member businesses for all of your furry friends!

### Prestigious Pets

140 County Road 1332  
Vinemont, AL 35179  
(256) 734-2660  
<http://www.prestigiouspets.com>

### Cullman Veterinary Hospital P.C.

1636 Main Avenue SW  
Cullman, AL 35055  
(256) 734-2181  
<http://www.cullmanvet.com/>

### Compton's Veterinary Hospital

1007 Katherine Street NW  
Cullman, AL 35055  
(256) 734-9488

### Lee's Veterinary Hospital, Inc.

2126 2nd Avenue NW  
Cullman, AL 35058  
(256) 734-1177

### Tommy Little Animal Clinic

186 County Road 1435  
Cullman, AL 35058  
(256) 734-4848

