

JUNE 2021

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113th Annual Meeting & Gala



2020-2021 Annual Award Recipients

Small Business of the Year
Papa Jack's Country Kitchen
Willis Investment Counsel

Family Business of the Year
Cochran Brothers Electric
Three D Cleaners

Community Service Award
VISION 2030 Public Art
Distinguished Citizens Award
Doug & Kay Ivester

WG Mealor Chairman's Award
Glennis Barnes
Georgia Power

save the date

Tuesday, June 8
Small Business Seminar
via Zoom

Friday, June 18
New Member Orientation
Lanier College & Career Academy

Tuesday, June 22
South Hall Business Coalition
Legacy Lodge at Lanier Islands



In this issue:

Highlights from the 113th Annual Meeting & Gala:
Chairman's Award, Small Business of the Year,
Family Business of the Year, Distinguished Citizens
Award, Community Service Award, and more!

featured member

JACKSON
ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATIONSM



Brian Rochester
Rochester & Associates
Chairman, Greater Hall
Chamber of Commerce

Investing Today for Tomorrow's Future

As I wind up my second term as Chairman of the Chamber Board, I reflect on how our organization stood out during unprecedented and challenging times.

Throughout the pandemic, the Chamber has served as the community's "Go To" resource for COVID-19 information. Working with the Northeast Georgia Health

System, Longstreet Clinic and the Public Health Department, conferences continue to inform Chamber members and the public of safety protocols, trends, best practices and how, together, we could battle the pandemic. Through Zoom meetings, social media and other means, our healthcare professionals have provided first-hand knowledge and information on the pandemic.

Helping members stay up-to-date on state and local guidelines and providing resources for PPE (Personal Protection Equipment) to reopen their businesses has been a top priority. The Chamber has been educating businesses on PPP loans, CARES Act, and other funds with regular updates through experts like Perry Barnett, CPA, RUSHTON, the UGA Small Business Development Center and others.

COMMUNICATION with our Chamber members has been of utmost importance, as well as supporting our restaurants and small businesses. These businesses are the backbone of our economy, and we will continue to offer resources and support.

The Chamber works very hard to help our existing businesses by providing tools for human resources and a JOBS web page (GHCC.com/JOBS) connecting job seekers to the nearly 80 employers that are hiring locally.

The passage of the Infrastructure SPLOST in November 2019 and the Education SPLOST in June 2020 will benefit our community beyond measure. I want to thank the voters of Hall County for realizing the importance of the once cent sales tax in propelling the local economy as we invest today for tomorrow's future.

The Chamber has embarked on the HALLmark 2020-2025 initiative and has secured over \$2 million in funding over the next five years for Economic Development, Workforce Development, VISION 2030, Education, Leadership, Small Business and Quality of Life.

I enthusiastically hand the gavel over to my friend, Phil Sutton, *Kubota Manufacturing of America*, at the end of the month. We're in great hands with Phil and his dynamic team. I know this new leadership group will keep us on the path and retain our legacy as "Gainesville-Hall County – the best place in the UNIVERSE to do business."



W.G. Mealor Chairman's Award

Glennis Barnes of Georgia Power with wife, **Tamika**. Glennis has served three years as the Greater Hall Chamber Treasurer and was the recipient of the Greater Hall Chamber's prestigious **W.G. Mealor Award**, named after the first Chamber Chairman – W.G. Mealor. Glennis was recognized for going beyond the call of duty as a Chamber volunteer and community leader and received the award from Board Chairman Brian Rochester, Rochester & Associates.

BUSINESS LINK

VOLUME 26 ISSUE 12

McKemie West, Editor • Email: kwest@ghcc.com
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Greater Hall Chamber of Commerce
2020-2021 Executive Committee

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| Chairman Brian Rochester <i>Rochester & Associates</i> | Vice Chairs, Education Andi Farmer <i>Milton Martin Honda</i> | Vision 2030 Executive Director Elizabeth Higgins |
| Chairman-Elect Phil Sutton <i>Kubota Manufacturing of America</i> | Lauren Armour Talley <i>Lanier Technical College</i> | Co-Chairs, HALLmark Paul Chambers, AT&T Mimi Collins, Longstreet Clinic Randall Frost, Stewart, Melvin & Frost |
| Treasurer Glennis Barnes , <i>Georgia Power</i> | Vice Chair, South Hall Council Terry Merck , <i>American Yazaki</i> | Senior Advisor Brian Daniel <i>Carroll Daniel Construction</i> |
| Vice Chair, Economic Development David Lee , <i>Jackson EMC</i> | Vice Chairs, Membership Brett Fowler <i>Turner, Wood & Smith Insurance</i> Phil Bonelli , <i>Regions Bank</i> | Immediate Past Chair Carol Burrell <i>Northeast Georgia Health System</i> |
| Vice Chair, Marketing Missy Burgess , <i>Lanier Islands</i> | Vice Chair Community Development Haley Bower , <i>Clipper Petroleum</i> | Greater Hall Chamber President & CEO Kit Dunlap |
| Vice Chair, Government Affairs Philip Wilheit, Jr. <i>Wilheit Packaging</i> | Chair, Vision 2030 Tate O'Rourke , <i>Jackson EMC</i> | |

2020-2021 Board of Directors

| | |
|--|--|
| Christa Andrews , Corporate Storage | JD Mealor , Regions Bank |
| Norman Baggs , The Times | Ashton Meeks , Starke Family Office |
| Neal Booth , Pinnacle Bank | Mike Miller , Mayor, City of Flowery Branch |
| Chris Braswell , The Norton Agency | Sheri Millwood , Oakwood City Council |
| Chris Brown , Delta Community Credit Union | Caitlin Mincey , Mincey Marble Manufacturing |
| Whitney Brown , Stewart, Melvin & Frost | Dr. Kirsty Montgomery , Lakeview Academy |
| Nick Bruner , Rushton | Terry Morrissy , Intelligent Energy |
| Dan Carey , BB&T/TRUIST | Chris Nish , Cottrell |
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| Sean Couch , Northeast Georgia Health System | Bill Orr , Mayor, Town of Braselton |
| Shanna Cronic , Northeast Georgia Diagnostic Clinic | Dr. Jeff Payne , North Georgia Eye Clinic |
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| David Dickerson , Law Office of David H. Dickerson | Michele Piucci , Peach State Bank & Trust |
| Stacey Dickson , Lake Lanier CVB | Col. Stas Preczewski , Riverside Military Academy |
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| Drew Echols , Jaemor Farms | Derek Reyes , Michelin Raceway Road Atlanta |
| Dr. Suzanne Erickson , Brenau University | Vanessa Sarazua , Hispanic Alliance Georgia |
| Josh Everett , New Leaf Landscape Services | Will Schofield , Hall County School System |
| Jim Grier , Mayor, City of Lula | Mulham Shbeib , Mar-Jac Poultry |
| Emily Hayes , Milton Martin Toyota | Dr. Anne Skleder , Brenau University |
| Tracy Hoeltke Herter , Netchex | Terry Spicer , King's Hawaiian Bakery |
| Richard Higgins , Chair, Hall County Commission | Margaret Spratlin , Longstreet Clinic |
| Anna Jacobs , AccessWDUN | Kevin Strada , The Atlanta Falcons |
| Ben Jarrard , University of North Georgia | John Turner , Northeast Georgia Health System |
| Logan Jones , Wilheit Packaging | Roy Turpin , Mayor, City of Gillsville |
| Brooke Kalinauskas , Conditioned Air Systems | Philip Wilheit , Wilheit Packaging |
| Jay Kilroy , Willis Investment Counsel | Dr. Jeremy Williams , Gainesville City Schools |
| Geoff Lee , Craton, Inc. | Darryl Workman , South State Bank |
| Dr. Kate Maine , University of North Georgia | John Wright , Fieldale Farms |
| Ward McCamy , Bank of America | Mike Zeiler , Bitzer US, Inc. |
| Tim McDonald , Lanier Technical College | Nancy Jo Zimmer , JP Morgan Chase Bank |

Greater Hall Chamber Staff

| | |
|---|---|
| Executive Kit Dunlap, <i>President & CEO</i> Gerri Collins, <i>Executive Assistant</i> | Government Affairs Madison Hopkins, <i>Project Manager</i> |
| Economic Development Tim Evans, <i>Vice President</i> Nikki Chandler, <i>Vice President Existing Industry</i> Amanda Lewis, <i>Project Manager</i> Madison Hopkins, <i>Project Manager</i> | South Hall Council Kara Tate, <i>Vice President, Sales & Programs</i> |
| Finance & Operations David Umberson, <i>Vice President, Finance & HR</i> | Community Development Robin Halstead, <i>Vice President</i> |
| Membership Development Mandy Lathem, <i>Vice President, Events</i> Christen Wilbanks, <i>Vice President, Sales</i> Kara Tate, <i>Vice President, Sales & Programs</i> | VISION 2030 Elizabeth Higgins, <i>Executive Director</i> |
| Education & Leadership Andi Tippens, <i>Vice President</i> | Marketing & Communications Kemie West, <i>Business Link Editor/Consultant</i> |
| | Greater Hall Chamber Welcome Center Robin Halstead, <i>Manager</i> |

The mission of the Greater Hall Chamber of Commerce is to improve the overall business climate for member growth, promote community development, facilitate political action, and enhance the quality of life.

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Small Business of the Year Papa Jack's Country Kitchen

Bill Mays grew up in Lithonia and has lived in Hall County for 26 years. He opened Papa Jack's Country Kitchen in 2005 and named the restaurant after his father. The South Hall eatery specializes in good 'ole true, Southern, home-style cooking with fresh homemade "cathead" biscuits, fresh eggs, fluffy pancakes, and just about any breakfast meats you can think of, even fried Bologna! Their lunch choices include 4 to 6 meats and 8 to 10 vegetables every day. When Bill started the restaurant at the original location at Duncan's Corner, there was a 4-way stop, a gas station and a liquor store. Today, 16 years later, that corner isn't so little anymore. As the economy and South Hall area started to boom, Bill built a larger facility with a banquet room across the street. Through the COVID-19 pandemic, Papa Jack's has not only adapted but thrived through Bill's leadership, outstanding customer service, and a dedicated staff that Bill says "are just a great group of people – not only are they my employees, I consider them my family." papajackscountrykitchen.com



Bill Mays, owner, *Papa Jack's Country Kitchen*, and **Kathy Fauscett**, *The Fauscett Team, Keller Williams Realty Lanier Partners*.

Family Business of the Year Cochran Brothers Electric

Cochran Electric was founded in 1977 by James Cochran. James passed away in 1980 and his son, Stanley, and three brothers started Cochran Brothers Electric. Now, 41 years later the Cochran team remains committed to serving Gainesville-Hall County with customers including King's Hawaiian, MarJac Poultry, Cargill, The Georgia Poultry Lab, UPS, National Beverage, and the University of North Georgia. Cochran Brothers is a full service contractor specializing in complete engineering and design, commercial, industrial and multi-platform PLC and Automation. Projects range in size from small to multi-million dollar contracts. The Cochran Brothers Electric team, the majority of which have been with the company for over 20 years, takes pride in their workmanship and demonstrates superior quality and professionalism on each project. The company is involved in the Chamber's Workforce Development initiative and considers their participation in the Career Path Fairs for area 7th graders truly rewarding. cochranbrotherselectric.com



Stanley and Kay Cochran, owners, *Cochran Brothers Electric*.

Family Business of the Year Three D Cleaners

Danny and Mary Lee Dunagan established Three D Cleaners in 1978, and the company celebrates 43 years in business this fall. The Dunagans offer outstanding service that loyal customers have relied on for decades. They provide top-notch dry cleaning and shirt service, alterations, wedding dress cleaning and preservation, along with leather and suede services. With three locations, the business has grown from a couple of employees to over 15 employees with a 5,000-square-foot plant servicing all locations. Danny and Mary Lee's son, Trip, worked for many years operating the company as Danny assumed a political career. Danny was elected to the Gainesville City Council in 2006 and became the first elected Mayor for the City of Gainesville in 2013. Trip recently changed career paths leading Danny to resume operations of the company. As reflected by Danny's service to the City of Gainesville, the Dunagan family is committed to community involvement. They support many good causes such as "Coats for Kids" and area schools and nonprofits with sponsorships and donations. 770-503-0084.



Danny and Mary Lee Dunagan, owners, *Three D Cleaners*.

Small Business of the Year Willis Investment Counsel

Established in 1979, Willis Investment Counsel is an independent investment management firm. Located off Green Street, the 41-year-old firm has 12 employees, including 6 shareholders. The company manages portfolios for corporations, families, foundation and endowment funds, pension funds and 401k plans for clients in 15 states and has a research orientation in the areas of portfolio design, company research, retirement and estate planning stress-testing, corporate working capital mapping, and decision-making psychology. The firm believes in supporting the community and generously contributes to the Quinlan Visual Arts Center, Northeast Georgia Medical Center and other community organizations. Responding to what they think makes them distinctive, partner Jay Kilroy said, "we have clients, not accounts, and we care about them." Bob Willis says the company "just believes it's the right thing to do – to be dug in where you live and work, to give back, help out, and do your part." [wicinest.com](http://wicinvest.com)



Bob Willis, CEO & Chief Investment Officer, and **Jay Kilroy**, President & Portfolio Manager, *Willis Investment Counsel*.

Distinguished Citizens Award Doug & Kay Ivester



Doug and Kay Ivester are natives of New Holland, beginning their decades-long love story there as children. Doug Ivester, former chairman and CEO of The Coca-Cola Company, says he's been truly blessed to live the American dream. "I realize it, and I live every day trying to find a basis to repay some of the good fortune that's come my way," he says. From helping to underwrite the training of health care professionals in our community through the Ivester College of Health Sciences at Brenau University to the development of Gainesville Renaissance, the \$22.4 million mixed-use development now under construction on the Historic Downtown Gainesville Square – Doug and Kay possess a strong sense of generosity and community and derive deep satisfaction in helping others succeed. There's Brenau University's Mary Inez Grindle School of Nursing, the Ernest Ledford Grindle Athletics Park in New Holland, the Ivester Foundation's support of Gainesville City and Hall County education programs, the visitors center, amphitheater, and children's garden at the Atlanta Botanical Garden Gainesville, the Ada Mae Ivester Education Center at the Northeast Georgia History Center, and so much more. Doug says the core values he lives by today all came from New Holland, all came from Gainesville. "They were honed over the years by experiences. They were honed by learning from other people." The Ivester's have shown, time and again, their commitment to ensuring that Gainesville and Hall County remain vibrant and robust for generations to come. Doug & Kay Ivester are truly Distinguished Citizens and more than worthy of this recognition.

Doug & Kay Ivester are truly Distinguished Citizens and more than worthy of this recognition.



(L-R) Greater Hall Chamber Chair-Elect **Phil Sutton**, *Kubota Manufacturing of America*, **Kit Dunlap**, *President & CEO*, and Chairman **Brian Rochester**, *Rochester & Associates*, at the 113th Annual Meeting & Gala on May 13.

Community Service Award VISION 2030 Public Art



VISION 2030 Public Art Chairman **Frank Norton, Jr.**, *The Norton Agency*, and **Elizabeth Higgins**, *VISION 2030 Executive Director*.

Great communities have great art. And, Gainesville-Hall County and its municipalities have taken on the mission to be a community that creates intentional and interactive art for all to enjoy. VISION 2030 Public Art has been the catalyst for this goal. The volunteer committee scouts and inventories spaces, helps secure sponsors, and matches projects with artists. Since its launch, the committee has:

- Developed an art inventory, map and walking tours of public art in our community
- Created wall murals including the unique "Lost Wall" in the Midland Arts District
- Created NEW, and ongoing, art programs such as Free Range Art, GOGO Art, BURDS (Brenau Urban Rural Discoveries), Bird Bike Racks and Protective Angels at local fire stations.

The group developed a Public Art Awareness Event and fundraising initiative called the Public Art Block pARTy. This event promotes and celebrates art while raising funds for the purchase of new public art for the community. Since 2015, VISION 2030's Public Art committee has seen over \$1.1 million invested through public-private collaborations. "Art Everywhere" has truly become the mantra, and they're only gaining momentum!

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small business

Small Business of the Month **Señor Fiesta Mexican Restaurant**

Señor Fiesta Mexican Restaurant is locally owned and operated by **Uriel Arellano**. Uriel's entrepreneurial skills were developed at a young age when he sold donuts made by his mother door-to-door. He began working in a restaurant and worked his way up through all the positions: busboy, dish washer, waiter, cook, head cook. These experiences were put to good use as he opened his own restaurant.



(L-R) **Jonathan Garcia, Uriel Arellano** and **Vicente Fernandez** of Señor Fiesta Mexican Restaurant.

Uriel says he's not an owner that simply tells people what to do – he works onsite and leads by example. Señor Fiesta has a fun and family-friendly atmosphere. Their goal is to make you feel at home each time you visit while providing great food and service. All foods are made from scratch daily and with only fresh ingredients and meats to ensure the best taste in every bite. 1943 Jesse Jewell Pkwy, Suite 900, Gainesville, GA 30501. 770-534-1122. senorfiesta.com

Upcoming Seminar

Tuesday, July 13 Back In Person
Small Business Seminar in July!

"Making Sense of Your Next Wise Move"

Presented by **J. Casey Ryals**, Agency Manager, Hall County Farm Bureau Insurance
9-10 am | Chamber In Person **OR** via Zoom
230 E.E. Butler Parkway in Gainesville
No Charge for Chamber Members

Sometimes the way to truly "win" the day-to-day hustle is to change direction completely. Uncover what is really guiding your work's journey and examine how you can enjoy higher productivity and satisfaction at work and in life. Local businessman and author J. Casey Ryals will share the principles of self-management outlined in his book, *Last to Least*. Participants will learn what self-management is and why it is important.

Become a Chamber 2021 CERTIFIED Small Business Partner by participating in six (6) Small Business Seminars this year.

CERTIFIED Partners Receive

- Certificate of Completion
- Certified Small Business Door Decal
- Recognition at a Chamber Board Meeting
- Announcement in the Business Link

Info

Amanda Lewis, 770-532-6206 x 111

Small Business Success Seminar Tuesday, June 8

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. | via Zoom

"Reach Customers Online With Google"



Demming Bass
Speaker & Trainer,
Grow With Google

Don't miss *Grow With Google* presented by Demming Bass, an official Google supported trainer, and learn how to **engage with customers online, generate leads, make sales and grow revenue**. Customized for local businesses and nonprofits, Bass will show you how to improve your website's visibility, implement social media strategies and use free tools to immediately market your business. Demming, a former chamber of commerce executive, has trained over 30,000 small businesses on how to be better marketers and was recognized as one of the "Top 100 Most Notable Georgians" by *Georgia Trend* magazine.

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meetings & events

South Hall Business Coalition

Tuesday, June 22 *IN PERSON!*

9:00 am - 10:00 am

Legacy Lodge at Lanier Islands

7000 Lanier Islands Parkway | Buford 30518

**Discover a Different World,
Close to Home.**

Meet us at Legacy Lodge and see what's happening at Lanier Islands this summer. With 1,200 acres of fun in the sun, the resort offers something for everyone in the family. Enjoy a round of golf, lounge on a white sandy beach, walk or bike across scenic trails, or take a dip in Lake Lanier. Spend the day at the waterpark at Margaritaville, dine at one of the lake-front restaurants or grab a drink at one of the lake view bars. Stay the night in one of the family-friendly accommodations. *Discover your destination for adventure, right here at home!*



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calendar

June

Wednesday, June 2

Healthcare Committee

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. | via Zoom

Friday, June 11

Economic Development Council

8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Lanier Technical College

Ramsey Conference Center

Network Over Coffee

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Dunkin' & Baskin-Robbins | Flowery Branch

Tuesday, June 8

Small Business Seminar

"Reach Customers Online With Google"

Presented by **Demming Bass**, *Speaker &*

Trainer, Grow With Google

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. | via Zoom

Wednesday, June 9

Human Resource Council

11:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Tuesday, June 15

Vision 2030 Board Meeting

11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Wednesday, June 16

Issues Committee

9:00 a.m.

Thursday, June 17

Chamber Executive Committee

12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Friday, June 18

New Member Breakfast & Orientation

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Lanier College Career Academy

2719 Tumbling Creek Road | Gainesville

Tuesday, June 22

South Hall Business Coalition

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Legacy Lodge | Lanier islands

7000 Lanier Islands Parkway | Buford

Thursday, June 24

Chamber Board of Directors

12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Gainesville Civic Center

Friday, June 25

Network Over Coffee

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Healthy and Happy Nutrition

3004 McEver Road | Gainesville

INFO

GHCC.com/events

New Member Breakfast & Orientation

Friday, June 18 *IN PERSON!*

9:00 am - 10:00 am

Lanier College Career Academy

Willow Red Conference Room

2719 Tumbling Creek Road | Gainesville 30504

All new Chamber members are invited to join us for breakfast and networking on Friday, June 18th. Meet Greater Hall Chamber officers and board members as well as staff, and learn about membership benefits and opportunities!

Light breakfast and coffee provided. Door Prizes!

Space is limited. Registration required. RSVP/Questions: Kara Tate, ktate@ghcc.com, or call 770-532-6206 x103.



Karen Reece
Vice President,
Eskimo Cold Storage

Tate O'Rourke
Business Development
Manager,
Jackson EMC

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Eskimo Cold Storage

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Peace Pole in South Hall

A Peace Pole in the South Hall Community is now one of over 200,000 in 180 countries. The pole was dedicated to the **City of Oakwood** by the **South Hall Rotary Club**. The five-sided metal fabrication has the words "May Peace Prevail" in English, Spanish, German, Korean and Vietnamese – to depict the languages and businesses represented in our community. The custom fabrication was created and donated by **Thomas Prather** of **Conditioned Air Systems**, powder coated by **Georgia Powder Coatings** and landscaped by **Landscape Management Company**. Peace Poles began with Masahisa Goi after World War II and the destruction he saw from the atomic bomb in Japan. Goi came to understand that words, thoughts and intentions carry strong, positive energy. The pole will be relocated in the future as a landmark along the Highland to Islands Trail expansion into Oakwood. SHrotary.org



Amanda Groover, president, South Hall Rotary, at the newly installed Peace Pole in Oakwood.

NGMC expands medical residency program

Northeast Georgia Medical Center (NGMC) has received initial **accreditation for Graduate Medical Education for its OB/GYN residency program**. This is NGMC's sixth Graduate Medical Education (GME) program to receive initial accreditation, following the announcement in April of the Emergency Medicine and Psychiatry residency programs. Residents will begin their first day of residency on July 1, 2022 and will train for four years at NGMC under the leadership of **Francis Nuthalapaty, MD**, OB/GYN program director. By 2024, all six specialties: **Internal Medicine, General Surgery, Family Medicine, Emergency Medicine, Psychiatry** and **OB/GYN**, could host over 200 residents – making NGMC's Graduate Medical Education program one of the largest in Georgia. NGMCgme.org



Sen. Warnock visits Gainesville-Hall County

U.S. Senator Raphael Warnock recently made a visit to Gainesville-Hall County where he toured the Downtown Square to see the many projects under construction. He also visited **Kubota Manufacturing of America** where he met with **Phil Sutton** and other community leaders. Warnock and his team toured the Kubota plant and took a ride in an RTV manufactured at Kubota's Gainesville facility.



- Veteran commercial lender **Greg Barrett** has joined **Peach State Bank** as senior vice president. Barrett began his career in Gainesville in 1998 and most recently served as market executive/senior VP at First Citizens. He was an organizer/director of Chattahoochee Bank of Georgia where he was executive vice president. Barrett is active in the community, serving as Gainesville High Dugout Club treasurer and former member of the Gainesville Middle School and Centennial Arts Academy Governance Councils. He is a 2008 graduate of Leadership Hall County and was the 2001 Gainesville Jaycee of the Year. peachstate.bank
- The Greater Hall Chamber has a **position opening – Vice President Finance & Administration**. Full time position, and experience is required. Responsible for managing financial activities, cash receipts and disbursements, payroll and 401K. Provide HR support for employees. Maintain financial and physical assets and investment properties. Coordinate IT inventory and support. Send resume: resumes@ghcc.com
- **Lake Lanier Olympic Park's Food Truck Friday** is **Friday, June 11** (5-9pm) with a great lineup of food and fun! Live music, new and returning food trucks, beer and wine sales, retail vendors and community groups – there's something for everyone. Limited table reservations available. Stay up to date with all the latest regarding Food Truck Friday and more upcoming events at [Facebook.com/lakelanierolympicvenue](https://www.facebook.com/lakelanierolympicvenue)
- **John Jarrard Foundation's 6th Annual Lake Show** is **Saturday, June 5** at Lake Lanier Olympic Park and features the Shawn Mullins Band with Special Guests, The Allen Nivens Band. Gates open at 5pm with food trucks and a fireworks show following the concert. johnjarrardfoundation.com
- The **2021 Gainesville-Hall County Market Report**, published by the *Atlanta Business Chronicle*, and the **Chamber's 2021 Economic Development Report (Q2)** are now available. Both reports highlight workforce development, industrial growth, tourism, healthcare and more. Visit the Chamber's **Resource Center at GHCC.com** for the these publications as well as the recently updated **2021 Elected Officials Directory** with a complete listing of City of

Gainesville and Hall County officials, along with all municipalities in Hall County, State Legislators, U.S. Congress and U.S. Senate. GHCC.com/resource-center

- **South Hall Rotary Club** president **Amanda Groover**, DCO Commercial Floors, was honored with the **2021 R.L. Paynik Award** at the annual conference. The award was given by the Rotary District Governor in recognition of outstanding leadership by a club president and the numerous service projects, non-traditional activities and opportunities the South Hall Rotary club provided. Groover's leadership helped inspire projects, such as Rotary Means Business, Farmers to Families food distribution and the new GED voucher scholarship program for adult education at Lanier Technical College. shrotary.org
- **MedLink Georgia** welcomes **Ernie Aldaco, NP-C**, to the MedLink team! Ernie is a Family Nurse Practitioner with over 19 years of experience in orthopedics and sports medicine. He is accepting new patients, age 5+, in the Gainesville office for sick and well visits, sports physicals, and basic women's health. Ernie is also bilingual. To schedule an appointment: 706-521-3113. medlinkga.org
- **Summer MusicFest™ 2021** is finally here! **The Arts Council** announces it's first of five, family-friendly, outdoor concerts from the new Gladys Wyant Performing Arts Pavilion at the Smithgall Arts Center in Downtown Gainesville. The music series kicks off with **BANKS & SHANE on Friday, June 18**. For over 40 years, Banks Burgess, Paul Shane, and their fabulous band have been bringing capacity crowds to their feet! Bring a picnic and chair, or get an upfront view by reserving a table for 8. Show starts at 8:00 pm. Gates open at 6:00 pm. For tickets, call 770-534-2787 or visit TheArtsCouncil.net
- For the fifth consecutive year, the Government Finance Officers Association of the U.S. and Canada has awarded **Hall County Government** the GFOA's **Distinguished Budget Presentation Award** for its Fiscal Year 2021 budget. hallcounty.org

Got news?

Email: kwest@ghcc.com

economic development

Corporate Storage expands warehousing



A ribbon cutting was held at **Corporate Storage's new Monroe Drive facility** (L-R) **Nikki Chandler**, Chamber VP Existing Industry; **Christa Andrews**, CS Sales; **Spence Price**, CFO; **Debbie Cofer**, General Manager; **Jimmy Adams**, President; **Rod Allen**, Operations Manager. The new 90,000-square-foot dry storage warehouse, an expansion of Corporate Storage's headquarters in Gainesville, is dedicated to commercial warehousing. corporate-storage.com



The Adams Companies held a groundbreaking at 2380 Monroe Drive for a 30,000-square-foot spec building – a joint venture with B. Dale Clark and Clark Construction Management. (L-R) **Tim Evans**, Chamber VP Economic Development; **Jimmy Adams**, President, and **Spence Price**, Chief Financial Officer, The Adams Companies; **Dale Clark**, Owner, and **Bryan Clark**, Manager, B. Dale Clark; **Shane Clark**, President, Clark Construction Management. Set to deliver this fall, the building is the newest property developed by The Adams Companies, a privately held industrial real estate development, investment, and management firm headquartered in Gainesville. theadamscompanies.com

Dutch company to bring 83 local jobs

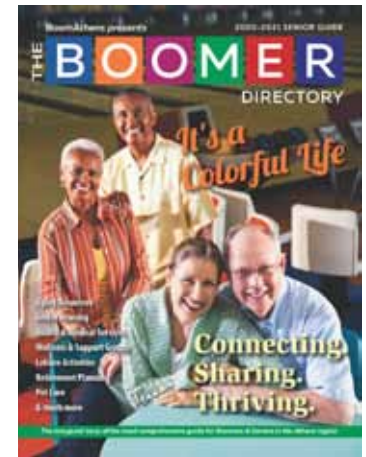
Ammeraal Beltech, a leading global manufacturer of lightweight conveyor belting, will invest over \$19 million in a new production plant in Buford and create 83 jobs in Hall County. Founded in 1950, Ammeraal Beltech is an international leader in the design, manufacturing, fabrication, and servicing of high-performance process and conveyor belts. With manufacturing sites in Europe, the U.S., Canada, and Asia, Ammeraal Beltech's products are available in 150 countries across the globe. Operations at the plant, located at 4627 Distribution Parkway in Buford, are expected to begin this fall. The company is hiring for positions in operations, quality management and process engineering. Individuals interested in career opportunities are encouraged to visit ammeraalbeltech.com

Reserve your FREE listing in the 2021-22 Boomer Directory of Senior Resources!

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Questions? E-mail Betsy@boomathens.com

BOOM **MAGAZINE**

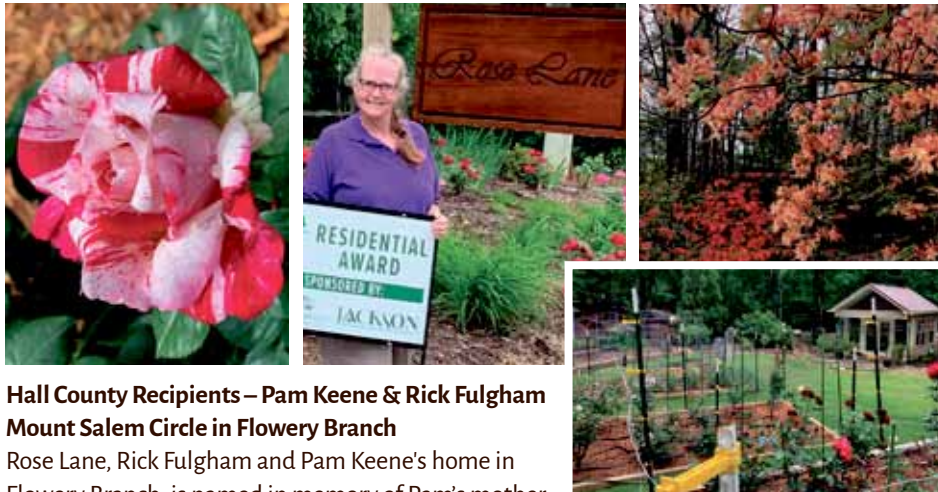
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"You knocked it out of the ballpark!"

Megan Vogt, ADRC Program Manager, Northeast Georgia Area Agency on Aging
(2020-21 Boomer Directory Satisfied Business)

community development

2021 Residential Beautification Awards



Hall County Recipients – Pam Keene & Rick Fulgham Mount Salem Circle in Flowery Branch

Rose Lane, Rick Fulgham and Pam Keene's home in Flowery Branch, is named in memory of Pam's mother who grew roses and was an avid gardener. The 3-acre property features 60 hybrid tea long-stemmed rose bushes, over 100 native and standard azaleas, 50 camellias, five varieties of hydrangeas and many other blooming plants. In addition to flowering shrubs, trees and plants, Rick and Pam have multiple raised gardens to grow tomatoes, peppers and other vegetables. Their blueberry orchard yielded more than 100 pounds of fruit last summer.



City of Gainesville Recipient – Cindy White – Bradford Street

Cindy White, a retired Gainesville City and Hall County teacher, spends her time working in her small home garden. "My goal is to plant and build habitats for birds, bees and butterflies, so I do not use pesticides or herbicides," said White. "Gainesville is so lucky to have a healthy bird population including chimney swifts – a pair and their offspring can eat 12,000 insects a day! Their favorites are gnats, mosquitoes and biting flies."

Since 1994, the Greater Hall Chamber has recognized homeowners that are helping beautify our community. Residential & Business Beautification Awards help promote the importance of landscape enhancements and recognize those that are making a difference. Info: Robin Halstead, 770-532-6206, or email, rhalstead@ghcc.com.

Eagle Ranch appoints new executive director

Eagle Ranch announces **John Shackelford** as Executive Director of Eagle Ranch, beginning in July. Prior to joining Eagle Ranch, Shackelford spent 10 years at Chick-fil-A's corporate headquarters, most recently leading Chick-fil-A's Brand Planning team. Eagle Ranch Founder and current Executive Director **Eddie Staub** will continue in a leadership role and launch Eagle Ranch's new community facility, The James W. Webb Wings Center. Opening to the public in the fall, the center will serve individuals, families and others in the community through outpatient counseling, retreats and organizational mentoring. Located in Flowery Branch, Eagle Ranch helps children and families in more than 40 counties in North Georgia and metro Atlanta. Children are provided a Christ-centered home, education and counseling in an 18-24 month program that involves the entire family, with the goal of the child returning home. Eagle Ranch serves up to 42 boys and 24 girls on its 315-acre campus, giving the structure, stability and time needed to work through a crisis situation. Additionally, Eagle Ranch has a variety of outreach efforts designed to educate and support families, therapeutic professionals, and nonprofit organizations across the United States and worldwide. EagleRanch.org



Eagle Ranch's **Eddie Staub** (left) and **John Shackelford**.

JOB OPENING

VP Finance & Administration

Greater Hall Chamber of Commerce
Full Time Position | Experience Required

- Manage financial activities of the Greater Hall Chamber of Commerce
- Processes all cash receipts, disbursements, payroll and 401K
- Manage financial and physical assets of the Chamber
- Manage the Chamber office building and investment property
- Provide Human Resource support for Chamber employees
- Coordinate IT support and maintenance
- Manage the Chamber Welcome Center and staff

Send Resume:
resumes@ghcc.com



Human Resources | P. O. Box 347 | Gainesville, GA 30503

education & leadership

Leadership Hall County

(L-R): **Ashley Davis**, Lawson Air Conditioning & Plumbing; **Ashton Meeks**, Starke Family Office; **Chelsea Sullivan**, Rushton & Company, and fellow Leadership Hall County 2020-2021 class members



celebrated the end of their virtual year with food, fun, and fellowship with LHC Planning & Advisory Council members. The class will meet in person in August to start an action packed adventure for the Class of 2022. Special thank you to program sponsors: **Murray Plastics**, **American Yazaki Corp**, **Mellow Mushroom**, and door prize contributors: Elachee Nature Science Center, The Spa on Green Street, Gainesville Bowling Center, Lakeside Carwash, Gainesville Seafood Market, Thermacell Outdoors, Milton Martin Honda.

Art in the Park



Art in the Park Co-Chairs **Leigh-Anne O'Brien** and **Allyson Everett** at Hammock Hollow at Laurel Park. Leigh-Anne and Allyson, along with **Becky Ruffner** from Hall County Parks, coordinated the event. Hundreds of people enjoyed live music, art for sale by local artists, food trucks, fellowship and fun! Funds raised from the VISION 2030 event will fund future public art initiatives. vision2030.org

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ribbon cuttings

OCC Antiques & Interiors



Jennifer Nycz, Julia Nycz and Lorena Peterson cut a ribbon at **OCC Antiques & Interiors**, a new and unique market in Downtown Gainesville. OCC Antiques & Interiors provides an opportunity for people to find beautiful and affordable furniture and décor while preserving the past. Shop local to help the community and to help preserve our planet! The market's antique dealers are comprised of many of your friends and neighbors, so you never know who you are going to run into when you stop in! They're located just off the Downtown Square, so drop by anytime you feel like a trip down memory lane. 300 Northside Drive, Gainesville GA 30501. 678-696-5273. OCCantiques.com

Skyline Contracting



Scott Hearn, Paul Rogers, Sam White, Terry Garrett, Wes Hall (with scissors), Lauren Hall and Tyler Nicholson cut a ribbon at **Skyline Contracting**, one of North Georgia's most trusted names in home improvement. The award winning contractor specializes in roofing, siding, window and door replacement, and painting. From repairs to upgrades, they ensure outstanding commercial and residential service with unmatched workmanship with distinctions from the leading manufacturers. Because Skyline is a GAF Master Elite Certified and CertainTeed Select Shingle Master roofing company, you'll have access to a wide selection of high-quality products for your home's protection. 756 Green Street, Suite B, Gainesville, GA 30501. 770-530-3095. SkylineRoofingCompany.com

Optimizet Energy, Inc.



Katrin, Jason and Hope Bonham cut ribbon for **Optimizet Energy Inc.**, a provider of the most effective, comprehensive and cost-effective energy savings, reviewing and monitoring services available today. Optimizet is all about showing you how to minimize your business' energy problems with energy reducing technologies. Working with Restaurants, QSR's, SME's, Facilities Managers and Property Managers, Optimizet Energy delivers savings up to 40% and maximizes your profits. 7380 Spout Springs Road, Suite 210-101, Flowery Branch, GA 30542. 470-207-4223. optimizet.com

Flowery Branch Farmers Market



Officials cut a ribbon to open the **Flowery Branch Farmers Market**, including **Ed Asbridge**, Flowery Branch City Council; **Stacey Dickson**, Lake Lanier CVB; **Renee Carden**, Manager, Flowery Branch Farmers Market/Lake Lanier CVB; **Vickie Short**, Flowery Branch City Clerk/Interim City Manager, and market vendors. Celebrating 10 years of bringing locally grown produce to South Hall, the market kicked off the 2021 season in May and is open Thursdays (3:30-6:30pm) rain or shine through October. Vendors include local Georgia Grown farmers with an abundance of fresh produce, as well as cheese makers, bath and body products, fresh baked breads, honey, jewelry, needlework and more. Check the website for upcoming events with live music artists and special activities each week. 5410 W Pine Street, Flowery Branch, GA 30542. 678-400-5108. FloweryBranchFarmersMarket.com

Promote your company with a FREE Ribbon Cutting Ceremony.

It's a free service if you're a member of the Chamber. Not a member? Join now, call 770-532-6206.



welcome new members

Bobcat of Atlanta

David Buehler
1780 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd
Gainesville, GA 30501
770-242-6500
- Equipment Distributor
BobcatofAtlanta.com

El Sombrero Mexican Grill & Cantina

Christian Aguirre
1705 Browns Bridge Road
Gainesville, GA 30501
478-808-3102
- Restaurant & Catering
elsombreromex.net

Foundry Commercial

Charlie Adams
3520 Piedmont Road NE
Suite 235
Atlanta, GA 30305
404-649-6920
- Commercial Real Estate
foundrycommercial.com

GotoHearing

Dr. Christopher Campellone
3000 McEver Road
Gainesville, GA 30504
678-696-5470
- Audiology
gotohearing.com

Industrial Repair

Laurie Galucki
3130 Tanners Mill Road
Gainesville GA 30507
770-992-1851
- Industrial Repair
irinc.com

Jean Marquez-McKinney

96 Blue Heron Bluff
Dawsonville, GA 30534
678-428-7614
- Individual Member
jean.GaHomeExperts.com

Keller Williams Lanier Partners / Kimberly Roberson

6808 Grand Marina Circle
Gainesville, GA 30506
678-524-5014
- Real Estate
kimberlyroberson.kw.com

Mosquito Shield of Lake Lanier

Jeff Fields
5485 Bethelview Road
Suite 360-340
Cumming, GA 30040
678-993-5279
- Exterminating Service
moshield.com

New York Life Insurance

Smith Saguesse
5909 Peachtree Dunwoody Rd
Building D, Suite 1100
Atlanta, GA 30328
478-538-5219
- Insurance
newyorklife.com

OTM Moving Company

Daniel Braziuas
4050 Enterprise Way
Flowery Branch, GA 30542
770-318-2981
- Moving & Storage
otmmoves.com

Peak Industries

Rodney Walker
175 Ben Burton Road
Bogart, GA 30622
706-769-3430
- Electrical Contractor
peak-ind.com

Sunny Park

6239 Hunting Creek Road
Atlanta, GA 30328
678-662-4904
- Individual Member
gbmweb.com

The Erica Hill Agency

Erica Hill
3446 Winder Highway
Suite N
Flowery Branch, GA 30542
678-805-5885
- Insurance
allstate.com/erica.hill

Travis Rylee Roofing

Travis Rylee
3120 The Trail Road
Gainesville, GA 30501
706-266-9386
- Roofing Contractor
travisryleeroofing.net

Velo Solar

Sharon Lee
154 Krog Street
Atlanta, GA 30307
770-855-1160
- Energy Solutions
velosolar.com



Thank you Chamber volunteers and staff for making the **2021 Membership Campaign** a success! All gathered at **Left Nut Brewery** to celebrate signing up **78 new members**. (Seated, L-R) **Darryl Workman**, *South State Bank*; **Amanda Lewis**, *Chamber*; **Tracy Herter**, *Netchex*; **Renee Sweeney**, *Georgia Notary Pro*; **Rena Pendley**, *American Cancer Society*; **Jessica Palacios**, *Cardinal Ridge Group*; **Nikki Chandler**, *Chamber*; **Angela Banks**, *Georgia Notary Pro*. (Standing, L-R) Chamber Vice Chairs of Membership **Phil Bonelli**, *Regions Bank*, and **Brett Fowler**, *Turner, Wood & Smith Insurance*; **Tim Evans**, *Chamber*; **Michele Piucci**, *Peach State Bank*; **Layna Weldon**, *State Farm Insurance*; **Andrew Davenport**, *A Good Look Home Inspection*; **Matt Waters**, *United Community Bank*; **Phil Palacios**, *Cardinal Ridge Group*.

Residential Mosquito & Tick Control

Mosquito Shield® was founded in 2001 in response to the absence of an effective residential mosquito control service and the inadequacy of mosquito control products such as body sprays and candles. The company spent two decades developing its proprietary blend of all-natural oils and select control products, as well as testing application methods and frequencies. The result is a "mosquito shield" that turns treated property into a mosquito-free zone by killing and repelling mosquitoes and other harmful outdoor pests. Having pioneered residential mosquito and tick control, Mosquito Shield and Tick Shield are the best in the business. Today, over 8 in 10 customers return year after year, and they serve tens of thousands of American households. 678-993-5279. moshield.com



Healthy Happy Nutrition

Healthy Happy Nutrition is owned by **Sonia Magana**, a trained independent Herbalife Nutrition distributor who provides **comprehensive and personalized solutions for customers' nutrition and wellness goals**. Since 1980, Herbalife has been on a mission to improve nutritional habits around the world with great tasting, science-backed nutrition products that help people get the right balance of healthy nutrition. Contact Sonia and learn how you can achieve balanced nutrition, energy and fitness with the help of protein shakes, weight management programs, nutritional supplements, sports nutrition solutions and personal care products. Take the first step toward a better and healthier active you! 3004 McEver Road, Gainesville GA 30504. 678-677-5728. goherbalife.com/soniamagana



Cloudland Vineyards + Winery

Cloudland is one of Georgia's newest wineries but quite different from others. Their focus is on unique grapes and wines made for our region with styles such as their **estate grown Lomanto, an exciting red wine grape that recently won "Best Georgia Red Wine" made from non-European grapes**, to Pet Nat sparkling wines, unfiltered white wines and wild yeast fermented red wines. In addition to bottling the very best wines Georgia has to offer, the atmosphere is unlike any other. With a backyard, laid back feel and a kind and well trained staff, this is a gem located right here in our community! 3796 N Bogan Road, Buford, GA 30519. 678-765-7945. [Facebook.com/cloudlandwines](https://www.facebook.com/cloudlandwines)



113th Annual Meeting & Gala



Kit Dunlap, Greater Hall Chamber President & CEO, and **Philip Wilheit**, Wilheit Packaging. Kit and Philip have each attended an estimated 40+ Greater Hall Chamber Annual Meetings!



Terry & Francine Spicer at the Gala Outdoor Reception. Terry serves on the Chamber Board and is Operations Training Manager at King's Hawaiian.



Ashton Blackwood, Augusta University; **Tate O'Rourke**, Jackson EMC, Chamber Vice Chair of VISION 2030; **Andi Farmer**, Milton Martin Honda, Chamber Vice Chair of Education.



Paul & Suzanne Chambers. Paul is Regional Director of External Affairs for AT&T and co-chairs the Chamber's HALLmark Initiative.



(L-R) **Erin Dawkins**, Home Care Matters; **Emily McCord**, Homestead Hospice; **Margaret Spratlin**, Longstreet Clinic; **Shanna Cronic**, Northeast Georgia Diagnostic Clinic; **Anilee Wilson**, A Helping Hand Home Care; **Valerie Darling**, Home Care Matters.



Chamber Marketing Vice Chair **Missy Burgess**, Lanier Islands Marketing & PR Manager; **Valentina Velasquez**, LI PR & Sponsorships Coordinator.

Upcoming Chamber Events

Tuesday, June 8

Small Business Seminar

"Reach Customers Online With Google" by **Demming Bass**, Trainer, *Grow With Google*
9:00 a.m. | via Zoom

Friday, June 11

Network Over Coffee

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
New Dunkin' & Baskin-Robbins
in Flowery Branch

Tuesday, June 22

South Hall Business Coalition

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
Legacy Lodge at Lanier Islands

Friday, June 18

New Member Breakfast & Orientation

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
Lanier College & Career
Academy in Gainesville

Friday, June 25

Network Over Coffee

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
Healthy and Happy Nutrition
3004 McEver Rd | Gainesville

Register for Chamber events
online at GHCC.com/EVENTS



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