

The Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce

FOCUS

GWINNETT'S PRO-BUSINESS ADVOCATE

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- Programs that build your business
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FEBRUARY/MARCH 2006

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Gwinnett's largest and most respected economic outlook event promises to offer the most complete local picture for 2006.

2006 Economic Development Forum: Strengthening Gwinnett's Competitive Advantage

GWINNETT'S PUBLIC AND private sectors, who guide the Economic Development of Gwinnett, are joining together to provide the most dynamic and multi-faceted Economic Development Forum yet. The March 22 economic outlook will feature panel presentations and discussions from leading local and state experts who will

address the overall economic viability of Gwinnett County. Special sessions on the development of targeted industries and revitalization will be featured at the forum.

If you are a business leader and want to stay informed on Gwinnett's business climate, you don't want to miss this special gathering of top decision makers that

will shape the direction of Gwinnett in the coming year. Leaders from around Gwinnett will gather on March 22 at 7:30 a.m. at the Busbee Center at Gwinnett Technical College to discuss the issues and resources impacting economic development in 2006.

All key components vital to the future of Gwinnett's overall economic viability

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CIDs Boost Bottom Line for Businesses

Imagine Southern Gwinnett as the next Buckhead where Gwinnett's younger workers gather to live, work, and play. Picture the area around Gwinnett Place Mall as the next Midtown, full of trendy shops, vibrant businesses, and new landscapes.



Jim Maran
President and CEO, Gwinnett Chamber

Community Improvement Districts, or CIDs, could make these visions a reality and help make older areas of Gwinnett new again.

A great example of this is the Gwinnett Place Mall CID. While still viable, it's far from what it used to be in its heyday. Big box retailers have upgraded to bigger, newer buildings, leaving behind vacant shells. Congested roads have turned shoppers away and diverted them to new locations, and the litter along the sidewalks doesn't paint the picture of an ideal shopping destination.

But with the help of the newly formed Gwinnett Place Community Improvement District, that's all changing. We've returned to forward progress and community excitement about the future.

The Gwinnett Place area is home to one of the county's two CIDs – an organization formed when a majority of property owners voluntarily agree to slightly increase their own property taxes to fund improvements to an area. CIDs work to make their respective business districts or communities inviting places to live and shop while also spearheading transportation improvement projects and other enhancements.

The real value of a CID comes in the long-term. By improving property values, everyone benefits – from residents to businesses.

There's an even bigger value. The real power lies in the organization's ability to stretch the tax dollars and give property owners more bang for their buck.

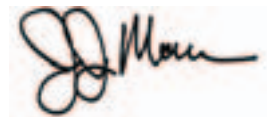
CIDs excel at leveraging tax dollars. They do this by applying for grants and other state and federal funding. The Highway 78 CID took \$1.5 million in taxes invested by its business property owners and generated a return of more than \$16.5 million from other funds. The district is using the money to conduct two community input studies, install seven miles of streetscapes and landscape enhancements, and implement technology advancements that will improve safety and the flow of traffic.

For years, the Gwinnett Chamber worked to lead the way in the formation of CIDs to help revitalize southern portions of Gwinnett County. Now that they are up and running, the Chamber continues to support the efforts of their leadership because we believe the presence of CIDs makes a strong statement that businesses care about their community.

Reinforcing our motto, "Success Lives Here," these districts will be re-designed with the latest, most modern materials, new transportation concepts and new architectural beauty.

This type of revitalization doesn't have to merely be a dream anymore. With our CID's leadership, member participants and an organized structure, our CIDs are turning dreams into reality.

Community Improvement Districts, or CIDs, could make these visions a reality and help make older areas of Gwinnett new again.



A Closer Look at CIDs

YOU'VE HEARD A LOT ABOUT CIDS over the past few months. Here's a quick primer on what they are, what they do, and the progress that's being made.

Community Improvement Districts, or CIDs, work like this: local property owners agree to increase their commercial taxes in order to raise money for improvement projects. A majority, 50 percent of owners representing 75 percent of the total assessed value of the district, must agree to the tax lift. Once approved by the appropriate governing body such as Gwinnett County, the CID is able to collect the additional revenue and put it to use.

The goals of CIDs are to:

- Leverage tax dollars to increase funding for transportation and other community improvement projects
- Improve transportation to make businesses more accessible
- Increase the long-term property values in a district
- Handle aesthetic issues such as landscaping and design

Currently, there are two CIDs operating in Gwinnett. The Gwinnett Place CID, which encompasses 191 parcels in the Gwinnett Place Mall area, was formed in March 2005.

The Highway 78 CID, which includes a stretch of Highway 78 from Stone Mountain to Snellville, and contains more than 380 properties and 750 businesses. On the horizon is the Southwest Gwinnett Village – an association looking to obtain formal CID status by March 2006. It includes about 1,200 parcels along the I-85 corridor stretching from DeKalb County to Beaver Run Road, and will be the largest CID in Georgia if approved.

All are making progress.

The Gwinnett Place CID supports such efforts as redeveloping the old Target on Old Norcross Road into a mixed-use project. CID organizers retained a landscape maintenance company that mows rights-of-way and routinely picks up trash. It has also initiated studies to determine ways to improve traffic flow and eliminate congestion.

The Highway 78 CID employs a landscaping service that each week cuts grass along both sides of the 7-mile section of the highway within the jurisdiction, removing approximately 25 bags of trash along the way. The organization provides a security team composed of off-duty Gwinnett police officers who patrol the corridor looking to stop security threats ranging from unlocked doors to malfunctioning security gates. The officers are also available to respond to any incidents that may occur.



Node/Gateway 1 Concept – Intersection at East Park Place Boulevard.

Dorine Mitnick, manager of promotional items for the Snellville-based company STA, located in the Gentry Shop in the Heritage Village shopping center, has taken note of the increased presence of police officers and believes it is one more benefit to being located in a CID zone.

“As a merchant, it's good to know the CID has extra security out there to look out for us,” Mitnick says. “We need that, and we really appreciate everything the officers do.”

This group also hopes to attract people back to the businesses by making the area cleaner and safer.

“We want the 78 corridor to be an attractive, accessible place that is a destination

for shoppers,” says Brett Harrell, executive director of the Highway 78 CID. “The bottom line is that we want to make this a stable, viable community that continues to increase in property value.”

For more information on each CID, visit the following Web sites:

Gwinnett Place CID:
www.gwinnettplacecid.com

Highway 78 CID:
www.78cid.org

The Southwest Gwinnett Village CIA:
www.gwinnettville.com

TECHNOLOGY SPOTLIGHT

Tibs Group: Your voice, data, and security solution source



Mark Tibbetts, President / General Manager, Tibs Group

WHEN GWINNETT COUNTY BUSINESSES AND ORGANIZATIONS need voice, data, or security solutions and services, they call Tibs Group, a single solutions provider based in Suwanee.

Tibs (www.tibsgroup.com) is a division of M.C. Dean, Inc., one of the nation's premier engineering and integration firms specializing in complex electrical, electronic, and telecommunications systems. With over 300 engineers, 500 electricians and 500 technicians, Tibs/M.C. Dean, Inc., focuses on meeting the needs of organizations with large scale, complex and mission-critical infrastructure requirements.

One of the Southeast's premier building intelligence companies, Tibs handles every aspect of an organization's critical power system, communications network, and security system from design and installation to testing, maintenance and repairs.

Founded in 1971, Tibs has a history of providing superior service and being committed to the Gwinnett community. An active member of the Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce, Tibs has a list of Gwinnett clients that includes the Gwinnett Civic Center, Gwinnett Tech, Gwinnett County School Systems, Georgia Trust Bank, SAFECO Insurance, Gwinnett University Center, the Gwinnett Chamber and SAGE Software.

Tibs' President/General Manager Mark Tibbetts and the Tibs Group support Gwinnett's growing technology community and the Gwinnett Technology Forum, which they use as an educational and a networking resource.

Your backyard. Covered daily.

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution |  Gwinnett News

Atlanta Classic Cars – Providing State-Of-The-Art Service in Gwinnett

Cathy Ellis has been a proud member of the Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce for nearly three years. “It’s been an invaluable partnership,” notes Ms. Ellis.



Cathy Ellis, president, Atlanta Classic Cars

CATHY ELLIS, PRESIDENT OF Atlanta Classic Cars (ACC), has been in business since 1988, and employs 195 people. In September 2003, she moved her automobile dealership from Decatur to 1705 Boggs Road in Gwinnett County where she opened a dazzling new, state-of-the-art facility on more than 20 acres – to better serve her customers.

Atlanta Classic Cars boasts nearly 80 service bays, viewable through a panoramic window wall, where over 500 cars are serviced daily. In fact, many of the service operations are handled while the customer waits. And waiting has never been more enjoyable. Customers are encouraged to either work out in the exercise

room, go online in their business center, hit a few balls on their putting green and driving range, or even take a free shuttle bus to the mall.

And right across the street, at the corner of Boggs Road and Satellite Boulevard, is their beautiful, pre-owned facility where customers can browse for just the right gently-owned Mercedes-Benz vehicle.

Plus, ACC recently opened a brand new Collision Center where specially trained technicians use state-of-the-art methods, which makes all of their body work efficient and invisible.

Cathy Ellis has been a proud member of the Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce for nearly three years. “It’s been an invaluable partnership,”

notes Ms. Ellis. “Dealing with some of the brightest and best business professionals is a wonderful benefit to being a member.”

ACC supports many local Gwinnett communities and nonprofit charities. They have enjoyed hosting events in their own backyard – at locations such as The Gwinnett Convention Center, The Arena at the Gwinnett Civic Center, Chateau Elan, as well as many popular, local golf courses.

In addition, Cathy supports many community groups such as: The Brain Tumor Foundation, American Heart Association, Habitat for Humanity, Junior League, Fragile Children and more.

You can view some of Atlanta Classic Cars’ advertising in Gwinnett publications such as the *Gwinnett Daily Post* and the *Gwinnett Business Journal*.

If you are in the market for a new or pre-owned Mercedes-Benz, you really should stop by Atlanta Classic Cars. It’s quite amazing.

CHAIRMAN'S CLUB

Want more info?

To learn more about becoming a part of the Chairman's Club, please contact the Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce at 770-232-3000.

An advertisement for The Exchange Corporate Center. On the left is a yellow diamond-shaped sign with a black arrow pointing right. The background is a blue sky with white clouds. Text on the left reads: "Metropolitan Facilities, Small Town Living." Below that, in a smaller font: "It's Just Around The Corner. In Oconee County www.theexchange316.com 706.543.1910". On the right is the logo for "THE EXCHANGE CORPORATE CENTER" with a stylized 'X' icon. Below the logo is a rendering of a modern office building with a parking lot and landscaping. A small "LANDMARK PROPERTIES" logo is visible in the bottom right corner of the ad.

Learn from the Best at the Success Lives Here Series



Melodie Snell Conner, Gwinnett County Supreme Court Judge

THE SUCCESS LIVES HERE Leadership Series is a nine-month program that highlights the success stories of some of Gwinnett's most prominent leaders. The forums will touch on their lives and how they got to where they are today, what has contributed to their success, what brought them to Gwinnett to build a career, what makes them different and among the most successful business men and women in the community, what drives their involvement in the Gwinnett community and what obstacles they have faced in their career.

Join us on May 12, as we hear from Gwinnett County Supreme

Court Judge Melodie Snell Conner, a lifelong resident of Snellville and Gwinnett County, as she shares her secrets to success in the law profession. Judge Conner was nominated to the Gwinnett County Supreme Court in July 1998. Prior to this position, Conner served as a judge for the Gwinnett County State Court and the Magistrate Court. Judge Conner began her career as an attorney for Donn M. Peevy in Lawrenceville, GA.

Judge Conner balances her professional life with her involvement in the community and with her family. Among many things, Judge Conner served as the chairperson for the Legacy Awards Gala of the

Gwinnett Women's Legacy of United Way in 2004 and 2005. She has also served as a coach and team mom for various basketball, baseball, softball, cheerleading and roller hockey teams of the South Gwinnett Athletic Association.

The secrets to success continue throughout the coming year on August 11, September 8, October 13 and November 10. For more information on the Success Lives Here Business Leadership Series or for information on how to sponsor this event, contact Meghan Schroder at 770-232-8816 or meghan@gwinnettchamber.org.

Small Business Academy: An Entrepreneurial Development Program

ARE YOU STARTING YOUR OWN business? Would you like to run your current business more effectively and efficiently? The Small Business Academy Presented by Monster is designed to help and assist entrepreneurs and small business owners with the basics of starting and running a business.

The Small Business Academy is a cooperative program with UGA's Small Business Development Center, which brings leading professionals and emerging business owners together during a seven-week course designed to prepare entrepreneurs with information,

resources and techniques to operate a business successfully.

"The Small Business Academy, in its fifth year with the Gwinnett Chamber, has proven to be a tremendous success. The Chamber offers a number of resources to small businesses in Gwinnett, and this series is a plus for employers and employees alike. Several sessions are offered for all facets of a company to improve on current business techniques," commented Meghan Schroder, senior manager, business development division, Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce.

The Small Business Academy provides entrepreneurs and small business owners with the basics on how to market a business and how to communicate effectively with clients, personnel and customers. Attendees also learn about the integral world of e-commerce and how to make technology work for their companies. In addition, the business academy would not be complete without an overview of the ever-complex aspects of financing and small business tax planning. The class concludes with a graduation and reception.

The Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce is dedicated to helping small businesses succeed by providing a foundation for success. The Small Business Academy is just one of the many ways that the Chamber is helping small businesses to grow and thrive. The Small Business Academy will be held on April 21, 28; May 5, 12, 19 and 26.

For more information on the Small Business Academy or for information on sponsorship opportunities, contact Meghan Schroder at 770-232-8816 or meghan@gwinnettchamber.org.

BellSouth Classic - World's best golfers, local charities enjoy the "green" March 27 - April 2, 2006

Since 1967, the mere mention of the BellSouth Classic conjures images of some of the toughest competition on the PGA TOUR, fights among golf's elite to the last hole, and Gwinnett's annual entry in professional golf's "classic" tournaments. The pride of the metro area golf tournaments, the event has also provided "green" of another kind, specifically millions of dollars for Gwinnett County area charities to the benefit of thousands of children.

The 2006 BellSouth Classic will be played in Gwinnett at the TPC at Sugarloaf in Duluth March 27 - April 2, the week before The Masters Tournament. 2005 Champion Phil Mickelson is expected to compete again in 2006, as are two-time BellSouth Classic titleholder Scott McCarron, two-time US Open champion Retief Goosen, Sugarloaf resident Stewart Cink, and many more of the world's finest professional golfers.

This year, the BellSouth Classic is giving Gwinnett Chamber members exclusive discounts not available to the general public.

Champions Pavilion Individual Seat \$225

The opportunity to purchase individual seats in the Champions Pavilion is exclusive to Gwinnett Chamber members. This includes dining in an exclusive area at Sugarloaf Clubhouse. Food and beverage is included in the price.

Chamber Premier Ticket Package \$750

Normally a \$2,250 value, this package includes 4 Clubhouse ticket books, 8 Patio Club Ticket Books, 25 Any-Day Gallery Tickets, Two Preferred Parking Passes, Company listing in Spectator Handbook, and Company listing on Sponsor Board.

For more information on these packages, please call the BellSouth Classic at 770-951-8777 and ask for the Gwinnett Chamber packages. Come out and enjoy the BellSouth Classic, March 26 - April 2, and support both the sport and community for which we are so passionate.

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

As a non-profit organization, the Chamber's work would not be possible without the support and contributions made by many dedicated companies and individuals in Gwinnett County. The Gwinnett Chamber would like to show sincere appreciation and gratitude to the following sponsors who supported Chamber programs and events for the December and January periods.

The 1818 Club	Gwynn Properties	redpepper
American United Bank	Gwinnett Business Journal	Richardson Housing Group
Andersen, Tate, Mahaffey	Gwinnett Medical Center	Russell Landscape Group
& McGarity, PC	Gwinnett Technical College	Sanders Financial
ASK Staffing, Inc.	HorizonBank	Management, Inc.
Atlanta Gas Light	Jabez Ventures	Scientific-Atlanta
Bank of North Georgia	Jackson EMC	Smokey Bones Barbeque
BellSouth	King & Spalding, LLP	and Grill
Bowen Family Homes	Lil' River Grill	Spectacles Plus Eye Care
Brand Banking Company	Merial, Ltd.	Street Smarts
BravePoint, Inc.	MIS Solution, Inc.	Synergy America, Inc.
Buford Distribution Center	Monster	TechLinks
CRS IT Services	Moore Stephens Tiller	The Tibs Group
Davidson & Tucker	Morris Manning &	The Soda Shop
Dominy Construction	Martin, LLP	The McCart Group
Englert Technology, Inc.	Nextel Communications, Inc.	Velocity Sports Performance
E.R. Snell Contractors, Inc.	Optimus Solutions, LLC	Winfield Realty Group, Inc.
Gaultney Development	Pappadeaux Seafood Kitchen	Wings Air
Georgia Transmission	PBS&J	Webb Tanner & Powell
Georgian Bank	Precision Planning	

Valor Awards: A Tribute to Gwinnett's Public Safety Professionals



The Fire and Police Chiefs of Gwinnett County join together with the Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce in paying tribute to Gwinnett's public safety professionals.

In the spirit of giving back to the community, The Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce will present the county's first-ever Valor Awards in March 2006.

The inaugural awards will take place on March 24 at the Atlanta Marriott – Gwinnett Place. This special General Membership Luncheon pays tribute to Gwinnett's public safety professionals, including police, firefighters, and emergency personnel.

Among other Chambers across the nation, the Cobb County Chamber of Commerce is in its eleventh year presenting this program, with great turnout each and every year, to thank the Cobb professionals. Gwinnett Fire Chief Jack McElfish is credited with bringing this program to Gwinnett.

"Chief McElfish had seen this program in Richmond, Virginia and collaborated with the Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce to bring it to our community," said David Dusik, Public Information Officer for the Gwinnett Fire Department. "This is a wonderful program that thanks the community's heroes and their families."

A steering committee featuring representatives from all municipalities and areas of service in Gwinnett has already been assembled and planning is well underway for this long over-due thank you. Nominating will begin in January for the following awards:

Medal of Valor

Gold Medal – The highest award for bravery and heroism. Awarded in cases in which the public safety official/unit knowingly placed his life in peril of death or serious bodily harm while saving or attempting to save the lives of others.

Silver Medal – Second highest award for bravery and heroism. Awarded in situations when a public safety official/unit knowingly exposes himself to great personal risk in the performance of an official act.

Bronze Medal – Awarded in situations where during the course of an emergency, a public safety official/unit demonstrates extraordinary judgment and performance of his duties.

Lifesaving Award

Awarded to the public safety official/unit in recognition of acts taken in a life-threatening situation where an individual's life is in jeopardy, either medically or physically. This award may also be given for very complex rescues with the patient's survival.

Public Safety Person/Unit of the Year

Awarded to the public safety official/unit who has performed his job with exceptional skill, expertise, innovation and results. Community involvement both on and off the job should reflect favorably.

Purple Heart (awarded as necessary)

Awarded to any public safety professional who has been critically injured or killed in the line of duty while performing his responsibilities at the scene of an emergency incident (whether on- or off-duty). The injury must be significant and must have occurred while directly involved in emergency operations or emergency medical treatment and rescue.

An estimated 250+ members of the community, business, and elected officials, as well as our honored guests will be in attendance for the luncheon and awards ceremony.

An excellent way to show your appreciation to these dedicated men and women is to sponsor a table at the Valor Awards. Sponsorships allow public safety professionals and families of those nominated for awards to attend the breakfast. Your company will be recognized in the awards program and the table will be reserved for the honorees in your company's name. Presenting, Gold, Silver, and Table Sponsorships are now available for this premier event by contacting Abby Headrick at 678-584-2255 or abby@gwinnettchamber.org.

It's time to take a moment to thank our public safety personnel. They are our first line of defense on a daily basis, and their commitment, dedication, and sacrifices have ensured that our community is safe and secure.

Join us in thanking them for a job well done.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

will be addressed within the realms of transportation, water resources and management, revitalization, tourism, healthcare, education and workforce development. This fifth annual event promises to draw several hundred of the community's top business and government leaders for a detailed overview of the county and region's economic prosperity initiatives.

During the forum, attendees will review the results of the 2005 economic development efforts undertaken by the Chamber that recruited over 50 businesses, creating over 5,000 jobs, occupying 3,600,000 SF of building space and generating well over \$100 million in capital investments.

Pressing issues that will be addressed for 2006 include Gwinnett's changing demographics, the balance of residential development vs. commercial development, and the efforts being made in the redevelopment and revitalization of targeted areas in Gwinnett.

Additionally, participants will be the first to hear about 2006 economic development plans underway at various levels of government, in partnership with the Chamber's economic development department, to build upon the County's assets with coordinated initiatives that bring new jobs and scores of new businesses to Gwinnett. The Chamber's 2006 Economic Development Forum provides a dynamic discussion platform for anyone interested in understanding the top economic development resources and issues impacting Gwinnett County and the initiatives to effectively address them.

Panelists representing regional education interests, state and local government, and the community's business stakeholders will focus on a variety of topics that impact an organization's bottom line. Join us as we unveil Gwinnett's competitive advantage for our local economy and quality of life. To sponsor or reserve your spot at Gwinnett's Economic Development Forum, contact Stephanie Hopkins at 770-232-1174 or shopkins@gwinnettchamber.org.



Strategy. Marketing. Results.

TILLMANALLEGREER
Marketing & Communications

Innovative solutions. Sound design principles. Impeccable quality. At Tillman, Allen, Greer, our focus is on tailoring dynamic solutions to your business challenges. From strategic planning to marketing collateral and custom publishing to Web design, we can do it all. You'll be armed with tools that not only look good, but also motivate and sell. Call us today to take your business to the next level.

Find out how: 770-236-8703, ext. 101 | www.TillmanAllenGreer.com

Calling all Gwinnett Entrepreneurs! Enter the **First Annual Gwinnett Innovation Challenge**, a business plan competition with some \$70,000 in cash and services prizes. Compete in either of two categories, one for fledgling or idea stage companies, and one for companies who are ready to grow. Get all the info at www.gwinnettinnovationchallenge.com.

Congratulations to Mickey Crawford, **Best Wishes Baskets & Gifts**, who earned a spot on Gift Basket Review's America's Top 100 Gift Basket Businesses in the top gift basket revenue producers for 2004. This company was chosen for the top 100 list from participants of a State of the Industry Survey open to 20,000 national gift basket/gift packaging companies in America.

Georgia Federal Credit Union (GFCU) announced **Mr. Mark Waller** as the new director of lending. Mark will be located at GFCU's corporate headquarters in Duluth.

Inc. magazine released its 24th annual Inc. 500 ranking of the fastest-growing private companies in the country. Financial facility design-build firm, **Consultants and Builders, Inc.**, ranks No. 322 on the list, with three-year sales growth of 410.1%.

The **Lilburn Business Association** and the **City of Lilburn** featured Jeff Francouer as the Grand Marshal for their 2005 Christmas Parade. Francouer is Lilburn's own "Hometown Hero," having graduated from Parkview High School and is a role model for many young athletes in the area. The Christmas Parade is a fundraiser for the Lilburn Cooperative Ministry, with canned foods and proceeds from the parade donated directly to the organization.

Congratulations to **Sparks-Grizzard Construction, Inc.**, a locally-owned design/build general contractor engaged primarily in the construction of premier churches in Georgia, that has executed a contract with Temple of Praise International Church in Beltsville, Maryland, to design a new 17,000 square foot sanctuary, which will be constructed on the church's new site located in Prince George's County.

The Society of Women Engineers (SWE) recently announced **Marsha Anderson-Bomar** as the recipient of the 2005 SWE Entrepreneur Award for demonstrating that business can be done successfully, as well as ethically,

creatively, flexibly, and in a family-friendly manner. Marsha Anderson-Bomar is founder and president of Street Smarts – a firm providing service to both the public and private sectors in transportation planning and engineering, public involvement, and surveying.

Congratulations to **Susan Chambers, RNC, MS**, vice president and chief nurse executive of Gwinnett Hospital System, who was appointed to the Georgia Health Strategies Council by Governor Sonny Perdue. The Health Strategies Council develops Georgia's State Health Plan and addresses policy issues concerning access to health-care services.

Carl House is partnering with Powervision Productions and WBT12 to create affordable advertising for area businesses during BB Webb's new talk show entitled, "Living Life with Style." Stay tuned for details on the WBT12.com website or call Powervision at 770-867-4722 and speak with Michael Jones.

Congratulations to **Patti Williamson** who has recently joined the Gwinnett Hospital System Foundation staff as the director of development. Patti has established her career in the banking industry for more than 20 years. She received her bachelor's degree in finance at the University of Georgia, and most recently worked with First National Bank of Gwinnett.

A polished presentation prepared by a team of **Terry College of Business MBA students** from the University of Georgia earned first place in the National Black MBA Association-DaimlerChrysler Case Competition held in San Diego. Redick Brown, Tracy Dunbar and Demetria Hannah, all second-year students in the Terry College's full-time MBA program, spent three weeks studying the case and outlining strategies that would help DaimlerChrysler penetrate the consumer automotive market in China. Congratulations on a job well done!

MEMBER MATTERS

Do you have news to share?

Send your announcements to info@gwinnettchamber.org

2006 SMALL BUSINESS PERSON OF THE YEAR NOMINATION FORM:

The Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce is gearing up to recognize an outstanding small business person in Gwinnett County for 2006. You may nominate a candidate or yourself.

Award Criteria:

- Primary owner or major shareholder of the business
- Member of the Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce
- Staying power – a substantial history as an established business
- Growth in number of employees
- Increase in sales dollar and/or unit volume
- Original entrepreneurship
- Innovativeness of product or services offered
- Response to adversity
- Active member in the community

Submit nominations via fax or mail to:

Meghan Schroder

Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce
6500 Sugarloaf Pkwy.

Duluth, GA 30097

(770) 232-8816 FAX: (770) 232-8807

Due by: April 3, 2006

NOMINEE'S NAME: _____

COMPANY: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ FAX: _____

EMAIL: _____

PRODUCT OR SERVICE: _____

NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES: _____

Nominated by: (if different from nominee) _____

Company: _____

Phone: _____

(All nominees will be sent official applications)

newgwinnettchamber ofcommercemembers

Please join the Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce in welcoming these new members and extending sincere appreciation for their support of our community. Congratulations on your investment in success!

-Tom Fricano, vice president of member services

New Members Joining October 18, 2005 – December 18, 2005

Chairman's Club

New Members:

eChange Technology, Inc.

HTCPIM, LLC / Hantrust

International

Ordner Construction

Company, Inc.

Sanders Financial

Management, Inc.

SBX Technologies, LLC

Smith & Johnson, LLC

Spectacles Plus Eye Care

Steele, Inc.

Tidwell Dewitt, LLC

Touchstone Homes

Georgia, Inc.

New Members:

A Heart for Seniors, Inc.

ABC Laserjet USA

Absolute Window Cleaning, Inc.

AccessAmerica Mortgage

All Covered

All State Insurance

Alliance Home Mortgage Capital

Ambiance Interiors & Gifts, Inc.

American Electronic Supply

Company

Amerigroup Community Care

AmeriSciences Wellness and Health

Solutions

Anitox Corp.

Apogee Cleaning Technologies, LLC

As You Wish, Inc.

Atlantic Technical Sources

Atrinity Group, Inc.

Aurora Theater, Inc.

Belk, Inc. - Snellville Pavilion

Best Buy - Tucker

Best Buy Store 776

Big League Party Rental, Inc.

Bistro's Sandwich Cafe

Blackburn, Walther,

Sloan & Adair, LLC

Borders - John's Creek/Suwanee

Borders - Mall of Georgia

Borders - Snellville

Brooks Machinery, Inc.

Bullseye Communications, LLC

Cartridge World

Cellphone Clinic

Central Home Health

Chamblee Fence Company, Inc.

Charles Pittard & Company

Chef Eric Catering/Culinary

Expressions

Chilco, Inc.

CIT Small Business Lending

Clark & Towne, PC

Classic Men's Wearhouse

Cost Segregation Studies, Inc.

Creative Business Development

Curves - Duluth

David P. Marion, DDS, PC

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Doll and Associates, S.C.

Dreams Salon, Inc.

E Active Computer Learning Center

Eastside Gardens

Edward Jones - Deric Governale

Edward Jones - Scott Phelan

Entaire Global Companies, Inc.

EZ Prints, Inc.

First Horizon Bank

First Pro, Inc.

Flagstar Bank

Friendship Baptist Church

Garden Bello Design

Geek Squad

Georgia Cabling & Electric

Georgia Optometry Group

Girl Scout Council of Northwest

Georgia

Global Impex, Inc.

Global Payments

Graphic Communications

Corporation

Gwinnett Dermatology, PC

HiCall, Inc.

Home Owners Solutions

Hyperbaric Therapy Center

Innovative Architects

Integrity Bank

Intercontinental Hotels Group

ITS Sales & Services, Inc.

Janesis 1 Hair Salon

JDC Marketing, Inc.

Jerry Pope Agency, Inc.

- Allstate Insurance

Kauffman Tire

Knight Carpet Cleaning and

Floor Care

Landmark Business

Development, LLC

Longhorn Steakhouse - Duluth

Longhorn Steakhouse -

Lawrenceville

Longhorn Steakhouse -

Mall of Georgia

Longhorn Steakhouse - Snellville

Love Story Photography

Lowe's Mortgage, LLC

Main Street Financial, Inc.

Manufactured Assemblies

Corporation

Marriott ExecuStay

Mauldin & Jenkins, LLC

Media Partners, Inc.

Metro Brokers GMAC - Doug Baker

Moore Power, Inc.

Mountainview Eye Associates

Min Air

MVA Scientific Consultants

Network Technologies, Inc.

New Construction Realty Group, Inc.

Northside Forklift, Inc.

Nuspitations, Inc.

Olan Comprehensive Women's

Healthcare Center

Omega Industries

Ortiz Decorating, Inc.

Our Town

Palmieri and Associates, CPA, PC

Park Avenue Bank

Payroll 1

PCS Partners

Phenomenal Auto Repair, LLC

Preferred Physicians Group

Presidio Homes

Primerica Financial Services -

Team M.A.C.

Primrose School of Herrington

Printing On-Demand

Regions Bank - Lilburn

Regions Bank - Mountain Crossing

Regions Bank - Norcross

Regions Bank - Snellville

Regions Bank at Satellite

Republic Holding, LLC

RFB Group, CPA

Risen Sun Coaching, Inc.

Roofusa

SIG Benefits

Sign-A-Rama - Doraville

Slade W. Lail, DDS

Smart Marketing, Inc.

Smith Gambrell & Russell, LLP

Snellville Pediatrics, PC

Spittin' Image Photography

State Farm Insurance - Jayrn Melton

Sugar Hill Christian Academy

Super Suppers - Dacula

Super Suppers - Duluth

Super Suppers - Sugar Hill

Super Suppers - Snellville

The New Native

The River Club

The Robinson Realty Group

The Web Person

Theus Properties, LLC

Time Plus Payroll

TLS II, Inc.

Unlockit Locksmith Services, Inc.

WATL, LLC

Windsor Technologies, Inc.

Woodcock Washburn, LLP

Ziv'la, LLC

