

Our Next Leaders
Foundation Holds Graduation Banquets

The Wiregrass area is a strong community that is filled with some wonderful students and individuals working to make the area even better. And with the recent graduation of the Leadership Dothan and Youth Leadership Dothan-Houston County classes, this area got even stronger with some great leaders.

Programs of the Dothan Area Chamber Foundation, the 2013-2014 Leadership Dothan and Youth Leadership classes recently held their graduation banquets. These two annual programs provide participants with an intense orientation to the problems and issues facing our community. The programs also help to increase an individual's understanding of different perspectives, while at the same time encouraging them to become involved in solving the challenges faced by the area.

The Youth Leadership Dothan-Houston County is a seven-month training program that prepares high school juniors for leadership, involvement and participation in the future of the Wiregrass area. The program's goal is to interest students in civic and volunteer activities, encourage them to recognize their potential and assist them in identifying their special skills and talents.

Forty-five juniors from 12 area high schools in Houston County graduated from this year's Youth Leadership Class XXII. Held May 14 at Wiregrass Rehabilitation Center Inc.'s Sterling Event Services Rotary Hall, the guest speaker was Nicole Pinkham, senior training consultant with the Alabama Training Institute at Auburn University Montgomery.

Juhi Shah, a class participant and Northview High School junior, provided attendees with an overview of the year's highlights from visiting area hospitals during Health Care Day, to spending the day with the Dothan Police and Fire departments during Public Safety Day.

The Dothan Service League also presented Rehobeth High School's Bentley Hill with a \$2,000 education

scholarship. DSL awards three scholarships annually to a Troy University Dothan, Wallace Community College and Youth Leadership Dothan-Houston County student.

The adult program, Leadership Dothan, is a nine-month program that focuses on community resources, education, local and state government, health care, public safety, agriculture and quality of life.

The Leadership Dothan Class XXXII had 37 graduates this year and held its graduation banquet June 5, at the Dothan Country Club. During the evening event, course highlights were provided by class leader Pam Miles, Exchange Center for Child Abuse Prevention. Closing remarks were provided by Debora Pettway, chair of the Leadership Dothan Steering Committee.

As part of both programs, the classes are required to complete a community service project or fundraiser to help enhance their community. As their service project, Youth Leadership chose to volunteer time to several area Wiregrass Habitat for Humanity projects.

The Leadership Dothan class conducted three projects. They organized the largest Salvation Army Linen Drive collecting enough linens to last the local unit a year or more, hosted a Superhero 5K Run to Prevent Child Abuse raising over \$17,000 to benefit the Exchange Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse, and conducted a LD Class Envelope Drive raising over \$2,000 benefiting the Wiregrass United Way.

Linda Kelley, program coordinator and director of community development, is currently putting plans in place for the 2014-2015 classes. If you would like more information about the upcoming classes, contact her at (334) 792-5138 or email lkelly@dothan.com.

▶ See page 5 for a complete list of graduate names.



Forty-seven juniors from 12 area high schools in Houston County graduated from this year's Youth Leadership Dothan-Houston County Class XXI.

"You can't start a fire without a spark. Be the spark for you sphere of influence and simply lead from where you are."

*- Nicole Pinkham
 Alabama Training Institute*



The Leadership Dothan Class XXXII had 34 graduates and held its graduation banquet at the Dothan Country Club.

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▶ Small Business Development **10**

Quote
 of the Month

"The task of a leader is to get his people form where they are to where they have not been."

Henry Kissinger

www.dothan.com
 (334) 792-5138



RIBBON CUTTINGS

Berney Office Solutions

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Dr. M. Diane Collier, DPM
(334) 678-7036
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DPM - PODIATRISTS (FOOT)



NEW MEMBERS

Clip and add these to your Membership Directory.

ADT Security Services Inc.

Ricky Scott
5911 Monticello Drive
Montgomery, AL 36117
Ph: (334) 796-5552
Fax: (334) 395-8218
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EQUIPMENT & SYSTEMS
INTERFACE

Kennedy International Studios

F. Scott Kennedy
1161 N. Park St.
Dothan, AL 36303
Ph: (334) 678-8454
VIDEO PRODUCTION

Pope Tents and Events

Aaron Pope
305 W. Davis St.
Elba, AL 36323
Ph: (334) 897-6060
Fax: (334) 897-5066
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G.W. (Bill) Thagard
1806 Oxmoor Road
Birmingham, AL 35209
Ph: (205) 326-0833
Fax: (205) 803-4104
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McLeod's Publick House

Paul McVay
5630 W. Main St., Suite 8
Dothan, AL 36305
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Hots Deli
Jimmy Johns Dothan Inc.
Lafayette Automotive of
Dothan
Oak and Olive
Premier Entertainment
Group, LLC
SouthPoint Financial Services
Sunset Memorial Park

Houston County Health
Department
Southeastern Pediatric
Associates, PA
Village Furniture Galleries
Wiregrass Habitat for
Humanity Inc.
Wiregrass Living Magazine

Dothan Area Convention and
Visitors Bureau
Dr. Steven H. Stokes
L. Dwight Baker, MD, FACS
Pioneer Telephone
Directories Corp.
The Kutt Above Inc.
Ward-Bell Communications
Inc.
Wiregrass Rehabilitation
Center Inc.

15-19 Years

Agri-AFC, LLC
Blankenship Contracting Inc.
Full Line Exhaust Inc.
Healthwest Dental
Associates, PC
Signs Etcetera Inc.
Southeast Alabama Child
Advocacy Center
Southeast Alabama
Community Theatre
United Country-Properties
South Inc.

25-29 Years

Fastener Service Inc.
First Baptist Church
ParsonsGroup, LLC
Personnel Resources
Summer Wood Townhomes

5-9 Years

Ace Automotive Service Inc.
Barlovento, LLC
Eye Doctor's Office Inc.
Milsco Distribution
Mixon Business Center
Residence Inn by Marriott
Tri-State Diesel and Auto
Electric Inc.

20-24 Years

Alabama Motor Express Inc.
Alabama Municipal Electric
Authority
Bay Limousine Service of
Dothan
Boyd's Marine Inc.
Dothan Area Botanical
Gardens

30 Or More Years

BBVA Compass Bank
Bevis, Eberhart, Browning,
Walker and Stewart
Hathcock Plumbing and
Electric Co. Inc./Roto
Rooter
Johnston, Hinesley, Flowers,
Clenney and Turner, PC
Scarborough and Associates
Inc.

10-14 Years

Adams Beverages Inc.
CapSouth Partners
Don Harrison Allstate
Insurance
Hooters

YOUR COVER PHOTO

Rehobeth High School junior Bentley Hill (third from left) was awarded a \$2,000 education scholarship from the Dothan Service League during the Youth Leadership Dothan-Houston County's recent graduation banquet. Pictured (l-r) with Hill are Nicole Pinkham, senior training consultant with the Alabama Training Institute at Auburn University Montgomery; Dothan Service League representatives Karen Nunnally and Paige Posey.

New Chamber Members Will Now
Be Featured in Hi-Def at

• JUSTICE PARK MEDIA CENTER •

(Located in the Heart of Downtown Dothan)

Durden

Events *July* Calendar

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

- 3** ▶ **Ribbon Cutting: Eagle Eye Outfitters New Location – 9 a.m.**
Location: 3535 Ross Clark Circle
- 4** ▶ **Independence Day – Chamber Closed**
- 8** ▶ **Troy University Small Business Counseling* – 9:30 a.m. to noon**
Location: 102 Jamestown Blvd. (Chamber)
*Reservations required: (334) 792-5138
- The Network Exchange – 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.**
Location: 274 N. Foster St. (The French Quarter)
- 9** ▶ **Ribbon Cutting: Son Co Inc. – 10:30 a.m.**
Location: 5357 S. Oates St.
- 10** ▶ **Ribbon Cutting: Debra West Custom Cakes – 10:30 a.m.**
Location: 2031 S. Brannon Stand Road
- 16** ▶ **Board of Directors' Meeting – 8:15 a.m.**
Location: 102 Jamestown Blvd. (Chamber)

Save The Date! The Network Exchange

The French Quarter • July 8, 2014

Join the Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce and the Dothan Area Young Professionals as they co-host The Network Exchange event Tuesday, July 8, from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at The French Quarter, 274 N. Foster St.

Be sure to join us for an evening of excitement filled with hors d'oeuvres and refreshments. The event is free and it's the perfect opportunity to network and exchange business cards!

For more information, contact LaRhonda Robinson, membership director, at (334) 792-5138 or lrobinson@dothan.com.

Thank You To Our Event Sponsors



Ambassadors & Diplomats Team Of The Month

Red Hot Chamber Peppers



Congratulations to the Ambassador and Diplomat Team of the Month "Red Hot Chamber Peppers" for claiming this month's title. Pictured (seated l-r) are team members Co-Captain **Kendall Karrh**, Coldwell Banker Commercial – Alfred Saliba Realty; **Brooke Crane**, Dandridge Dental, PC; (standing l-r) **Faye Turner**, Midsouth Paving Inc.; **Anita Dawkins**, Prudential Showcase Properties; **Adam O'Brien**, Wells Fargo Bank, NA; **Pam Cutchens**, Dothan Career Center; and Co-Captain **Rona Miller**, Holloway Credit Solutions, LLC. Not pictured is **Denise Cain**, Harley Davidson of Dothan.

Thank you to all our Ambassadors and Diplomats who serve as the eyes and ears for the Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce. It is their dedication and support that assist your local Chamber in meeting its goals.

Be sure to check out next month's *Chamber Connections* to see who will claim the title.

Star Of The Month



Kendall Karrh
Coldwell Banker Commercial -
Alfred Saliba Realty

When Gov. Bentley Finally Gets A Paycheck, We Will Probably Have Less People Working



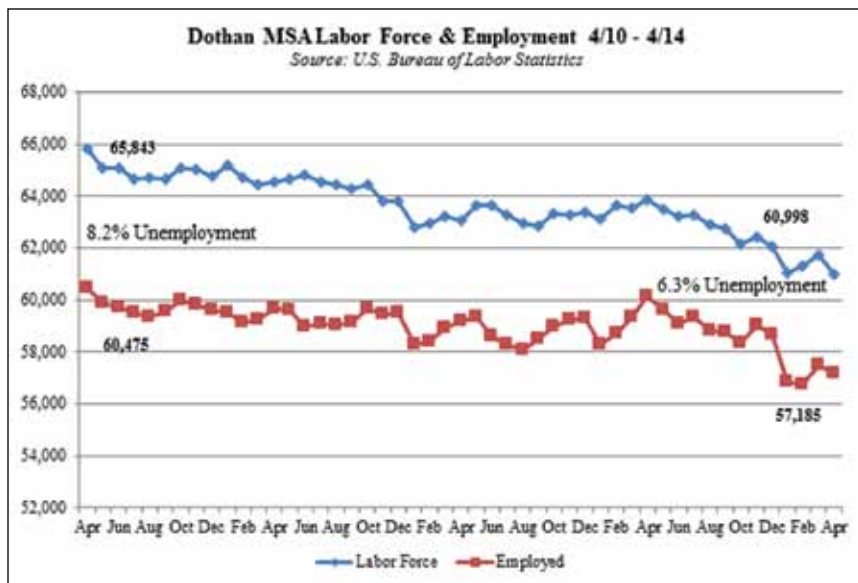
Steve Turkoski,
Project Manager

When Alabama Gov. Robert Bentley was campaigning, he stated he would not collect a paycheck until the state reached virtual full employment. An unemployment rate of 5.2 percent was tossed around as the indicator of virtual full employment. The governor has been true to his word and we all look forward to him being compensated for his work. We need the unemployment rate to come down, but we also need the labor force participation rate to go up.

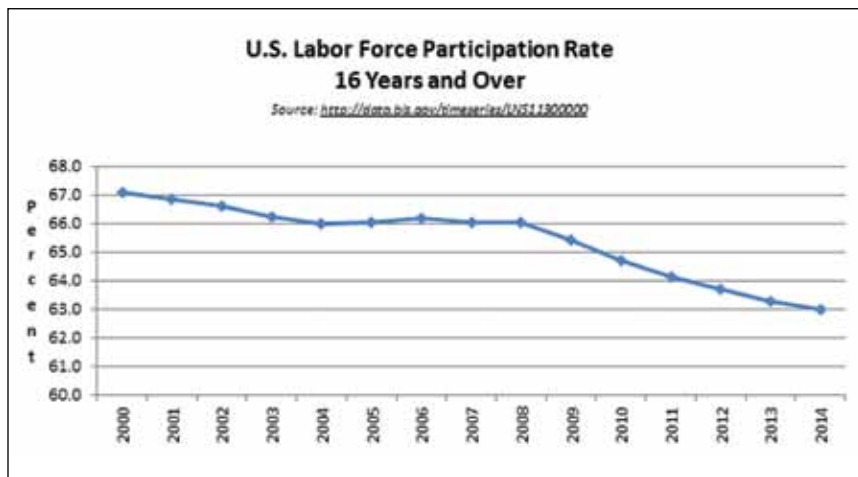
The media has a fascination with the unemployment rate and dutifully reports the monthly changes for the nation, state and county. When asked to explain my thoughts as to why the latest reported rate has gone up or down the only answer that I can give is that the ratio of workforce and

the employed has changed. They could both have gone up, both gone down or converged or diverged, but the rate is just the ratio of the two.

We should all be more interested in the population of the labor force and the employed population. As seen below, in April 2010 both the labor force and the number of persons employed were higher than April 2014; however the unemployment rate has dropped from 8.2 percent to 6.3 percent. If we had the same reported labor force that we had in 2010, with today's employed population, the unemployment rate would be 13.2 percent, but as we have people dropping out of the workforce the ratio of employed to work force does not jump up.



A May 2014 article by Nicholas Eberstadt, titled *America's Increasingly Irrelevant 'Unemployment Rate'* published by the Real Clear Markets and available online at www.realclearmarkets.com/articles/2014/05/14/americas_increasingly_irrelevant_unemployment_rate_101053.html, provides explanation of how the social programs have diminished the negative consequences of not working to the point that "Unemployment Rate" has lost social significance and there is a growing population of those voluntarily unemployed. He describes how the two historic employment statuses have morphed to three: 1) employed; 2) unemployed; and 3) choosing neither to work nor to look for it, i.e. the "flight from work" group.

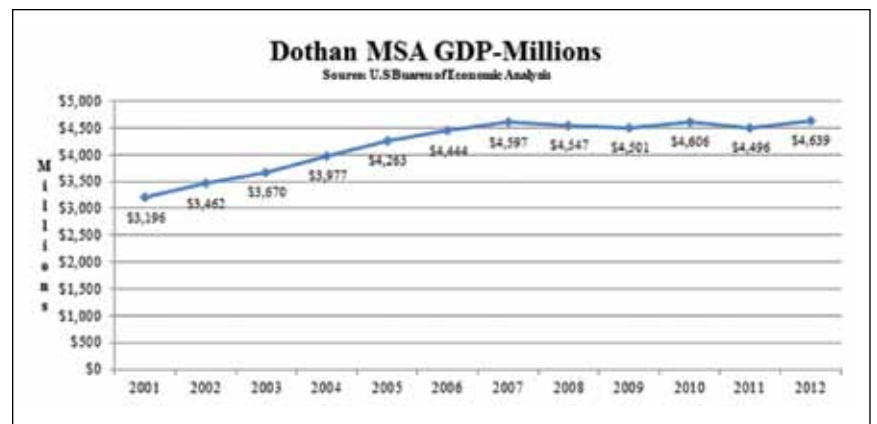


In recent years, the only age cohorts with rising labor force participation rates are those persons over 55 years of age.

Group	Participation rate				Percentage-point change			Annual growth rate		
	1992	2002	2012	2022	1992-2002	2002-2012	2012-2022	1992-2002	2002-2012	2012-2022
Total, 16 years and older	66.4	66.6	63.7	61.6	0.2	-2.9	-2.1	0.0	-0.4	-0.3
16 to 24	66.1	63.3	54.9	49.6	-2.9	-8.4	-5.3	-0.4	-1.4	-1.0
16 to 19	51.3	47.4	34.3	27.3	-3.8	-13.1	-7.0	-0.8	-3.2	-2.3
20 to 24	77.1	76.4	70.9	67.3	-0.7	-5.5	-3.6	-0.1	-0.7	-0.5
25 to 34	83.6	83.3	81.4	81.0	-0.3	-1.9	-0.4	0.0	-0.2	-0.1
35 to 44	83.7	83.7	81.7	81.1	0.0	-2.0	-0.6	0.0	-0.2	-0.1
45 to 54	85.1	84.1	82.6	81.8	-0.9	-1.5	-0.8	-0.1	-0.2	-0.1
55 and older	81.5	82.1	80.2	79.9	0.6	-1.9	-0.3	0.1	-0.2	0.0
55 to 64	29.7	34.5	40.5	41.5	4.9	6.0	1.0	1.5	1.6	0.3
65 to 74	56.2	61.9	64.5	67.5	5.7	2.6	3.0	1.0	0.4	0.5
75 to 79	67.4	70.7	72.5	75.5	3.2	1.8	3.0	0.5	0.3	0.4
80 to 84	45.0	50.5	55.2	59.8	5.5	4.7	4.6	1.2	0.9	0.8
85 to 89	56.0	59.7	63.8	68.4	3.7	4.1	4.6	0.6	0.7	0.7
90 to 94	37.7	43.7	49.1	53.8	5.9	5.4	4.7	1.5	1.2	0.9
95 and older	11.5	13.2	18.5	23.0	1.7	5.3	4.5	1.4	3.4	2.2
16 to 19	16.3	20.4	26.8	31.9	4.1	6.5	5.1	2.3	2.8	1.7
20 to 24	20.6	26.1	32.1	38.3	5.4	6.0	6.2	2.4	2.1	1.8
25 to 29	11.1	14.0	19.5	24.0	2.9	5.5	4.5	2.3	3.4	2.1
30 to 34	6.3	7.4	11.4	14.9	1.1	4.0	3.5	1.7	4.4	2.7
35 to 39	4.5	5.1	7.6	10.5	0.6	2.5	2.9	1.3	4.1	3.3

Source: http://www.bls.gov/emp/ep_table_303.htm

With fewer workers producing work, productivity has been flat or increasing slightly, indicating greater productivity from those working; however the latest report from the bureau of labor statistics, which covers the first quarter of 2014, shows national non-farming productivity dropping by 3.2 percent while labor costs went up 5.7 percent (Source: www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/prod2.pdf).



DEF To Host Chick-fil-A LeaderCast



The Dothan Education Foundation and Harvest Church will host a rebroadcast of the Chick-fil-A LeaderCast Friday, July 18, at the church from 8-4 p.m. If you are looking to recharge your batteries, or the next step to developing leadership skills, LeaderCast needs to be on your to do list.

The one-day leadership event featuring nine global speakers will not only inspire and motivate you, but provide inspiration and leadership training. The theme this year, "Beyond You," will challenge leaders to focus outward rather than inward.

Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Malcolm Gladwell, Bill McDermott, Laura Schroff and Laura Bush are some of the slated speakers. For a full list of speakers and additional details, visit www.dothaneducationfoundation.org.

The cost is \$99 per individual, seating is limited and pre-registration is required. To reserve your seat, call the Dothan Education Foundation at (334) 794-6585.

Congratulations

Youth Leadership Dothan-Houston County & Leadership Dothan Classes 2014 Graduates

Youth Leadership Dothan-Houston County Class XXII

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| Shelby Andrews
Houston Academy | Broxton Gannon
Northside Methodist Academy | Hannah Samuels
Providence Christian School |
| Josh Beltran
Ashford High School | Nick Head
Houston Academy | Hannah-Beth Sanford
Houston Academy |
| Shelby Birdsong
Wicksburg High School | Victoria Herring
Rehobeth High School | Lauren Saunders
Emmanuel Christian School |
| Shelby Burdeshaw
Ashford Academy | Bentley Hill
Rehobeth High School | Beau Scott
Providence Christian School |
| Tianna Carroll
Houston County High School | Allen Kingry
Emmanuel Christian School | Cooper Sellers
Dothan High School |
| Ivy Colbert
Houston Academy | Margaret Landers
Northview High School | Juhi Shah
Northview High School |
| Stone Collins
Wicksburg High School | Emily Ann Linder
Rehobeth High School | Auborn Shepard
Dothan High School |
| Morgan Cook
Ashford Academy | Thomas Mitchell
Houston Academy | Hannah Sherrer
Houston Academy |
| Savanna Cooley
Providence Christian School | Carolyn Morris
Providence Christian School | Hannah Singleton
Rehobeth High School |
| McKenzie Cox
Houston Academy | Britney Nelson
Providence Christian School | Jared Sluss
Northside Methodist Academy |
| Kalyn DelVecchio
Cottonwood High School | Ellen O'Mary
Houston Academy | Jamie Taylor
Wicksburg High School |
| William Dove
Houston Academy | Isabelle Owen
Houston Academy | Shirley Taylor
Dothan High School |
| Ben Efurd
Houston Academy | Paul Peterson
Providence Christian School | Maya Williams
Houston County High School |
| Brandon Etheredge
Northview High School | Matthew Powers
Wicksburg High School | Nate Williams
Emmanuel Christian School |
| Daniel Forrester
Providence Christian School | Abigail Roux
Houston Academy | |
| Destiny Freeman
Northview High School | | |

Leadership Dothan Class XXXII

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| Ben Barron
Lee, Livingston, Lee and Nichols, PC | Jennifer Ford
Vaughn Blumberg Service | Kevin Murphy
Southeast Alabama Gas District |
| Wes Bell
Regions Bank | Brett Hemphill
Wiregrass Church | Adam O'Brien
Wells Fargo Bank, NA |
| Matt Bolin
Coleman World Group | Melanie Hill
Individual Sponsorship | Linda Robinson
Robinson Tax and Accounting |
| Sarah Brown
Dothan Awning and Exteriors | Thomas Houston
Michelin North America Inc. | Amy Schutz
Wiregrass Habitat for Humanity |
| Angela Calloway
Five Star Credit Union | Rosalind James
Alabama Cooperative Extension System | Tammy Smith
Southeast Alabama Medical Center |
| Kristyn Clark
Tom West Co. | Reginald Jones
WTVY-TV Gray Television Group Inc. | Mike Spitzer
Coleman World Group |
| Stanley Davis
Southeast Alabama Youth Services Inc. | Beth Kenward
Humana Inc. | Tim Vierkandt
Prudential Showcase Properties |
| Christina Dear
Army Aviation Center Federal Credit Union | Lynn Lamere
Wallace Community College | Tamekia Ward
Coleman World Group |
| Kelli Lynn Dillard
Dothan Real Estate Team | Brandon Lovering
Regions Bank | Jim Watson
Dothan Fire Department |
| Kristina Dillard
HEALTHSOUTH Rehabilitation Hospital | Eric Mansfield
Wiregrass Church | Jarea Wilson
The Wilson Group |
| Mike Doherty
Southern Nuclear, Farley Nuclear Station | Dr. Thomas Maple
Wallace Community College | |
| Anna Belle (A.B.) Farrington
Michelin North America Inc. | Davis McLaughlin
Trinity Bank | |
| LaKeshia Faulk
Southern Nuclear, Farley Nuclear Station | Pam Miles
Exchange Center for Child Abuse Prevention | |
| Stephanie Fields
Belk - Wiregrass Commons Mall | | |



Health Care Day



Government Day



Public Safety Day



Public Safety Day



Education Day



Government Day



Business Day



Opening Retreat



Public Safety Day



Salvation Army Linen Drive



Diversity Workshop



Quality of Life Day



Public Safety Day



Public Safety Day



Aviation Day



Health Care Day

Dothan MSA Lowest In State ACCRA Cost Living Index Second Quarter 2014

Among the 288 urban areas that participated in the second quarter 2014 ACCRA Cost of Living Index, the Dothan area came in at 88.9 for its total index. This index represents that the overall cost of living for the Dothan area is 11.1 percent below the national average.

When compared to the other eight Alabama urban areas that participated in the 2014 second quarter Index, the Dothan area was the lowest cost area in the state. The area also reported the lowest in Utilities (87.7 percent) and Miscellaneous Goods and Services (87.5 percent).

ACCRA Cost of Living Index (COLI) Second Quarter 2014 <i>National Average for 288 Urban Areas = 100</i>		
Five Most Expensive Urban Areas		
Ranking	Urban Areas	COL Index
1	Manhattan, N.Y.	220.3
2	Honolulu, Hawaii	175.1
3	San Francisco, Calif.	163.9
4	Brooklyn, N.Y.	163.4
5	Hilo, Hawaii	150.6
Five Least Expensive Alabama Cities		
Ranking	Urban Areas	COL Index
1	Dothan, Ala.	88.9
2	Anniston-Calhoun County, Ala.	89.3
3	Florence, Ala.	89.7
4	Decatur-Hartselle, Ala.	90.2
5	Mobile, Ala.	92.3

The ACCRA Cost of Living Index measures regional differences in the cost of consumer goods and services, excluding taxes and non-consumer expenditures, for professional and managerial households in the top income quintile. It is based on more than 90,000 prices covering 60 different items for which prices are collected quarterly by chambers of commerce, economic development organizations and university applied economic centers in each participating urban area. Small differences should not be interpreted as showing a measurable difference.

The composite index is based on six component categories: Housing, Utilities, Grocery Items, Transportation, Health Care and Miscellaneous Goods and Services.

What Does Breakfast Cost? Each quarter, C2ER collects more than 90,000 prices from communities across the US for the Cost of Living Index. With food prices a big part of the national media attention, D2ER decided to once again feature those communities with the most and least expensive food costs as measured by the grocery item index number. C2ER collects data on 26 items from a variety of surrogate categories to represent the grocery item component of the index. Dothan's Grocery Items index was 102.1

ACCRA Cost of Living Index (COLI) Second Quarter 2014 <i>National Average for 288 Urban Areas = 100</i>		
Alabama Grocery Items by Index Number		
Ranking	Urban Areas	Index
1	Anniston-Calhoun County, Ala.	94.3
2	Florence, Ala.	96.4
3	Huntsville, Ala.	98.1
4	Decatur-Hartselle & Huntsville, Ala.	90.2
5	Montgomery, Ala.	100.8
6	Dothan, Ala.	102.1
7	Auburn & Mobile, Ala.	102.9

Chamber Names New Board Members

At the June 2014 Board of Directors' meeting, the Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce's Nominations and Elections Committee, chaired by Mark Saliba, immediate past chairman, presented to the board a proposed slate of nine candidates as incoming board members. The following Chamber members will serve three-year terms of office beginning Oct 1, 2014:

B. Scott Applefield
Winco, LLC dba Bojangles'

Kelly Colbert
Covenant Steel

Cynthia Green
Wiregrass Rehabilitation Center Inc.

Dr. Craig Lenz
Alabama Collage of Osteopathic Medicine

Dr. Rayford E. Malone
Greater Beulah Baptist Church

R. Cliff Mendheim
Prim and Mendheim, LLC

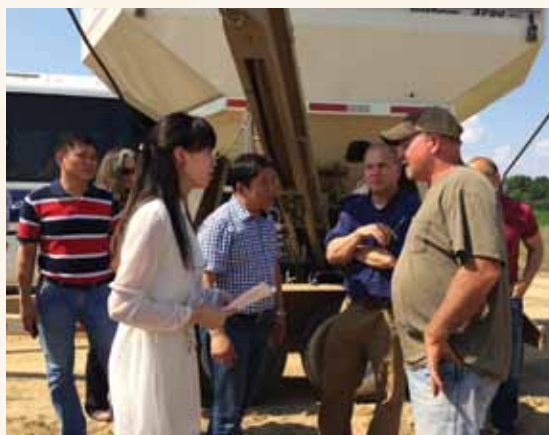
Bob Steensma
Five Star Credit Union

Russ Whitfield
AAA Cooper Transportation

Dr. Ashli Wilkins
Wallace Community College

The Chamber's board determines policies and sets goals aimed at advancing economic and community development in the Dothan area.

Visiting Businesses Learn More About Area's Cotton Industry



The Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce's Director of External Affairs, Dean Mitchell (second from right), and a local cotton farmer meet with some visiting business individuals interested in learning more about the Wiregrass area's cotton industry.

Houston Academy Announces Upcoming Events

Houston Academy will host the following events in July and August:

Study Skills Workshop
July 14-17, 10 a.m. - noon, \$125

This workshop targets 7th-10th-graders, but does not exclude students in other grades. Areas to be covered are study skills notebook, study music and testing materials. For more information, contact Karrie Hart at (334) 648-0350. Participants are asked to bring their MacBooks.

Color Theory
July 21-25, \$125; Grades 9th-12th - 10:30 a.m. - noon; Grades 7th-8th, 2-4 p.m.
Students will explore color and techniques in this class while unleashing their creativity. Students will paint, laugh and have a blast. Supplies will be provided.

Percussion Camp
July 28-Aug. 1, \$100; 6th-8th graders, 8 a.m. - noon; 12th graders 1-5 p.m.

Students will learn percussion, have fun and rock out while studying a variety of different percussive instruments, musical styles and music genres. No matter the skill level, the camp will provide quality guidance, instruction and a comprehensive study of drums and percussion. Held in the HA Band Room, the camp is open to the first 20 students for each time slot. For more information, contact Instructor Joey Keener at keener@houstonacademy.com or www.facebook.com/joeykeenerpercussion.

Harp Workshop
Aug. 2, Lower School 10:30 a.m. - noon; Upper School 1- 2:30 p.m.

Instructor Virginia Pendleton will present a short workshop for anyone interested in learning more about the harp and what it entails. Participants will learn about the different types of harps, how they are cared for and how to play them. Parents are welcome. For questions, call (517) 507-7421 or joyfulsounds123@aol.com.

Math Camp
Aug. 5-8, 1-3 p.m., \$100

Students entering the second grade are invited to come join Mrs. Kinney and Mrs. Elliott in room 104 for a few days of math practice, review and fun. The class size is limited to 20 students and the deadline to register is June 20. An afternoon snack will be provided and payment reserves student's spot in the class.

Guitar Lessons
\$20 per 30 minute private lesson,
Scheduled by appointment, students will learn basic note reading (pitch and rhythm), chords, scales, the parts of the guitar and how to tune and care for their guitar. It is recommended that students bring their own guitars, but one can be provided. Contact Brian Hart for appointments at (334) 648.0349 or hartb@houstonacademy.com.

Registration forms are available at houstonacademy.com.

Michael Burchette
Graphic Designer/Videographer

"Your Design,
Your Way."

2819 Glen Lawrence Rd
Cowarts, AL 36321

(334)-791-0244

burchettemab@gmail.com

burchettemab.wix.com/portfolio

Sleep Number Opens Dothan Store

Sleep Number by Select Comfort is pleased to announce a new store location opening in Dothan, Ala. at 3439 Montgomery Highway, across the street from Wiregrass Commons Mall.

The company embodies an individualization philosophy by offering a robust portfolio of products that deliver the latest innovations to address sleep challenges from temperature-balancing sheets and personalized pillows to cozy comforters and beds perfect for each of you.

According to a recent survey, almost one in four U.S. couples (25 percent) sleep apart due to sleep disturbances or bedroom incompatibilities, such as mattress firmness or temperature preferences. Sleep Number recognizes that everyone is different and one-size-doesn't-fit-all when it comes to sleep, which is why the company is dedicated to providing sleep solutions that are focused and tailored to meet the needs of both sleepers.

Sleep Number is currently offering Special Grand Opening savings available through July 5, exclusively at the Dothan store. They invite Chamber members

to stop by the new location to understand how you can get a better night's sleep starting today.

Sleep Number products are only available at more than 440 stores nationwide and at www.sleepnumber.com.

For more information, give the store a call at (334) 792-1113.



Sleep Number by Select Comfort opens a Dothan store located at 3439 Montgomery Highway, across the street from the Wiregrass Commons Mall.



McKnight Joins Coleman World Group



Dennis McKnight, Vice President of Quality and Customer Care

Coleman World Group is pleased to announce that Dennis McKnight has joined the organization as the vice president of quality and customer care. McKnight will interact with all service center locations along with the customer service team to ensure that the quality of a customer's experience is consistent throughout the entirety of the relocation process.

McKnight possesses and brings to Coleman World Group 34 years of operational management experience. His management experience includes 25 years as a GM and regional vice president in the food and beverage industry and nine years as the chief operating officer in the Branded Petroleum Industry.

"Dennis proved to be the perfect candidate for this position as we continue to strive for a better customer experience," said Jeff Coleman, president and CEO of Coleman World Group. "Dennis' experience managing distribution with both of his previous employers will allow him to quickly learn the moving and storage industry and be a great asset for our team."

Coleman World Group is a full-service worldwide moving and storage company that is dedicated to serving the needs of corporations, governments and individuals.

Coleman World Group is a family company and it is one of the largest privately held transportation companies headquartered in the Southeast.

Coleman World Group operates over 60 service centers throughout the United States, a top 10 van line carrier, Covan World-Wide Moving, and Coleman American Moving Services, one of the largest agents for Allied Van Lines.

For more information about Coleman World Group, visit www.colemanwg.com or call (800) 803-8888.

Five Guys Now Offers Catering

Five Guys Burgers and Fries now offers catering for your next lunch or dinner at the office, or for a group event.

Voted Best Burger by *Capital Region Living* magazine, Five Guys has a large menu that offers an assortment of items that can meet the needs of any size group. Online ordering and menu options are available at www.fiveguys.com.

"Five Guys Burgers and Fries offers a variety of hamburgers, hot dogs and even veggie sandwiches," said Dothan General Manager Stacey Calhoun.

For more information on catering options and pricing, visit their location at 4650 W. Main St. or contact Calhoun at (334) 671-1922.



Active.

Our spine care program could help you get back to the life you love.

Back and neck pain can reduce the quality of your life and make everyday activities difficult. So when diet, physical therapy and medications no longer provide adequate relief, it may be time to consider spine surgery.

Flowers Hospital's spine care program brings together board-certified spine surgeons, dedicated nurses, therapists and technicians to care for you. Family or friends can also participate in your recovery by learning about special exercises, medications and follow-up care to make your transition home a smooth one.

We know having spine surgery is a difficult decision. But where you go for your surgery shouldn't be. **For more information about the Flowers Hospital Spine Care Center, call 334-794-5000, ext. 1505.**



Flowers Hospital
Spine Care Center

Patient results may vary. Consult your physician about the benefits and risks of any surgical procedure or treatment.

YOUR CHAMBER

Reminder *Verification Forms Due*

In preparation for the upcoming production of the Dothan Area Chamber's *2015 Membership Directory and Business Guide*, Chamber members began receiving their membership verification forms May 1.

As a reminder, if you have not already submitted your verification form, please do so either by mailing or faxing the completed form back to the Chamber at P.O. Box 638, Dothan, AL 36302 or (334) 794-4796.

Thank you!



Southeast Eye Offers New Optical Advantage Program

Southeast Eye Clinic is now pleased to offer a free discounted vision plan. The Optical Advantage Program is a benefit employers can offer to their employees at no cost or obligation.

Some of the benefits to the plan include free vision screenings, \$55 annual routine eye exams, 25 percent discount on prescription glasses or sunglasses and many other discounted services. These benefits are also available to immediate family members of any employee under this plan. Routine vision screenings are offered to OAP Members every Wednesday from 2-4 p.m. with no appointment necessary.

Southeast Eye offers same day appointments and after-hour care if needed. They also offer a wide range of comprehensive eye care services from one of their four board certified physicians. They also have a full-service Optical Shop with an excellent selection of frames, lenses, contacts, sunglasses and safety eye wear.

Southeast Eye are also able to conduct free vision screenings at an employer's facility as a convenience to their employees.

Southeast Eye Clinic is conveniently located on the campus of Flowers Hospital at 287 Healthwest Drive. The physicians on staff are Drs. Jimmy Carter, Douglas Freeley, Nicholas Barreca and Chris Willingham.

If you are interested in the Optical Advantage Program or any of Southeast Eye Clinic's other services, contact Missy Wright at (334) 714-3444 or Cheri Kelly-Sherer at (334) 794-1968 or (800) 300-8989.

jeffstrick45@yahoo.com
334-791-5688

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Upcoming Member Events

- ▶ **Celebrate Recovery**
Every Friday • 6 p.m.
Harvest Church. This is a biblical 12-step program for anyone struggling with life's hurts, hang-ups or habits. The program is free and all are welcome. Optional dinner starts at 6 p.m.; free to first-time guests. For those with children, age specific children's program available. For more information, call Harvest at (334) 702-6555 or email celebratercovery@harvestdothan.com. "You can't heal a wound by saying it's not there!"
- ▶ **Freedom Fest**
July 3 • 4-10 p.m.
Festival Fields, Fort Rucker. Freedom Fest is the premier event for Fort Rucker. Hosted by the Commanding General and open to the public, spectators will enjoy great food, music and the area's largest fireworks display. Prohibited items include glass containers, coolers, backpacks and pets. For more information, call (334) 255-1749. Proper identification, car registration and proof of insurance are required to enter Fort Rucker.
- ▶ **1st Saturday Family Day**
July 5 • 10:30 a.m.
Wiregrass Museum of Art and Conference Center. This is a program that provides entertainment for the whole family. Children and their families can enjoy a different fun-filled activity each month. The program is free and open to children of all ages who are accompanied by an adult. For more information, contact the Museum at (334) 794-3871 or visit www.wiregrassmuseum.org.
- ▶ **Music By Moonlight**
July 10 • 7:30 p.m.
Landmark Park. Pack a picnic supper, bring the family and friends and enjoy an evening of great music under the stars on the Gazebo lawn. Free admission. For more information, call (334) 794-3452 or visit www.landmarkpark.com.
- ▶ **Foster Fest**
July 18 • 6 p.m.
Foster Street Downtown Dothan. Hosted by The Downtown Group, this is a free, pet-friendly event showcasing downtown Dothan, the local arts, crafts and music scene, downtown businesses and classic cars. For more information, contact The Downtown Group at (334) 793-3097 or visit www.thedowngroup.com.
- ▶ **Poplar Head Farmers Market**
Every Saturday • 8 a.m. - noon
Corner of Main and St. Andrews streets. Sponsored by The Downtown Group, this open air market features fresh locally grown vegetables, fruit, flowers, herbs, prepared foods, etc. For more information, visit www.poplarheadfarmersmarket.com.
- ▶ **Appreciation Day for Education**
July 1 • 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Wiregrass Commons Mall Food Court. Wiregrass Commons Mall will host an Appreciation Day for the education field as part of their ongoing Workforce Appreciation Day series. All personnel working in schools and other educational fields will "SPIN & WIN" great prizes including gift cards from mall retailers, free lunch vouchers, gift cards and a shopping bag of coupons from retailers, and be eligible to win a \$500 August shopping spree. All participants must have proof of employment. For more information, call (334) 792-7734 or visit www.shopwiregrasscommons mall.com.

Have an upcoming event planned?
Send your event information to
mmckean@dothan.com

MAO Plans Community Health Conference

The Medical AIDS Outreach of Alabama will host the organization's Annual Community Health Conference Series: "Coming Out of the Shadows: Breaking the Stigma" at Wiregrass Rehabilitation Center Inc.'s Sterling Event Services Rotary Hall Friday, July 11, 8-4:30 p.m.

The conference will provide participants the learning opportunity to better serve their clients and colleges.

Advance registration is \$35 (by July 3); registration at the door is \$40; students with valid ID is \$20. Lunch is included and participants are encouraged to bring a light sweater or jacket.

CEUs are also available: social workers 6.25 CEUs;

nurses, nursing home administrators 6.3 CEUs; all other professions will have to submit required documentation to their licensing board for approval.

Exhibitors are also wanted for the conference. The cost to exhibit for nonprofit agencies is \$35, which includes one admission and one lunch; all other agencies is \$45, which also includes one admission and one lunch. Exhibitors are asked to bring a door prize.

For exhibitor information, contact Kim Barnett at (334) 836-0297. For more information about the conference, or to register, call MAO at (334) 673-0494.

SAMC Lean Projects Save Time For Nurses

Southeast Alabama Medical Center has been implementing Lean, or continuous improvement, for several years. The goal of Lean tools and methodologies is to always strive to eliminate waste with a focus on customers. Companies that adopt Lean concentrate on increasing efficiency and quality while reducing costs and promoting a healthy organization.

SAMC has built its own Lean department, calling it "Operational Effectiveness." Their purpose is to continuously spread Lean throughout the Medical Center by promoting improvement and healthy culture, conducting training and events, and supporting the teams involved in improving processes.

As Lean spreads through the organization, departments realize the impact of incremental changes to their areas. Orthopedics has used many Lean tools, including 5S Workplace Organization, Rapid Improvement Events, Value Stream Maps of processes and Visual Boards.

They have improved productivity and nurse satisfaction, while becoming more accurate in their paperwork. This has improved the quality of patient care and is expected to result in increased patient satisfaction as well.

The Operational Effectiveness team conducted time and motion studies with the Orthopedic floor. By shadowing nurses to learn the barriers in their processes, the team identifies ways to eliminate waste and recover nursing time.

"If we can eliminate waste and give time back to the nurses, they can spend more time caring for the patients, which is why we are here," said Jan Wynn, RN, director of Orthopedics.

The Urology/Nephrology unit implemented similar tools, finding immediate results. The most recent Lean Champion class conducted a 5S event in their storage areas. These improvements included

organizing, labeling and moving items closer to where they are needed most.

By relocating commonly used supplies to cabinets at the far ends of the halls, the Urology/Nephrology unit saved its nurses from walking to the main storage area near the center of the unit. This change will save these nurses roughly 5,052 miles of walking per year – the equivalent of walking to Vancouver, Canada and back.

Urology RN Crissie Rogers said she has seen a difference. "It helps save time already. By having the supplies closer to where we use them, we can give better patient care."

Lean projects like these encourage team members house-wide to remove waste from their work lives to improve patient care. Similar events are occurring in more areas than just nursing, including In-House Construction, Nutrition and Food Services, Environmental Services, and more. Lean provides the tools and techniques to make progress happen.



Registered nurses (l-r) Mary Holder and Karess Trawick use many Lean tools in their day-to-day operations on the Southeast Alabama Medical Center's Orthopedic floor.

James Bowman Realty Welcomes New Realtors



Elisa Donn



Sandi Houston



Curtis Coachman

James Bowman Realty Inc. is excited to announce the addition of three new realtors to their sales force – Elisa Donn, Sandi Houston and Curtis Coachman.

Donn comes to Bowman Realty from Palm Beach, Fla., with a wealth of knowledge gained from working in the luxury real estate and commercial market of Palm Beach. She also has 20 years of service in medical administration and 23 years as a volunteer to special needs services. She is looking forward to applying her know how to this area's housing market.

Houston was raised in the Dothan area and is a mother of two and the grandmother of three. She has spent over 25 years in the management and accounting field and is well versed in problem solving and helping others. She is excited to be taking on a new career and is looking forward to helping the people in the Wiregrass with their housing needs.

Coachman is also a lifetime Wiregrass resident and has spent the past 27 years serving this area as an Alabama State Trooper. He also spent 20 years in the U.S. Army Reserve. He knows the area very well and can't wait to get started with listing and selling.

Be sure to contact the James Bowman Realty team at (334) 764-7211 to help with any of your housing needs.

WITH STROKE, TIME LOST IS BRAIN LOST.



SAMC IS THE REGION'S GOLD STANDARD FOR STROKE CARE.

PROVIDING PATIENTS THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF ADVANCED STROKE CARE.

SAMC is the region's first hospital to earn the prestigious Gold Plus Stroke Award from the American Heart Association and American Stroke Association.

From the area's first responders to SAMC's highly trained stroke team of physicians, nurses and clinical team members, patients receive the latest stroke care available.

This means a coordinated and quicker response time, which in turn means less damage caused by the stroke.



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Top 10% in nation for patient safety

YOUR CHAMBER

twitter

Chamber members can now follow the Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce on twitter!

Twitter is a free service that lets you keep in touch with people through the exchange of quick, frequent answers to one simple question: What are you doing? Join today to start receiving DothanAreaChamb tweets.

Follow us on twitter at www.twitter.com/DothanAreaChamb.



Charlsey Ewald
Client Services District Manager

charlsey.ewald@theberrycompany.com
p: 636.939.1578 | c: 940.535.8289
eP: 866.235.1073 | eFax: 866.506.0065

5401 Veterans Memorial Parkway, Ste 200 | St. Peters, MO 63376
www.BerryMeansBusiness.com

Frequently Asked Questions About Small Business

The following frequently asked questions was originally published and reprinted by permission by the Small Business Administration, Office of Advocacy. Copyright 2014, "The Small Business Advocate," April 2014, Vol. 33, No. 3.

What is a small business?

The Office of Advocacy defines a small business as an independent business having fewer than 500 employees. For the small business definition by industry used in government programs and contracting, see www.sba.gov/content/small-business-size-standards.

How many small businesses are there?

In 2011, there were 28.2 million small businesses, and 17,700 firms with 500 employees or more. Over three-quarters of small businesses were nonemployers; this number has trended up over the past decade, while employers have been relatively flat.

Small businesses comprise what share of the U.S. economy?

Small businesses make up:

- 99.7 percent of U.S. employer firms,
- 63 percent of net new private-sector jobs,
- 48.5 percent of private-sector employment,
- 42 percent of private-sector payroll,
- 46 percent of private-sector output,
- 37 percent of high-tech employment,
- 98 percent of firms exporting goods, and
- 33 percent of exporting value.

(Source: U.S. Census Bureau, SUSB, CPS; International Trade Administration; Bureau of Labor Statistics, BED; Advocacy-funded research, Small Business GDP: Update 2002-2010, www.sba.gov/advocacy/7540/42371.)

What is small businesses' share of net new jobs?

Small firms accounted for 63 percent of the net new jobs created between 1993 and mid-2013 (or 14.3 million of the 22.9 million net new jobs). Since the end of the recession (from mid-2009 to mid-2013), small firms accounted for 60 percent of the net new jobs. Small firms in the 20-499 employee category led job creation. (Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, BED. For the latest employment statistics, see Advocacy's quarterly reports, www.sba.gov/10871.)

How can small businesses' share of net new jobs be larger than their share of employment, yet their share of employment remain steady?

As firms grow, they change employment size classes. So as small firms grow, their growth counts toward small firm job gains; but if they pass the 500-employee mark, their employment is classified as large firm employment.

Which businesses create more jobs - startups or existing businesses?

In the last two decades about 60 percent of the private sector's net new jobs have been created by existing establishments and about 40 percent from the churn of startups minus closures. While firm births account for many new jobs, job losses from firm closures are equally important in accounting for net effects to employment levels. (Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, BED.)

How many businesses open and close each year?

About 10 to 12 percent of firms with employees open each year and about 10 to 12 percent close. Employer firm births and deaths were up in the most recently available data. Establishment birth figures from 2012 also showed gains. Nonemployer firms have turnover rates three times as high as employer firms, mostly because it is easier for nonemployers to start and stop, as they tend to be smaller than employer firms. Business bankruptcies numbered 33,212 in 2013, a decline of about 7,000 over the previous year. Note that not all firm deaths are business bankruptcies, and many business owners file personal bankruptcy instead of business bankruptcy.

What is the survival rate for new businesses?

About half of all new establishments survive five years or more and about one-third survive 10 years or more. As one would expect, the probability of survival increases with a firm's age. Survival rates have changed little over time. (Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, BED).

How many businesses do women own?

Women-owned firms have increased as a share of total businesses over the years, but they remain smaller, on average, than male-owned firms. In 2012, 36 percent of business owners were women. The most recently available data on the number of women-owned businesses are from 2007. These data show there were 7.8 million women-owned firms, and they averaged \$130,000 in receipts in 2007. (Source: U.S. Census Bureau, SIPP, SBO.)

Small Business Tips

Don't make these common customer-service mistakes

Founder of Decision Strategies International Paul Schoemaker says attracting customers is important, but you shouldn't overlook the need to provide top-notch service to your existing clients. Most companies work much harder at getting new customers than keeping them, even though it costs about eight times more to acquire new customers. In addition, many companies overlook the value of complaints, which can be used as opportunities for learning, he writes. Read more: www.inc.com/paul-schoemaker/bad-customer-service-happens-but-you-dont-have-to-accept-it.html. (Source: Inc. online, Paul Schoemaker, "Bad Customer Service Happens, But You Don't Have to Accept It," Feb. 5, 2014)

Retweet in a way that benefits your business

Retweeting content that is relevant to your followers is an excellent way to increase your audience, but it's best to do it in such a way as to keep your brand or business in the picture, Social Media Firm CEO Scott Levy advises in this book excerpt. He recommends before getting started, "determine how many of your tweets will be about business and how many will be about other interesting items that may draw a reaction from your followers or friends." Read more: www.entrepreneur.com/article/230889. (Source: Entrepreneur online, Scott Levy, "Retweeting Content To Build Your Brand On Twitter," Feb. 4, 2014)

Committed leaders help employees engage

Meghan Biro writes that engaged employees are more productive, happier at work and tend to stick with companies longer than their less-engaged co-workers. Business leaders can promote employee engagement in their company by committing themselves to engaging with their employees, she writes. Read more: www.forbes.com/sites/meghanbiro/2014/03/30/employee-engagement-is-a-leadership-commitment/. (Source: Forbes, Meghan Biro, "Employee Engagement Is A Leadership Commitment, Mar. 30, 2014)

How to make it through the early months of entrepreneurship

Business owners say that even with a great business idea, it may take a while to generate a profit "First-year profit? Surely you jest," said Shawn Williams, who co-owns a cupcake shop. Owners can make it through the tough early months by tweaking their concept as necessary, making careful personnel decisions and requesting assistance when necessary say entrepreneurs. Read more: www.omaha.com/article/20140330/MONEY/140339989/1697. (Source: Omaha World-Herald, Barbara Soderlin, "Turn a profit in small business's first year? 'Surely you jest'," Mar. 30, 2014)

The tax implications of bartering

Bartering can be an effective way for small-business owners to gain access to goods and services, but it will still affect your tax bill, writes Bonnie Lee, owner of Taxpertise. "To properly track these activities, enter the value of the trade in your accounting software," she writes. "Report the value as sales and the offset accordingly." Read more: <http://smallbusiness.foxbusiness.com/finance-accounting/2014/03/28/tax-rules-for-bartering/>. (Source: Fox Business Small Business Center, Bonnie Lee, "Tax Rules of Bartering," Mar. 28, 2014)

Leaders who are open to feedback have happy, productive employees

According to a new study from Zenker Folkman, a leadership development firm, your employees know your business, and chances are they have some opinions on how it could be improved. It makes sense to ask for employee feedback. The report revealed that the more likely a person is to ask for staff feedback, the more likely he is to succeed as a leader. Read more: www.forbes.com/sites/drewhendricks/2014/03/31/are-you-asking-for-feedback-from-your-employees/es. (Source: Forbes, Drew Hendricks, "Are You Asking For Feedback From Your Employees," Mar 31, 2014)

Two Great Publications, One Great Idea!

Ad Sales Campaign Underway



You want to reach new residents and the business community. They want to know how to find you. The best way to achieve both goals is to advertise in the Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce's 2015 Dothan's Official Welcome Guide and the 2015 Membership Directory & Business Guide.

The Dothan Area Chamber and Print Services Inc., the Chamber member awarded this project, have begun the ad sales campaign for these 2015 publications. Chamber members (primary contact and/or advertising agent) began receiving the Chamber's project introduction letter, verification form(s) and a "Reserve Your Space" brochure May 1.

Print Services will be contacting members about the advertising opportunities and has a media kit available online at www.psiprinter.com.

The *Welcome Guide* and *Membership Directory & Business Guide* will be mailed to Chamber members in late January 2015. High visibility through great distribution has been the key to the *Welcome Guide's* success. Increased usage of the *Membership Directory* is a direct result of its convenience to find fellow business members to promote our business-to-business relationships. Don't miss out on these important publications! Your company will benefit greatly by reaching all who look to the Dothan Area Chamber for information about Dothan businesses in 2015.

Distribution of the *Welcome Guide* (10,000) includes economic development prospects, new residents, prospective retirees and relocation families requesting information through the Chamber, 14 Chamber member apartment complexes for new residents, 20 Chamber member hotels/motels in-room distribution and the Dothan Utilities and Wiregrass Electric Authority offices to all new service customers. Great web exposure is another avenue of distribution for the *2016 Welcome Guide*. The publication will be on the following websites: The City of Dothan, Houston County, Dothan Convention and Visitors Bureau, Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce and Print Services Inc.

For more information about this opportunity, please contact:

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Ambassador Committee APPLICATION 2014-2015

**Are you good at promoting
your belief in the Chamber?**

**Do you enjoy people
and networking?**

**Is your business interested in
connecting with the community?**

**Then you may have what it takes
to be a Chamber Ambassador
or Diplomat.**

The Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce Ambassador and Diplomat Committees are gearing up for its 2014-2015 fiscal year, and are looking for a few good volunteers who enjoy teamwork and meeting people. The program year runs October-September and the committees meet the first Tuesday of each month at 9 a.m. at the Chamber office.

Serving as an Ambassador or Diplomat allows you to become more involved in your business community. This results in increased networking opportunities, enhanced visibility of your business and numerous opportunities to market and promote your products and services.

If you are interested in serving as an Ambassador or Diplomat for the Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce please complete and return the application. The commitment is for one year.

The Chamber has 50 Ambassador positions available for the 2014-2015 year and will accept applications until Aug. 8, 2014, or until all positions are filled.

Returning Ambassadors/Diplomats must also re-apply for the 2014-2015 year.

For more information, contact the Director of Membership, LaRhonda Robinson, at (334) 792-5138 or e-mail lrobinson@dothan.com.

(To be a Diplomat you must have been an Ambassador for three consecutive years.)

Name: _____

Business Name: _____

Title or Position: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

Circle One: AMBASSADOR DIPLOMAT

CONNECTIONS

July 2014

THIS ISSUE:

Our Next Leaders

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DOTHAN AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



C H A M B E R

CONNECTIONS

A Publication of the
Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce
July 2014
Vol. 41, No. 10 (USPS 700-660)
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Chamber Connections is published monthly (USPS 700-660) for the members of the Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce, 102 Jamestown Blvd., Dothan, AL 36301. Subscription rate is \$24 annually. Postmaster: Send address changes to Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 638, Dothan, AL 36302. Periodicals postage is paid at Dothan, AL and additional mailing office.

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ECONOMIC INDICATORS	
▼	Labor Force for the Dothan MSA for April: 62,458 in 2013; 60,998 in 2014 58,993 in 2013; 57,185 in 2014 Employed
▲	Unemployment for the Dothan MSA for April: 5.5% in 2013; 6.3% in 2014
▼	Residential Building Permits for the City of Dothan for April: 17 issued (\$4.61 million) in 2013; 14 issued (\$3.64 million) in 2014
▼	Home Sales in Dothan for April: 96 sold in 2013; 83 sold in 2014
▲	Enplanements for Dothan Regional Airport for April: 3,785 in 2013; 4,662 in 2014
▼	Houston County & Dothan Sales and Use Tax Collections (\$) for April: \$1,535,847 in 2013; \$1,462,886 in 2014 County \$5,086,056 in 2013; \$5,134,944 in 2014 City

Editor's Note: Sources for this information vary; call the Chamber for details. Data as of 6/03/14. Visit www.dothan.com for the most current information.