CONNECTIONS



Honoring Our Area's Small Businesses

Small business is the heart of every community. Small Business makes a community click. The contributions small businesses make to your local economy is remarkable when you think of the number of people it employs, or the goods and services it supplies to the Wiregrass region.

It's difficult to think of a community or organization that is successful without small businesses. Small businesses support and donate to area fundraisers and community events. We see their names at our son's and daughter's football/baseball games. Small businesses volunteer and sponsor the local walka-thons, 5K races and festivals.

Within the Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce, 82 percent of its membership report 25 or fewer employees on their employment rolls. In recognition of these small businesses and their contributions to the area, the Chamber invites you to join the organization for Small Business Week 2014, a week dedicated to honoring these members with a series of activities.

Officially set for May 12-16, Small Business Week 2014 is where there's no place better to discover the power of shared knowledge. It's a celebration honoring the entrepreneurial spirit that is the heart of the Wiregrass. It's a time where entrepreneurs can gather in one place and imagine what can happen. Your Chamber is dedicated to helping your business

The Chamber's Director of Membership LaRhonda Robinson and the Small Business Evernts Committee spend months organizing and planning the scheduled events to

Small Business Week Events May 12-16, 2014

Monday, May 12, 2 p.m. – 3 p.m. Seminar - Selling With Passion

Presenter: Velma Tribue, Velma Tribue State Farm

Location: Chamber Board Room
Cost: FREE to attend *Pre-registration required

Tuesday, May 13, 2 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. The Fashion Statement - Ladies Tea

Emcee: David Ethridge, Mercedes Benz Participants: Belk, Jezabels Boutique, Maurices and Wiregrass Commons Mall

Location: Chamber Board Room
Cost: \$5 per person *Pre-registration required

Wednesday, May 14, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Luncheon Seminar - *The ONE Thing* Presenter: Vic Pemberton, VLP, LLC dba The Pepi Companies

Location: Chamber Board Room
Cost: \$10 per person *Pre-registration required

Thursday, May 15, Noon - 1:30 p.m.
Small Business Week GM Luncheon
Speaker: J.E. Saliba, Southeastern Performance Apparel
Location: Wiregrass Rehabilitation Center Inc.'s Sterling

Events Services Rotary Hall Cost: \$15 per person; \$150 reserved tables (seats eight) *Pre-registration required

Friday, May 16, 8:30 a.m. - 10 a.m. Breakfast Seminar: How Not To Be A Virtual Idiot: The Do's and Dont's of Social Media

Presenter: Brandon Shoupe, Strategy6 Location: Chamber Board Room

Cost: \$10 per person *Pre-registration required

Thank you to our General Membership Luncheon sponsors:







ensure that the activities benefit all members, both big and small. "We encourage our members to attend the various functions planned throughout the week, which includes several business seminars," Robinson said.

The week's activities officially get underway with a Selling With Passion seminar presented by Velma Tribue, Velma Tribue State Farm Insurance, Monday, May 12, at 2 p.m. at the Chamber facility. The seminar is free to attend, but preregistration is required.

Tuesday, May 13, will feature The Fashion Statement -Ladies Tea at 2 p.m. in the Chamber's Board Room. A wellknown event among the Chamber ladies each year, David Ethridge from Mercedes Benz will emcee while Belk, Jezabels Boutique, Maurices and Wiregrass Commons Mall present the latest fashions. The tea is \$5 per person and pre-registration is

On Wednesday, May 14, Vic Pemberton, VLP, LLC dba The Pepi Companies, will present the luncheon seminar *The ONE Thing* at the Chamber. Lunch will begin at 11:30 a.m. with the program starting at noon. The cost is \$10 per person and pre-registration is required.

J.E. Saliba, Southeastern Performance Apparel, will be the guest speaker at the Small Business Week General Membership Luncheon scheduled for Thursday, May 15, at Wiregrass Rehabilitation Center Inc's Sterling Events Services Rotary Hall. The announcement of the 2014 Small Business Person of the Year finalists will also take place. Tickets are \$15 per person and reserved tables (seats eight) are available for \$150. Pre-registration is required.

Small Business Week 2014 will then wrap up Friday, May 16, with the breakfast seminar How Not To Be A Virtual Idiot: The Do's and Don'ts of Social Media. Presented by Brandon Shoupe, Strategy6, the seminar will begin at 8:30 a.m. in the Chamber's Board Room. The cost is \$10 per person and preregistration is required.

We hope you will make plans to join the Dothan Area Chamber during Small Business Week 2014 as we connect, celebrate and inspire. For more information, or to make reservations for any of the above events, contact the Chamber office at (334) 792-5138.

Saliba To Address Membership



I.E. Saliha

Saliba, owner Southeastern Performance Apparel, will be the guest speaker at the Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce's General Membership Luncheon scheduled to take place Thursday, May 15, at Wiregrass Rehabilitation Center Inc's Sterling Events Services Rotary Hall, at noon during the organization's Small Business Week 2014 activities.

Saliba spent several years in retail before starting Southeastern Performance Apparel in 1982 in Dothan, Ala. Southeastern Performance Apparel services all 50 states by supplying dresses and tuxedos for their choral and show choir performances. The company has grown over the last 32 years to become the largest supplier of choral apparel in the United

Saliba attended the University of Alabama where he earned a bachelor's degree in psychology and master's degree in marketing.

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- Workforce Development
- **Business Briefs**
- Business Hall Of 11 Fame Nomination Form



"Perfection is attaind by slow degrees; it requires the hand of time."

> François Voltaire French Philosopher (1694-1778)

www.dothan.com (334) 792-5138



RIBBONCUTTINGS

Brian Jones State Farm Insurance

190 Westgate Parkway
Dothan, AL 36303
Brian Jones
(334) 793-6396
INSURANCE



Media Mechanical Services, LLC

725 Murray Road
Dothan, AL 36303
Dina Bright
(334) 792-9299
REFRIGERATION & AIR
CONDITIONING



Regi<mark>onal Produce</mark> Distributors, LLC

1432 Leona St.
Dothan, AL 36303
Gary Caton
(205) 324-4569
WHOLESALE DISTRIBUTOR



Saint Andrews Market

193 S. St. Andrews St.
Dothan, AL 36301
Kelly and Ignacio Handal
(334) 718-6724
RESTAURANTS
CATERERS
WEDDINGS
EVENTSPACE



Thelma's Kitchen

200 E. Powell St. Dothan, AL 36303 Nathanial Walker (334) 673-9962 RESTAURANTS



Thank you!

Your membership is an investment in the future of your business and the economic progress of the Wiregrass area.

NEWMEMBERS

Clip and add these to your Membership Directory.

Alden Services

Korey Bramlett 149 County Road 508 Newville, AL 36353 Ph: (334) 701-9304 CLEANING - COMMERCIAL

Armstrong and Jordan,

Benjamin Armstrong 200 Parkwest Circle, Suite 2 P.O. Box 1847 Dothan, AL 36303 Ph: (334) 793-2629 Fax: (334) 793-5144 ATTORNEYS

B&W Closets, Mirrors and More Inc.

Greg Boyd 1322 Ross Clark Circle Dothan, AL 36301 Ph: (334) 794-3955 Fax: (334) 794-3965 WINDOWS, CLOSETS AND/OR MIRRORS

Firetrol Protection Systems

William Anderson 4480 Halls Mill Road, Suite B Mobile, AL 36693 Ph: (334) 791-5441 Fax: (251) 661-1659 FIRE ALARM & SPRINKLER SYSTEMS

Gilmore Services

Phyllis Smith 31 E. Fairfield Drive (Pensacola, Fla.) 3128 Welwyn Way Tallahassee, FL 32309 Ph: (850) 549-2723 RECORDS MANAGEMENT & SHREDDING

Morgan Stanley

Tom Lee 101 O'Brannan Park Drive Dothan, AL 36303 Ph: (334) 340-4020 Fax: (334) 460-9785 WEALTH MANAGEMENT

Music Man Productions

Jeff Strickland 118 Murray Road, Apartment H-42 Dothan, AL 36303 Ph: (334) 791-5688 DISC JOCKEY (DJ) -MOBILE

Saint Andrews Market

Kelly and Ignacio Handal 193 S. St. Andrews St. Dothan, AL 36301 Ph: (334) 718-6724 RESTAURANTS CATERERS WEDDINGS EVENT SPACE

Thelma's Kitchen

Nathaniel Walker 200 E. Powell St. Dothan, AL 36303 Ph: (334) 673-9962 RESTAURANTS

RENEWINGMEMBERS

1 to 4 Years

Bama RV Bell Helicopter Crossfit Embrace Donofro Architects Eagle Eye Outfitters Inc. George T. Bagby State Park & Lodge GETS Inc. Gosselin Design Hometown Lenders Mark Dunning Industries Runaway RV Southeast Pain Management Center The Barn of Dothan, LLC Townsend's Andersen Showroom Truck Central of Dothan dba Western Star of Dothan

5-9 Years

Computer Printing Etc.

DaVita - Dothan Dialysis
Dothan Livestock Co.
Dothan Steel Fabricators
Houston Printing Co. Inc.
Paul R. Anderson Builders
Inc.
Sherrer, Jones & Terry, PC
SofSpeak International, LLC
Tabor Pest Control
Trinity Bank
Wiregrass Hope Group

10-14 Years

City of Taylor Edward Jones Investments -Pinckard Evergreen Presbyterian Church Harris Security Systems Inc. McAlister's Deli Summerford Pallet Co. Inc. SunSouth Bank Sweetwater Apartments Tarragon Hills Apartments, Ltd. Westwood Pet Care

15-19 Years

American Classifieds
Bradford Health Services
Exchange Center for Child
Abuse Prevention
Oncology Supply Co. Inc.
Outlet Rental Car Sales
Providence Christian School
Surgery Center South
Wiregrass Human Resource
Management

20-24 Years

Barstone Apartments
Cannon Oil Corp.
Cox Swimming Pools Inc.
Emmanuel Christian School
Hardwick & Son Printing Inc.
Home Builders Association of
Dothan/Wiregrass

Jim Skinner Honda King Church Furniture Inc. Marty Robbins Roofing Co. Inc.

Nantze Springs Inc. Red Star Yeast Co., LLC

25-29 Years

Ameris Bank
Branton Land Surveyors
Calvary Baptist Church
Dothan Regional Airport
Dothan School of Dance
DSI Security Services
Kirkland Jewelry
Southeast Cardiology
Thompson Tractor Co. Inc.
Unifirst Corp.
Wiregrass Museum of Art &
Conference Center

30-39 Years

Conestoga Inc. Merrill Lynch Wealth Management Michelin North America Inc. Southern Lumber Supply

40 Or More Years

Flowers Hospital Harden's Welding & Repair The Sherwin Williams Co.



Events May 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

- Ribbon Cutting: Jezabels Boutique 10:30 a.m. Location: 392 Westgate Parkway
- 6 Ambassador & Diplomat Committee Meeting 9 a.m. Location: 102 Jamestown Blvd. (Chamber)
- Military Affairs Committee Meeting 9:30 a.m. Location: 102 Jamestown Blvd. (Chamber)

Ribbon Cutting: The Berry Co. – 10:45 a.m. Location: 102 Jamestown Blvd. (Chamber)

- Ribbon Cutting: Prime Lending 10:30 a.m. Location: 1752 Whatley Drive
- 12-16 Small Business Week 2014
 *See page 1 for more information.
 - Troy University Small Business Counseling Sessions 9:30 a.m. to noon Location: 102 Jamestown Blvd. (Chamber)

 *Reservations required: (334) 792-5138

Ribbon Cutting: Gilmore Services – 10:30 a.m. Location: 102 Jamestown Blvd. (Chamber)

Dothan Area Young Professionals' Business Brews – 5:15 p.m. Location: 2620 Montgomery Highway, Suite 1 (Oak & Olive)

- Youth Leadership Dothan-Houston County Graduation Banquet 6:30 p.m. Location: TBA
- Leadership Dothan Closing Retreat 7:45 a.m. 3:30 p.m.
 Location: 795 Ross Clark Circle (Wiregrass Rehabilitation Center Inc.)
- Board of Directors' Meeting 8:15 a.m.
 Location: 3792 Mance Newton Road (Michelin North America Inc.)
- 26 Memorial Day Chamber Closed



Ambassadors & Diplomats Team Of The Month

Dothan Diamonds In The Rough



Congratulations to the Ambassadors and Diplomats Team of the Month "Dothan Diamonds In The Rough" for claiming this month's title. Pictured (seated l-r) are team members Cheri Hall, BBVA Compass Bank; Team Co-Captain Pat Evans, Evans Automotive Service; Beth Kenward, Humana; (standing l-r) Gayla White, Troy University; Team Co-Captain Jennifer Ford, Vaughn-Blumberg Services; and Nan Pitcher, Prudential Showcase Properties. Not pictured are Alan Daniels, TriState Graphics Inc.; Josh Haisten, MidSouth Bank, NA; Diane Tyler, Century 21 James Grant Realty; and Joyce Tyson, Century 21 James Grant Realty.

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



Jennifer Ford Vaughn-Blumberg Services

WORKFORCEDEVELOPMENT

Employee Total Compensation Costs



Steve Turkoski, Project Manager

In May 2013 the Alabama median hourly wage was \$14.61 and the mean hourly wage was \$19.35. We do not have the 2013 survey from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics for sub-state areas; however we do have 2012 data for the metropolitan statistical areas.

The 2012 survey lists the Dothan Metropolitan Statistical Area's median hourly wages at \$12.73 and mean hourly wages at \$16.90. By way of comparison, the 2012 state median wage was \$14.40 and the 2012 state mean wage was \$19.01.

The below table lists the relative importance of employer costs for employee compensation as of December 2013:

Compensation Component	Civilian Workers %	Private Industry %	State and Local Government %
Wages and salaries	69.0	70.1	64.5
Benefits	31.0	29.9	35.5
Paid leave	7.0	6.9	7.3
Supplemental pay	2.4	2.9	0,8
Insurance	9.0	8.3	12.0
Health Benefits	8.5	7.8	11.6
Retirement and Savings	4.8	3.7	9.4
Defined Benefit	3.0	1.6	8.6
Defined Contribution	1.9	2.1	0.8
Legally Required	7.8	8.2	6.0

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Economic News Release, www.bls.gov/news.release/ecec.nr0.htm

Local wages historically increase at a rate closely approximating the Consumer Price Index. The percent increase in the national CPI was 2.1 percent in 2012 and 1.5 percent in 2013.



Houston County Schools Form Partnership

The Business, Community and Education Partnership was just an idea in the summer of 2013 when Houston County Schools' Superintendent Tim Pitchford initiated its beginning. Since that time, the partnership has taken shape and each county school has a coordinator.

There are many businesses, churches and individuals who have been helping the school system for some time, but were receiving very little recognition for their involvement. The partnership is a way that the schools can give credit to those who have been giving support and to encourage others to be involved in the school system.

According to Ann Wells, BCEP coordinator for the Houston County School System, the mission of the partnership is to provide additional resources to enable the system to be successful in providing safe and caring learning environments that challenge each student to achieve his or her full potential.

The purpose of the program is to encourage businesses and the community to accept ownership in the schools while they provide human resources and talents to fulfill the mission of the system.

Partners include groups such as retailers, manufacturers, utility companies, small businesses, financial institutions, faith-based and civic organizations. Together with the schools, activities are initiated to encourage students to enrich their educational experiences, and connect them to the world of work. In short, partners work together "sharing the vision; shaping the future."

For more information about the partnership, contact Wells at (334) 794-9595 or e-mail awells@graceba.net.

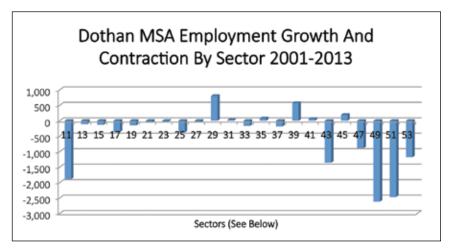
YOURCHAMBER

Remember your ABC's...

Always Buy Chamber!

Changes In MSA Sector Employment Since 2001 Scholarships

Most regional job losses reflected in the below graph have occurred since 2007. Through the last decade and the recession, health care and personal care and service have both added over 500 jobs.



- 11 Management Occupations
- 13 Business and Financial Operations Occupations
- 15 Computer and Mathematical Occupations
- 17 Architecture and Engineering Occupations
- 19 Life, Physical and Social Science Occupations
- 21 Community and Social Service Occupations
- 23 Legal Occupations
- 25 Education, Training and Library Occupations
- 27 Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports and Media Occupations
- 29 Health Care Practitioners and Technical Occupations
- 31 Health Care Support Occupations
- 33 Protective Service Occupations
- 35 Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations
- 37 Building, Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations
- 39 Personal Care and Service Occupations
- 41 Sales and Related Occupations
- 43 Office and Administrative Support Occupations
- 45 Farming, Fishing and Forestry Occupations
- 47 Construction and Extraction Occupations
- 49 Installation, Maintenance and Repair Occupations
- 51 Production Occupations
- 53 Transportation and Material Moving Occupations

Through 2011, which is the latest year for which data is available, the number of non-employer establishments (basically the self-employed) has increased 26.88 percent to 9,447. This seems to indicate that for many people the loss of traditional employment provided impetus to start a business.

Building A Stronger Community Through Our Schools

The Public Affairs Council of Alabama will be presenting its Alabama Reading and Math Test score evaluation for Dothan City Schools Monday, May 12, at 5 p.m. The presentation will take place at the Central Office, 500 Dusy St.

The evaluation compares the 2013 performance of each school within the Dothan City Schools System as well as how the system performed within the state. Beginning this school year, students in the system will be tested on ACT based evaluations.

The presentation will also discuss the new nationally normed tests/evaluations and provide insight into the changes. The public is encouraged and invited to attend.

For more information, contact Tami Culver, Dothan Education Foundation, at (334) 794-6585 or visit **www.dothaneducationfoundation.org**. To receive updates, you can Like the Yes We Can Dothan Facebook page.

Chamber Welcomes Mitchell To Staff

The Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce is pleased to welcome Dean Mitchell to the staff. Mitchell will serve as the Chamber's director of external affairs and will be handling a variety of issues including a capital campaign, government and military affairs and assisting on economic development issues.

Mitchell spent the last 27 years working on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. where he worked in the fields of management, strategic planning and problem solving. He served the last 17 years as chief of staff and communications director for a member of Congress where he directed policy, communications, political matters, budgets and managed day-to-day operations of five congressional offices.

Mitchell grew up in Quitman, Ga., and attended the University of Georgia where he received a bachelor's degree in business administration. He is married to Maggie Alford Mitchell of Dothan, and they have three boys – Campbell, Henry and Porter.

Chamber members are encouraged to stop by the Chamber to introduce themselves and welcome Mitchell to the team.



The Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce is pleased to welcome Dean Mitchell to the staff serving as the organization's director of external affairs.



Fifth Annual Hardee's Ride for Hope

The Wiregrass Hope Group will host the Fifth Annual Hardee's Ride for Hope. Sponsored by Hardee's, ride proceeds will go towards the services provided through Wiregrass Hope.

There will be three start locations: Hardee's of Dothan next to Home Depot, Hardee's of Abbeville and Enterprise. The ride will finish at the Hardee's of Dothan next to Home Depot.

There will be grand prize drawings for \$1,000, \$500 and \$250, plus additional prizes. The awards drawing will take place at 3 p.m. Registration is from 9-10 a.m. on event day. Registration cost is \$20/one registration and one T-shirt; \$30/one registration and two T-shirts; or \$40/two registrations and two T-shirts.

Participants will receive Hardee's combo coupons for a free breakfast and lunch. Free drink refills will also be provided at each restaurant. During the ride, participants will visit eight area Hardee's (three in Dothan, one in Headland, Abbeville, Ozark, Enterprise and Hartford) to receive a stamp on their registration card. Registration cards must then be turned in by 3 p.m. for a chance to win prizes.

For more information, call Sharon Sizemore at (334) 790-9192 or visit http://wiregrasshopegroup.com.

Glasstream Powerboats Announces Expansion To Dothan

Kruis Retherford, president and owner of Glasstream Powerboats, recently announced that due to their business growth and the opportunity to meet customer demand, the company will expand and establish an additional manufacturing facility in the Wiregrass area. Glasstream Powerboats will locate a second manufacturing facility in the Dothan Industrial Park, located on U.S. 231 North, in Dothan, Ala.

While the second manufacturing facility is being completed and furnished, Glasstream Powerboats will start evaluating candidates and looks to hire 100 employees over the next few years.

Retherford said, "Glasstream is thrilled and proud to be here. We look forward to being part of the Dothan and Houston County business community. We are thankful for the support we have received from area government entities, business organizations and the state in helping us finalize our growth plans. When we were evaluating areas to expand our business, the fact that we had great support and were able to find a location to meet our needs and time schedule helped us finalize our decision to expand in the area."

Many entities and individuals assisted with the development of this project, including the Alabama Industrial Development Training, Alabama Department of Commerce, Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce Chairman Bob Woodall, the Chamber's Dothan By Design Chairman Mark Saliba, City of Dothan Mayor Mike Schmitz, Houston County Commission Chairman Mark Culver, Houston County Industrial Development Authority Chairman

David Parsons, local legislative delegation, Southeast Alabama Gas District, Dothan Utilities, PowerSouth, Troy University - Center for International Business and Economic Development and Alabama Power Company.

Glasstream Powerboats will start evaluating candidates immediately. Interested individuals can visit the company website www.glasstream. com, apply by e-mail to opportunity@glasstream. com or contact the company directly at (850) 873-6205, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. for immediate submission for potential candidates; however, training support and notices of openings will be run through the Alabama Industrial Development Training at www.aidt.edu.



Vincent Perez. Alabama Department of Commerce, presents the Alabama State Seal to Kruis Retherford, president and owner of Glasstream Powerboats.



Gilmore Services Offers Mini-Shred Event

Gilmore Services, a family-owned and operated company specializing in residential and commercial moving, records management and document storage and shredding, will offer a free document shredding service this May in Dothan.

The company will host a mini-shred event Tuesday, May 13, from 9:30-10:30 a.m. at the Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce office during its official ribbon cutting ceremony.

Why should you shred? Shredding reduces clutter and better organizes your records; it removes liability associated with holding on to unneeded documents; it helps you stay compliant with guidelines; securely destroys information; and it helps avoid problems with lost or stolen information by shredding outdated documents.

During the event, there will be coffee and donuts

provided and attendees can bring up to two bags or boxes of personal paper documents, such as tax returns, bank/credit card statements, old love letters and more to be shredded.

Founded in 1955, the Gilmore family and team provide service from northwest Florida to southern Alabama and carry on the tradition of exemplary customer service, which the business was founded on almost 60 years ago.

As a National Association for Information Destruction certified company, Gilmore Services provides the most secure document shredding services to help protect, organize and keep you compliant with guidelines and regulations nationwide.

For additional information about the services offered, contact Gilmore Services at (850) 549-2723 or visit www.gilmoreservices.com.







Bay Limousine Announces Expansion

Bay Limousine Service is proud to announce the expansion of its newest location in the Auburn-Opelika area. Bay Limousine provides clients with professional, reliable and prestigious ground transportation, as well as well-groomed, experienced and knowledgeable chauffeurs ready to assist in meeting customers' transportation needs.

Founded in Dothan, Ala., Bay Limousine has been serving the tri-state area since 1990 with professional VIP services for all occasions. The company has vehicles of multiple sizes to accommodate all transportation needs. The fleet includes a diverse variety consisting of limousines, SUV's, corporate sedans, charter buses, executive buses, party buses, vintage cars, as well as a horse and carriage. The fleet contains several stretch limousines available in Hummer, Lincoln or SUV.

Offering reliable door-to-door services to airports, hotels, conference destinations, corporate conventions or business executive needs. For that special occasion or personal event, Bay Limousine makes that occasion even more special.

"Enjoy that bachelorette or bachelor party in comfort and style," said Edwin Cherry. "We can even

accommodate a night out on the town, concerts, college tour trips or beach vacations. The options are endless and we would love to take you and your friends on that special sporting event, golf tournament or a day at the races."

Bay Limousine specializes in meeting the unique needs of today's business and leisure travelers. For more information, contact Cherry at (334) 792-8100 or visit www.baylimousineservice.com.



Bay Limousine Service is proud to announce the expansion of its newest location in the Auburn-Opelika area.

SEACT Hosts Summer Theatre Camps

The Southeast Alabama Community Theatre will host Summer Theatre Camps for kids the weeks of June 16, June 23, July 14 and July 21 at The Cultural Arts Center.

The camps offer instruction in staging, choreography, costumes and performance. Children ages 5 and over spend the week memorizing lines

and blocking for an open performance on Friday for friends and family.

Registration is required in advance and the cost is \$120 for non-members. For more information, call SEACT at (334) 794-0400, e-mail seact@seact.com or visit www.seact.com

Selfless.

Our hospital makes a difference because our nurses do.

Being a nurse is a vocation like no other. It takes someone who instinctively knows that skilled medical care and compassion go hand in hand. It takes focus to be vigilant whether it's three o'clock in the afternoon or three in the morning. We're grateful to each of our nurses for their selfless devotion to the people in their care. To each of them, we offer a heartfelt, "Thank you." Celebrate National Nurses Week, May 6-12.



Chamber Names 2014-2015 Nominations And Elections Committee

The 2014-2015 Nominations and Elections Committee has been appointed to select the slate of nine candidates that will each serve three-year terms, replacing the directors currently on the Chamber Board of Directors whose regular terms expire this fall. Those on the Nominations and Elections Committee are:

Chairman of the Board

Bob Woodall Air Care Systems Inc.

Chair-Elect Hope Johnson Friend Bank

Immediate-Past Chairman

Mark Saliba

Alfred Saliba Corp

Past Chairman Jeff Coleman Coleman World Group

Past Chairman Charles Buntin Tom West Co.

Past Chair Dr. Linda C. Young Wallace Community College

Past Chair Velma J. Tribue Velma Tribue State Farm Insurance

Adam Hall Coleman World Group

Alice Becham Five Star Credit Union

Josh Steltenpohl Marketing Services, LLC

Sheila Azar Micro Support Services

Dustin Parkman
Oak and Olive

David Arrington
Troy University

Reginald Jones WTVY-TV Gray Television Group Inc.

As specified in the By-Laws, this committee is made up of the chairman, chairman-elect, the past five chairmen and seven Chamber members representing business classification codes. The immediate past chairman serves as the chairman of the committee.

Members of the Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce wishing to recommend someone as a Board Member must do so by 5 p.m. May 9. Names should be submitted to Mark Saliba, Chairman, Nominations and Elections Committee, Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce, P. O. Box 638, Dothan, AL 36302. All names should be submitted in written form, with the recommendation signed by the individual member making the nomination.

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 e-mail celebraterecovery@ harvestdothan.com. "You can't heal a wound by saying it's not there!"

Carmike Cinemas' Weekend "Kidtoon" Every Weekend • Times Vary

Dothan Pavilion. Carmike Cinemas will play a special "Kidtoon" every weekend for only \$5. For more information, contact the local theatre at (334) 836-0813 or visit www.carmike.com for show times. Some locations will be able to have a special showing on Tuesday mornings for schools and daycares to take advantage of Carmike's Stimulus Tuesdays.

Touch A Truck May 3 • 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Landmark Park. Landmark Park will host the annual Touch A Truck event giving kids of all ages a chance to see more than 50 different vehicles up close and learn about their uses. Refreshments will also be available. Admission is \$7 adults, \$5 per child and free for children 2 and under and park members. For more information, call (334) 794-3452 or visit www.landmarkpark.com.

1st Saturday Family Day May 3 • 10:30 a.m.

Wiregrass Museum of Art & 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.

Fort Rucker Bridal Show May 4 • 1–4 p.m.

The Landing Ballroom. This spectacular event is open to the public and costs \$8 per person. For more information, contact The Landing's Catering office at (334) 598-2426. Proper identification, car registration and proof of insurance are required to enter Fort Rucker.

Ronnie Randall Memorial Golf Tournament May 15 • 10:30 a.m.

Highland Oaks Golf Course. Come join Southern Bone and Joint Specialists for their annual Ronnie Randall Memorial Golf Tournament. This tournament is a four-person scramble. Pre-registration is required. For more information, contact Beki Johnston at (334) 836-4518 or bekij@southernbone.com.

Foster Fest

May 16 • 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, music scene, downtown businesses and classic cars. For more information, contact The Downtown Group at (334) 793-3097 or visit. www.thedowngroup.com.



Four Star Freightliner Adds New Trailer Inspection Service

Four Star Freightliner recently expanded its service department to include services that will ensure its customers' tractors and trailers meet state regulations and remain in good running condition.

When trucks equipped with trailers are brought in for service to Four Star, customers have the option of having their trailers inspected by trained, qualified service team members.

With the customer's permission, a member of the Four Star Freightliner service team will perform a six-point inspection of the trailer which includes the lights, brakes, airlines, door seals and door handles. Customers will also have the option of receiving a DOT inspection.

Four Star Freightliner's inventory has been increased to handle any repair if deemed necessary by a service team member. There are five locations to support customers' needs: Montgomery and Dothan, Ala.; Tifton and Valdosta, Ga.; and Tallahassee, Fla.

Four Star Freightliner prides itself on providing customers with world class truck products from Daimler (Freightliner, Western Star and Fuso) and a full spectrum of services. It maintains one of the most comprehensive networks of dealerships and service centers in the Southeast region.

For more information, call (800) 239-8785 to speak in detail with a service advisor or visit www. fourstarfreightliner.com.

A drawing will also be held at 6 p.m. on May 7,

for The Joy FM Mac Pac, which consists of a

Mac Book Pro computer, iPad Mini, IPod

Joy FM Plans Friendraiser

The Joy FM 94.3 will hold it's spring Friendraiser May 7-9, from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. each day at the station, 2563 Montgomery Highway, Suite 1, Dothan.

This year's goal is \$90,000 or 250 people giving \$30 a month as a More Than Music Mission Partner. Money raised during Friendraiser helps the station continue spreading the word of Jesus Christ through music and spoken word to over 24,000 people weekly.

Touch and \$100 iTunes gift card. No faith promise is required and you can go to www. thejoyfm.com to enter the drawing.

For more information, call The Joy FM at

For more information, call The Joy FM at (334) 699-5672. The JOY FM is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) station.

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SAMC Offers Robotically-Assisted Surgery To Lung Patients

The region's first ever robotic assisted thorax surgery was performed in March at Southeast Alabama Medical Center by cardiothoracic surgeon Elias Quintos, MD. This groundbreaking surgery comes eight years after SAMC became the first hospital in the region to use robotics surgery.

Quintos, who joined Southeast Cardiovascular

Associates in February, performed the thoracoscopy with the surgical robot. The operation was a pulmonary procedure and included exploratory surgery.

"The whole operation from start to finish was like a superb, well performed concert," Quintos said. "It is very satisfying to see that our team not only has an innate aptitude for this kind of surgery but also the contagious enthusiasm to make the program succeed. I am confident that we will soon perform more complex procedures."

Chris Holland, RN, SAMC surgery director, said the new procedure has great implications for patients at SAMC. "It will allow us a better way to surgically treat patients who are diagnosed with lung problems.

Using robotics means that a long incision is replaced by a few very small incisions. We also expect recovery times to decrease.'

Holland added that patients from the Wiregrass will no longer need to drive to Birmingham or Atlanta to receive this specialized treatment.



Elias Quintos, MD (right) is assisted by RN Shane Tucker during preparations to perform the region's first robotically assisted thoracoscopy procedure on a patient recently.

2-1-1 Seeks Your Help

Homeless Stand Down/Connect Event

The Wiregrass United Way 2-1-1, Southeast Alabama is reaching out to the Wiregrass community for help during an upcoming Homeless Stand Down/Connect event Saturday, May 17, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. at the United Christian Fellowship Dothan.

The Homeless Stand Down/Connect will provide

assistance, as well as a meal, to our homeless population. Sponsored by the Southeast Alabama Coalition, volunteers, as well as donations, are in desperate need.

Items needed include clothes, socks, combs, hair brushes, blankets, sleeping bags, personal hygiene items, can food and tents.

Donations can be dropped off at the Wiregrass United Way 2-1-1 office (545 W Main St., Suite 313) Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. through May 15. After May 15, as well as on event day, donations can be dropped off at United Christian Fellowship Dothan (208 E. Lafayette St.) between the hours of 10 a.m.

SAMC is the region's first hospital to earn the prestigious Gold Plus

Stroke Award from the American Heart Association and American

From the area's first responders

team of physicians, nurses and

clinical team members, patients

receive the latest stroke care

This means a coordinated and

quicker response time, which in

turn means less damage caused

to SAMC's highly trained stroke

Stroke Association.

available.

by the stroke.

until 2 p.m. For more information, contact 2-1-1 Executive Director David Duke at (334) 836-1963 or Russell Clausell at (334) 447-1286.

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Wiregrass Commons Mall invites you to the following May 2014 events:

Summer Fashion Show Saturday, May 3, noon - 2:30 p.m. Mall retailers will be showcasing their hottest and coolest fashions for the summer at the Food Court.

Home Party and Small Business Expo Saturday and Sunday, May 3-4, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Local businesses will be displaying information about their services and unique merchandise they have to offer around Center Court.

Medical Appreciation Day Tuesday, May 6, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Individuals in the medical field are invited to stop by near the Great American Cookie to spin and win great prizes including gift cards from mall retailers, free lunch vouchers, mall gift cards and a shopping bag of coupons from mall retailers. Plus be eligible to win a \$500 shopping spree. All participants must have proof of their employment. No purchase is necessary. Limited one per person.

Wiregrass Daylily Show Saturday, May 17, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Beautiful daylilies will be on display around Center Court for the public to view and plants will also be

For more details about any of the above events, contact the Management Office at (334) 792-7734.

YOURCHAMBER



Are You Registered To Vote?

If you're not registered to vote, it's not too late. For the June 3 Primary Election, the last day to register is 10 business days prior (May 27).

To register, visit the Board of Registrars office, which is temporarily located on the first floor of 412 N. Foster St. (old Mayer Electric Building across from Five Star Credit Union). The office is open Monday-Thursday, 7:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m.

To download a Voter Registration Application to complete prior to visiting the Board of Registrars, visit www.sos.state.al.us/Elections/VoterReg. aspx. For more information, call (334) 677-4774.

Remember... every vote counts!



Brian Davidson, Agent

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BUSINESSBRIEFS



Saucer Joins Mass Mutual



Adam Michael Saucer. Financial Services Representative

Mass Mutual Alabama is pleased to announce the hire of Adam Michael Saucer as a financial services representative. Saucer hails from Frisco City, Ala., and has now planted roots in Dothan with his wife, Melinda.

Earning a bachelor's degree in risk management and insurance from Trov University, Saucer was one of the few students nationwide

whom were selected to receive the Foundation for Agency Excellence "FAME" scholarship in 2012, which encourages young people to consider the field of risk management and insurance as a profession.

Saucer's commitment to his academic success was proven as he was a Leadership Scholar and Phi Theta Kappa Scholar. He also earned his way to the Provost List in fall 2011 and spring 2012. While at Troy, he earned both the Alabama Property and Casualty Insurance certification as well as Life and Health certification. During the summer of 2012, Adam interned as a brokerage assistant at All Risks, Ltd. in Atlanta, Ga.

Saucer's mission is to serve the Dothan and outlying communities by advising his clients about financial growth and security. He is able to help a broad range of individuals from newlyweds, new parents, small business owners, retirees and almost all other walks of life.

For more information on the services provided by Mass Mutual, contact Saucer at (251) 593-8029, e-mail asaucer@financialguide.com or visit www. massmutual.com.

Tri-State Community Orchestra Presents An Evening Of Spring Music

The Tri-State Community Orchestra will present an evening of fun filled with some wonderful spring music Friday, May 16, at 7:30 p.m. at The Cultural Arts Center.

Special guests joining the Tri-State Community Orchestra include Flautist August Gallaher and the Wiregrass Youth Symphony, directed by Danielle Herrera.

Advance concert tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8 students. Tickets the night of the concert are \$12 adults and \$10 students.

For more information, call (334) 585-4903 or visit www.tristatecommunityorchestra.org.



The Tri-State Community Orchestra will present an evening of fun filled with some wonderful spring music.

MidSouth Bank Announces Promotions

W. Davis Malone, MidSouth Bancorporation board chairman, recently announced officer promotions for several MidSouth Bank employees.

Marsha Cobb, mortgage loan manager, was promoted to senior vice president. Cobb has over 25 years of experience in mortgage lending and has worked at MidSouth Bank for the past four years.

Don Brownlee, branch manager for the Ashford office, was promoted to vice president. Brownlee has been with the bank for four years and also serves as bank security officer.

Josh Haisten joined MidSouth Bank in 2007 working in customer service, credit and lending for the past seven years. He was promoted to vice president and commercial loan officer.

Emily Jernigan was named branch manager for Dothan-Main. Jernigan began at MidSouth last year and has worked in cash management and business development. She will continue as cash management officer.

Liesl Strength has worked at MidSouth Bank in the accounting department for five years. She was promoted to Senior Accounting Officer.

MidSouth Bank CEO Ronnie Pippin said, "Marsha, Don, Josh, Emily, and Liesl are capable individuals who bring valuable experience and knowledge to our bank. We are fortunate to have a staff of dedicated individuals who perform at a high level for our customers every day."

MidSouth Bank has assets totaling approximately \$380 million with locations in Ashford, Dothan, Eufaula, Clayton, and Auburn, Ala. and Panama City,

For more information, contact Human Resources/ Marketing Director LuAnne Hart at (334) 702-7774, e-mail luanne.hart@bankmidsouth.com or visit www.bakmidsouth.com.



Senior Vice President



Vice President



Iosh Haisten. Vice President and Commercial Loan Officer



Emily Jernigan, Dothan-Main Branch Manager



Liesl Strenath. Senior Accounting Officer



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BUSINESSBRIEFS

Community Education Meetings To Be Held

The Dothan Education Foundation will be hosting four community meetings to provide an overview and receive community input on a draft plan for a three-year Strategic Plan for Dothan City Schools. The business community plays an important role in public education.

Public education is rapidly changing to meet the needs of students, technology and the work force. Over 20 community members have drafted the initial plan to support area students in becoming college and career ready.

Mark your calendar and make plans to attend one of the dates listed below to receive accurate information on the draft plan, provide valuable input and be involved in creating a vision of success for students.

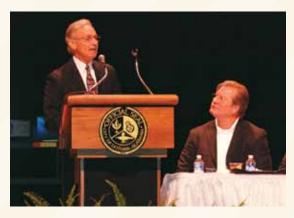
Tuesday, May 13 Dothan-Houston County Library Main Branch, Community Room 445 N. Oates St. 5:30-7 p.m.

Wednesday, May 14 Dothan-Houston County Library Main Branch, Community Room 445 N. Oates St. 10-11:30 a.m.

Wednesday, May 14 Wiregrass Rehabilitation Center Inc. Sterling Events Services Rotary Hall 795 Ross Clark Circle 5:30-7 p.m.

Thursday, May 15 Andrew Belle Community Center 1270 Lake St. 5:30-7 p.m.

Community-Wide Prayer Breakfast A Huge Success



Dothan's own Robert "Buster" Holmes was the guest speaker at the 17th Annual Community-Wide Prayer Breakfast held at the Dothan Civic Center in April. Holmes is president of Mastermedia International Inc., West Coast, a nonprofit Christian organization that serves top executives in media, primarily working with corporate decision-makers in film and television in Hollywood and New York. A buffet-style breakfast was served to 375 individuals who attended the event to hear Holmes speak and special music performed by Abby Brookshire, Jennifer Parker and Ariel Gilbert.

SB&T Announces East Alabama Advisory Board, Holds First Meeting

State Bank and Trust Co., operating as SBT Bank in Alabama, recently announced the formation of an Advisory Board of Directors in East Alabama. Members include E.G. Hayes (Geneva), John Mitchell Jr. (Enterprise) and David Parsons, CPA (Dothan).

"Our bank has made the Alabama portion of our footprint a major priority," said John B. Neville, SB&T CEO. "We are very pleased with our franchise in that area and look forward to continuing to grow and serve those communities."

Hayes retired from the bank after 37 years, but continues to be involved as a member of the bank's Board of Directors. SB&T appreciates Hayes and his contribution not only to the bank, but the entire community, as he serves on a number of boards and industrial development organizations.

Hayes has been the president of the Greater Geneva Area Chamber of Commerce for the past seven years, a member of the Geneva Rotary Club and the First Baptist Church for over 50 years. Under his leadership, SB&T will continue to serve the residents of Geneva County as it has since 1955.

Mitchell is a graduate of Enterprise High School and the University of Southern Mississippi, where he earned a bachelor's degree in business administration. He is vice president of Mitchell Family Management, which owns four automobile dealerships in the Wiregrass, which includes Toyota of Dothan, Mitchell Nissan, Mitchell Hyundai and Mitchell Mazda/Lincoln. He has also served as a chairman of the Enterprise Chamber of Commerce and is currently a member of the Water Board for the city of Enterprise.

Parsons is a graduate of the University of Alabama where he earned a bachelor's degree in accounting. He is founder and managing partner of ParsonsGroup, LLC, a certified public accounting firm in Dothan for over 35 years. He is currently serving as chairman of

the Houston County Industrial Development Board and the Houston Country Foreign Trade Zone.

Parsons has served as past chairman for the Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce and Dothan By Design. He also serves as board member for the Wiregrass Foundation, Flowers Hospital and the Alabama Hospital Association.

The slogan adopted by SB&T, "Relationship Banking - with us it's personal," is one that is steeped in tradition, history and community service. "Yes, for us it's personal and we are not only excited to be in Geneva and the Wiregrass, but we are excited about serving our customers in the future," stated Mike McCann, SB&T regional executive vice president.



SB&T Bank recently announced the formation of an Advisory Board of Directors in East Alabama. Pictured (1-r) are Mike McCann, SB&T regional executive vice president; David Parsons, SB&T board member; Nancy Jones, SB&T Enterprise city president; John Mitchell Jr., SB&T board member; Chad Dykes, SB&T Dothan city president; H.G. Hayes, SB&T board member; and Richard Sanders, SB&T Geneva city president.

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Two Great Publications, One Great Idea!

Ad Sales Campaign Gets Underway May 1



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) recently began receiving the Chamber's project introduction letter, verification

project introduction letter, verification form(s) and a "Reserve Your Space" brochure.

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* (15,000) 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:



(334) 702-4063 (334) 712-6532 Fax www.psiprinter.com



Laureate Nomination Form

The Dothan Business Hall of Fame's board of advisors is now accepting nominations for the 2014 Dothan Business Hall of Fame. The Hall of Fame's mission is to recognize the accomplishments and contributions of our outstanding business leaders, to perpetuate and inspire values of entrepreneurial spirit, personal integrity and community leadership in all generations. To be eligible for selection, a person must have made a significant impact on the development of Dothan and/or Houston County by promoting the free enterprise system and entrepreneurship; by demonstrating civic leadership; and by their philanthropy and humanitarianism toward their fellow citizens.

Name of Nominee:				
Born (date and place):				
Deceased (date and place):				
Company/Organization (if currently employed):				
Work Address:				
Work Phone:				
Web Address:				
Work E-mail:				
Present Title/Position:				
No. of Years:				
Mailing Address:				

Please provide a biographical description of the nominee (not to exceed two pages) and on a separate sheet for each below section, please provide the following information. Feel free to include supporting documents (news clippings, magazine articles, etc.). A photo (preferably color) will be used in the program and MUST be submitted with the biographical/supporting documents.

- 1. Significant achievements any achievements that are first-time achievements
- 2. Awards and honors bestowed upon nominee (chronologically)
- 3. Memberships
- 4. Professional, business or vocational history (chronologically)
- 5. Photo of the nominee for the program

Thank you for taking time to put forth your nominee for the 2014 Dothan Business Hall of Fame. Laureate inductees will be notified in mid-June 2014.

Nomination Submitted By: _	
Address:	City:
State: Zip:	Telephone:
E-mail:	

Nominations are due by May 1, 2014. Mail your nomination to:

Dothan Business Hall of Fame Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce Attention: Janice Shepard P. O. Box 638 Dothan, AL 36302 Honoring Our Area's Small Business

Employee Total Compensation

Houston County Schools Form Partnership

Glasstream Powerboats Expands To Dothan Bay Limousine Announces Expansion

Four Star Freightliner Adds New Inspection

SAMC Offers Robotically-Assisted

MidSouth Bank Announces Promotions

Business Hall of Fame Nomination Form SB&T Announces Advisory Board

DOTHAN AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



Celebrating Small Business

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ECONOMICINDICATORS

Labor Force for the Dothan MSA for February: 62,839 in 2013; 61,284 in 2014 58,342 in 2013; 56,755 in 2014 Employed



Unemployment for the Dothan MSA for February: 7.2% in 2013; 7.4% in 2014



Residential Building Permits for the City of Dothan for February: 23 issued (\$5.84 million) in 2013; 9 issued (\$2.66 million) in 2014



Home Sales in Dothan for February: 65 sold in 2013; 64 sold in 2014



Houston County & Dothan Sales and Use Tax Collections (\$) for February: \$1,226,534 in 2013; \$1,214,006 in 2014 County \$4,110,626 in 2013; \$4,257,707 in 2014 City

Enplanements for Dothan Regional Airport for February:

3,392 in 2013; 3,917 in 2014

Editor's Note: Sources for this information vary; call the Chamber for details. Data as of 4/08/14. Visit www.dothan.com for the most current information.