Chamber Connections

Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce

March 2023

DOTHAN AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

IMPACT

2023

TOTAL RESOURCE CAMPAIGN

Empowering You And Your Business
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Your Cover Photo

Your cover photo features the Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce's Total Resource Campaign IMPACT logo. For more information about the upcoming 2023 campaign, please see page 6.

www.dothan.com

(334) 792-5138

UNITED STATES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ACCREDITED

CCAA 2020 - 2024 ALABAMA ACCREDITED CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

EventsCalendar

March

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	

1 **LEADS Group 1 Biweekly Meeting – 8 a.m.**
Location: 102 Jamestown Blvd. (Chamber)

2 **Ribbon Cutting: Candlewood Suites Groundbreaking - 2:30 p.m.**
Location: 3005 Ross Clark Circle

6 **Eggs & Issues Breakfast – 7:30 a.m.**
Location: 795 Ross Clark Circle (Wiregrass Rehabilitation Center Inc.'s Sterling Event Services Rotary Hall)
*See page 9 for more information.

Ribbon Cutting: Cricket Wireless - 1 p.m.
Location: 3255 S. Oates St., Suite 4

7 **Ambassadors and Diplomats Monthly Meeting – 9 a.m.**
Location: 102 Jamestown Blvd. (Chamber)

8 **Youth Leadership Dothan-Houston County Health Care Day – 7:45 a.m.**
Location: 4370 W. Main St. (Flowers Hospital)

LEADS Group 2 Biweekly Meeting – 8 a.m.
Location: Visit Facebook for meeting location.

Ribbon Cutting: SSE Equipment & Supply Co., LLC – 3:30 p.m.
Location: 1261 Reeves St.

14 **Ribbon Cutting: Prime Lending – 10:30 a.m.**
Location: 2005 S. Brannon Stand Road, Suite 3

15 **LEADS Group 1 Biweekly Meeting – 8 a.m.**
Location: 102 Jamestown Blvd. (Chamber)

Board of Directors' Meeting – 8:15 a.m.
Location: 102 Jamestown Blvd. (Chamber)

16 **Leadership Dothan Public Safety Day – 7:45 a.m.**
Location: 100 Public Safety Way (Wiregrass Public Safety Center)

22 **LEADS Group 2 Biweekly Meeting – 8 a.m.**
Location: Visit Facebook for meeting location.

22-30 **Chamber Discoveries Travel to Spain**

23 **Wiregrass Women's Networking Lunch – 11:30 a.m.**
Location: 1369 Headland Ave., Suite 7 (River Nile Café)
*See page 12 for more information.

Ribbon Cutting: Meant to BEE – 2:30 p.m.
Location:102 Jamestown Blvd. (Chamber)

24 **Leadership Dothan Alumni Golf Tournament – 10 a.m.**
Location: 904 Royal Parkway (Highland Oaks Golf Course)
*See page 15 for more information.

BC Graham Theological Seminary
1100 Montana St.,
P.O. Box 10115
Dothan, AL 36304
Bobby Graham
(334) 805-5843
www.bcgts.net
NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS
EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

Beverly's Beauty Institute
1901 Wise Drive
Dothan, AL 36303
Beverly Thornton
(334) 661-4008
www.bevbeautyinstitute.com
EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

Dothan Communities of Transformation
1380 W. Main St.
Dothan, AL 36301
Angelia Smith
(334) 797-8572
www.communitiesoftransformation.org
RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS
NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

Evans Automotive Service
102 Sixth Ave.
Dothan, AL 36301
Joseph Evans
(334) 792-1164
www.evansautodothan.com
AUTOMOBILE SERVICE AND/OR REPAIR

Farm Stores
5137 Flowers Chapel Road
(Physical)
1609 W. Main St., Suite 203
Dothan, AL 36301
Tina Cutts
(334) 798-2482
www.farmstores.com
SHOPPING/ SPECIALTY RETAIL

Inspire Design
109 Middlebury Court
Dothan, AL 36301
Lauren Register
(334) 405-9454
www.id-seo.com
ADVERTISING / GRAPHIC DESIGN /MARKETING/ MEDIA/ PRINTING

The Joint Chiropractic
4521 N. Montgomery
Highway, Suite 4
Dothan, AL 36303
Carol Rogers
(334) 478-9000
www.thejoint .com/alabama/dothan/dothan-22020
CHIROPRACTORS

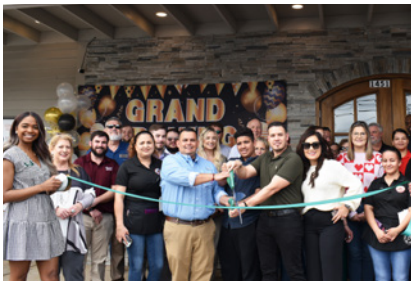
Lucky Dog Training Academy
6318 U.S. Highway 84 East
Cowarts, AL 36321
Lisa Gunn
(334) 790-8323
www.wiregrassluckydog.com
PETS / VETERINARY

Modern Health Family Care
13000 Cottonwood Road
Cottonwood, AL 36320
Jessica Jones
(334) 691-1109
MEDICAL SERVICES
HEALTH & WELLNESS

On Deck Hitting Academy, LLC
131 S. Woodburn Drive,
Suite 201
Dothan, AL 36305
Jeff Burrows
(334) 655-3306
www.ondeckdothan.com
EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

Southern Livin' Food Truck
20 Helms Road
Webb, AL 36376
Frank Skoczyhs
(334) 843-1111
FOOD TRUCKS

Taqueria y Mariscos El Torito Mexican Bar & Grill
1451 Westgate Parkway
Dothan, AL 36303
Rosa Escalera
(229) 630-0259
RESTAURANTS, FOOD & BEVERAGE



Thistle'n Dixie
706 Wildwood Drive
Dothan, AL 36303
Callie Woodham
(334) 405-1182
FLORISTS

Uptown Paws
208 Graceland Drive
Dothan, AL 36305
Jason Threatt
(334) 695-5671
www.uptownpawsdothan.com
PETS / VETERINARY

Wiregrass Blues Society
P.O. Box 6185
Dothan, AL 36302
Donnia Rambin
(334) 648-6542
www.wiregrassbluessociety
NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATIONS

RELOCATION
Wiregrass 2-1-1
2358 Columbia Highway
Dothan, AL 36301
David Duke
(334) 836-1963
www.wiregrass211.com
NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATIONS

DOTHAN ALABAMA
DOTHAN AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

2023 Small Business Person of the Year Award Nominations

The Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce has been presenting the Small Business Person of the Year award to deserving outstanding business owners since 1987. Agnes Simpson of WOOF Radio was the Chamber's first Small Business Person of the Year award recipient. This prestigious recognition is awarded annually to an individual owner of a local small business (1-25 employees). The candidate must show growth or sustainability of their business, have strong employee relations, show commitment to social responsibility and exemplify strong community involvement. Although the candidates will be judged in all of these areas, they do not have to excel in every area to win.

Do you know a small business owner with a success story and who is making a contribution to the local community and the economy? If so, nominate them. The Chamber will accept nominations for the 2023 Small Business Person of the Year from Jan. 3 to March 10, 2023. The winner will be announced in May at the Small Business Week General Membership Luncheon.

Each nominee must meet the following criteria:

- Employ between one and 25 people.
- Be the founder, partner or owner of the business.
- Business must be a member in good standing of the Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce.
- Have been an active Chamber member for at least three continuous years.
- Business must have been operating in the Dothan area for a minimum of three years.
- Business must exhibit growth and longevity, involvement in community development, innovative practices, and success in the face of adversity.
- Adhere to ethical business practices.
- Candidate can not have won award within the past 10 years.

To nominate a small business person, fill out the information below. *(Please type or print)*

Name of Nominee: _____

Company: _____

Nominated By: _____

Your Phone Number or Email Address: _____

_____

Why this individual deserves recognition: *(For additional comments, attach an additional sheet.)* _____

_____

_____

_____

Return this form to:
Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce • Attn: Kendretta Thornton
P.O. Box 638 • Dothan, AL 36302 • Fax: (334) 794-4796
Or email Kendretta at **kthornton@dothan.com**

Nominations are due by March 10, 2023, 1 p.m.
Thank you for your nomination!

New**Members**

Clip and add these to your Membership Directory.

The Bostic Agency, LLC
Aaron Bostic
200 N. St. Andrews St., Suite 2
Dothan, AL 36303
(334) 218-0267
www.thebosticagency.com
INSURANCE

Concrete Upholstery
Cornelius Douglas
1558 Montgomery Highway,
Suite 1
Dothan, AL 36303
(334) 587-2070
CONTRACTORS

Continuum Health
Rusty Daily
3246 Ross Clark Circle, Suite 2
Dothan, AL 36303
(865) 696-6220
www.continuumhealthaic.com
PHARMACIES

Country Financial - Maggie West Agency
Maggie West
2 E. Main St.
Headland AL 36345
(334) 694-6981
www.countryfinancial.com/maggie.west
INSURANCE

Dear Violet Photography
Kim Thomas
109 W. Troy St. (Physical)
5547 Fortner St.
Dothan, AL 36301
(334) 379-6560
www.dearvioletphotography.com
PHOTOGRAPHERS

Dothan Best Mattress
Terry Barber
2497 Montgomery Highway
Dothan, AL 36303-2651
(334) 587-7989
FURNITURE

Flourish Bloom Bar
Ashlyn Dunaway
1120 Dean Church Road
Ozark, AL 36360
(334) 545-1205
FLORISTS

The Joint Chiropractic
Carol Rogers
4521 N. Montgomery Highway, Suite 4
Dothan, AL 36303
(334) 478-9000
www.thejoint.com/alabama/dothan/dothan-22020
CHIROPRACTORS

McAlister's Deli, LLC
Antonio Beaty
3106 Ross Clark Circle, Suite-1
Dothan, AL 36303
(334) 794-3354
www.mcalistersdeli.com
RESTAURANTS, FOOD & BEVERAGE

Modern Health Family Care Practice
Kim McCardle
13000 Cottonwood Road
Cottonwood, AL 36320-0509
(334) 691-1109
MEDICAL SERVICES
HEALTH & WELLNESS

Moonflower Wellness Spa
Amy Pitts
2434 Fortner St., Suite 1
Dothan, AL 36301
(334) 796-6562
BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
PERSONAL WELLNESS & CARE

SSE Equipment & Supply Co., LLC
Matt Snell
1261 Reeves St.
Dothan, AL 36303
(334) 677-7111
www.sseequipmentsupply.com
INDUSTRIAL SUPPLIES & SERVICE

Tax Pro Accounting, Bookkeeping & Payroll Services
Dechauna Tensley
401 N. Foster St.
Dothan, AL 36303
(334) 479-1244
www.taxpro.company
ACCOUNTANTS

Thistle'n Dixie
Callie Woodham
706 Wildwood Drive
Dothan, AL 36303
(334) 405-1182
FLORISTS

Wiregrass Blues Society
Donnia Rambin
P.O. Box 6185
Dothan, AL 36302
(334) 648-6542
www.wiregrassbluessociety.org
NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

Renewing**Members**

80 To 89 Years
Hudson Office Supply Inc.
McDaniel & Associates, PC

70-79 Years
Mayer Electric Supply

60-69 Years
Davis Oil Co.
Tom West Co.

50-59 Years
AAA Cooper Transportation
AALOS at Dothan Brace Shop
Barge Design Solutions
Bob Woodall Air Care Systems Inc.
Century 21 James Grant Realty
Coca-Cola Bottling Co. United Inc.
Dothan Eagle
Dothan Powersports
Dunbarton Corp.
Hathcock Roofing & Remodeling Co.
Higgins Electric Inc.
Home Oil Co. Inc./Hobo Pantry Food Stores
Houston County Farmers Federation
Lee, Livingston, Lee, Nichols & Barron, PC
MidSouth Bank
Northcutt Drug Co.
Palmer Electric Construction Co.
PeoplesSouth Bank
Ramsey, Baxley & McDougle
Register Realty Co., Inc.
Solomon Motor Co. Inc.
Southeast Gas
Southern Bone and Joint Specialists
Swedish Match Cigars
Twitchell Corp.
Whatley Supply Co.

40-49 Years
Dothan Pediatric Clinic
Durden Outdoor Displays Inc.
Harts & Flowers
Jackson Thornton
Southeastern Oral-Maxillofacial & Facial Cosmetic Surgery Center, PC
Southern Business Systems Inc.
Terminix Service
Troy University
Women's Health Care of Dothan, PC

30-39 Years
Farley Nuclear Energy Education Center
Farmers Furniture
Flowers Insurance Agency, LLC
Real Estate Services of Dothan Inc.
Scott-Cook Pharmacy
U.S. Business Products Inc.
Wiregrass United Way

25-29 Years
LongHorn Steakhouse
Ridgecrest Baptist Church
S. Brannon Clothing Inc.
Women's Medical Center, PC

20-24 Years
Alabama Technology Network
Deanco Auction & Real Estate Co. Inc.
Hall Housing Investments Inc.
Northstar Engineering Services
Southern Heritage Funeral Home & Crematory

15-19 Years
First South Farm Credit

10-14 Years
Alabama Baptist Children's Homes & Family Ministries
Buffalo Wild Wings
First Light Home Care
LaQuinta Inns & Suites
Northview Christian Church
Peter A. McInish, LLC
Red Elephant Pizza & Grill
Town of Cowarts
Troy Cablevision Inc.
Wiregrass Spay & Neuter Alliance
Zonta Club of Dothan

5-9 Years
ADS Security
Amedisys Home Health Care
Coastal Signs & Graphics
FASTSIGNS of Dothan
Howell School Senior Apartments
The Kart Doctor, LLC
Motobilt, Inc.
Muller Communications Inc.
NAI TALCOR
Preferred Risk Services
Replica Plastics
Southeast Alabama Community Action Partnership
Tremco Services, LLC
Wholesale Wood Products
Windmill Station

1-4 Years
A1 Soft Wash Pro
Bama South
Comcast Business
Danzey's Xtreme Cleaning
Downtown Books, LLC
F.R.I.E.N.D.S.
Fedex Services
Interim Healthcare
The Poplar Building
Professional Tax Service
Reset Mercantile
The Shops at South Oates / MRP Capital Group
Southeast Alabama Community Foundation
Southeast Plumbing & Electric, LLC
Strickland Jewelers
W. Jones Photography

Empowering You And Your Business

#DACCimpact

The Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce is launching its second annual Total Resource Campaign to help empower you and your company to complement your business development goals. The DACC has assembled a toolbox to assist your company with visibility, advertising and marketing opportunities providing you with a competitive edge. The campaign provides your business with opportunities to be seen, heard and featured in front of potential clients and customers adding to your promotional, advertising and marketing efforts.

"This TRC is a unique opportunity for you as a Chamber member to target your marketing and advertising dollars to a specific audience that will help you IMPACT your businesses," said Lori Wilcoxon, DACC chief operating officer. "An outstanding group of Chamber business volunteers will be contacting many of you to discuss your interest. Please take the time to visit with them and learn how you can make your marketing dollars work for you through support of business events. We are thankful for the strong leadership team that has been assembled by TRC Chairman Beau Benton, Larry Blumberg & Associates (LBA Hospitality). His team of vice chairs, team captains and volunteers are dedicated to helping our businesses grow, thrive and utilize the power of events and programs to have an IMPACT in our community and for your business.

Beginning March 8 and running through April 13, the DACC's TRC volunteers will be contacting businesses, both large and small, with the opportunities to engage with the Chamber. This building event provides opportunities for companies to get involved and support the vital programs and events which support the business community in the Wiregrass region and beyond.

The above strategy allows participants to manage and allocate their investment dollars for the entire year June 1, 2023 through May 31, 2024. You will be able to choose from all the marketing opportunities available for the entire year. Opportunities range from the Annual Meeting to Spotlight on Business, to social media campaigns and more. The calendar of events has everything from choosing platinum benefits to maybe just purchasing a table. No matter what level you choose, your business is given the the opportunity to participate and be seen.

"As part of the regional business community, I believe in the mission of the Dothan Area Chamber and the avenues which they seek to grow not only our regional business environment, but also each individual business," said Benton.

The TRC Campaign is only five weeks long ending on April 13. Once the sales period ends, there will NOT be any other chance for current DACC members to take advantage of these opportunities. You are encouraged to let us help you to use your marketing dollars to grow your business and leave your mark with the Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce.

For more information, contact Wilcoxon at (334) 792-5138 or **lori@dothan.com**, or visit **www.dothan.com/impact**.

Total Resource Campaign Chairman Beau Benton, Larry Blumberg & Associates (LBA Hospitality) president.

TRC VICE CHAIRS AND TEAM CAPTAINS

TRC Vice Chairmen: Charles Buntin, *Tom West Co.*
Team Captains:
Walter Hill, *Wiregrass United Way*
Lawrence Johnson, *Friend Bank*
Rick Rickard, *WDHN TV-18*
Loretta Shapiro, *ServiceFirst Bank*

TRC Vice Chair: Claudia Hall, *Southeast Health*
Team Captains:
Kerri DeShazo, *Synovus*
"Dolla" Bill Durden, *Durden Outdoor Displays Inc.*
Hannah Shiver, *Residence Inn by Marriott*
Jeff Williams, *SmartBank*

TRC Vice Chairman: Delvick McKay, *City of Dothan*
Team Captains:
Jamie Bienvenu, *Dothan Downtown Redevelopment Authority;*
Leah Gunn, *Housing Authority of the City of Dothan, AL*
Vimal Patel, *Econo Lodge / Vimal The Closer*
Susan Vierkandt, *Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Showcase Properties*

TRC Vice Chairmen: Brad Kimbro, *Wiregrass Electric Cooperative*
Team Captains:
Stephen Holland, *Property Champions Real Estate*
Madison Knight, *Like Mind Marketing*
Gayla Land, *All in Credit Union*
Kelli Pylant, *Friend Bank*
Stevie Sauls, *Wiregrass Electric Cooperative*

TRC TEAM CAPTAIN & VOLUNTEER TRAINING

DOTHAN AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
IMPACT
2022
TOTAL RESOURCE CAMPAIGN

Who Is RealTime, LLC?

Describe your business, including history and years of service.
RealTime LLC has been in business since 2000. Over the years RealTime has grown and transitioned to almost 60 employees. RealTime is the only business in Dothan awarded a Medallion by the Department of Labor for excellence in hiring Veterans. We are actively involved in supporting our community on many levels and are proud to be a part of the Wiregrass.

RealTime LLC has two business verticals:

1. Managed Information Technology Services for Business; and

2. Revenue Cycle Management.

What makes your business stand out?
We like to say that RealTime IT has been "filling pockets since 2000." Our award-winning* marketing campaign, Keep an IT Expert in Your Pocket, light-heartedly explains why we are the trusted leader in IT support and customer service in the Wiregrass. When area businesses put a RealTime IT Expert in their pocket, they have an experienced team of IT technicians, operations specialists, and cybersecurity analysts ready when they need it most. Our clients know that they are more than just a number and that relationships are important to us. Our focus is to protect our clients and their business as the threat landscape evolves around the world.

Has your business changed in the last 12 months, and what do you see for the future?
In 2022, RealTime launched a cybersecurity division devoted to specifically focusing on a comprehensive cybersecurity protocol for every client. We scaled our company to match these changing needs for our clients with proactive prevention, threat detection protocols, and other avenues that optimize security. **www.realtime-cybersecurity.com**

What advice would you offer to someone looking for the services/products your business provides?
When it comes to protecting and managing your business, you want a company that specializes in managed Information Technology, not performing IT services as a side hustle. Additionally, if you are looking for "best deal" for IT services, you could be playing with fire. Your business, your clients, and data are more important than a coupon-rate service contract that may be cutting corners you don't know about. Get referrals from other businesses you know and make your IT services a valued line item for your business.

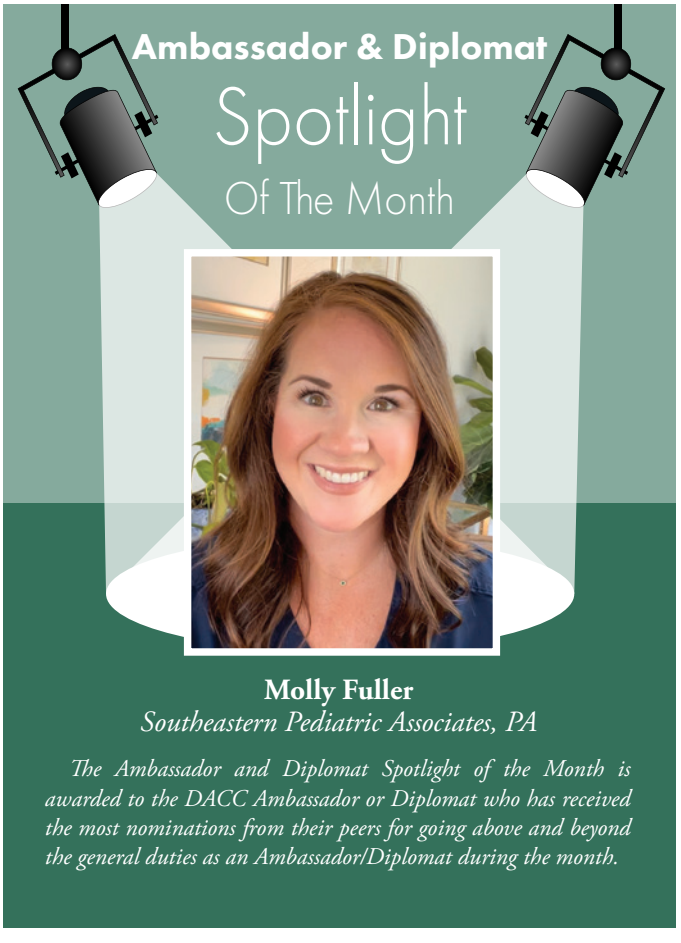
Describe an exciting recent highlight for your business:
REALTIME RCM (Revenue Cycle Management) - At RealTime, we believe that time is money. Our Revenue Cycle Management mission is to maximize revenues for our clients while we minimize the amount of time spent collecting. Whether it's working with your existing medical billing department or collecting 100 percent for your business, we have masted of art of Revenue Cycle Management. We are comprised of a highly experienced team of Certified Coders and Billers specializing in coding, medical billing, collections, AR follow-up, denial management and reporting. For a full list of providers that we serve, visit **www.realtime-medical.com**.

Business Spotlight Presenting Sponsor
Krispy Kreme DOUGHNUTS

Star Of The Month

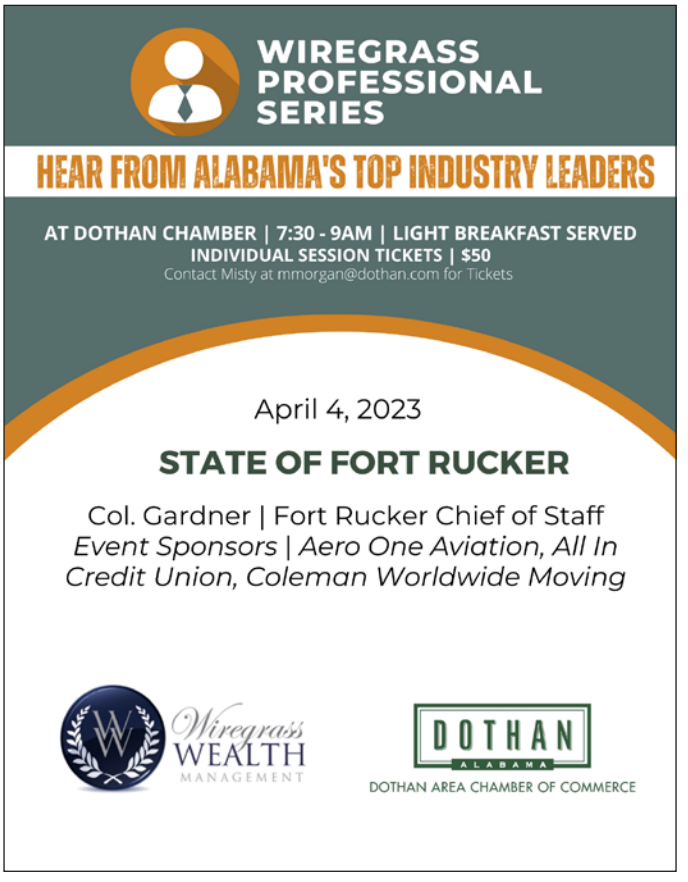
Brenda Stefin
WDFX-TV Fox 34

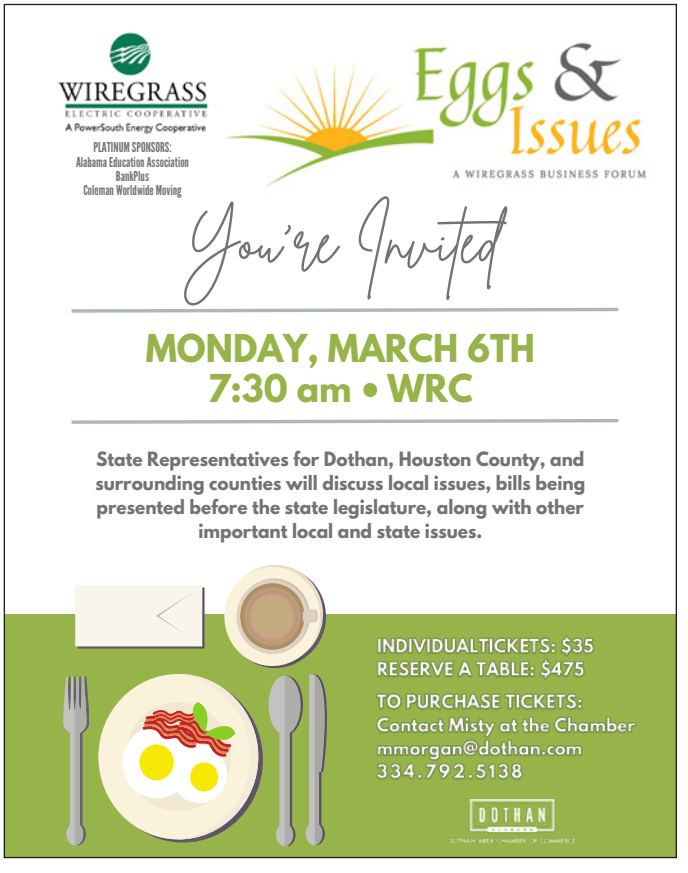
The Star of the Month is awarded to the DACC Ambassador or Diplomat who has achieved the most points during the month for attending Chamber events, performing renewal calls, recruiting new members and delivering new member packets.



Molly Fuller
Southeastern Pediatric Associates, PA

The Ambassador and Diplomat Spotlight of the Month is awarded to the DACC Ambassador or Diplomat who has received the most nominations from their peers for going above and beyond the general duties as an Ambassador/Diplomat during the month.





24th Annual Community-Wide Prayer Breakfast

Dothan Civic Center

April 18, 2023 • 7:30 a.m.

Guest Speaker

Mr. John Riley

"A great inspirational speaker with the unique capacity to communicate great truths in a simple, understandable manner."

Dr. John Ed Mathison

$35 Individual / $350 Reserved Table (seats eight)
For tickets please contact Misty Morgan at mmorgan@dothan.com or (334) 792-5168.

—WIREGRASS—
EVENTS

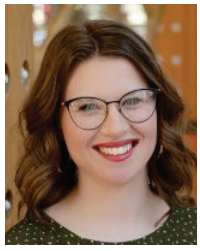
Angel Of Hope Benefit Car Show

Wiregrass Events, Harley Davidson of Dothan, the Dothan National Golf Club and Hotel, and Circle City Cruisers will host the 2023 Angel of Hope Benefit Car Show Saturday, March 4, beginning at 9 a.m. at the Dothan National Golf Club and Hotel.

On event day, registration will be held from 9 a.m. until noon, judging will start at noon and awards presented at 2 p.m. The show will run until 4 p.m. There will be a live 50/50 Drawing, a raffle, bounce houses, kids train rides, food trucks and live entertainment provided by The Twilights and a DJ.

Cars, Trucks, Jeeps, drag cars, firetrucks, first responder vehicles, motorcycles, ATVs, Side by Sides, four-wheelers and tractors are all welcome. To register your vehicle ($25 registration fee), or for more information, call (334) 577-3321 or email w**iregrasseventsal@gmail.com**.

Burch Joins HudsonAlpha Team



Abby Burch, Project Manager

Abby Burch is staying close to home as the new lab manager of the HudsonAlpha Institute for Biotechnology Wiregrass. The Rehobeth native is responsible for leading the community-led molecular breeding program, including genotyping and selection using low-coverage whole genome sequencing and back cross selection.

"HudsonAlpha Wiregrass is thrilled to welcome Abby to the team," said Dean Mitchell, HudsonAlpha Wiregrass director. "Abby is a local native, having attended Rehobeth High School and working in Dothan the past few years. She will be an integral part of our efforts and will bring an exceptional work ethic and community collaboration to our goals of helping spark innovation, enhance STEM education and inspire economic growth in the region."

As part of the collaboration between HudsonAlpha and the city of Dothan, HudsonAlpha Wiregrass aims to build a new science economy in the Wiregrass based on economic development, educational outreach and agricultural research. As lab manager, Burch will work closely with the Clevenger Lab at HudsonAlpha, which is pioneering a new model for workforce development in the form of a community-engaged and embedded sequence-based peanut breeding program.

Burch worked as a lab technician for Dothan Pediatric Healthcare Network for the last three years, after graduating from Troy University with a bachelor's degree in biology and biomedical sciences.

"I have always wanted to live and work in Dothan, but to work in the genetics field I always thought I would have to move to Birmingham, Huntsville or Atlanta for that to become a reality," Burch said. "I am extremely fortunate and excited to have this opportunity and am excited for what I think HudsonAlpha will mean to the Wiregrass."

For more information, contact HudsonAlpha Institute for Biotechnology Wiregrass at (334) 446-9111.

DOTHAN
ALABAMA
DOTHAN AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

WE CAN HELP

CALL US!

Owning and operating a business is a challenge. When it comes to expanding, relocating, hiring, or any business decision, we understand this can be time consuming and expensive.

Your membership benefits include access to a team of professionals that can offer guidance and assistance.

Give us a call today!
334-792-5138
www.dothan.com

Northstar Engineering Announces New Partner

Trent Scarborough, PE

Northstar Engineering recently announced that Trent Scarborough has joined partnership with Phillip E. Santora, Larry W. Brookins II, E. Lee Brown, Steve Wayne Strickland and Jason Sawyer.

Scarborough began working at Northstar Engineering in 2015. Since joining Northstar Engineering Services, he has been involved in many commercial and residential development projects in Alabama, Florida and Georgia. Scarborough's experience in development projects includes surveying, commercial and residential roadway design, storm drainage system design, sanitary sewer system design, water utility design, storm water management system design, commercial site design and project management.

"This is a great honor to become a partner of such a great company. The Northstar family's values and work ethic are first class, and I am blessed to be a part of it," said Scarborough.

Scarborough graduated from Dothan High School in 2010. He earned his bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Auburn University in 2015 and is a licensed professional engineer in Alabama. He is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers and is a past president of the Dothan branch of ASCE.

Scarborough is happily married to his wife Abby. He and Abby are active members at Bethel Baptist Church. In his spare time, he enjoys spending time with family, playing golf, bowling, traveling and spending time at the lake.

For more information, call Northstar Engineering Services at (334) 673-9895 or visit **www.northstarengineering.com**.

Emmanuel Christian Names McDaniel Head Of School

Michelle McDaniel, Head Of School

Emmanuel Christian School is proud to announce that it recently named Michelle McDaniel as head of the school. Known for her creative problem-solving mind and her desire to share the love of Christ one child at a time, McDaniel brings an extensive Christian leadership and education background to her new role.

McDaniel's journey in Christian education began over 18 years ago as she earned a bachelor's degree in mathematics from Faulkner University with an emphasis in secondary education. In 2012, she graduated with a master's degree in teaching and learning from Liberty University with a focus in administration and leadership.

McDaniel's teaching career started in a private Christian school where she taught mathematics for grades 7-12 at Mellow Valley Christian Academy in Mellow Valley, Alabama. She continued her career at the public and post-secondary levels in Alabama, Tennessee and Georgia. She also has served as a worship leader at several churches and worked beside her husband, Jason, in youth ministry for 17 years.

"I have always loved serving people, largely from my family serving in ministry with my father who is a pastor," explained McDaniel. "I look forward to serving Emmanuel Christian as the new head of school and cannot wait to see what the future holds as I lead in this capacity." For more information, contact Emmanuel Christian School at (334] 792-09356 or visit **www.emmanuelchristian.org**.

Like Mind Marketing To Head Ashford Train Depot Project

Like Mind Marketing is pleased to announce that the agency was recently hired by the Ashford Downtown Redevelopment Authority to begin a project featuring local Ashford resident, June Layton, discussing in videos the purpose and use of each historical piece of memorabilia in the Ashford Train Depot.

"This is going to be an extensive and time-consuming project, but Mrs. Layton is the only one in town that knows the true history of many of the historical objects and photos that have been collected over the years," said Brad Kimbro, ADRA Chairman. "With all of the valuable knowledge that Mrs. Layton possesses, the ADRA, along with Mayor Barfield and the Ashford City Council, wanted to capture her knowledge firsthand through video."

The ADRA and the city of Ashford hope to use these videos of Mrs. Layton in a future museum that becomes a popular destination for school field trips and Wiregrass residents. Like Mind Marketing expects the project to be completed by the end of March 2023.

For more information, contact Chairman Kimbro at (800) 239-4602 or **bkimbro@wiregrass.coop** or Melody Lee, owner of Like Mind Marketing, at (334) 618-3318 or **melody@likemindmarketing.com**.

YourChamber

Spotlight your business. Get more exposure!

As a Chamber member, you are entitled to one free business card ad in the Chamber's monthly newsletter, *Chamber Connections*, within 90 days from the date you join. For more information, contact Melia McKean at (334) 792-5138 or **melia@dothan.com**.

Wiregrass Women's Networking Lunch

River Nile Café, 1369 Headland Ave., Suite 7

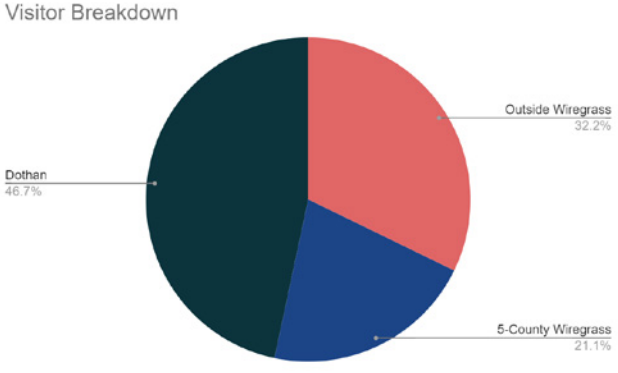
March 23 - 11:30 A.M.

For more information, contact Kendretta Thornton
(334) 792-5138 or **kthornton@dothan.com**

WMA's Economic Impact – January 2023

Executive Summary:

In January 2023, the Wiregrass Museum of Art reached 1,588 people, with an approximate economic impact of $51,998.52 from visitor spending.* Total economic impact since October is $614,917.56. Visitors came from Alabama, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Michigan, Missouri, Ohio, and Pennsylvania.



	Jan. 2023	Since Oct. 2022
Daytrip Visitor Spending (258 travel parties)	$42,554.52	$568,878.06
Overnight Visitor Spending (24 overnight stays)	$9,444	$46,040
Total Impact of Cultural Tourism	$51,998.52	$614,917.56

**WMA tracks visitor zip codes and number of overnight stays. Spending shown is calculated using average spending for overnight and daytrip visitors, by party, as defined by Visit Dothan's Visitor Profile Research. This economic impact is only an estimation of monthly visitor spending, not a comprehensive look at WMA's complete economic impact, which would include total expenditures, full-time jobs, household income, and local and state government revenue.*

wma wiregrass museum of art

Dothan Awarded Safe Streets And Roads For All Grant

The city of Dothan is proud to announce that it has been awarded the Safe Streets and Roads for All grant from the United States Department of Transportation.

The SS4A grant will be used to develop a Safety Action Plan to identify areas that are traditionally underserved, transportation disadvantaged, minority and low-income communities that are experiencing high numbers of severe crashes. Once these areas are identified, the Safety Action Plan will be developed to create an equitable strategy to reduce such crashes. Dothan experienced 40 fatal crashes between the 2016 and 2020.

The city is committing to a bold goal of making streets safer by reducing severe crashes by 50 percent over the next five years. The Safety Action Plan will identify specific areas for safety enhancements, such as: minor geometric improvements, updated striping or signage, and/or various Intelligent Transportation System implementations. Safety improvements may be proposed for all modes of travel including walking, bicycling or vehicle use. The Safety Action Plan will seek public input concerning travel safety and will foster safer travel through educational outreach programs.

The funding from SS4A the grant is provided at an 80 percent Federal and 20 percent local split. The total cost of developing a Safety Action Plan for the city is projected to be $294,170 with funds from the grant being $235,336 and city funds being $58,834.

The development of a Safety Action Plan is the first step towards pursuing additional federal funding to implement proposed safety measures in the future. The city of Dothan is excited to create a Safety Action Plan to make the streets in the community safer for all. Keep watching the City's website for information about upcoming public outreach programs!

For more information on the SS4A grant program visit **www.transportation.gov/grants/SS4A**.

YourChamber

Are You A New Chamber Member?

As a return on your investment as a Chamber Member, you are entitled to one business card ad within 90 days in the Chamber's monthly newsletter, *Chamber Connections*.

Spotlight your business and boost its exposure! For more information, contact Melia McKean at (334) 792-5138 or **melia@dothan.com**.

EDAA Recognizes Parker As Legacy Developer

Matt Parker, President

During its recent 2023 Winter Conference's Governor's Luncheon, the Economic Development Association of Alabama recognized 20 developers who have 30 years or more in economic development with the title Legacy Developers. Among those recognized was the Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce's very own President Matt Parker.

Parker has been professionally involved in economic and community development in the Wiregrass area since 1989. After graduating from Auburn University, he began his career in Dothan at the Southeast Regional Planning and Development Commission. He then went on to join the Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce as the vice president of economic development. Parker serves as the lead economic developer for new business development and support for existing industry in the Dothan area.

Parker's experience spans from working with small businesses to large industrial projects. Through close working relationships at the local, state, and federal levels, he has worked on initiatives that have enhanced the resources available to attract and support business in Alabama's southeastern region.

Parker has organized a work plan and structure to focus on community needs of education, workforce development, health care, air and surface transportation, legislative affairs, military affairs, membership services, small business development, agriculture, economic development, nonprofit development, minority business development, and networking and Spirit of Service committees.

Since working in economic development at the Dothan Area Chamber, the area has gained over 20,000 new jobs and $1.88 billion in industrial development investment. He has worked on projects and initiatives that brought $82 million in federal, state or foundation resources to enhance business development, infrastructure workforce development, education and more. Most recently in 2022, Parker facilitated the creation of 700 jobs and $200 million in capital investment in the Wiregrass economy.

Parker's past is reflected in some major accomplishments that include obtaining designation for the Dothan Regional Airport as Airport Enhancement Zone, developing the Houston County Distribution Park, gaining 300 acres and building facilities through charitable contributions to gain more industrial property and revitalize existing industrial buildings, spearheaded Redeveloping downtown Dothan (Phase I and II) and developed localized incentive program for downtown development, gaining federal funding appropriation for interstate connector (1-10/ Ross Clark Circle Phase II), Developed the Dothan/Houston County Microloan Funding program with area banks and State of Alabama, establishing Alabama Workforce Development Operation in Dothan at Dothan Chamber with Southeast Alabama Works to serve 1O-county area on workforce development support for new and existing industry, and establishing General Purpose Foreign Trade Zone Number 233.

Throughout his many years of service, Parker has also served, or is currently serving, on numerous boards of various state and civic organizations.

Join the DACC Board of Directors and staff as we give a BIG shout-out to our leader and friend, Matt Parker!

DCS Announces 2023-2024 District Teachers, Principal And Support Person Of The Year

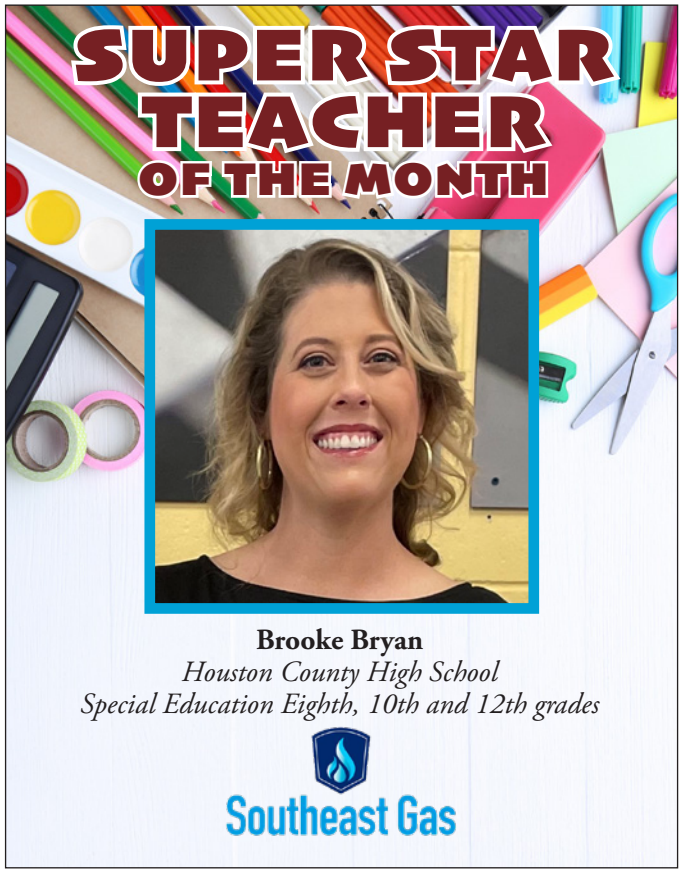
Dothan City Schools recently announced their District Teachers of the Year that will represent Dothan City Schools at the state level for Alabama Teacher of the Year. DCS also announced their Principal of the Year as well as Support Person of the Year.

Carver School for Math, Science and Technology's Suzanne Richards was named the District's 2023-2024 Elementary Teacher of the Year. She is a 2010 graduate of Auburn University with a bachelor's degree in human development and family studies, as well as a 2015 Troy University graduate with a master's degree in elementary education. Richards began her career with DCS in 2011 at Carver Magnet School in a support role. Additionally, she worked from 2015 until 2019 as a teacher at Montana Magnet School prior to moving to Carver School of Math, Science AND Technology where she currently serves as a sixth-grade math teacher.

Dothan Preparatory Academy's Ben Lundy was named the District's 2023-2024 Secondary Teacher of the Year. He is a graduate of the University of Alabama at Birmingham with a BFA in musical theatre and is currently projected to graduate in July 2023 from Columbus State University with his master's degree in theatre education. Lundy is in his four plus year with DCS. He began working with Dothan City Schools in 2019 at Dothan Preparatory Academy teaching Theatre I, Exploratory Theatre, Advanced Theatre for the Performer and Advanced Musical Theatre.

Dothan High School's Dr. Keith Bland was named the district's Principal of the Year. He Bland began serving as Dothan High School's principal in April 2022. Dr. Bland's experience in school administration includes his role as principal at J.R. Arnold High School in Panama City, Florida, for 10 years. He was most recently an administrator and head football coach at Bay High School. Additionally, he has served as a site supervisor for Grand Canyon University, instructional leader for Florida Virtual School, assistant principal for J.R. Arnold High School, and head football coach and athletic director for Apalachicola High School. In addition to his administrative experience, Dr. Bland has taught special education and physical education at elementary and secondary levels for over 15 years.

Dothan City Schools Transportation Director Jay Bruner was named Support of the Year. He has 26 years working within DCS. A graduate from Northview High School, Bruner began working for DCS in 1996 where he served in the classroom for 17 years teaching government and economics at Northview High School. In addition, He was Northview High School's girl's soccer coach for 14 years with a 184-59-8 record which included an appearance in the Class 6A state final four in 2001 and Elite Eight in 2010 and 2011. He was named the Dothan Eagle Coach of the year in 2009 and 2010. In 2013, Bruner became the DCS transportation director where he currently thrives in making sure the transportation department runs smoothly and kids arrive safely to and from school. This often includes Bruner driving a bus himself.



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ALUMNI GOLF

-Tournament-

MARCH 24, 2023
RTJ HIGHLAND OAKS GOLF TRAIL

Register by Wednesday, March 1!

10:00 A.M. - REGISTRATION

*Driving Range Opens

Mulligans available for purchase -- **CASH ONLY

11:00 A.M. - LUNCH

SHOTGUN START AT NOON!

For more information email mmorgan@dothan.com or call (334) 792-5138

Chamber
Connections

A Publication of the
Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce
March 2023
Vol. 50, No. 6 (USPS 700-660)
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ECONOMIC INDICATORS FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER

DOTHAN ALABAMA
DOTHAN AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

		2021	2022
↑	Labor Force For The Dothan MSA:	65,255 63,675 (Employed)	65,824 64,348 (Employed)
↓	Unemployment For The Dothan MSA:	2.4%	2.2%
↓	Residential Building Permits For The City Of Dothan:	19 Issued (5.7 Million)	4 Issued ($1.21 Million)
↓	Home Sales in Dothan:	162 Sold	99 Sold
↓	Enplanements For Dothan Regional Airport:	3,255	2,364
↑	Houston County & Dothan Sales And Use Tax Collections ($):	$1,987,034 (County) $5,924,388 (City)	$2,165,744 (County) $7,387,203 (City)

Editor's Note: Sources for this information vary; call the Chamber for details. Data as of 2/10/23. Visit www.dothan.com for the most current information.

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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meeting the challenge » shaping the future

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