

HAWKINSVILLE/PULASKI COUNTY
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

CHAMBER FOCUS



E-Letter

January 2011

**38th Annual Hawkinsville Harness Festival with the 2nd
Annual Harness Festival Barbecue Cook - Off**

April 15-16, 2011 Lawrence Bennett Horse Track
Hwy 129 & Fire Tower Rd.

Thursday, April 14th

Sponsors' Dinner

As a HHF Sponsor you are invited to a special evening of recognition of your generous contribution. Come and enjoy a southern fried catfish dinner with all the fixing, spirits, and live entertainment.

Friday, April 15th

Fireworks and Live Entertainment

On Friday Night come out and enjoy live music beginning around 6:00pm until dark when the ComSouth Fireworks display will light up the skies above the horse track. After the fireworks, the Kinchafoonee Cowboys will entertain you for the rest of the evening.

Saturday, April 16th

5k, Opening Ceremonies, BarBQ Competition sanctioned by the GA BarBQ Association, Harness Racing, More Music, Arts & Crafts, Kids Games, and Fun for the Entire Family!
Saturday is sure to offer a great time for the entire family. There will be many different events for all ages, from horse racing to a children's fitness challenge. Come out and take in small town USA at it's best. www.hawkinsvillechamber.org

For more information about the festival or festival sponsorship opportunities contact the Chamber of Commerce at 478-783-1717.

A Hawkinsville-Pulaski Chamber of Commerce Event!

Hawkinsville/Pulaski
County

Chamber of

Commerce

P.O. Box 300

46 N. Lumpkin Street

Hawkinsville, GA 31036

478-783-1717 Office

478-783-1700 Fax

www.hawkinsvillechamber.org

Chairman of the Board

Brent Lowe

Chamber Staff

Lee Slade

President /CEO

Kimberly Brown

Executive Director

Therisa Patton

Event Coordinator

**New Chamber
Members**

- *Just 4 Kickz
- *Stitch and Screen
- *Faye Gay (Individual)

Welcome!



BUSINESS OF THE MONTH

**JANUARY 2011
BATTS DRUG CO.
CONGRATULATIONS!**

PICTURES FOR THE PAPER WILL BE
JANUARY 24TH AT 10AM

2011 Youth Leadership Pulaski County

The Hawkinsville Pulaski County Chamber of Commerce is now accepting applications for Youth Leadership Pulaski County 2011 class. Applications are available at the following locations: Chamber of Commerce, Hawkinsville High School, Westfield and Fullington Academy.

The Youth Leadership Pulaski County program accepts 10-12 students per year. Deadline for the applications to be turned into the Chamber of Commerce is February 9, 2011. The office hours for the Chamber of Commerce are 9-5 a.m. Monday thru Friday.

Students must meet the following criteria: at least a 3.0 GPA, good discipline and attendance record, be in the 11th -12th grade, have two teacher recommendation forms from one core teacher and one other teacher, have the principal's signature on the application, participate in an interview, be involved in at least one other extracurricular activity, complete

and return the application on or before the deadline date, and be committed to the Youth Leadership Pulaski County program (YLPC) and understand that if he/she misses more than two YLPC activities he/she will no longer be a part of the program.

2011 Young and Miss Harness Festival Pageant



The Young and Miss Harness Festival Pageant will be held Saturday, February 5, at the Opera House.

Entry deadline is Friday, January 21. For more information and entry forms call the Chamber of Commerce at 478-783-1717 or Therisa Patton at 478-230-0222 or email: tpatton@hawkinsvillechamber.org.

Entry forms may also be picked up at the Hawkinsville Dispatch and News, Sun-Mark Community Bank, PlantersFirst, The Horseshoe Restaurant, The Steak House, D.M. Vickers and Associates, KidStuff, Wildflowers and ComSouth.

Miss Georgia Christina McCauley will be the mistress of ceremonies.

Peaches to the Beaches Yard Sale



Ways to participate in Peaches to the Beaches

Official Sites

The coast to host an official site is \$175 and it includes the rental of a Peaches to the Beaches official site banner. This allows you to rent spots to vendors for \$30 each.

Vendors

Vendor applications are now being accepted. The cost is \$30 for a 10 ft. x 10 ft. Electricity is an additional \$10 and is limited. The official site is located at the corner of Broad and Lumpkin Street (Pulaski County Annex Building).

You may be an official vendor at your own site. The cost is \$30 and it includes an official Peaches to the Beaches vendor sign. For more information please contact the Chamber of Commerce at 478-783-1717.

Peaches to the Beaches is an annual event sponsored by Golden Isles Parkway Association, a non-profit organization that strives to promote travel and economic development along the parkway. GIPA works with its members, local, regional, and state agencies to encourage visitors to the parkway. In an effort to promote travel and boost the annual economic impact along the parkway GIPA organizes Georgia Longest Yard Sale. Thousands of visitors travel the parkway the second Friday and Saturday in March.

Georgia Camera Ready Initiative

The Georgia Film, Music & Digital Entertainment Office (FMDE) is proud to announce the Camera Ready program, a special designation given to participating Georgia communities interested in attracting film and television production.

Film and television production can potentially bring significant economic impact to your community through local employment, purchases of local goods, hotel stays, location fees, and other investment. Plus there is a potential tourism draw to your community after the project is released. Even if the project is low budget, word of mouth about your county's cooperation can lead to larger projects down the road.

Hawkinsville/Pulaski County is in the process of becoming an official Camera Ready Community. For more information on the Camera Ready program please visit: www.georgia.org

CHAMBER MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

- * Gooseneck Farms
- * PlantersFIRST
- * Southern Hills
- * Hawkinsville First United Methodist Church
- * Pulaski County Farm Bureau
- * Ace Hardware
- * Sharp Systems
- * Pulaski County Stockyard
- * Church of the Kingdom of God
- * Middle Georgia EMC

We appreciate Your Membership!

International Shrine Burn Prevention Week

On February 5, 2011, 10:00AM until 2:00PM, Al Sihah Shrine Center, 222 Mecca Drive, Macon, Georgia in conjunction with the Macon Fire Department will provide an event at the Al Sihah Shrine Park commemorating International Burn Prevention For Children Week, February 6-12, 2011. This event will feature emergency equipment and personnel from the Macon/Bibb and surrounding county fire departments. Al Featured will be "Smokey the Bear" from the U.S. Forrest Service, DNR and their children games, Georgia State Fire Commissioner's walk-through trailer emphasizing burn prevention for trailer and other agency exhibits. Al Sihah Shrine Clowns, Classic Cars, Hillbilly Cars, small car "Scat Cats", Legion of Honor veterans, and other Units. Presentations and handouts will be provided on burn prevention for children as well as the benefits provided for the treatment of children at Shriners' Hospitals at no costs to families, parents or guardians. A free lunch will be provided. The recent house fire in Hawkinsville that caused severe burns to two of our Central Georgia children has really emphasized a need for this educational program. These two children are currently receiving the very best burn treatment provided anywhere in the World at our Shriners' Cincinnati Burn Hospital. Other events will be conducted during the week providing educational material to Central Georgia families. Please help us to spread the word about this event so that we may hopefully prevent the tragic occurrence of a child being severely burned.

Georgia Work Ready Update

Work Ready Communities

Once counties attain their Certified Work Ready Community goals, they are able to maintain their status by ensuring members their available workforce continue to earn Work Ready Certificates, engage local businesses to recognize and use Work Ready, and continue to increase their public high school graduation rate.

To continue their work, each county will receive a \$10,000 grant. Their Work Ready Community teams will also receive a two-year membership to their local chamber of commerce and a budget for additional Work Ready outreach materials. Counties that are fully certified receive road signs and a seal denoting the year they achieved certification.

Work Ready Regions

Governor Perdue also announced \$1.75 million in federal grants to create five new Work Ready Regions, multi-county economic development initiatives that bring together their assets and business leaders to create regional talent pools targeting existing strategic industries to increase economic development opportunities.

Included in the five new Work Ready Regions and their initial member counties:

§ Middle Georgia Aerospace Workforce Alliance

(Bibb, Houston, Jones, Peach and Pulaski counties)

“Work Ready Regions align education, workforce development and training with the needs of the businesses operating in the area to help existing companies grow and attract new ones to our state,” said Governor Perdue. “The collaborative system created by Work Ready Regions provides employers with a foundation for success. Our regions create a pipeline of qualified workers that can support growth and innovation now and in the future.”

In order to become a Work Ready Region, the multi-county area must increase the number of individuals in the workforce holding a Work Ready Certificate, ensure each county in the region earns Certified Work Ready Community status, encourage local employers to complete Work Ready job profiles, and develop industry-specific career pathways for the emerging, transitioning and existing workforce.

Each regional effort is led by a local businessperson associated with the strategic industry, according to Debra Lyons, director of the Governor’s Office of Workforce Development (GOWD). This leader works closely with GOWD through the Work Ready Region Academy to ensure continuity of efforts among the various regions, and will assemble an industry network to ensure the region’s work plan meets the current and future needs of the industry. Participating industry members of the region receive current worker training.

The potential Work Ready Regions will each receive a \$350,000 grant to assist in increasing the skill level of its workforce. An important component of their work will be aligning regional available workforce work readiness skill levels to those needed to fill strategic industry jobs.

Hawkinsville-Pulaski County Arts Council 2011 Events

January 22, 2011
The Return
 “Beatles Tribute Band”
 7:30PM
 Tickets-\$20

February 26, 2011
Ocmulgee Symphony Orchestra
 Mozart and Hayden
 7:30PM
 Tickets-\$30

March 5, 2011
Middle Georgia Talent Search
 Round 1
 7:00PM
 Tickets-\$10

March 12, 2011
Middle Georgia Talent Search
 Round 2
 7:00PM
 Tickets-\$10

April 16, 2011
Mustang Sally
 7:30 PM
 Tickets-\$25



Please call 478-783-1884 for ticket information.