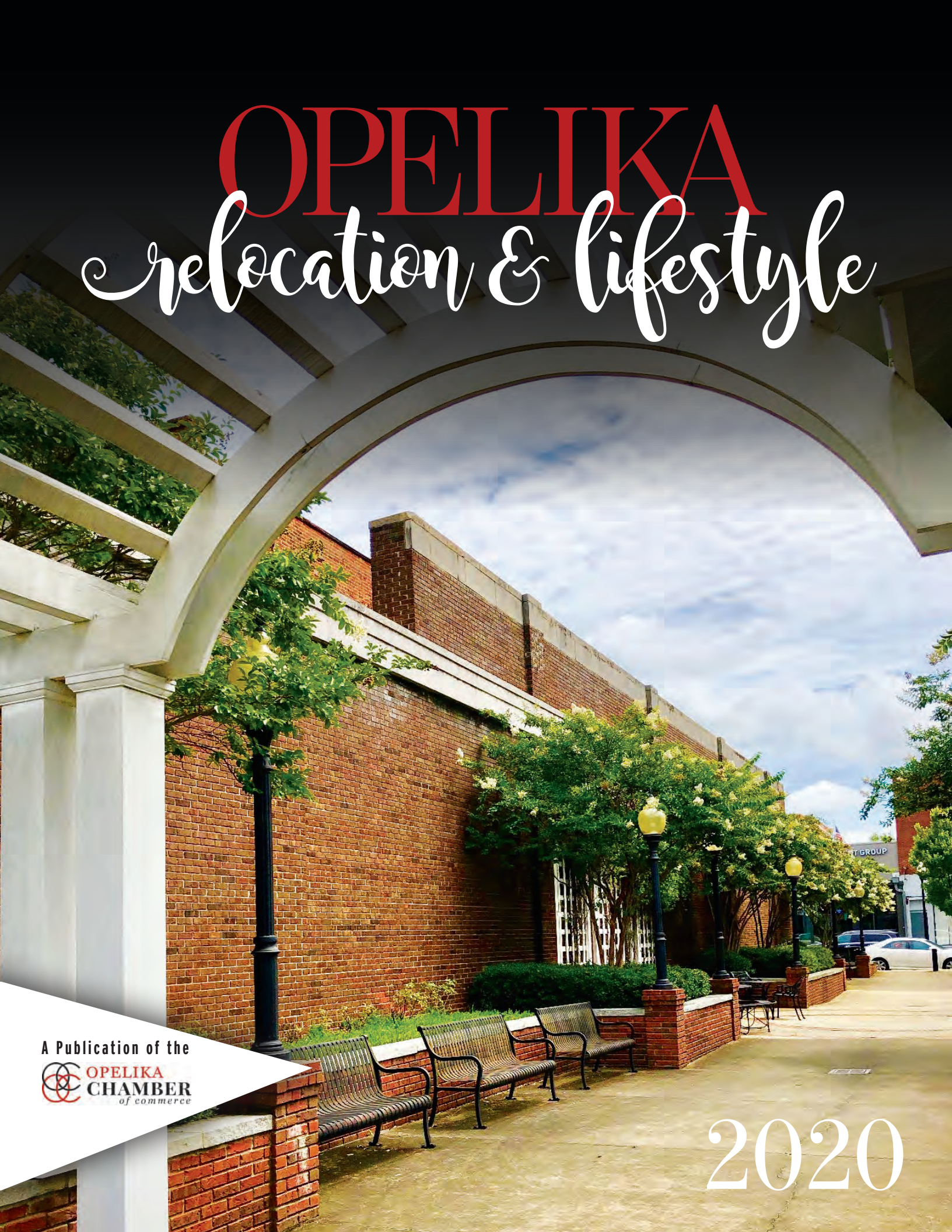


OPELIKA

relocation & lifestyle



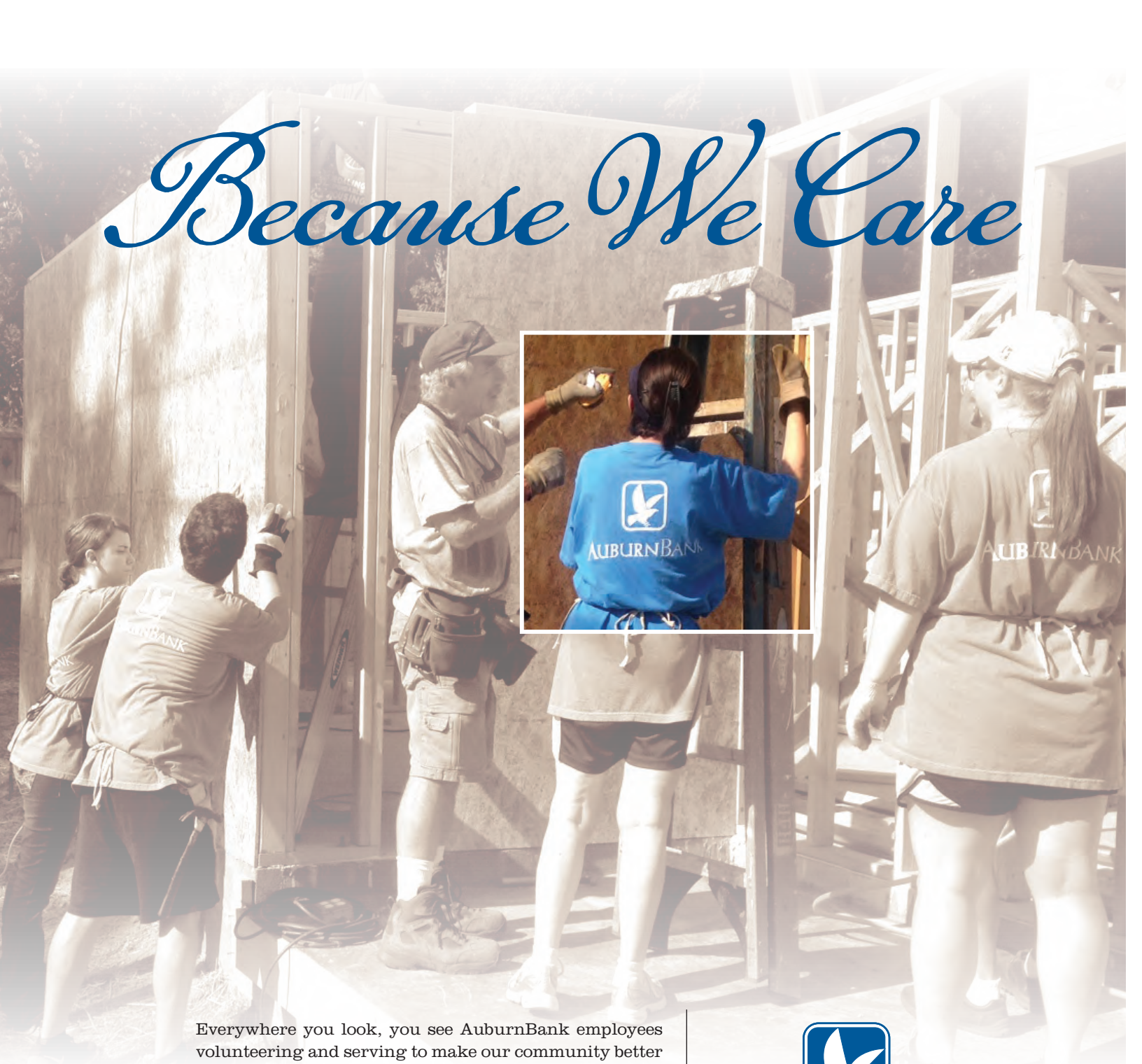
A Publication of the



OPELIKA
CHAMBER
of commerce

2020

Because We Care



Everywhere you look, you see AuburnBank employees volunteering and serving to make our community better and to help it grow. That's because AuburnBank cares.

Since 1907, AuburnBank has cared about and invested in this community which is why we have such a strong presence in local charitable organizations like Habitat for Humanity, United Way and the Food Bank of East Alabama, to name a few.

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WELCOME TO OPELIKA



Happy 2020 to all! We're convinced that this is going to be a great year for Opelika!

There is a genuine excitement in the air about how our great city is prospering and growing in so many ways. There is a collaborative sense of partnership to continue the efforts to make our community an even greater place to live and do business. This atmosphere, in addition to all the exciting opportunities here makes us extremely thankful.

We are also grateful for all our members and desire for all to prosper and grow in the years ahead. Thank you to our membership, thank you to our Board members, committee members and the hard-working volunteers that we owe our gratitude.

To achieve our mission, we must promote our community assets, develop our community assets and support business retention & satisfaction. To have a strong economic environment we must have a strong community. We are fortunate to have leaders, business owners, educators, and citizens who realize that we all share in the responsibility of creating economic success and happiness within our community.

So thank you to everyone.

A note for those of you that may not know who we are:

We are an active chamber that looks to advance its members' growth and prosperity, and to provide increased opportunities and value for its membership. The Chamber advocates for and unites the business community, conveys business interests to policy-makers and advances the area's economic health. To carry out this mission, the Chamber serves as the voice of business and involves the public sector in community leadership.

In addition to vibrant committee work, The Opelika Chamber provides unique opportunities for members. This includes our special events including the Annual Meeting, Mayoral Address, Snopelika, plenty of Business After Hours and numerous seminars on a variety of topics to help our members. Our popular events provide our members and the community an opportunity to network and meet new people, no matter what their schedule allows.

Our community is an excellent place to do business and an excellent community in which to live. You will see that in the pages to follow. We hope you enjoy the 2020 edition of our magazine.

Thank you for the opportunity to be of service to you. We will continue to pursue excellence in all that we do at the Chamber.

Carlton Hunley IV

Pam Powers-Smith, President

OPELIKA

relocation & lifestyle

Publisher



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Pam Powers-Smith

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Opelika Lifestyle is a publication of the Opelika Chamber of Commerce. In order to advertise in this publication you must be a member. To become a member of the Opelika Chamber of Commerce and have your business listed in the Membership Directory, among other benefits, please contact (334) 745-4861.

Opelika Chamber of Commerce

601 Avenue A, Opelika, Alabama 36801

Phone: (334) 745-4861

Fax (334) 745-5897

www.opelikachamber.com



601 AVENUE A + OPELIKA, AL 36802
334.745.4861 | WWW.OPELIKACHAMBER.COM



OPELIKA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE STAFF

(Left to Right)

Dinah Motley,

Director of Marketing
& Communications

Jill Robinson,

Director of Membership

Mackenzie Kayler,

Manager of Programs & Events

Pam Powers-Smith,

President

Vivian Anthony,

Office Manager

The Opelika Chamber of Commerce was organized on January 13, 1941 and was incorporated on August 26 of that same year by Homer Carter, Yetta G. Samford, R.W. Williams, Edward M. Roberts, Jr., Winston Smith T, A.L. Screws, A.C. Tatum, D.W. Ward, John L. Whatley and John D. McKibben.

Many of these individuals' families are still in Opelika, contributing as much to the prosperity of the City as they once

did. And while the faces have changed, the goal of the Opelika Chamber of Commerce largely remains the same.

As was recorded in the original Petition for Incorporation, the purpose is to "promote the commercial, industrial, agricultural and civic interests of the City of Opelika and the surrounding territory; to promote integrity and good faith, just and equitable principles in

business..." In 1941, "annual dues were \$12 - minimum - payable quarterly."

Today, with over 760 members, the Chamber keeps very busy in helping our members grow by offering opportunities, resources and programs. Creating a stronger, more dynamic and prosperous business community is very important to the Chamber. We want your business to succeed and flourish.



AUBURN'S FOUR DIAMOND ESCAPE.

Experience Opelika's only four diamond resort. The newly renovated Auburn Marriott Opelika Resort & Spa at Grand National offers luxury lodging and world-class amenities just minutes from Auburn University. Pamper yourself in the new three-story spa and fitness center. Enjoy great dining in Southern Oak. Unwind with a signature cocktail while sitting around the outdoor firepits. Make time for tennis, swimming and RTJ golf.

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MAYOR'S WELCOME



Dear Friends,

Welcome to our amazing city, Opelika! We are thrilled that you chose to make our community your home. We're confident that you will find Opelika a great place to raise a family, do business, shop, eat and live!

Our people are gracious and welcoming. Always willing to lend a hand in a time of need. Our business community, local government, schools and churches work together to provide a solid, stable place for young and old to grow and prosper.

You can enjoy great entertainment venues, amazing cuisine, stellar shopping and superb athletics, right here in your own backyard. You are also minutes away from a quiet retreat at our local golf courses and beautiful lakes. And your children will receive a top-notch education in a technology-driven school system, while your family lives comfortably among friendly neighbors. We really do have it all here in Opelika.

If there is ever anything we, your city government, can do to help make your transition into our community smoother, please don't hesitate to call or come by City Hall. You can also visit our website or our social media pages to get the latest news and updates on events, activities and news in town.

-  www.opelika-al.gov
-  facebook.com/cityofopelika
-  twitter.com/opelikacity
-  INSTAGRAM.com/opelikacitygov

Again, on behalf of the City of Opelika, welcome to our community. We're glad you are here, and we look forward to getting to know you and your family.

Warmest Regards,

Gary Fuller
Mayor of Opelika





OPELIKA – RICH IN HERITAGE WITH A VISION FOR THE FUTURE

By Dinah Motley



Opelika first appears on maps as far back as 1733. The earliest people in Opelika were the Creeks or Muskogee Indians. Early traders called them “Creeks” because of their habit of living along rivers and streams.

The first white settlers in the area now known as Opelika arrived in the late 1830s and established a community called Lebanon. After the removal of the native peoples by force in 1836-37, the area became known as “Opelika”, taken from a word in the Muskogee language meaning “large swamp”. Settlement was sporadic until the late 1840s, when Opelika quickly became a commercial center with the coming of the railroad.

In 1848, the Montgomery & West Point Railroad Company extended a rail line from Montgomery, Alabama to Opelika, and in 1851 completed a connection to West Point, Georgia, thus connecting Opelika with Atlanta, Georgia. This line was the only direct rail route between New Orleans and the Eastern Seaboard, and rapidly became one of the primary trade lines for shipments of raw cotton from Southern plantations to the North. The Montgomery & West Point lines were soon joined by a rail connection to Columbus, Georgia in 1855, and a connection to Birmingham, Alabama in 1869. Almost overnight, Opelika became a regional hub for commerce.

To manage this rapid growth, Opelika was incorporated as a town on February 9, 1854. As a result of Opelika’s transportation infrastructure, many warehouses for storing cotton and other goods were built. With the onset of the Civil War these warehouses were converted to Confederate supply depots. In 1864 and 1865, Union raids commanded by Lovell Rousseau and James H. Wilson attacked Opelika, tearing up the railroads and destroying all government property, including Opelika’s warehouses.

Soon after the end of the war, the Alabama state legislature created a new county out of parts of Macon, Russell, Chambers, and Tallapoosa counties to be named after Confederate general Robert E. Lee. In 1866, citizens of the new “Lee County” voted Opelika as the county seat, despite the fact that Opelika was technically unincorporated after having its charter revoked for abetting the rebellion against the United States.

After Opelika received a new charter in 1870, rapid growth

resumed. The town nearly doubled in size between 1870 and 1900. During this time, Opelika began to gain a reputation as a wild, lawless town. Soon after receiving the new charter, city officials attempted to scam outside investors by issuing fake railroad bonds. For this, the town’s charter was revoked again in 1872, and the town was administered as a police district by the state legislature for the following year. Opelika’s downtown was packed with saloons, and frequent gunfire in the streets led to railroads ordering passengers passing through Opelika to duck beneath the windows to avoid being shot.

In 1882, voters dismissed the incumbent city government. Unwilling to give up power, the city council nullified the election until the courts ruled against them. When the state yet again revoked Opelika’s charter, the city leaders took up arms against those that opposed them, and the governor was forced to send in the militia to restore order. Opelika remained under unelected military rule for sixteen years until 1899, when Opelika’s charter was again restored.

In 1900, local investors founded the Opelika Cotton Mill as the first textile plant in the city, employing 125. In 1925 Pepperell Manufacturing Co. constructed a large mill just outside of the Opelika city limits. The period between 1930 and 1970 would turn out to be Opelika’s heyday, as industrial growth turned Opelika into a regional economic powerhouse.

Opelika continued to add factories and other industry throughout the middle years of the twentieth century. In the 1950s, Opelika attracted the nation’s first and largest magnetic tape manufacturing plant. In 1963, tire manufacturer Uniroyal constructed a massive plant in Opelika, and around the same time Diversified Products revolutionized the physical fitness equipment industry with products produced in their Opelika plant. By the early 1970s, Opelika’s industries employed nearly 10,000.

Between the late 1970s and 2005, non-agricultural employment in the Auburn-Opelika area grew at a slow but steady pace. By the late 1990s, Opelika sought to



INTRODUCTION

increase its industrial employment base by purchasing and developing a 2,200 acre park site, Northeast Opelika Industrial Park. Since 1999, two major distribution centers, four tier 1 automotive suppliers and one manufacturer of dietary supplements have located within the park. In 2003, the park was recognized as one of the "South's Best Automotive Assembly Plant Sites" by Southern Business & Development, an industry trade publication.

Opelika has also experienced a boom in retail development. Conveniently located at the intersection of Interstate 85 and Highway 280, Tiger Town, a 130- acre mixed use development, has nearly one million square feet of retail space as well as freestanding restaurants, banks, offices, and hotel sites. It is east Alabama's largest retail center and is home to more than 85 businesses.



Across the interstate from Tiger Town, sits the AMC Tiger 13 Cinema which boasts of having the largest screen in the nation. Following major renovations, Historic Downtown Opelika

is enjoying a return to the center of life in Opelika. The shopping and restaurant district has been improved with a turn of the 20th century flair. Opelika is filled with a variety of specialty shops, galleries, antique stores, restaurants, breweries, a distillery and a speakeasy. The John Emerald Distilling Company and the Red Clay Brewery have won numerous awards in their fields.



Wanting to keep up with future technology for businesses and homes, Opelika invested in the fiber optic system and became Alabama's first "Gig City" which means she has one of the most advanced, high-tech 100% fiber optic systems in the world! There is almost no limit to what can be done with fiber technology. In 2018, the City sold the fiber portion to Point Broadband.

Opelika might have started out a little rocky with people ducking as they rode through, but today people flock to this charming, progressive and lively city. Come for a visit. Stay for a lifetime.


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 Charles R. Greenleaf, DMD

www.auburnpediatricdentistry.com



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AREA'S ONLY 100% FIBER-TO-THE-PREMISES NETWORK FOR BUSINESS + RESIDENTIAL





OPELIKA
CHAMBER of COMMERCE
12 WWW.OPELIKACHAMBER.COM



THE WHITFIELD- DUKE-SEARCY HOME

Now home to the Opelika Chamber of Commerce, the Whitfield-Duke-Searcy Home, a Victorian, was built by the John Whitfield family in 1895. They sold the Victorian home to Judge Duke and his family in 1902. The Whitfields, then moved to Montgomery and opened the ALGA Syrup Company and the Whitfield Pickle Company. In 1903, the pocket doors were installed. In 1932, gas furnaces were installed.

Mrs. Inez Duke Searcy, Judge Duke's daughter and the second female attorney in our state, moved her family into the home in the late thirties/early forties. She entertained, raised her children and enjoyed living in the home until 1979.

In 1979, First Alabama Bank purchased the Searcy home for their Opelika office. In 1988, the City of Opelika bought the building from the bank to house the Chamber of Commerce.

All of the pocket doors are original to the house. The alcove under the stairs was home to a "swooning couch." The conference room was originally the formal dining room and closer to the kitchen was the breakfast room. There were also pocket doors between the parlor and dining room, and there is a slight recess there now. The bank had installed a teller line where the doors had been.

The downstairs rooms were bedrooms for guests. The kitchen remains in the same location. The upstairs housed the family sleeping quarters.

All of the mantles are original to the home as is the inside woodwork. The front room mantle is made of birds-eye maple. The stairwell is original, but it has been painted. All of the leaded glass windows in the house are original, including the one on the upper wall above the stairs and below the stairwell, which was used to brighten the dark corner below the stairs. There was a barn at the site of the drive through.



INTRODUCTION

at a glance

RELOCATION/GETTING STARTED

CABLE SERVICE

Spectrum Business: (678) 226-3661

Point Broadband: (334) 748-9800

LOCAL PHONE SERVICE

AT&T: 1-888-757-6500 (residential), 1-866-620-6000 (business)

Spectrum Reach: (256) 749-6259

Point Broadband: (334) 748-9800

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION: (334) 745-7052,
1800 Corporate Dr, Opelika, AL 36801

UTILITIES

Electric:

Opelika Power Services: (334) 705-5570

Alabama Power: 1-800-245-2244 (residential),
1-800-430-5787 (business)

Tallapoosa River Electric Cooperative (TREC): (334) 864-9331

Gas: Spire Energy: (334) 887-4800

Water: Opelika Utilities: (334) 705-5500

Sewer: ESG: (334) 705-5413

RECYCLING

Keep Opelika Beautiful: (334) 749-4970

Opelika Environmental Services: (334) 705-5480

US POSTAL SERVICE: Opelika Branch: (334) 745-3561

VOTER REGISTRATION: Board of Registrars: (334) 737-3635

PROPERTY TAXES: Lee County Revenue
Commissioner's Office: (334) 737-3655



SALES TAX RATE
Opelika Sales
and Use Tax **9.0%**

TIME ZONE

Opelika is located in the
Central Time Zone.



RECREATION

Gym/Splash Park/Pool/Pickle Ball Courts/Organized Sports
Opelika SportsPlex & Aquatic Center: (334) 705-5560

Parks: To see the variety of parks and where they are
located, visit <https://www.opelika-al.gov/363/Parks>

Calhoun Tennis Center: (334) 705-5556

Covington Recreation Center: (334) 705-5550

City of Opelika Dog Park

Denson Recreation Center: (334) 705-5547

Floral Park

George Bandy Park

Miles Thomas Field

Miracle Field

Municipal Park

Opelika Sportsplex & Aquatic Center: (334) 705-5560

Ray Ward Park

Shady Park (Pepperell Village)

Stern Dog Park

Spring Villa Park: (334) 705-5552

West Ridge Park

West Ridge Park Fitness Trail

Wood Duck Heritage Preserve & Siddique Nature Trail

Size of City **59.8**

Sq. Miles
Auburn-Opelika MSA



2019 ESTIMATED POPULATION

City of Auburn **66,535** City of Opelika **31,027**
2010 Census 53,380 2010 Census 26,477

Auburn-Opelika
MSA Total **161,604**
2010 Census 140,247

2018 Est.
Median Age*

36



2018 Est. Median
Household Income*

\$47,564



*Source: 2018 www.census.gov, www.Auburn.edu/outreach

**Source: 2018 Estimates: Economic Development Partnership of Alabama



EDUCATION

EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS IN OPELIKA

Private Schools

Trinity Christian School, K-12:

(334) 745-2464; www.tcsopelika.org

Lee-Scott Academy, K-12: (334) 821-2430; www.lee-scott.org

The Oaks School: (334) 887-9947; www.theoakschool.org

Public School System

Opelika City Schools, K-12:

(334) 745-9700; www.opelikaschools.org

To schedule a tour of Opelika City schools, please contact: Becky Brown, Public Relations Coordinator,

(334) 745-9700, www.opelikaschools.org

Lee County Schools, K-12: (334) 705-6000; www.lee.k12.al.us

HIGHER EDUCATION

Auburn University: (334) 844-4000; www.auburn.edu

Faulkner University: (334) 386-7143; www.faulkner.edu

Huntingdon College: (334) 745-2940; www.huntingdon.edu

Point University: (706) 385-1000; www.point.edu

Southern Union State Community College:

(334) 745-6437; www.suscc.edu

BUSINESS & INFORMATION

BUSINESS CLIMATE

A small town community with large town amenities, Opelika has the infrastructure and leadership in place to welcome and work with new or expanding businesses. With five exits off Interstate 85, and an hour and fifteen minute drive from Atlanta, Opelika's location provides quick access to markets and people across the Southeast.

LABOR

Total Civilian Labor Force	72,659
Total Employment	69,950
Unemployed.....	2,709
Percent Unemployed.....	3.7%

**Alabama Department of Labor (DOL): Source: AL DOL March 2019*

EMPLOYMENT Auburn-Opelika MSA*

Non-agricultural	64,400
Manufacturing.....	7,200
Mining, Logging & Construction.....	2,500
Trade, Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities	11,000
Information	500
Financial Activity	2,000
Professional and Business Service.....	7,000
Education and Health Services.....	4,600
Leisure and Hospitality	8,400
Other Services	2,300
Government	18,900

**Alabama Department of Labor (DOL): Source: AL DOL March 2019*

HEALTH & SAFETY

Emergency: 911

Opelika Police Department: (334) 705-5200

Opelika Fire Department: (334) 705-5300

Lee County Sheriff's Office: (334) 749-5651

East Alabama Medical Center: (334) 749-3411

Lee County Health Department: (334) 745-5765

Department of Human Resources: (334) 737-1100

Better Business Bureau: (800) 768-4222

TRANSPORTATION



Driver's License: (334) 742-9986

New Resident Vehicle Registration: (334) 737-3655

Uber & Lyft: operates within Opelika City limits

Lee - Russell Public Transit: (334) 749-9092 / (877) 743-3739

HIGHWAYS

Interstate Highway..... 85

U.S. Highways..... 29, 280 and 431

Alabama State Highway..... 51



INTRODUCTION

at a glance

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

ENTERTAINMENT

Auburn University Theatre & Singers

Art Haus: www.facebook.com/OpelikaArtHaus

Auburn Opelika Skate Park: www.auburnalabama.com/parks

Cottonseed Studios: www.cottonseedstudios.com

East Alabama Arts: www.eastalabamaarts.org

Gogue Performing Arts Center: www.goguecenter.auburn.edu

Opelika High School Theatre: www.facebook.com/opelikatheatresociety

Opelika High School Ovarions / Impressions / Imaginations

Rock 'N Roll Pinball www.rocknrollpinball.com

Surge Trampoline Park www.surgeadventureparks.com

The Sound Wall www.thesoundwallopelika.com

Rocky Brook Rocket Reindeer Express

Noon Tunes

Eggstravaganza (Easter Events)

Wood Duck Preserve

Summer Swing in the Park

Garden in the Park

On the Tracks Food and Wine Event

Touch a Truck

Victorian Front Porch Tour

Christmas in a Railroad Town

Freedom Celebration

Opelika Theatre Company: www.opelikatheatrecompany.org

The Bottling Plant Event Center: www.bottlingplanteventcenter.com

John Emerald Distilling Company

Resting Pulse Brewing Company

Red Clay Brewing Company

Fall Festival Events

AREA MUSEUMS

The Museum of East Alabama

Jule Collins Smith Museum of Art

AU Jonathan B. Lovelace Athletic Museum and Hall of Honor

Lee County Historical Museum

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MEMBERSHIP

REFERRALS & INFORMATION CENTER

The Opelika Chamber is a business based organization that receives thousands of requests for information and referrals. The Chamber only refers its members to residents, newcomers, and business clients. Members are notified of the referrals they receive. In addition, the Opelika Chamber serves as a clearinghouse for information regarding Opelika and its surrounding area.

BUSINESS SERVICES

- Membership Mailing Labels
- One listing in the Membership Directory which is in the Opelika Lifestyle Magazine published annually
- Notary Service
- For a nominal fee, your business may be listed under two categories in the Membership Directory and on the website
- Listing in the on-line Membership Directory with a link to your business website
- Membership decal indicating to your customers that you support the business community

PROMOTIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Work with the Chamber to help get your business the attention it deserves:

- Participate in giveaways for special events and meetings.
- Display your company's promotional brochures in the Chamber information center.
- Have the Chamber schedule and promote a groundbreaking, ribbon cutting or grand opening ceremony.

ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES

The Opelika Chamber has over 250 sponsorships available at a variety of price ranges.

NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES

Annual Meeting
 Business After Hours
 Business Development Seminars
 Business Over Breakfast
 Connections

COMMITTEES

Ambassador Committee
 Education Committee
 Governmental Affairs
 Public Relations Committee
 Recognition Committee
 Small Business Committee
 Women's Business Council

BUSINESS & EDUCATION

Career Technical Fair
 Health Science Fair
 Leadership Lee County
 Lee County Young Leaders
 Quarterly Seminars
 20 Under 40
 Veterans Job Fair

If you are interested in joining an Opelika Chamber of Commerce committee, please call the chamber at (334) 745-4861 or email us: coc@opelikachamber.com.



CALENDAR OF ANNUAL EVENTS

OPELIKA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE CALENDAR

Annual Meeting.....	June 17
Ambassadors Meeting	Every 3rd Tuesday
Board of Directors Meetings	Meet every other month
Business After Hours	Monthly
Business Over Breakfast	Quarterly
First Responders Appreciation Breakfast	September 25
Golf Tournament	May 5
Health Science Tour.....	April
Leadership Lee County.....	August - May
Lee County Young Leaders Program.....	August - May
Legislative Reception	Annually
New Members Breakfast	Quarterly
Quarterly Seminar / Workshops	Quarterly
State of the City.....	Annually
Small Business Week.....	May
20 Under 40 Sessions....	Every 2nd & 4th Tuesday August - May

CITY OF OPELIKA / OPELIKA MAIN STREET CALENDAR

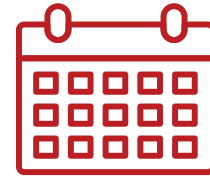
O'Grows Farmers Market.....	Every Tuesday, June - August
Easter on the Square.....	April 11
Fall Festival.....	October
Freedom Celebration.....	July 3
Holiday Open House	November
Memorial Day Services	May 25
Noon Tunes (Courthouse Square) ...	Every Wednesday, May • 12 pm
On the Tracks, A Food & Wine Event	Fall
Opelika Board of Zoning & Adjustments.....	2nd Tuesday
Opelika City Council Meeting	1st & 3rd Tuesday
Opelika City School Board of Education Meetings....	4th Tuesday
Opelika Planning Commission Meeting	4th Tuesday
Summer Swing (Municipal Park) ...	Every Tuesday, May - July • 7pm
Think Pink Breast Cancer Walk.....	September
Touch-A-Truck.....	June
Veterans Day Services	November


CHRISTMAS CALENDAR

Camelot Christmas Cards	December
Christmas Parade.....	December 5
Christmas in a Railroad Town.....	December 11
Collinwood Luminaries.....	December
Rocky Brook Rocket Reindeer Express	December
Snopelika	December
Victorian Front Porch Tour	December 9-13

KEEP OPELIKA BEAUTIFUL CALENDAR

Arbor Day	February
Azalea Trail	April
City-Wide Clean Up	March
Community Garden.....	Spring
Electronic Recycling / Document Shredding	Fall and Spring
Garden in the Park	May






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OPELIKA HAS AN ABUNDANCE OF ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Dinah Motley



The Opelika area has a plethora of arts and entertainment options that could fill up your calendar rather quickly. Visit the websites below for more information or to purchase a ticket.

The East Alabama Arts and the Gogue Performing Arts

Center present world-renowned performances and artists, as well as educational activities and speakers. These stellar performances are a wide range of musicals, plays, musicians, and dancers to name a few. Several times a month, you can attend one of these innovative and inspiring events.

The Soundwall is a new addition to the entertainment scene. This studio serves as a multi-purpose live tracking room, rehearsal space and listening room for live events, video production and even a chef's kitchen. They also have many artists to visit Opelika, as well as host the Annual Opelika Songwriters Festival where songwriters from across the U.S. and Canada offer 70 performances throughout downtown Opelika.

Opelika High School Theatre and the Opelika Theatre Company offer a variety of presentations that are outstanding. Opelika High School has won many top awards for their musicals. You will see everything from Phantom of the Opera and Fiddler on the Roof to Nunsense!

Visit the **Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art, The Opelika Art Haus** and **The Gallery on Railroad** to see amazing and unique pieces of many talented national and local artists. **Keep Opelika Beautiful** has a wonderful annual event in May, **Garden in the Park**, bringing in many talented artists that create hand-made clothes, jewelry, planters, food, soap, and so much more!

Enjoy a night out with live music at one of the popular locations in downtown: **The Red Clay Brewery, Resting Pulse Brewing Company, The John Emerald Distilling Company** and **The Bottling Plant Event Center. Cottonseed Studios** partners with many of these businesses bringing in lots of talented artists. **The Whistle Stop Brew Shop** is also downtown and offers everyone an opportunity to create your own beer or wine!

Opelika Main Street offers several events throughout the year including **On the Tracks - A Food and Wine Tasting Event** and **On Tap** - a craft beer festival featuring representatives from over 25 craft breweries from across the nation.

East Alabama Arts.....	www.eastalabamamarts.org
Gogue Performing Arts Center.....	www.goguecenter.auburn.edu
The Soundwall	www.thesoundwallopelika.com
Opelika High School Theatre.....	facebook.com/OpelikaHighTheatreSociety
.....	www.ohs.opelikaschools.org
Opelika Theatre Company	www.opelikatheatrecompany.com
Jule Collins Smith Museum.....	www.jcsm.auburn.edu
The Opelika Art Haus.....	www.opelikaarthaus.com
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Keep Opelika Beautiful	www.keepopelikabeautiful.com
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Resting Pulse Brewing Co.	www.restingpulsebrewing.com
John Emerald Distilling Co.....	www.johnemeralddestilling.com
Cottonseed Studios	www.cottonseedstudios.com
Whistle Stop Brew Shop	www.whistlestopbrewshop.com
Opelika Main Street.....	www.opelikamainstreet.org



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THE ART HAUS – MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN OPELIKA

By Kate Larkin

When Opelika native Henry J. Stern died in 2014, he left a part of his estate with instructions to his two children to use the funds for one purpose and one purpose only: to make a positive difference in his beloved hometown.





ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

J. and Ginger have done just that. They have honored their family name in a number of ways, including Stern Park, the renovation of the Rocky Brook train at Municipal Park, investments in local businesses and now, their newest venture, the Art Haus.

To honor their mother, Roslyn Stern, who taught art for decades, both in the Opelika City Schools system and privately, the brother and sister team purchased a former church and two adjacent houses to provide working studio space, a gallery to create and display artworks, a teaching area to offer educational opportunities for children and adults, as well as housing quarters for artists.

"We did a soft opening by hosting the

school system's Superintendent's Art Show and then held two small, private art classes," Ginger said. "We also have a group of ladies, The Studio Sisters, who meet regularly to create their art and two local artists are currently working in our space."

When all three phases of the project are complete, Art Haus will have seven studios that can be rented by local and visiting artists.

To make their vision come to life, J. and Ginger partnered with award-winning architect Behzad Nakhjavan to renovate the original church building.

"We let Behzad do whatever he wanted to do, with basically one request, to utilize as much of the original 1,600 square foot structure as possible,"

Ginger said. "He found incredibly creative ways to do that, including repurposing beams from the ceilings into the beautiful, heart pine flooring."

The open-air back patio is paved with bricks retrieved from the original Pepperell Mill on First Avenue, adding not only an artistic flare, but also reusing a part of Opelika's history.

"We have a very creative board of directors who want to continue to expand the capabilities, offerings and purpose of Art Haus," J. said.

Art Haus is just the most recent way the Henry J. Stern Foundation is making a difference in Opelika and leaving their family's legacy. Don't miss an opportunity to visit this treasure.

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GOGUE PERFORMING ARTS CENTER PROVIDES WORLD-CLASS EXPERIENCES IN YOUR BACKYARD

By Elizabeth Hurley

The Jay and Susie Gogue Performing Arts Center first opened its doors in August 2019 as the center launched its inaugural season with touring Broadway productions, opera, dance and musical performances and student and faculty music and theater performances.

Images courtesy of the Gogue Performing Arts Center, Auburn University/© Robert Benson Photography



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

The facility itself is a first for Lee County, Alabama, featuring the 1,202-seat Woltosz Theatre and 3,500-capacity Amphitheatre at the City of Auburn Lawn and Porch, with 17,000 square feet of open space for outdoor performances and events, according to Auburn Opelika Tourism.

Since it's opening, the center has kept busy with 12 shows in 2019 and 18 shows in spring 2020. Patrons are sure to find a show that interests them, says Gogue Center Executive Director Christopher Heacox.

"What we're hearing from our audiences is the sense that variety, diversity of programming, and the quality has been quite phenomenal and exciting," Heacox says.

Many of the performances at the Gogue Center are normally not found in an area the size of Lee County, which is part of what makes the center so special. There are many performances that only visit larger cities that are now coming to the Gogue Center, which has brought

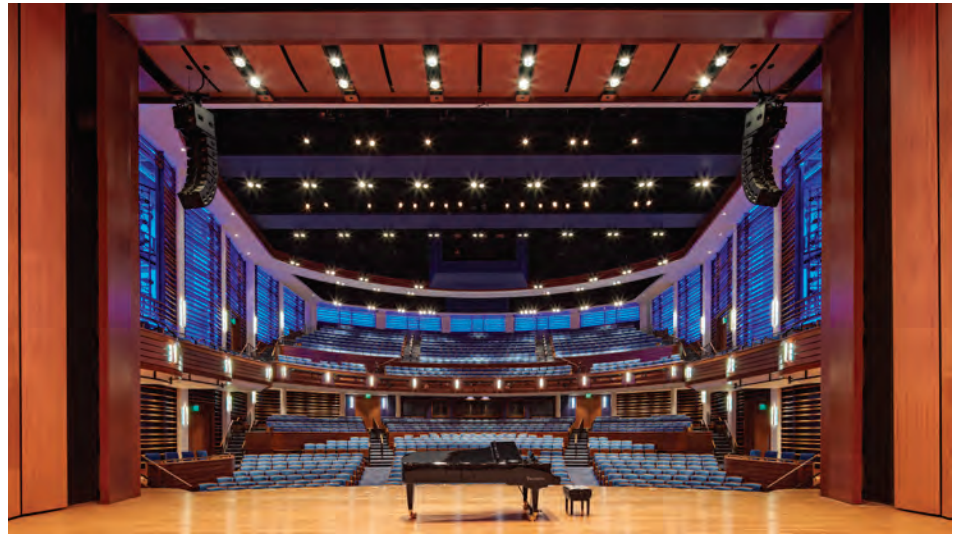
in many locals and out-of-state guests.

There has been a lot of excitement throughout the area for the performances and the Gogue Center itself. Heacox states the center has seen many patrons taking a chance on new performances and often enjoying them.

"The feedback in regards to artists that have never come to this community (who are well-known or world-class or whatever superlative you want to

say), gives the community a sense of pride that these... artists, these individuals, these performances are here in our community... not only performing for audiences on stage but giving back... on campus and in our communities," Heacox says.

"The Gogue Center hosts activities throughout the year including school performances for area elementary, middle and high schools. Students often



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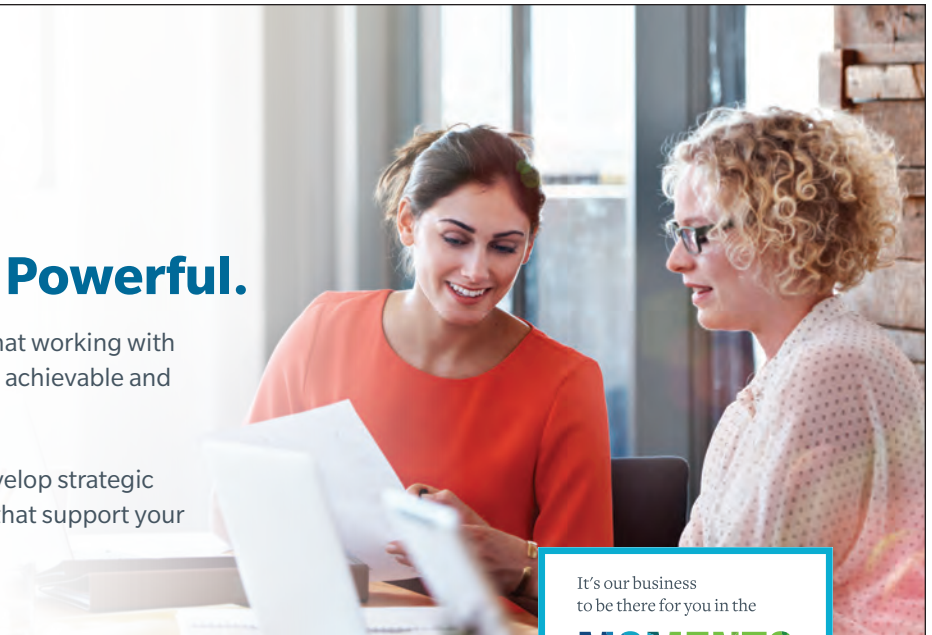


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have the opportunity to meet with the show's artists to learn more about the performance they just saw," Heacox says.

The amphitheater has space for plenty of community guests to enjoy performances and includes space for food trucks. Some performances offer pre-show dinners at the

Museum Café across the street at the Jule Collins Smith Art Museum.

"It's kind of the new gathering place here for people to come enjoy a performance."

The Gogue Center's 2020-2021 season will be released on March 6.

There are a lot of exciting performances

coming to look out for, Heacox says.

Once the next season is announced, the schedule will be available at goguecenter.auburn.edu.

Tickets are available online at gougecenter.auburn.edu or by calling 334-844-TIXS. Box office hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday.

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ASCEND – TRAINING TO IMPROVE LIVES AND BUSINESSES

By Bradley Robertson

There is a new program in town, creating buzz as well as jobs. The program is ASCEND, brought to life by Southern Union State Community College. ASCEND is “Improving Lives, Growing Business”. The idea is to allow individuals as well as industry to “move upward” in their community. ASCEND is a connector of hard working, motivated individuals to industry that thrives off well-balanced, productive employees.

What is ASCEND? ASCEND is a program that takes an individual and trains them to receive the skills needed for an interview with its partners of Industry. Each ASCEND graduate will have preferential hiring for full-time employment among these Industry partners. This translates into an immediate increase in wages and real benefits for each ASCEND graduate.

The program is cost-free to the applicant. If the applicant is willing to invest his or her time into bettering themselves, then ASCEND is going to invest in them. The program is set up to meet the needs of the applicant and in their own time frame. The program lasts a total of 4 weeks. 12 hours of class work per week. Monday-Thursday.

What are the operations of the program? The program teaches communication skills to prepare an individual for full-time hire. The skills include face to face communication, computer skills, budgeting skills, resume building and interview skills.

What about the industry partners? ASCEND has partnered with leading Industry in Lee County. When an ASCEND candidate meets their criteria, they will then be a preferential hire in the industry. They will be prepared and ready for an interview process and to work in their skilled area. Upon the hire, the goal is full-time employment with benefits and a sustainable job with excellent pay.

They are Industry leaders in our community. They have each committed to preferentially hire candidates directly from ASCEND. These industries have been chosen for their integrity, work ethics and value they place on the individual. They have been selected and interviewed. Only the absolute best industries in



our community are part of the ASCEND program.

Who is ASCEND for? ASCEND is for the hundreds of people in our community that, for a variety of reasons, are underemployed, poorly compensated and working without the security provided with good medical and dental benefits. An ASCEND candidate may have just graduated High School and is not yet ready for college. A candidate may be seeking change in their work environment, increase in wages or consistent work and benefits. Perhaps a candidate feels undervalued, they want leadership and to feel valued in their work.

ASCEND is a bridge, connecting those driven to work and provide security to their family, to the leading industries in our community. A new, excellent job for the candidate and a new, excellent employee for the industry.

So who is behind ASCEND? They are teachers, leaders, and engineers. It is many people with a common goal to help individuals find true value and life in good work. This team is strong and wise. They are working daily to place this program into the hands of those who need it. They see value in all people and in building a better community for everyone.

For more information, please visit www.suscc.edu/ascend.cms or call 334.745.6437, ext. 5490.



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OHS CULINARY PROGRAM OFFERS STUDENTS A BIG ADVANTAGE

by Karley Smallwood

Opelika High School's (OHS) Culinary program is a step ahead of teaching students a new set of skills. Leading this forefront is Judy Eldred, with over 20 years experience, who is setting a new way to look at the future.

Eldred teaches the program with the goal of giving students more opportunities. Her culinary background is from the Orlando Culinary Academy. She has worked in various restaurant environments from Disney World, The Marriott, to owning her own bakery, and now teaching students. Through the OHS program "the students have a leadership skill set whether they use it or not that will benefit them in any position," said Eldred. Inspiring and preparing students for everyday life, with not only cooking skills but leadership skills, is a goal for her.

The program was established in 2015 and has grown exponentially, changing the path for many students. The program consists of four courses comprised of students 9th through 12th grade. The first course of the program is Hospitality and Tourism and that leads into Culinary Arts I. The basics of cooking are taught in these classes. Eldred



EDUCATION

teaches the basics so that she can feel confident that after her students leave the program they are ready for any work environment. Once the students complete Culinary I the students can get certified in The Guest Service Gold and ServSafe Manager programs. Both these certifications put the students ahead in the work force, allowing them to move up and advance their careers faster.

If the students want to continue to grow their knowledge in this course, there are two different routes that can be taken. One path is Culinary II, which teaches the four mother sauces of cooking and more advanced cooking techniques. The other option is Baking & Pastry Arts. The students in this course will learn how to decorate and

master the skill of baking. If the students continue their education in this course work, they are eligible during their senior year to participate in a CO-OP program that finds them work right out of high school. The longer the student is in the program, the more their knowledge grows as well as other leadership skills.

This Culinary program is one of a kind, teaching students to grow in a skill that sets them apart. Not only does this program go in depth about different cooking techniques, it makes students learn how to be a team member, how to multi-task, and learn management skills. The program has and will continue to grow and make an impact in students' lives by giving them a big advantage in the culinary community.



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Leadership Lee County has blessed me by allowing me to see the great network of people serving our county.



There are so many facets working together to keep our cities moving and growing, and most of us just go about our daily business completely unaware of these happenings. Through listening to and learning from these individuals I hope to bring back their life lessons and use them to strengthen my leadership skills. I am also learning from my class members, a diverse group including medical professionals, city employees, transportation and utility company leaders, university employees, small business owners and more. This program is not only great for networking, but more importantly it's great to learn from others perspectives. I'm proud to tell people I live in Lee County, and I know that we have a strong group of leaders making decisions with our best interests in mind. I encourage anyone who wants to be a difference maker to get involved in community activities and to apply for the next class of Leadership Lee County.

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DRAKE MARTIN

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The 20 Under 40 program has been a fantastic experience, and I am honored to be a part of the 2020 class.

Participating in this program has helped us, as a class, gain a better understanding of the city we live in. It has been inspiring to interview and get to know different leaders and organizations within our community. It has been very encouraging to see what the city of Opelika has done, especially over the last decade, to promote growth. I am hopeful that other smaller towns in Alabama are able to learn from Opelika's success. Although I was not born or raised in Opelika, my wife, Claire, and I are very grateful to call Opelika our home. I am excited to see how we, as the 2020 class, are able to use the knowledge and experience we have gained in the 20 Under 40 program to help better serve and support our wonderful community.

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Lee County Young Leaders has been an inspiring and opportunity-filled experience that has made me view the people who work in our community in a way I never thought of beforehand.



The program has opened my eyes to seeing a more optimistic future and given me an appreciation for those who do so much, not only in the community of Lee County, but for society as a whole. The leadership course has taught me how to better cooperate and guide people, as well as learn from them, in my daily life and in the workplace. The lessons that are taught at each meeting are extremely valuable and give everyone a new perspective on what leadership really means. The Lee County Young Leader program is easily recommendable to anyone who considers not only leadership an important value but also friendship, trust, and humility.

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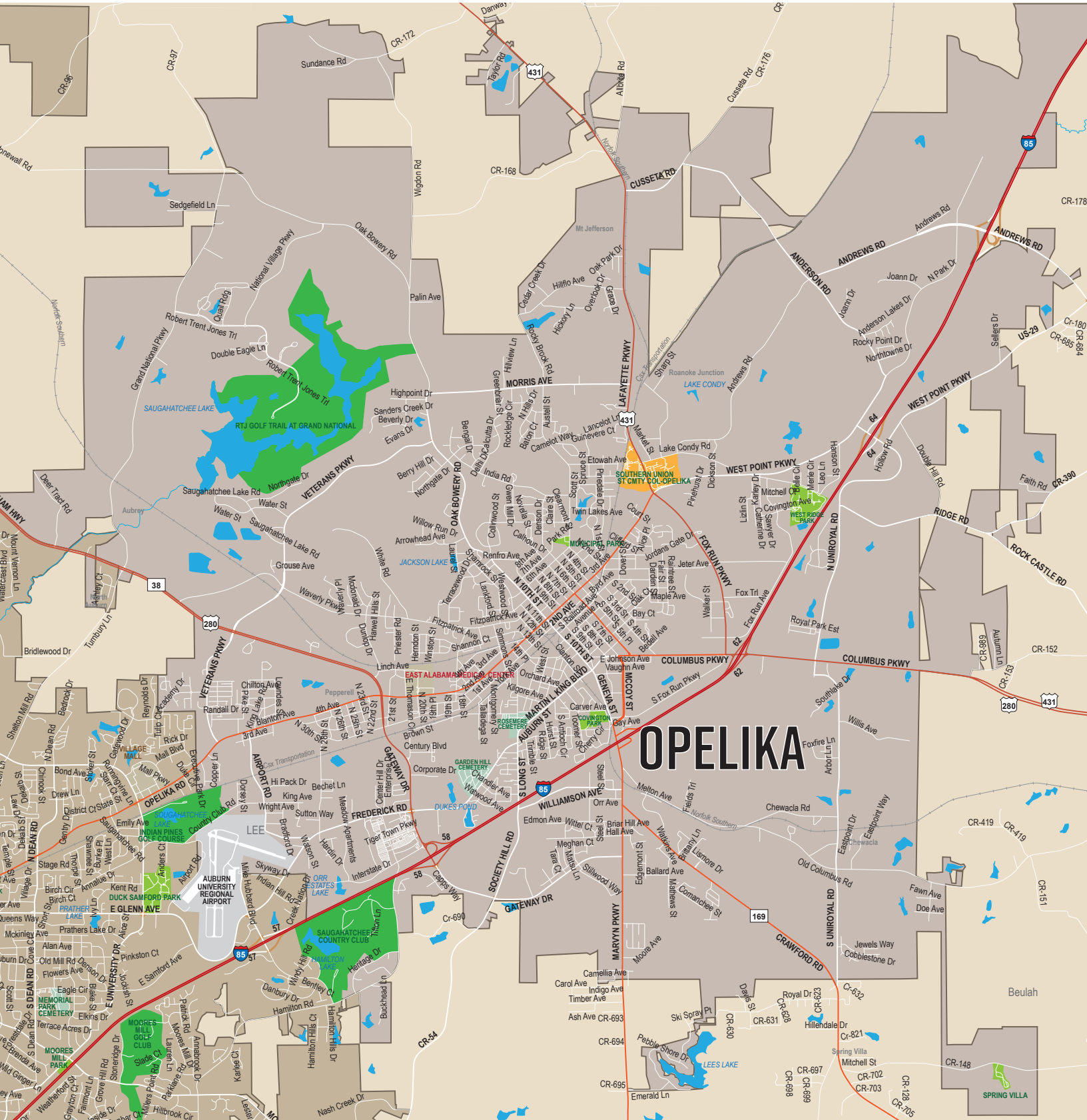
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Support sustainable

Summer Farmers' Markets, Downtown Opelika & Agricultural Heritage Park, Auburn
From locally grown fruits and vegetables to honey, florals, and cheeses, the months of May to September are a bonanza of opportunity to live well while supporting our local growers. Our sister cities feature outdoor markets each week during the summer. You'll find them at the courthouse square every Tuesday in Opelika and at Auburn University's Agricultural Heritage Park every Thursday.

Say ahhhhhhhhhhhhh

Spa at Grand National, Robert Trent Jones Trail, Opelika
The Spa at Marriott's Grand National Resort features 20,000 square feet of wellness, relaxation, and motivation. Local residents can now enjoy a European-style spa experience with an Opelika address. From traditional warm stone massages to red carpet ready facials, the spa also offers a state of the art fitness facility complete with group class room and a full-service professional salon.





OPELIKA'S FIRST AVENUE BOOMING

By Tori Bramhall

What used to be a forgotten avenue has now become one of the hot spots in Opelika to hang out. In the heart of downtown Opelika, First Avenue features a brewery, a speakeasy, a coffee shop and a high-end menswear shop.

There's something for everyone at Resting Pulse Brewery with 14 different locally tapped beers, including one brewed with coffee from Mama Mocha's roastery across the street. The brewery has entertainment nearly every day of the week with trivia on Tuesdays, karaoke on Wednesdays and live music on weekends out on their large patio. The brewery also often hosts events like sushi making classes to make for a great date night or evening out with friends.

For a quieter scene, Sneak & Dawdle features unique cocktails as well as all the classics inside the speakeasy's classy interior. Bar goers can also sneak outside to their hidden back alley to chat with friends and get a breath of fresh air and the booths along the wall m̄bake for an experience that feels more personal and exclusive. The bartenders Matt and Casper are friendly and creative and



are willing to make any kind of drink you can dream up.

If a caffeine boost is what's needed, Mama Mocha's has espresso, teas, hot chocolate and everything in between. Their coffee shop with baristas that make you feel like a long lost friend was so successful at their original Auburn location that they added a second location in Opelika. The bodega grab-and-go style of the Opelika location allows for busy professionals to walk up, order and head to work in the mornings and their open air outdoor and covered spaces allow for coffee lovers to hang out for a while and work or enjoy time with friends.

Griff Goods sells sustainably sourced and made men's clothing and the store's namesake Abby Griff provides hemming and adjustments to any of the clothes she sells. The shop provides an array of clothing that you won't find anywhere else in town and makes it easy to buy something special to update any man's wardrobe. Griff's commitment to quality and sustainability also provides peace of mind in contributing to companies that strive to take care of their workers and their environment. The shop

also often hosts events like Griff Gathering art shows for local artists to showcase their work and allows people all over town to gather and see the creativity in their area.

Opelika has plenty of fun things to do for people of any age, but First Avenue provides a great place to find something new to do, meet new people or hang out with old friends!

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SMALL BUSINESS OF THE QUARTER

By Dinah Motley



Each quarter, the Opelika Chamber honors a small business in the community that goes above and beyond in service. From the winners, a Small Business of the Year is chosen. The businesses selected this past year are a perfect example of exceptional business practices and community involvement.

Small Business of the Year: Mrs. Story's Dairy Bar

While East Alabama is booming with new restaurants and national fast food chains, this small business has remained in a single family for 66 years, serving the same no-frills menu as when the doors first opened. As some restaurants follow food trends and shortcut preparation, not this one! They have remained consistent with Blake and Amber Booth, the fifth generation, preparing their great-great-grandmother's homespun recipes. This small business has won numerous awards over the years. Their chili hotdogs and milkshakes are both listed in the 100 Dishes to Eat in Alabama.





Chick-fil-A at Tiger Town

Chick-fil-A, known for their great service, generosity and those adorable cows, is very community-minded. In fact, Truett Cathy, the owner, always maintained he wasn't in the chicken business, but the people business. He viewed his business as more than a source of income, it was a source of encouragement to others. This company is always willing to assist with community projects by donating time and resources. Their belief that giving people the opportunities they need to succeed helps everyone prosper. Since 1973, Chick-fil-A has given more than \$35 million in college scholarships to restaurant team members wishing to pursue higher education...and it was their pleasure.



V3 Media

Originally founded as a logistics company in 2004, V3 Media is now primarily a digital marketing firm, creating solutions online and through digital graphics. Typically, they spend the majority of their time in three main areas: website design & development, SEO & digital public relations, and video production. Their clients range from orthopedic surgeons, non-profits, and clothing boutiques to large universities, manufacturers and commercial construction companies. Each different business offers engaging challenges and opportunities for their team of designers to think through a fully-functional conceptual design that works for mobile devices, desktops, and everything in between.



Southern Crossing

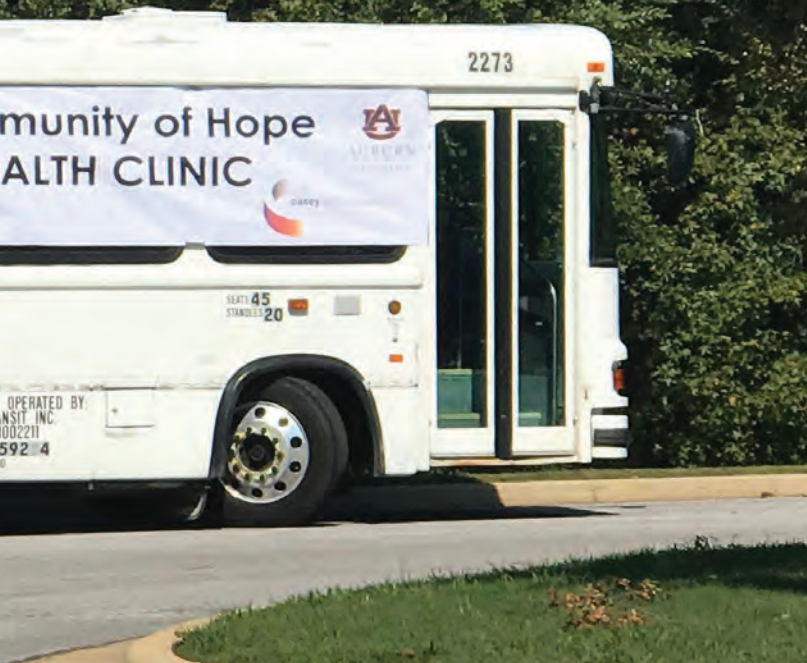
This thriving business has been in Downtown Opelika for over twenty years. While the store has undergone many changes and updates in the last couple of years, Mike and Valerie Smith have worked hard to preserve the many attributes that make this exceptional retail gift shop a favorite in the area. They have excellent customer service. They enjoy helping their customers pick out unique gifts for others, as well as themselves, whether in person, over the phone, through social media or their online store. They specialize in specialty gifts for all occasions. They carry home decor, china, jewelry & accessories, collegiate items, men's gifts, bath & body products, gourmet food items, toys, baby clothing & gifts, and so much more. They also offer Bridal and Baby Registries which are featured on their website.





OPELIKA NEIGHBORHOOD MOBILE WELLNESS CLINIC SET TO LAUNCH SPRING 2020

By Morgan Bryce



This spring, the Opelika Neighborhood Mobile Wellness Clinic is set to hit the road, offering free health care and services to citizens in underserved areas.

Discussions of creating a mobile clinic in Opelika span back to the conception of the Carver-Jeter Master Plan that was drawn up in 2014, according to City Administrator Joey Motley. With the donation of a bus to the City of Opelika from the Auburn-based transportation service First Transit in 2018, that idea advanced one step closer toward reality.

A partnership including the City of Opelika, East Alabama Medical Center, Auburn University and Casey Family Programs was soon formed to help bring this project to life. The city agreed to bear the responsibility of upkeep and storage for the vehicle, while EAMC will oversee its day-to-day operations.

For further understanding on how a project like this could work in Opelika, representatives travelled to the University of Florida in Gainesville to meet with Dr. Nancy Hardt, who operates a similar mobile wellness clinic in her community. Coming away with a better understanding of how a project like this could work in Opelika, the city hired Mobile Studios to help conceptualize the project.

After blueprints were finished,

estimations put the cost of retrofitting the bus at nearly \$200,000. Motley said the city decided to create a fundraiser to help raise the monies needed instead of using taxpayer dollars, and that he along with Community Relations Officer Leigh Krehling and Revenue Officer Lillie Finley helped promote the project. "We appeared at community events and spoke with local businesses, social clubs, Sunday School classes ... really to anyone who would listen to us and hear what we wanted to do," Motley said.

Several local businesses and organizations stepped up to the plate to help meet more than half of that goal, with the Opelika Housing Authority, Opelika Rotary Club, AuburnBank and BBVA Compass donating a combined \$105,000. After securing the rest of the necessary funding, the bus was shipped to Greensboro, North Carolina, where it is currently being retrofitted by Matthews Specialty Vehicles. Once completed, the vehicle will be equipped with a waiting area, exam room, lavatory with sink and secure records room, among other features.

Motley explained that EAMC will be

in charge of determining the clinic's location and staffing it with employees and medical sciences/nursing students from Auburn University and Southern Union State Community College.

While services will be determined by the hospital based on community needs and feedback, Motley said the goal is to provide citizens of all ages in underserved areas with basic exams, immunizations and other services free-of-charge to create healthier communities and build lasting relationships.

"As a city, we think that this is an opportunity for people in underserved areas to receive quality care that they might not get anywhere else. We're excited about this and the impact that we think this will have in Opelika for years to come," Motley said.

The bus is expected to be finished in the coming weeks. Krehling is working with designers to put final touches on its outward artwork and graphics.

For more information or updates on the mobile clinic's launch, follow the city's or hospital's social media pages and visit www.opelika-al.gov or www.eamc.org.





TOP-NOTCH POLICE OFFICERS GET TOP-NOTCH FACILITY

By Kate Larkin

For the first time in 52 years, the Opelika Police Department has a new place to call home. Construction on the new facility, built adjacent to the former building, began in summer 2018 with the police department taking possession in fall 2019.

Every aspect of the new building is a vast improvement from the old one, which had not been added on or renovated since 1977. Larger, high-tech meeting rooms, a more accommodating layout and state-of-the-art equipment and technology give Opelika officers and staff a more inviting, conducive and efficient work environment.

"The architects went with us through every square inch of our old building," Opelika Police Chief John McEachern said. "They looked at what we had, listened carefully as we expressed our needs and then incorporated everything we asked for."

One of the highlights of the new building is a large patrol debriefing and meeting room. In the old department, there was not a room that could seat more than 20 officers at one time, but in the new building, the state-of-the-art space comfortably accommodates seating for more than 100, so the entire department can meet together in one room. It also affords opportunities to host events.

"With the technology and other upgraded features, we can facilitate 2-3 day seminars, trainings and other meetings for our staff as well as other departments



HEALTH & SAFETY

around the state,” McEachern said. “It will be one of the most utilized areas of the building; we have already benefited from that space and will continue to use it in so many ways.”

An evidence room allows the detective division to process collected items in an area specially designed with the equipment and tools they need. Other features include a fully equipped gym for workouts, larger, updated locker rooms that give officers an area to change and to store personal items and an improved break room that gives them a place to relax or grab a bite to eat. Windows throughout offices and hallways let in natural light and give the building a welcome and open feel. Security systems have been implemented

throughout the facility to ensure safety, including video cameras to monitor movement and access cards required to enter every area of the building.

Separated from police operations for the first time, the municipal court facility has its own parking and entrance for those handling legal matters through the court. Those with law enforcement business park and enter the police department through the doors in the front of the building, facing South Tenth Street, while those going to municipal court will park and enter off of Martin Luther King Boulevard.

Another new and exciting feature is the addition of top-notch housing for the department’s K-9s.

“We will now have heated and cooled kennels that allow our officers to leave their service dogs at the department on their off days, where they will be treated royally. The K9 area will feature both indoor and outdoor runs for exercise,” McEachern said. “The ground cover will be an astroturf-type material that includes an automatic drainage system in each kennel.

“We are really excited about the K9 area,” McEachern said. “Our service dogs will be treated like the heroes they are.”

In addition to their new facility, Opelika Mayor Gary Fuller announced in 2019 that Opelika police officers would receive pay raises to bring their salaries to a range that is among the highest in the state.



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STATE-OF-THE-ART SPENCER CANCER CENTER OFFERS WORLD-CLASS TREATMENT

By Morgan Bryce

In June 2019, East Alabama Medical Center opened the doors of the E.L. Spencer, Jr. and Ruth Priester Spencer Cancer Center, with a goal to accommodate the needs of a growing community and provide a higher quality of care for patients.





Named after a former EAMC board chairman and his wife, the \$39.7-million, 59,596-square-foot facility located at 2501 Village Professional Drive is projected to treat 15,000 or more patients annually. The hospital's original cancer center was built in 1992,

but ran out of space for expansion, necessitating the need for a new facility.

With picturesque views of grassy fields and a wooded area outside, the facility's design and openness was designed with "the patient in mind," said EAMC's Director of Facilities

Jay Walters on a media tour.

"The majority of the land is back behind us, and we kept that very natural," Walters said. "We wanted (patients) to be able to see out, and we wanted to let a lot of light in."

This new facility has 38 patient



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infusion chairs, 12 exam rooms, four physician offices, high-dose rate room, laboratory and PET/CT simulator suite. On the facility's first floor is the radiation oncology department. Upstairs is the medical oncology department, pharmacy and boutique which includes accessories and clothing designed specifically for oncology patients, part of the hospital's goal to meet any individual's needs all from one location.

An often overlooked component of the facility is its chapel, which splits off from the main lobby.

Drugs meet a physical need, but we needed a space for spiritual needs as well," said Chris Clark, vice president of clinical services at the center, in a November interview with Birmingham Medical News. "Patients and family members can go there for some quiet time."

Though the center is relatively new, several positive reviews have been left on Google.

"Was taken care of wonderfully by Dr. (Brandon) Johnson and Nurse Lisa. Was taken wonderful care of by Dr. Johnson and Nurse Lisa. Boutique is lovely for after care from breast cancer," wrote user Mattie Mario, while Chris Davis and Anthony Wright described the facilities as "beautiful" and the staff "very friendly."

Those perspectives are sentiments shared by the center's staff and administration, who aspire to meet the mental, physical and spiritual needs of their patients according to a post on the center's webpage.

"Our comprehensive model of care includes expert dietitians, physical therapists, social workers, pharmacists, chaplain and others who all specialize in the complexities of cancer treatment.

Our team of experts specialize in early detection, diagnosis and treatment of all major forms of the disease. When you're undergoing cancer care, we ensure that you can stay close to home and sleep in your own

bed each night with the support and encouragement of your community."

To learn more about the facility and services it offers, call 334.528.1070 or visit <https://www.eamc.org/find-a-service/cancer-care/>.






CITY OF
OPELIKA
Alabama



OPELIKA IS A CHRISTMAS DESTINATION

By Elizabeth Hurley

Lights twinkle and music flows through the streets of downtown Opelika all Christmas season long as visitors and residents celebrate the season through several community-wide events.

The Christmas season has become an even more memorable time of the year in Opelika as the city strives to be a Christmas destination by collaborating with Opelika organizations, schools and downtown businesses to create a cohesive experience, says Opelika Community Relations Officer Leigh Krehling.

"Two years ago, we decided that we would all brand Opelika Christmas together," Krehling says. "Everybody decided that we would create ads that look alike, and each help pay for things."

Organizations lend a hand to one another during the season of giving to ensure events go off without a hitch. Many lent a hand for the Chamber of Commerce's SNO*OPELIKA event during its first year in 2019.

Local school and church choirs performed in a choir competition while families took part in various snow activities. Even family pets were invited for the Reindog Parade. The evening was capped off with the lighting of the downtown Christmas tree.

A staple event of the Christmas season in Opelika has been the Victorian Front Porch Tour, the Rocky Brook Reindeer Express and Camelot. Each of these events and many others bring the community together through Christmas songs and activities.

"I think Christmas is so big in Opelika because Opelika is a community geared toward families and family traditions," says Opelika Main Street Executive Director Ken Ward. "Opelika is really a great hometown."

Opelika Main Street hosts various events throughout the year, but one of their



busiest times of the year is the Christmas season, where they host and help put on several events.

The organization's main event of the season is Christmas in a Railroad Town. The event has occurred for over 20 years and continues to grow each Christmas season, Ward says.

"It's a great way to bring the community together around the holiday season with a lot of different family activities," Ward says. "Many of them are in our stores and restaurants in the downtown area. It's a great way to connect the local community to the downtown area."

In 2019, Main Street began the first downtown window decorating competition. Downtown stores and restaurants decorated their storefronts for the season, which brought even more Christmas cheer and decor to downtown Opelika, Ward says.

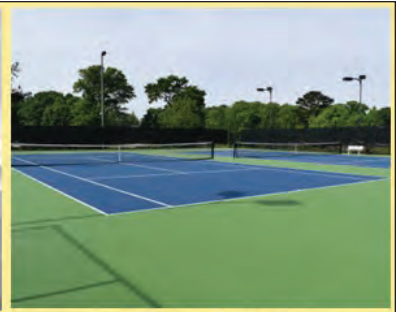
City decorations for the season grow bigger and brighter each year as the city grows its Christmas decoration collection.

"About two years ago the city committed to buying new decorations for downtown and really kind of upping the ante," Krehling says. "The first year we bought a few things and this past year we bought more and really just lit up downtown Opelika."

Community members and out-of-town guests are invited back each year to attend these and many more Christmas events, as the events only get bigger and better each year, Krehling says.

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PICKLEBALL

One of America's Fastest Growing Sports

By Laura Leigh Chesser

Pickleball enthusiasts from Florida, Arizona, Michigan, New York and everywhere in between have flocked to Opelika, Alabama, to see the new courts constructed at the Opelika SportsPlex and Aquatics Center. However, there are still people in the Opelika community who are asking “What is pickleball?”

Pickleball is a paddle sport that combines elements of tennis, badminton and ping-pong. Players use paddles to volley the ball similar to a whiffle ball across a badminton sized court and slightly modified tennis net.

Casey Soule, President of the Opelika-Auburn Pickleball Club, said the game is pretty easy to learn. With one or two lessons beginners are typically ready to go. It can develop into a very competitive game, with players attending tournaments and becoming rated in the sport.

The Opelika-Auburn Pickleball Club has more than 200 members who play at the Opelika SportsPlex regularly. Many members are from Opelika and Auburn, as the name would suggest, but there are also many players from Phenix City, Valley, Lagrange, Montgomery, Columbus, Newnan and beyond. A few times a month a van from Birmingham pulls up with around 8 players to play Saturday morning games.

So, what is all the hype about? Not only is pickleball one of the world's fastest growing sports, but Opelika has also built a facility that is unlike any other facility in America. The Opelika Pickleball Facility features 12 state-of-the-art pickleball courts that are individually fenced, allowing for tournament style play. The entire facility is covered by a large canopy that offers shade and protection from the elements and features LED lighting for nighttime play. Because the facility is situated directly behind

*(Pictures supplied by
Auburn Opelika Tourism.)*



the Opelika SportsPlex, players have access to ample parking, bathrooms, lockers, showers and concessions.

What's more, Opelika's pickleball courts are open to the public. Players do not have to be a member of the Opelika SportsPlex in order to play. The courts are also open 24-7. The Opelika-Auburn Pickleball Club and Parks and Recreation staff even offer free lessons and clinics to new players, and the players are diverse.

"The thing about pickleball is it is a very social sport," said Sam Bailey, director of Opelika Parks and Recreation. "New players are always welcome. We offer them tips and advice, and we invite them to play in games. Most people play with everyone

and teams change regularly."

There does not seem to be an age limit on the sport. There are several players in their 20's and the oldest regular player is in his 80's. It is certainly popular with senior adults, but the vast majority of Opelika's players are ages 40-55.

"This sport is the best sport ever," said Soule. "It brings so much happiness to people who have bad knees, bad hips, or who are older or overweight.



People who are athletes, former athletes and people who have never played sports in their life can play pickleball. I can't even begin to say what this sport has meant to people."

For more information about the

Opelika Pickleball Facility, for free lessons or to join games, please call Sam Bailey at (334) 705-5560.

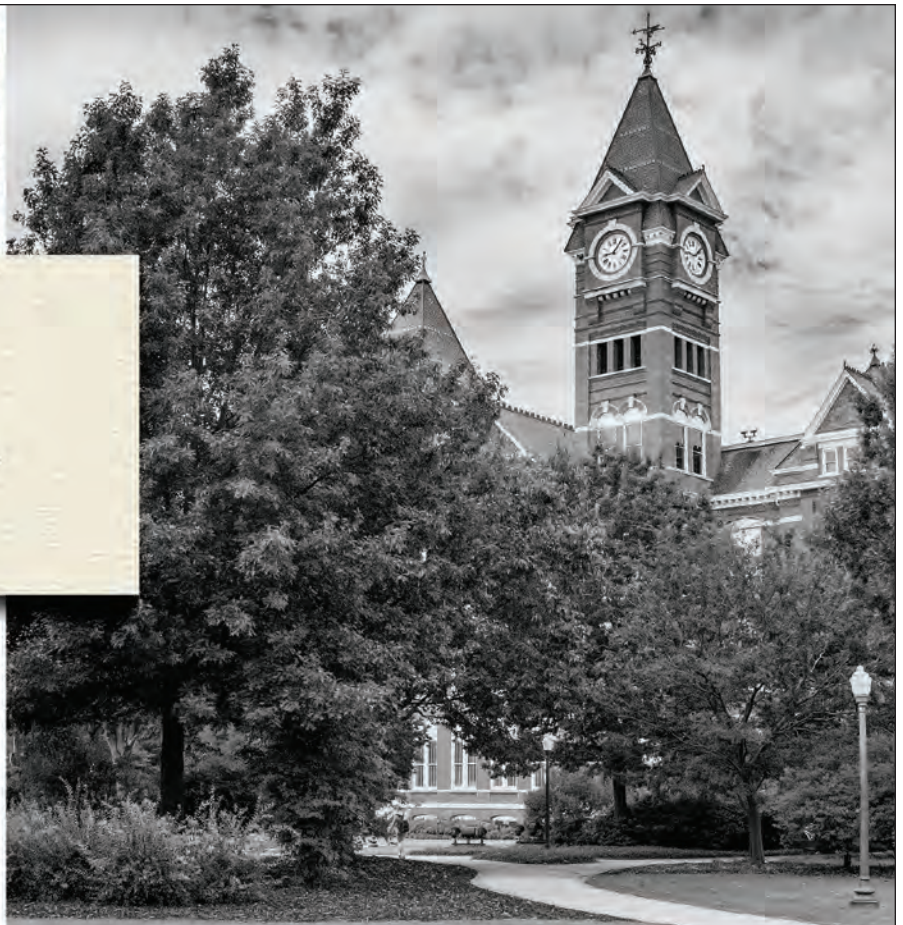


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www.hughstonhomes.com

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Jeff Evans
729 E. Glenn Avenue
Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 821-9737

Scott Bridge Co.

Ike Scott
2641 Interstate Drive
Opelika, AL 36804
(334) 749-5045
www.scottbridge.com

Toland Construction Co

Kandy Riggs
544 E. Glenn Avenue
Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 329-7390
www.tolandconstruction.com

Whately Construction, LLC

Edward Whately
710 Foxrun Pkwy.
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 745-2583

CONTRACTORS-FLOORING

Helping Hand Flooring

Dwayne Henderson
120 Lee Road 420
Opelika, AL 36804
(334) 703-2967



MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

CONTRACTORS-GENERAL

Freeman & Associates

David Hawkins
1454 54th st
Columbus, GA 31904
(706) 324-4227
www.freemanteam.com

Gamble Winter Construction, LLC

Travis Gamble
1821 Opelika Road
Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 319-3204
gamblewinter.com

General Maintenance Contractors

Jamie DeLamar
901 Morris Avenue
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 319-0284

Rabren General Contractors

Jay Thomason
306 Persimmon Drive
Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 826-6143
www.rabren.com

CONTRACTORS-ROOFING

Doug Horn Roofing

Jeremy Crowder
1603 Blackhawk Drive
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 744-5246

CONVENIENCE STORE

Second Avenue Food Mart

Hal Smith
300 2nd Avenue
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 745-3579

Tiger Town Eagle

John Horn
1700 Capps Landing
Opelika, AL 36804
(334) 203-1829

COPIERS SALES/SERVICE

Best Copy Products

Bret Reid
525 Airport Road
Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 749-2378
www.bestcopyproducts.com

CREDIT UNION

East Alabama Community FCU

Kristin Sturges
509 E. Thomason Circle
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 364-2850
www.eacfcu.com

Four Seasons Federal Credit Union

DeDe Jackson
2915 Pepperell Parkway
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 745-4711
www.fourseasonsfcu.com

Four Seasons Federal Credit Union

DeDe Jackson
2300 Marvyn Pkwy.
Opelika, AL 36804
(334) 364-0474
www.fourseasonsfcu.com

MAX Credit Union-Opelika

Mary Goodson
3021 Frederick Road
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 260-2600
www.myMAX.com

Max Credit Union-Auburn

Dustin Funderburk
336 N. Gay Street
Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 260-2600
www.myMAX.com

CUSTOM FRAMING & WOODWORKING

Modern Mitre

Jason Nix
1971 E. University Drive
Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 740-6732

CUSTOM HOME BUILDERS

America's Home Place

Stewart Black
1250 Fox Run Avenue
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 364-0058
www.americashomeplace.com

CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTER

Afni, Inc.

Aubrey Morrison
1000 Jeter Avenue
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 737-4500
www.afni.com

DATABASE DEVELOPMENT

Software Made Simple, Inc.

Becky Parnell
233 12th Street, Suite 911-A
Columbus, GA 31901
(706) 332-7372
www.softwaremadesimple.net

DELIVERY SERVICE

FetchMe Delivery

Ken Evola
1500 Pumphrey Ave
Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 209-7730
fetchmedelivery.com

DENTISTS-GENERAL

Auburn Dental Spa

Susie Litkenhous
1575 Professional Pkwy.
Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 821-2846
www.auburndentalspa.com

Auburn Opelika Dental

Abby Adams
1610 Second Ave
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 745-6295
auburnopelikadental.com

East Alabama Dental Group

Ashleigh Thompson
1945 1st Avenue
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 749-5014
www.eastalabamadental.com

Gamotis DMD, Dr. Robert D.

Jenny Chandler
111 N. 16th St.
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 745-3563
www.opelikafamilydental.com

Martin, J. Chris, DMC P.C.

Chris Martin
724 N. Dean Road #200
Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 887-8881

Opelika Dental Arts

James Tatum
1957 1st Avenue
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 745-3135
www.opelikadentalarts.net

Tatum & Cox Comprehensive Gen. Dentistry

Courtney Dillard
614 Avenue A
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 745-6393
www.tatumandcox.com

Tiger Town Family Dentistry

Katherine Bentley
2542 Enterprise Drive
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 737-6261
www.tigertowndentistry.com



DENTISTS-ORAL SURGEONS

Oral & Facial Surgery of East AL, LLC

Beverly Thomaston
2971 Corporate Park Drive
Opelika, AL 36804
(334) 749-3436
www.ofs-ea.com

DENTISTS-ORTHODONTIST

Allen Orthodontics

Meredith Turner
1234 Ogletree Village Lane
Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 705-8655
www.bracesbyallen.com

DENTISTS-PEDIATRIC

Auburn Pediatric Dentistry

Charles Greenleaf, DMD
841 N. Dean Road
Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 826-6651
www.auburnpediatricdentistry.com

East Alabama Pediatric Dentistry

Sandy Buff
742 N. Dean Road
Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 321-0780
www.gatorgrins.com

Liles Pediatric Dentistry

George Liles
1204 Ogletree Village Lane
Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 887-0099
www.lilessmiles.com

DISTILLERIES

John Emerald Distilling Company

John Sharp
706 N. Railroad Avenue
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 737-5353
www.johnemeraldldistilling.com

DISTRIBUTORS

Blue Ridge Mountain Water, Inc.

Don Horsley
450 Hackel Drive
Montgomery, AL 36117
(334) 272-1119
www.brmwater.com

Golden State Foods

Melissa Richardson
4801 Northpark Drive
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 610-3335
www.goldenstatefoods.com

Red Clay Brewing Co, LLC

John Corbin
704 N. Railroad Avenue
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 737-5409
www.redclaybrewingcompany.com

Southern Controls, Inc.

Scott Davis
500 N. 26th Street Suite 301
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 749-5545
www.southerncontrols.com

Walmart Distribution Center

Brian Henderson
2701 Andrews Road
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 705-2800

DRUG & ALCOHOL ADDICTION SERVICES

Relieve, The

Britten Elliott
401 S. 9th Street
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 749-3445
www.experiencethereprieve.com

ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS

Auburn Electric Construction Company, Inc.

Steve Pruitt
440 Summerhill Road
Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 821-7360
www.aecci.com

Brumfield Electrical & Communications, Inc.

Paul Brumfield
5333 County Road 388
Cusseta, AL 36852
(334) 756-4302
www.brumfieldelectrical.com

Dixie Electric Company

Rodney King
2301 Enterprise Drive Suite E
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 821-0740
www.calldixie.com

Thalamus, LLC.

Allen Conradi
2301 Center Hills Drive
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 748-9045
www.thalamus-llc.com

ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT & SUPPLIES

Interstate Electrical Supply, Inc.

Harry Peterson
702 N. Dean Rd.
Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 821-3341
www.interstate-electrical.com

EMPLOYMENT AGENCIES

1 on 1 Staffing & Wellness Clinic

Shakea Miller
507 S 7th St
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 363-2495
1on1wellnessclinic.myonlineappointment.com

A-1 Employment

Kim Petrina
400 South 8th Street Suite 101
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 704-0677
www.a1employment.org

Allegiance Staffing

Laretha Stiggers
1220 Fox Run Avenue Suite 101
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 737-6152
www.allegiancestaffing.com

Burt Employment Services & Training, Inc.

Merry Burt
508 Fox Run Parkway
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 741-4211

Elwood Staffing

Crystal Henderson
1995 Pepperell Parkway Suite 4
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 742-9271
www.elwoodstaffing.com

First Choice Personnel

Katie Bass
128 S. 8th Street
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 704-0400
www.fcpersonnel.com

Onin Staffing

Cristy Kilgore
2701 Frederick Road Suite 304
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 528-0010
www.oninstaffing.com

Opelika Career Center

Peggy Bridges
2300 Frederick Road
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 749-5065
www.dir.state.al.us



MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

Resource MFG/Employbridge

Kimberly Knight
2515 E. Glenn Avenue Suite 303C
Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 501-1655
www.resourcemfg.com

Staffing Connections

2107 Pepperell Pkwy Suite C
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 705-7041
www.staffing-connections.com

Top Talent Recruiter, LLC

Marcel McElroy
7956 Vaughn Road Suite 145
Montgomey, AL 36116
(334) 215-3570
www.toptalentrecruiter.com

ENGINEERING

Barrett-Simpson, Inc.

Blake Rice
223 South 9th Street
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 745-7026
www.barrett-simpson.com

CDG Engineers and Associates, Inc.

Jeff Harrison
778 N. Dean Road
Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 466-9431
www.cdge.com

Hydro Engineering Solutions

John Curry
2124 Moores Mill Road Suite 120
Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 466-0894

ENTERTAINMENT

Arts Association of East Alabama, The

Phillip Preston
1103 Glen Street
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 749-8105
www.eastalabamaarts.org

Jay & Susie Gogue Performing Arts Center at AU

Christopher Heacox
910 S. College Street
Auburn University, AL 36849
(334) 844-7215
goguecenter.auburn.edu

Rock 'N Roll Pinball, LLC

Ernie Rains
815 South Railroad Ave
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 324-1406
www.rocknrollpinball.com

Sound Wall, The

Jen Slocumb
605 Ave B
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 663-5165
www.thesoundwallopelika.com

Surge Trampoline Park

Jacob Burdette
2506 Pepperell Pkwy
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 737-5599

ENVIRONMENTAL/INDUSTRIAL SERVICES/RECYCLING

Environmental & Recycling Solutions

Stephanie Chunn
1902 Market Street
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 737-3866
www.ersnow.com

EQUIPMENT-FARMING/HEAVY (RENTAL, PURCHASE & REPAIR)

Chipstuff LLC

Chip Grouby
1809 Century Lane
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 705-6824

Leppo Rents Bobcat of Opelika

Jim Garretson
302 Fox Run Avenue
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 350-5661
www.leppos.com

Thompson Tractor Co.

Todd Cowan
508 Columbus Parkway
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 749-3359
www.thompsontractor.com

United Rentals

Michael Hanley
1845 E Glenn Ave
Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 826-6808
www.unitedrentals.com

EVENT PLANNING

Bottling Plant Event Center, The

Dale Downing
614 N. Railroad Ave.
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 705-5466
www.bottlingplanteventcenter.com

EVENT VENUE

Village Event Center

Jennifer Hostetter
804 Columbus Parkway
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 399-1933
VillageEventCenter.com

FARMERS MARKETS

O Grows

Sean Forbes
1103 Glenn St
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 744-1191
www.auburn.edu/academic/education/opelgrocommunitygarden.html

FINANCIAL/INVESTMENT ADVISOR

Bright Investments, LLC®

John Bright
570 Devall Drive, Suite 303
Auburn, AL 36832
(334) 321-2321
www.brightinvestmentsllc.com

Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Inc.

P.J. Simmons
2607 E. Glenn Avenue
Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 539-3508
www.stifel.com

Wilson Investment Group

Keith Pridgen
1224 Ogletree Village Lane
Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 559-2220

FINANCIAL PLANNING CONSULTANTS

Edward Jones Investments

Bill Loosier
1437 Fox Run Pkwy.
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 745-3219
www.edwardjones.com

Laxson Financial Group, LLC

Frank Laxson
1461 Gateway Drive
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 737-5051
www.laxsonfinancialgroup.com

Railroad Investment Group

Laurel Jackson Callaway
208 S. 8th Street
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 748-9999
www.investopelika.com



Smith-Kastner Wealth Management, LLC

Nathan Kastner
1800 Airport Road
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 749-5001
www.smith-kastner.com

FINANCIAL PLANNING/WEALTH MGMT

2020 Wealth Management Group, LLC

Tim Aja
1859 Ogletree Road
Auburn, AL 36830
(904) 553-4503

Machen McChesney

Patty Hickman
1820 E. University Dr.
Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 887-7022
www.machenmcchesney.com

FINANCIAL REPRESENTATIVE

P4P Financial Services, LLC

Levale Speigner
114 N. 9th Street
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 740-7478

FINANCING

Alabama Ag Credit

Ryan Hamm
1431 Gateway Drive
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 749-3303
www.alabamaagcredit.com

First South Farm Credit

Taylor Hart
1613 Frederick Road
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 826-5263
www.firstsouthland.com

Rice Banking Company

Dan DeLoney
1617 Second Avenue
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 745-3494
www.ricebankingcompany.com

FLOOR COVERING

Cannon Carpet One

Dan Cannon
3500 Pepperell Parkway
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 749-1300
www.cannoncarpetone.com

Prestige Flooring

Michael McGraw
2021 South College Ste E
Auburn, AL 36832
(334) 329-5855
Floorsbyprestige.com

Whole Flooring Company

Matt Robinson
2007 Gateway Drive
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 748-9078
www.wholeflooring.com

FLORISTS

New Blossom Shop

Angela Hood
905 Geneva Street
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 745-4411
www.opelikaflowers.com

FRAMING/ART

Gallery, The

Debbie Purves
809 S. Railroad Avenue
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 749-2462
www.thegalleryonrailroad.com

FUNERAL HOMES

Frederick-Dean Funeral Home

Joseph Dean
1801 Frederick Road
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 745-4667
www.frederickdean.com

Jeffcoat-Trant Funeral Home & Crematory

Bill Trant
1500 Frederick Road
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 749-8700
www.jeffcoattrant.com

Vines Funeral Home, Inc

Merilyn Vines
211 B. Street SW
LaFayette, AL 36862
(334) 864-7128
www.vinesfuneralhome.com

FURNITURE

Ashley Furniture Home Store

Kelsie Williams
2401 Interstate Drive
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 364-0440
www.ashleyhomestores.com

Colorvision Rent To Own & Pawn

Brandon Hilyer
3412 Pepperell Pkwy.
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 749-9999

Mathison Interiors LLC

Lynn Mathison
2290 Moores Mill Road
Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 277-0310
www.mathisoninteriors.com

GIFT SHOPS/BOOKSTORES

Heritage Gifts & Gourmet

Barbara Patton
108 S. 8th St.
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 705-0484

Southern Crossing

Valerie Smith
813 South Railroad Avenue
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 741-0015

Taylor Made Designs

Lynn Bradakis
120 S. 8th Street
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 749-2343
www.taylormadeopelika.com

GOLF COURSES

Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail at Grand National

Scott Gomberg
3000 Robert Trent Jones Trail
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 749-9042
www.rtgolf.com

Saugahatchee Country Club

Tim Pierce
3800 Bent Creek Rd.
Opelika, AL 36804
(334) 749-3441
www.saugahatcheecountryclub.com

GOVERNMENT OFFICES-CITY

Opelika Housing Authority

Matthew McClammey
1706 Toomer Street
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 745-4171
www.opelikaha.org

Opelika, City of

Barbara Arrington
204 7th Street
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 705-5150
www.opelika-al.gov



MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

GOVERNMENTAL OFFICES

Alabama Army National Guard

Clay Strickland
300 Consumer Ave
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 530-9598
www.al.ngb.army.mil

GOVERNMENTAL OFFICES-COUNTY

Lee County Circuit Clerk's Office

Mary Roberson
2311 Gateway Drive Suite 104
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 737-3526

Lee County Commission

Oline Price
215 S. 9th Street
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 737-3660
www.leeco.us

Lee County District Attorney's Office

Brandon Hughes
2311 Gateway Drive, Suite 111
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 737-3446
www.leecountyda.org

Lee County Sheriff's Office

Jay Jones
Sheriff W.S. Jones Center
1900 Frederick Road
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 749-5651
www.leecountysheriff.org

Lee Russell Council of Govts

Sandra Machen
2207 Gateway Drive
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 749-5264
www.lrcog.com

GROCERY STORES

Piggly Wiggly

Keith Milligan
1515 2nd Avenue Suite A
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 742-1119
www.pigglywiggly.net

Wright's Market

Jimmy Wright
603 Pleasant Avenue
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 749-1333
www.wrightsmarkets.com

GUTTERS & SIDING

Chattahoochee Gutter Co., Inc.

Bill Leffler
675 Lee Rd. 646
Salem, AL 36874
(334) 826-1678
www.chattgutter.com

HEALTH & WELLNESS

1 on 1 Staffing & Wellness Clinic

Shakea Miller
507 S 7th St
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 363-2495
1on1wellnessclinic.myonlineappointment.com

Dayspring Nature Shop

Cheryl Brooks
1011 Avenue C
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 203-1965
dayspringnatureshop.com

EYG, Inc.

Jeremy Gray
125 Jeter Ave.
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 707-0879
www.elevateyourgrind.com

GNC-Tiger Town

Marsha Gladfelder
2199 Tiger Town Pkwy
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 704-0042
www.gnc.com

HEALTHCARE

Bridgeway Diagnostics

Tracy Shackett
1910 E. Samford Ave.
Auburn, AL 36830
334-539-5700
www.2bridgeway.com

CarePoint Resources, LLC

Cristie Stadler
PO Box 805
Opelika, AL 36803
(877) 242-2527
www.carepointresources.com

Center for Vein Restoration

Libby Harper
107 N. 24th St
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 275-4823
centerforvein.com

DaVita Opelika Dialysis

Peyton Cornett
2340 Pepperell Parkway
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 745-6883
www.davita.com

HEATING & AIR-CONTRACTORS & PARTS SUPPLIERS

Bradley Plumbing & Heating, Inc.

Blake Houser
1445 Lee Road 10
Auburn, AL 36832
(334) 821-1187
www.bradleyph.com

Economy Air, Heating & AC

Carter Pitts
408 N. 11th Street
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 524-5328
www.economyairauburn.com

Energy Savers

Jack Warren
223 S. 9th Street
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 749-9300
www.energysaversair.com

Farnell Mechanical

Tommy Farnell
2105 Airport Road, Suite 3
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 524-2458
www.farnellac.com

Jackson Services

Kathryn Lee
401 Columbus Parkway
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 749-6761

Sensigreen

Justin Quinn
400 Clanton Street
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 704-3274
www.sensigreen.com

HOME DECOR

AR Workshop

Kimeran Keahey
1214 Ogletree Lane
Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 539-8057
www.arworkshop.comauburn

Expressions Design Gallery

Sharon Saavedra
1801 Market Street Suite 1
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 212-9926
www.expressionsdesigngallery.com

HOME HEALTH CARE

Synergy HomeCare of East AL

Lynn Slocum
3320 Skyway Drive Ste 806
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 203-1850
www.synergyhomecare.com



Comfort Keepers

Chris Jane
119-A S. 8th Street
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 749-8461
www.comfortkeepers.com

HOME IMPROVEMENT

Home Depot, The

Melinda Robinson
2190 Tigertown Parkway
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 737-0136
www.homedepot.com

HOME INSPECTION

Distinct Home Inspection, LLC

Kyle Moseley
1816 Roanoke Ln
Auburn, AL 36830
(256) 749-5340
www.distincthomeinspectionllc.com

HOSPICE

Columbus Hospice of Georgia & Alabama

Terri Roberts
7020 Moon Road
Columbus, GA 31909
(706) 243-0044
www.columbushospice.com

HOSPITAL

East Alabama Medical Center

Laura Grill
2000 Pepperell Parkway
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 749-3411
www.eamc.org

HOTELS

Auburn Marriott Opelika Resort & Spa at Grand National

Brooke Kastner
3700 Robert Trent Jones Trail
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 741-9292
www.marriott.com/csgab

Courtyard Auburn

2420 West Pace Blvd
Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 502-0111
www.marriott.com/csoca

Fairfield Inn and Suites Opelika Auburn

Ashley Harvill
2257 Interstate Drive
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 742-2590
www.fairfieldinn.com/csgao

Great Wolf Lodge GeorgiaLaGrange

Allen Headley
150 Tom Hall Parkway
LaGrange, GA 30240
(706) 837-9653
www.greatwolf.com

Hampton Inn

Stacy Jackson
2430 S. College Street
Auburn, AL 36832
(334) 821-4111
www.e-hamptoninn.com

Hampton Inn and Suites Opelika Auburn

Ashley Harvill
3000 Capps Way
Opelika, AL 36804
(334) 745-4311
www.opelikasuites.hamptoninn.com

Hilton Garden Inn Auburn/Opelika

Jessie Price
2555 Hilton Garden Drive
Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 502-3500
www.hilton.com

Home2 Suites By Hilton

Chris Chavis
3150 Capps Way
Opelika, AL 36804
(334) 737-5155

Hotel at Auburn University, The

Hans van der Reijden
241 S. College St.
Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 821-8200
www.auhcc.com



LaQuinta Inn & Suites

Vic Patel
3155 Capps Way
Opelika, AL 36804
(334) 748-9000

Microtel Inn & Suites

Alvin Bettcher
1651 Parker Way
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 745-0415

Opelika Inn

Rajesh Patel
1105 Columbus Parkway
Opelika, AL 36804
(334) 749-8377

TownePlace Suites

Whitney Davis
1117 S. College Street
Auburn, AL 36832
(334) 466-8390
www.marriott.com/csgau

Tru by Hilton Auburn

Terrie McConnell
2411 W. Pace Blvd
Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 521-0400
www.tru3.hilton.com

ICE CREAM/YOGURT

O Town Ice Cream

Angela George
700 2nd Avenue
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 737-5700
www.otownicecream.com

INDIVIDUAL MEMBER

Brennan Knapp, Diane

2707 Stonybrook Road
Opelika, AL 36804
(334) 354-2383

Bush, Honorable Russell

2311 Gateway Drive Suite 106
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 737-3378

Camp, Joanne

476 Finley Drive
Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 332-0716

Cannon, Lucinda S.

(334) 749-8481

Cannon, Race & Heather

715 Avenue A Suite 200
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 745-5999



MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

Canon, David & Ann

405 Winterburn Avenue
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 663-2024

Colley, Jere & Judy

4305 Stonewall Road
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 728-0338

Collins, Jimmy

201 S. 9th Street
Opelika, AL 36801
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(334) 768-7355
woodrealestate.net

Cho Realty, Mary, Inc

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311 N. College Street
Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 524-8867
www.marycho.com

Coldwell Banker A&W Real Estate

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2021 S. College Street Suite A
Auburn, AL 36832
(334) 821-7722

Comprehensive Commercial

Craig Melton
2415 Moores Mill Road Suite 265-Box 226
Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 559-4914
www.comcre.com

Crawford/Willis Group

Matthew Willis
923 Stage Road, Ste. R
Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 663-2950
www.crawfordwillisgroup.com

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458 S. 10th Street
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 759-7525
www.thedensongroup.com

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Phenix City, AL 36867
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www.usaml.netphenixcity

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www.gtauctions.com

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Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 329-5055
www.thehomelink.com

Keller Williams Realty

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Auburn, AL 36830
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Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 321-0606
www.leecorealtors.org

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Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 749-5616

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472 N. Dean Road Suite 101
Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 887-5274
www.prestigeprops.com

Realty South

Sherri McCollum
2408 E. University Drive Suite 111
Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 826-0111
www.realtysouthauburn.com

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Rebecca Rice
930 Avenue A
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 705-0800
www.ricerealestateservices.info

Stern Properties

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30 Maple Leaf Lane
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411 Opelika Road
Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 887-3601
www.concepttoclosing.com

Toland Realty

Sealy Hargrove
544 E. Glenn Avenue
Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 329-7390
www.tolandrealty.com

Weichert Realtors-Porter Properties

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Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 887-2070
www.porterproperties.com

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Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 749-8165
www.nationalvillage.com

REAL ESTATE MARKETING

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Berkshire Hathaway Home Services Preferred Real Estate

Sallie Deen
1620 Yarbrough Farms Blvd
Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 826-1010
bhhspreferredauburn.com/agent/sallie-deen

Berkshire Hathaway Home Services Preferred Real Estate

Laura Sellers
1810 E. Glenn Avenue
Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 332-7263
AuburnOpelikaALRealEstate.com

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Preferred Real Estate

Stacy Jordan
1810 E. Glenn Avenue, Suite 130
Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 826-1010

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www.koullasrealty.c21.com

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(334) 467-3402
www.coldwellbankerauburn.com

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1309 Live Oak Circle
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 524-0422
toribethsellshomes.com

Homelink Realty

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Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 444-8343

HomeLink Realty

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(334) 740-2020

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Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 703-7515

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www.narmistead.kw.com

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Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 559-8817

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Opelika, AL 36801
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Auburn, AL 36830
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(334) 444-4527

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www.dawnradnitz.com

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(334) 321-0529

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Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 821-0807

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Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 821-6610
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Opelika, AL 36801
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www.fimiani.com

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Opelika, AL 36801
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Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 332-6441

Baumhower's Victory Grille

Charlie Vatella
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Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 246-4180
www.baumhowers.com

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Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 741-0989
www.buffalowildwings.com

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Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 749-3351

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Opelika, AL 36801
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butcherpaperbbq.com

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Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 821-7220
www.chappysdeli.com

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Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 741-7112
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Chicken Salad Chick - Opelika

Ali Rauch
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Opelika, AL 36801
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www.chickensaladchick.com

Chicken Salad Chick-Corporate Office

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Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 275-4578
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Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 749-4043
www.chucksbbqopelika.com

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Auburn, AL 36830
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www.cicis.com

El Rodeo Mexican Restaurant

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Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 737-5727

Freddy's Frozen Custard & Steakhburgers

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Opelika, AL 36804
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Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 741-7570
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(334) 329-5886
ogletree.hamiltonsgroup.com

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Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 741-8411

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Auburn, AL 36832
(334) 246-5197
www.jimnicks.com

Jim Bob's Chicken Fingers, Inc-Tiger Town

Bonnie Ferrell
2070 Frederick Road
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 741-4001
www.jimbobschickenfingers.com

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(334) 203-1418

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(334) 826-2724

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Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 707-7946
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Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 745-7234

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Auburn, AL 36831
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(334) 749-8156
drake.catering.moes.com

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1900 Pepperell Parkway
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 749-1719

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Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 749-0011
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Opelika, AL 36801
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www.niffersplace.com

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(334) 749-3528

Subway of Opelika

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2101 Frederick Road
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 737-6078

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(334) 329-5113
www.sushi-bistro.com

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(334) 759-6225
www.tazikiscafe.com/location/opelika

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Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 759-7401
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(334) 821-8327
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Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 745-7746
www.mycovetedcloset.com

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(251) 593-9876
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Opelika, AL 36801
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Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 246-3582
www.oliver-henry.com

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(334) 737-6767
www.studio3-19.com

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(334) 745-9333
www.walmart.com

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whistlestopbrewshop.com

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Opelika, AL 36801
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www.batterysource.com

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Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 741-7842

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Opelika, AL 36804
(334) 705-6000
www.lee.k12.al.us

Opelika City Schools

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Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 745-9700
www.opelikaschools.org

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107 Samford
Auburn University, AL 36849
(334) 844-4000
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Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 737-1400
www.betterbodiesal.com

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Opelika, AL 36801
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www.huntingdon.edu

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Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 745-6437
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www.lee-scott.org

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Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 887-9947
theoaksschool.org

Trinity Christian School

Sharon Miller
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Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 745-2464
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3345245970
www.mammothprintshop.com

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Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 887-5140

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www.comfortkeepers.com

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Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 321-1050
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Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 501-8600
www.advanced-graphics.net

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Auburn, AL 36832
(334) 749-0001
www.effectivesigncompany.com

New South Outdoor, LLC

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Montgomery, AL 36111
(334) 625-0345
www.newsouthoutdoor.com

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115 S. 8th St., Suite 101
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 203-1415
www.alabamacasa.org

Alabama Council on Human Relations

Sharon Smith
950 Shelton Mill
Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 821-8336
www.achr.com

American Red Cross, East Alabama Chapter

206 26th Street
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 749-9981
www.redcross.org

Domestic Violence Intervention Center

P.O. Box 2183
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 749-1515
www.dvic1.org

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Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 826-5811

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Martha Henk
355 Industry Drive
Auburn, AL 36832
(334) 821-9006
www.foodbankofeastalabama.com

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324 E. Magnolia Avenue
Auburn, AL 36830
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www.hudsonfamilyfoundation.org

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2133 Executive Pk. Drive
Opelika, AL 36801
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www.unitedwayofleecounty.com

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Opelika, AL 36803
(334) 742-0777
www.harvestevangelism.org

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www.softwremadesimple.net

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firingpinshootingsports.com

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(334) 745-7642
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www.sunselfstorageinc.com

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Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 221-0211

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Opelika, AL 36801
(844) 407-6468
point-broadband.com

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Opelika, AL 36801
www.att.com

East Alabama Telephone Specialties, Inc

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Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 821-0019

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(706) 561-3838
www.wltz.com

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1350 13th Avenue
Columbus, GA 31901
(706) 323-3333
www.wrbl.com

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Holly Steuart
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Columbus, GA 31906
(334) 745-3519
www.wtvm.com

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CO Michelle Keys
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Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 663-4480

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2510 Pepperell Pkwy
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 742-0777
www.harvestevangelism.org

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Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 887-5433
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Opelika, AL 36801
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www.mytravelatmidtown.com

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Alabama Municipal Elect. Auth.

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(334) 262-1126
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www.opelikaanimalhospital.com

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www.thorntonanimalhospital.com

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www.lcydc.org

Project Uplift-Lee County Youth Dev. Center

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Auburn University, AL 36849
(334) 844-4430
www.auburn.eduprojectuplift

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marriottgrandnational.com
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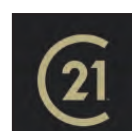
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