

Chamber Connection

June - August 2009

BERO Offers Small Business Counseling and Informational Session

October 21, 2009 10 am - 3:00 pm

The Twin Cities Chamber of Commerce will host a Small Business Counseling and Informational Sessions for aspiring and existing business owners on Wednesday, October 21, 2009 from 10 am to 3 p.m. Individuals seeking to start, grow, or just get information on BERO services, such as the micro loan program, selling to state government, gaining diversity certification or simply those who want to gain information on activities such as Tennessee Business Matchmaking Webinars, Global Entrepreneurship Week Main Street Video Competition, Global Entrepreneurship Week Youth You Tube Contest can arrange to meet with BERO Enterprise Specialist Sharon Taylor McKinney for a one-on-one counseling sessions.

To schedule an appointment, please contact Thea V. Vowell, Executive Director, Twin Cities Chamber of Commerce, 700 Milton Counce Dr, South Fulton, TN 38257 at 731/479-7029

twincitieschamber@bellsouth.net www.fultonsouthfultonchamber.com

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Upcoming Events

October 21 - BERO—How to start a Small Business counseling. Call chamber to make appt.

October 19-28 - Vote for the yard of the season on chamber website: www.fultonsouthfultonchamber.com

October 26 - Board Meeting

October 28 - Youth Leadership meets for Economic Development Session hosted by Fulton Co.— Hickman Co. Economic Development partnership director Eddie Crittendon

November 15-December 15 - LOST ELF

New Members

The Twin Cities Chamber of Commerce would like to welcome the following businesses who recently announced their membership:

Lotta Java Lana Hannaman, Manager 701 Broadway So. Fulton, TN 38257	Hickman-Fulton Co. RECC Greg Grissom, Manager 1702 Moscow Ave. Hickman, KY 42041
Wendy's Mike Smith, Owner 101 Nolan Ave Fulton, KY 42041	La Cabana Valero Aguillar, Owner 200 Lake St. Fulton, KY 42041
James Gammon & Son's Inc. Stan Gammon, Representative 112 Bates Street So. Fulton, TN 38237	Your business could be here! Contact the Chamber of Commerce and become a member today!

Thank You for your Renewals!

Los Pinos

McDonald's

Mr. & Mrs. George Frazier

Royal Ridge Apartments

Platinum Sustaining Members:

Parkway Regional Hospital

Reelfoot Bank

Heritage Bank

All Kraft

Board of Directors

Executive Committee

President - Tim Britt

Vice President -
Buck Carroll

Board of Directors

John Alexander
Dave Atchley

Kenney Etherton
Brenda Hamilton

Karl Ivey

Peggy Lohaus

Josh McFarland

David Prater

Jeff Vowell

Allison Whitlege

Past Pres. - Mike Tate

Executive Director

Thea Vowell

Businesses of the Month

Each winner has shown their commitment to the area as a business leader/community partner and is presented with a small award. The Board of Directors of the Chamber recognizes one business each month for their contributions to the community & the Chamber. Below are the recent businesses awarded *Business of the Month*.



June 2009

Dean Financial Services

Dean Financial Services is committed to your success. We make it our business to know your business well enough to improve your tax position, capital position, business structure and benefits packages, acquisition potential, and much more. We earn our fees by adding value to your company and to your asset base.

We have learned a great deal since we began in this business, and we are ready to apply this knowledge to enhance your company's growth and success. Together we can conquer all of the intricacies of doing business in today's fast-paced economy. We are looking forward to working with you.

July 2009

Buck's Party Mart

Founded in 1946 by Bucks Bushart, father of Al Bushart

Owners:

Frank Woolf, Linda McDade, Charles Binford and Al Bushart owners since 1992

Welcome New Owners:

Ricky & Rose Smith and sons, Matt & Chris



August 2009

First State Bank

First State is a diversified financial services company which operates a full-service banking division, a mortgage company, an insurance company, a specialized ag services division, an employee benefits division, investment services, a consumer finance company, and an indirect auto financing division at various locations throughout Tennessee. Specifically in Obion and Weakley Counties, First State offers you 11 full-service offices to meet your financial needs. We have More For You at First State.

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With assets over \$1.4 billion and a thriving mission statement of striving to exceed expectations, First State is focused on providing excellent financial services and offering unparalleled customer service in a community atmosphere. Since 1887, our sound business practices have made First State a trusted friend to families and businesses throughout Tennessee.

“First State offers our community *more* with five strong, dedicated teams, First State Bank, First State Mortgage, First State Investment Center, First State Insurance and First State Finance. The employees of First State are not only financial service providers, we are coaches, mentors, friends, and neighbors,” says John Clark, president and CEO. “As a diversified financial services institution, we are committed to being a true community partner and meeting our customers’ specific wants and needs as quickly and easily as possible.”

If you are looking for a strong, trusted, one-stop financial shop with emphasis on superior customer service, First State is the stop for you!

For more information, visit their website at www.first-state.net.

Ribbon Cuttings

Welcome to the newest businesses in the Twin Cities!



Lotta Java

701 Broadway (inside Bella Amici),
So. Fulton, TN

Stop in for a taste of their menu!

New Management:
Lana Hannaman

Traveler's Inn Restaurant

612 Broadway, So. Fulton

New Management:
Kevin & Wendy Silvernail



2009 Yard of the Season



The fall season has begun and the Twin Cities Chamber of Commerce will be sponsoring a “Yard of the Season” contest for residential properties. As you travel throughout the Twin Cities area and you see a lawn that is healthy, well manicured, clutter free and eye catching let us know here at the Chamber. You may nominate a lawn by simply going to the Chamber website at fultonsouthful-tonchamber.com, email at twincitieschamber@bellsouth.net, or calling the Chamber at 479-7029.

Nominated lawns will then be narrowed down to five and photos will be posted for viewing and voted upon by the general public through the Chamber’s website. The winning lawn will then have the “Yard of the Season” sign placed in their lawn and a photo published in the local media. Only the view from the street should be used for selection. Nominations will be accepted from October

1st through October 15th with the voting taking place between October 19th through October 28th. Please support this project as the Chamber wants to reward those who give the extra effort for their properties and entice others to do so.

Lost Elf on the loose again!



The lost elf committee has found the elf (left). The Lost Elf will become lost again Nov 15th. Clues as to where the lost elf is can be found will be placed in participating merchants’ place of business on Monday and on Wed will be released through the Fulton Leader and other local media. The first to find the lost elf and return it to the Chamber office will receive substantial prizes which are donated by participating businesses.

Big ideas promote commerce in Louisville Meeting

By Thea Vowell



On July 21 & 22, Jeff and I attended the ICSC 2009 Tennessee/Kentucky Idea Exchange in Louisville, KY. The conference allows communities to meet with prominent retailers in an effort to promote commerce and trade in the community. The West Tennessee Retail Alliance created various displays and promotional items for a several communities in west Tennessee which included the Twin Cities. As a group, we made quite an impression at the event. From our matching outfits to our unmatched enthusiasm, the WTRA group was certainly the buzz amongst the retailers in attendance.

Some of the activities at the conference included a series of informational sessions. Topics included the public sector's role in facilitating development and growth, commercial real estate issues, and roundtable discussions on topics such as ethnic retailing and public/private partnerships. We were very pleased with the opportunity to learn more about how we can help promote the community and discovered a few ways help present the area in a more attractive manner for potential businesses.

The event concluded with a session in which we were given an opportunity to meet the retailers in attendance and have a deal making session where we were able to "sell" the Twin Cities to a wide variety companies.

The uncertainty in present economic conditions has retailers viewing expansion in a much more critical and discerning manner. With this in mind, we are very fortunate to have the opportunity to meet with successful organizations and describe all the wonderful attributes and opportunities available in our area. Our hope is that with a little luck and continued hard work, some of the contacts made can contribute to retail development in the various commercial properties available in the community. All in all, it was a wonderful learning experience and a fun event that was hopefully beneficial in spreading the word about the Twin Cities of Fulton and South Fulton!

Contact Information

Office Hours

Mon.-Fri. 10AM-3PM

Closed on Wednesday

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