

Chamber's Friday News!

February 7, 2014



Fitzgerald-Ben Hill County Chamber Annual Fundraising Event

Rhapsody in Red, a Valentine's Day Ball featuring the Swinging Medallions. Tickets are \$25 each. Rhapsody in Red will be held on February 14th, from 8:00 p.m. to 12 midnight at the Eco Ballroom for adults ages 18 and older.

There will be a dessert auction and cash bar. Only limited refreshments will be served so we encourage you to visit one of our local restaurants ahead of time for dinner.

Dress code is business casual to black tie—your choice.

Proceeds benefit the Fitzgerald Ben Hill Chamber of Commerce.



Floyd's BBQ...

Floyd's will be setting up in the Fitzgerald Utility Conference Room to better serve the "Outrageous and Contagious Women's Conference Feb 8th for lunch. 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. They will also be open @ the restaurant.



Your choice of Pork plate or 1/4 Chicken plate with 2 sides, bread and tea for \$8.00 including tax. We are excited to be a part of such a great event.



Who dropped off their business cards

When you want to look your best

Salon Central

229-424-0119

110 S. Main Street
Fitzgerald, GA 31750

Wayne & Susan Smith
Owners

The Smith Company
Susan D. Smith
Founder

Cynderella⁺s
@ THE SMITH CO. NET

Phone (229) 423-0330
Cell (229) 567-1020
Fax (229) 423-8491
larry@thesmithco.net

Larry W. Thompson
Operations Manager
189 Irwinville Hwy.
Fitzgerald, GA. 31750



Welcome our new member...

Hill Investments, Inc

1180 Roanoke DR. Extension

Fitzgerald, GA 31750

229-423-7809

Becky Hill

hebek50@hotmail.com



The *Herald- Leader* will be publishing an “Open for Business” edition again at the end of March. We have plenty to brag about in our community’s business sector, and this is the perfect time to do it. If you would like to have your business featured, give the *Herald-Leader’s* office a call for more information; however, they just might find you first. We ask that you consider supporting this wonderful effort!



Ben Hill County has established a Facebook Page and a Twitter page for our citizens’ convenience to keep you informed on the latest developments.

Our Facebook Page Address is: <http://facebook.com/benhillcounty>

Our Twitter Page Address is: <http://twitter.com/benhillcounty>

Welcome Our New Member....

Ellen Frantz is an independent Health Insurance agent specializing in Medicare supplements advantage plans, and prescription drug plans.

Licensed on exchanges individual health or group.

Contact Ellen at 229-425-1937
ellenfrantz@windstream.net

BeyondBenefits

Health Insurance... We Make It Simple!



274 New Covenant Road
Abbeville, GA 31001

Phone: 229-425-1937
beyondbenefits@windstream.net

Ellen Frantz
Health Insurance Broker

Congratulations!



STAR Student John Foster and STAR Teacher Debbie Reynolds were honored at the February 4th meeting of the Fitzgerald Rotary Club. Fitzgerald-Ben Hill Co. Chamber of Commerce director Nancy Whidden presented certificates of recognition to the 2014 honorees.

The STAR Student/Teacher and their guest, along with the Chamber staff, will attend the Regional STAR banquet in Valdosta in March.

The Fitzgerald-Ben Hill Co. Chamber of Commerce has sponsored the STAR program for 55 years.

The purpose of the STAR program is to recognize academic achievement in Georgia's high schools.

Congratulations to John & Mrs. Reynolds



The Fitzgerald-Ben Hill Chamber of Commerce and the Ocilla-Irwin Chamber of Commerce would like to invite you to a Women's Business Council at Turkey Creek on **Wednesday, February 19** , at **12:00 noon**. Our aim is to provide fun but informative programs and networking opportunities to women in the business world. We will ask for **\$10** per meeting to cover lunch costs. If you know of other businesswomen who would like to be involved, please invite them to attend. We ask that you respond regarding your intentions to be present by **February 17**, to give us a general head count for the meal.



Does your business have big news to share? It could be included in the Friday News! Call Derinda at 229-423-9357 or send an email to derindalewis@mchsi.com And share your news!



is selling Raffle Tickets for chances to win framed

Fitzgerald Wild Chicken Pictures.

Tickets are \$5 each or five for \$20

Pictures will be raffled individually.

The first ticket drawn will be the Rooster and

the second ticket drawn will be the biddy.

Tickets will be sold until the drawing the night of Relay For Life,

You do not have to be present to win!

They are in handmade barn board frames made by Billy Wilder

and professionally framed by Nicki Smith at Central Trading Company.

The pictures were taken by T Nicole Walker. All proceeds go to Relay for Life!



Wild Chicken Festival

March 14 & 15, 2014

Historic Downtown Fitzgerald, Georgia



CHAMBER MEMBERS WE NEED YOUR KOOZIES....

Does your business/
organization have a Koozie
with your business name on it,
and you would like to provide us some for the
upcoming fundraiser...**Rhapsody In Red**?

Drop them by the Chamber's office located at
121 E. Pine Street. Also let us know how many
tickets you need for **Rhapsody In Red**
featuring the Swinging Medallions.

Tickets are \$25 each.

We do accept debt/credit cards.

Who was your favorite celebrity when you were in high school?
Join us for

Now
60's
90's
**DINNER OF THE
DECADES**
70's
00's
80's

CIS Celebrity Dinner
March 6, 2014 ~ 7 pm
early arrival for guests begins at 6:30
Wiregrass Georgia Technical College



PO Box 362
408 W. Suwanee Street
Fitzgerald, GA 31750
220-423-7933
www.cisbenhill.org

**Communities
In Schools**

Fitzgerald/Ben Hill County

The Celebrity Dinner is a fundraiser for Communities In Schools. We are a non-profit organization which specializes in drop-out prevention, touching the lives of all students in Ben Hill County. Our various programs are funded through grants, foundations and local fundraising efforts. Last year, we raised over \$22,000.00 from the Celebrity Dinner. This money comes from business sponsorships, ticket sales, auction/raffle items, and the money collected during the event.

Here are a few ways you can help:

- ♣ **BE A CELEBRITY!**
 - Choose your favorite **Celebrity** (Movie Star, TV Star, Music Star) from the decade you graduated
 - Waiters are asked to sell **8** tickets for their table
 - The tickets are \$50 each and guest will be treated to a wonderful meal catered by Fat Daddy's
- ♣ **RECRUIT A CELEBRITY:** Maybe dressing up is just not for you – but I bet you know someone who loves it!
- ♣ **SUPPLY AN AUCTION/RAFFLE ITEM:** During the event, guests are able to bid on items that have been donated. These include a variety of items: vacation get-a-ways, portraits, bleaching kits, plane rides, large retail items – tv's etc
- ♣ **BECOME A SPONSOR:** Businesses as well as individuals can be a sponsor for the dinner at different levels
- ♣ **BE A GUEST:** Tickets for the dinner are \$50 each

Sponsorship Levels:

- ♣ **PLATINUM SPONSOR:** \$1000 or more – recognition as Platinum sponsor in the event's program, business name included in newspaper articles, business logo included in newspaper ad, **8 tickets, \$200 in tip money** to be divided among guest at the table, business promotion at the table
- ♣ **GOLD SPONSOR:** \$500 – \$999 donation - recognition as Gold sponsor in the event's program, articles in newspaper, **tickets for 2 guests, and \$25 in tip money** for each guest
- ♣ **SILVER SPONSOR:** \$250 - \$499 - recognition as Silver sponsor in the event's program, and articles in newspaper
- ♣ **BRONZE SPONSOR:** \$100 - \$249 - recognition as Bronze sponsor in the event's program, and articles in newspaper
- ♣ **CIS FRIENDS:** up to \$100 - recognition in the event's program, and articles in newspaper

*One idea for businesses is to provide a waiter as well as purchase tickets for their staff.
Extra promotional incentives for the business can be received by becoming a Platinum Sponsor.*

100% of money raised STAYS in Ben Hill County helping OUR children.

**Communities In Schools of Fitzgerald-Ben Hill County, Inc, is a 501c3, nonprofit organization and all donations are tax deductible.
*Credit Cards and "Colony Cash" accepted**



2014 Ben Hill – Irwin Boy Scout Invitational

Here is the opportunity to enjoy a golf outing at Turkey Creek Dining and Golf and support the youth of our area. This golf tournament will help provide needed funds to help deliver a quality program to scouts across all of Ben Hill County and Irwin County of the South Georgia Council. Thank you in advance for your support!!

Date: Saturday, March 29, 2014 9:00 am shotgun start.
3 Man Scramble - \$120 per team, includes event appreciation item, lunch, and cart (for first 20).

Mulligan Package - \$30, includes: – 2 mulligans, 1 "throw mulligan", and 1 "closest to the pin" , 1 package per player

Prizes: Cash - 1st place team - \$400, 2nd - \$250, 3rd - \$150
20 carts available, teams welcome to bring own carts.

"Double Diamond" Sponsors are a \$1,000 level which includes a name banner with logo*, and a team.

"Diamond" Sponsors are a \$500 level and includes a "yard sign" with logo* and a team.

Hole Sponsors are \$100 each and includes a sign with name, no logo.

**** Logos – camera ready, must be furnished by March 14, 2014**

For additional information contact Roland McCarthy, South Georgia Council, 1841 Norman Drive, Valdosta, GA, 31601, 229.343.1615.



About Georgia2Georgia

What is Georgia2Georgia?

Georgia2Georgia is a homegrown awareness initiative rooted in corporate responsibility, good citizenship and individual impact on overall economic growth. Georgia2Georgia aims to foster awareness so that businesses and governments think of Georgia organizations first when making decisions about who to do business with. The initiative is about connecting Georgia's businesses – to each other (B2B), to government procurement entities (B2G) and ultimately to customers (B2C).

Why was Georgia2Georgia created?

The idea for Georgia2Georgia came from input received from Georgia Chamber members as well as business leaders throughout the state who participated in the Georgia Competitiveness Initiative. Connecting businesses with each other and with new opportunities has long been a priority for the state Chamber of Commerce.

Who should get involved in Georgia2Georgia?

Any organization with a presence in Georgia is invited to participate in this campaign and do their part to help strengthen our state's economy.

What are the benefits of Georgia2Georgia?

Georgia companies and governments committing to doing more business with in-state partners will strengthen the statewide economy, increase job growth, create new partnerships and support a sense of Georgia pride. Simply put, Georgia2Georgia will help create a better state of business, which will in turn benefit all Georgians.

What is the 2% Challenge?

Through the Georgia2Georgia campaign, we are asking companies to commit to trying to do 2% more business with Georgia companies in the coming year. Just 2% more business can have a positive impact on any company as it works to create jobs, increase sales and productivity and grow its role within our state's economy. Companies can sign up to participate in the 2% Challenge on the website www.georgia2georgia.com.

How can I get involved in Georgia2Georgia?

Visit the Georgia2Georgia website, www.georgia2georgia.com, to sign up for information and updates or to take the 2% Challenge. Then, remember to think of Georgia companies first when considering who to do business with. We also hope you will spread the word about Georgia2Georgia and be on the lookout for campaign updates from the Georgia Chamber of Commerce!