



“CHAMBER NEWS”

*Monthly Publication of the Elbert County
Chamber of Commerce*

www.elbertga.com



December 2009

RIBBON CUTTING - Star Granite and Bronze

Another great event in Elberton, Rusty Adams formally opened Star Granite and Bronze. A serial entrepreneur, Rusty Adams recognized that while his granite businesses made beautiful, high quality granite monuments, memorials, and fixtures, Star Granite's customers were forced to purchase their bronze memorials from other sources. Because of the long standing relationships with these customers, Mr. Adams felt that Star should also manufacture the bronze memorials as an added convenience for his customers and at the same time expand Star's product line into the bronze industry. Although new to the bronze foundry and mold industry, Mr. Adams surveyed the bronze manufacturing industry, brought in the best and most experienced foundry managers and technicians and started Star Granite and Bronze. The photo below shows an example of a bronze memorial plaque with a forest scene and name plates. The new process and capability means that customers can order complete monuments and memorials made of the finest granite with beautiful bronze plaques and fixtures or order custom designed bronze plaques for other types of memorials. This expansion of Star Granite created 26 new jobs in Elberton bringing the total number of employees at Star Granite and Bronze to over 120 people.



Chamber held a ribbon cutting and pictured are: Left to Right: Sandra Brown, Chairman, Elbert County Chamber of Commerce; Anna Grant Jones, Elbert County Development Authority; Rusty Adams, Owner, Mark Adams, Rick Adams, John Hubbard, Elbert County Commissioner; Jerry Barrow, Athens Technical College.

“THE FREEMANS ” FARM FAMILY OF THE YEAR



The annual Farm-City Banquet was held on November 12th at the 4-H Center. Our speaker for the evening was Leighton Cooley. Honored this year as “Farm Family of the Year” was the David Freeman family. Congratulations to the Freeman family!

We wish to thank the following sponsors: AG-GA Farm Credit, Elbert County Farm Bureau, Elberton Federal Savings & Loan Association, Northeast Georgia Bank, Pinnacle Bank and Regions Bank. Also thanks to the following for providing door prizes: Arrowhead Pointe Golf Course, Blue Frog Arts, Christa Campbell/Cooperative Extension (Family and Consumer Sciences), Bill Daughtry, Dr. Joyce Davis, Lauren Dye/Cooperative Extension (4-H), Elbert County Chamber of Commerce, Elbert County Historical Society, Elberton Ace Hardware, Elcon Foods, Eliam Methodist Church, Farm Bureau Insurance, Granite City Hardware, Hilltop House, J. C. Pool Co., Martha Jones, Randolph Kohl, Anri and Fica Konfino, Lake Russell Building Supply, Love Unlimited Christian Bookstore, Pinnacle Bank, Prince Wholesale, Sanders Furniture Co., Ed Shive Tire & Battery, Shorty's, Soap Box Car Wash, Southern Accents, Southern Farm and Hardware, Clay Talton/Cooperative Extension (Agriculture), Tena's Jewelry & Gift Shop, Wal-Mart, Ward's Pharmacy and Woodmen of the World. The banquet is co-sponsored each year by the Elberton Kiwanis Club and the Chamber.

Thank You!

The Chamber would like to thank Main Street Elberton for hosting Business After Hours in November. The event was held at one of the newly renovated buildings located on McIntosh Street that Main Street had for lease. Many thanks to the following restaurants for providing the delicious food: Hilltop House, Subway, Papa's Pizza, McIntosh Coffee Shop, Downtown Deli and Clifford's Grill. Thanks also to those that came out to enjoy the beginning of the holiday season.

HOLIDAY GIFT IDEAS



The Chamber has tote bags, Chamber cookbooks, T-shirts, Jeanne Mack note cards, Elberton Architecture books, WSGC Radio cookbooks, Joyce Davis note cards and Martha Phillip's book, *Written on a Rock*. Stop by today!

TWILIGHT STROLL BY THE GRANITE BOWL

The 7th Annual 5K Twilight Stroll by the Granite Bowl will be held on Friday, January 8, 2010. Registration will be held at the Elbert Theatre beginning at 7:30 pm. The race will begin beside the "ROC" and will finish at the Elbert Theatre where awards will be presented to overall male/female winners and 3 deep in 13 age groups for male/female. Registration fee is \$15 before January 1st and race day registration will be \$20. Long sleeve T-shirts are guaranteed to those pre-registering. Extras will be available on race day as long as they last. Registration forms are available online at www.elbertga.com and also at the Chamber office.



We are in need of sponsors for the race. If you would like to be a sponsor, please call the Chamber office. Levels of sponsorship are Silver (\$150), Gold (\$300) and Platinum (\$500).

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee consisting of Chairman Sandra Brown, Jackson McConnell, Rick Prince, Steve Howe and Jim Lloyd will be accepting recommendations from the membership for potential nominations for the Board of Directors. New directors serve a term of two years. Please mail your recommendations by December 31st to the Elbert County Chamber of Commerce, P. O. Box 537.

CHAMBER'S NEWEST MEMBERS

The Chamber would like to welcome into our membership:

The Printing Co-Op
Sinostone, Inc.
Elberton Eye Associates
Wings of Faith



Please call the Chamber office if you know of potential members that we may contact about membership.

GROUNDHOG JOB SHADOW DAY

The Elbert County Board of Education and the Chamber of Commerce will be sponsoring Groundhog Job Shadow Day on Tuesday, February 2nd. This provides an opportunity for students to get an up-close look at how the skills they are learning in school can be used in the workplace. Groundhog Job Shadow Day has a multitude of benefits to our community. It demonstrates the connection between academics and careers. It builds partnerships between our schools and businesses that enhance the educational experience of all students. It introduces students to the requirements of professions to help them prepare to join the workforce. Most importantly, it encourages an ongoing relationship between our young people and caring adults.



Please say "YES" when your company is asked to participate. Letters have been mailed.

PADDLE GEORGIA 2010

The Chamber has been contacted by Georgia River Network about helping coordinate some tours while Paddle Georgia 2010 is in Elbert County. The group will paddle in the Broad and Savannah Rivers from June 19-25. They will be in Elbert County from Sunday, June 20 through June 22nd with them leaving on Wednesday, June 23rd. The Chamber will also help with a legislator's paddle.

GEORGIA GUIDESTONES

The Georgia Guidestones historical marker has been put back up and work is currently being done by Mart Clamp to remove the polyurethane and paint from the Guidestones. The Guidestones continue to draw people to Elberton and Elbert County.



MARTHA PHILLIPS, LOCAL AUTHOR, WRITES ABOUT ELBERT COUNTY

Martha Phillips, local author, has written an article in the Winter edition of the Georgia Backroads Magazine. It is called Small Town Life - Elberton. It covers some of history about Elberton and Elbert County and features a lot of pictures. Check it out you may recognize some of the people and places.

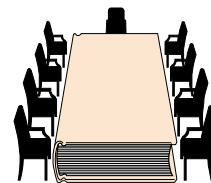
The Chamber hosted a tour group from Athens, Georgia on November 18th. The group was brought here by Martha Phillips, author of *Written on a Rock*, a murder mystery set in Elberton. The group first viewed our community video and was presented a packet of info about Elberton and Elbert County. Ms. Phillips then took them to visit the Elbert Theatre, the Georgia Guidestones and the Granite Museum and related these location to information found in her book. The group enjoyed lunch at McIntosh Coffee Shoppe. More tours are planned for the Spring.

UPCOMING EVENTS-DATES

Dec 20 - Montevideo Parade
Dec 24 - Christmas Eve - Chamber Closed
Dec 25 - Christmas Day - Chamber Closed
Jan 4 - City Council Meeting
Jan 7 - Chamber Board Meeting
Jan 8 - Twilight Stroll
Jan 11 - County Commissioner's Meeting

BOARD MEETING DATES

Jan 7
Feb 4
Mar 4
April 1



CHAMBER MISSION

The mission of the Elbert County Chamber of Commerce is to promote commerce, tourism and growth that enhances the quality of life in our community.





**“MERRY CHRISTMAS AND
HAPPY NEW YEAR”**

**FROM THE OFFICERS AND STAFF
OF THE
ELBERT COUNTY CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE!”**

**Sandra Brown, Jackson McConnell,
Daniel Graves, Rick Prince, Jimmy Hill,
Phyllis Brooks and Gwen Childs**

