



A quarterly informational newsletter published by The Cherokee County Chamber of Commerce.

PARTNERS

Volume III

www.CherokeeChamber.com

Summer 2006

2006 Education Committee

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Diana Threewitt
City of Canton

John West
Express Impressions

Steven Woodruff
WHEE, Inc.

3605 Marietta Highway
P.O. Box 4998
Canton, GA 30114
Phone: 770-345-0400
Fax: 770-345-0030

“Partners in Education” Awards Given at June Breakfast

The 2006 Excellence in “Partners in Education Awards” were presented at the June Good Morning Cherokee Breakfast. Applications were accepted from the schools and businesses, and were evaluated by the Chamber’s Education Committee.



2006 Award Winners from Left to Right, Back Row: Mike Vernor, Woodstock Elementary; Mark Justice, Cobb EMC; Marcia Cox, Etowah High; Terry Morrison, A.G. Edwards; Billy Hayes, Northside Hospital-Cherokee. Front Row: Dr. Ruth Summerlin, Bascomb Elementary; Cindy Gibbs, Sequoyah High; Brenda Bain, Chick-fil-A Dwarf House; Letita Cline, Boston Elementary

ATTENTION: BUSINESSES AND PRINCIPALS

Partnership Agreements Have Been Revised

The Cherokee County Chamber of Commerce and Cherokee County School District have revised the “Partners In Education” partnership agreement template. All new Partnerships established after January 27, 2006 should use this new template. Contact the Chamber at 770-345-0400 for additional copies .



The Cherokee Chamber of Commerce along with the Education Committee welcomed 400 new teachers and administrators into the Cherokee County School District this fall! Thanks to the donations from the Chamber Members, we were able to assemble 400 “New Teacher Welcome Packets”.



Sequoyah High School Opens Café Chief a Latte'

Sequoyah HS opened their own coffee shop this fall and uniquely tagged it: Café Chief a Latte'! The unique part of the coffee shop is that it is managed and operated by the moderately/mildly impaired and autistic special education students.

Teachers Todd Miller and Judy Bulmer, paraprofessional Kim Morgan and assistant Principal Tami Smith were discussing the Community Based Instruction program that the students participate in where they go into Wal-Mart or Goodwill and work. The rising cost of fuel and the time on the bus, which mandates the majority of the learning time for these children, were their major concerns. They were brainstorming innovative ways to alleviate some of the cost to the county and to use instructional time more wisely when Todd and Tami came across The Mountain Top Café at Kennesaw Mountain HS. After further investigation, they found that there was a similar coffee shop at Harrison HS.

So, the energized educators approached SHS Principal Elliott Berman who thought a coffee shop was a wonderful idea. The coffee shop is run totally on donations and the community as been very supportive. The facility was the easy part, but to get the coffee shop up and running costs approximately \$7,000. SHS has had large tangible materials donated. Just talking about the coffee shop gets community people involved! Alumni Sarah and Michael Vaughn of North Georgia Quality Homes, Inc. have contacted their contacts and together they have gotten furniture from Woodstock Outlet, cabinets and countertops from Ed Sims, consumables such as milk, apple juice and whip cream from Publix at Hwy 5 & East Cherokee and Kroger at Toonigh, McDonald's is providing an endless supply of

coffee cups & lids and Living Stone Wear even donated shirts for the students who work in the shop and many, many more...much less the money from the community! The Saturday before school began, the shop's coffee vendor cancelled, but Woodstock Coffee House stepped up as our supplier. They donated our first week of supplies to get us started!

The coffee shop is open from 7:45 AM – 10 AM daily. They fill email orders and deliver them to the teachers. This is a very important social skill for the students. They are working on eye contact as well as communication skills. They are selling Woodstock Coffee House coffee, both decaf and regular, cappuccino, hot chocolate, hot teas and hot caramel apple cider.

In turn, the teachers are working on daily living skills with the students. Wachovia has provided checks and deposit slips and the students will earn a "pay check". The students will deposit it where they will have to pay rent, electricity, and insurance. These skills will follow them into their daily lives once they leave high school. They will learn to balance their checkbooks and will also learn valuable lessons if they don't pay their bills on time!

SHS student Kyle Hicks designed the Café Chief a Latte' logo. SHS is very proud of Kyle, and his logo is displayed on the door of the shop and on the shirts.

Café Chief a Latte' is dedicated in memory of Matthew Dunbar, a SHS student who passed away this summer due to health complications. Matthew changed the lives of many at Sequoyah HS!

Café Chief a Latte'...Educating SHS students one cup at a time!



PARTNER PERKS!!

By partnering with a school your business will be able to broaden the learning experience of students throughout the county. Your business and staff volunteers can share with students “real life” business situations, which will help them prepare to be leaders of tomorrow. Many participants report a positive effect on the morale of staff members who are involved in the program!

Outstanding partners are also recognized at the Chamber’s June Good Morning Cherokee Breakfast, and awarded certificates to acknowledge their commitment during school PTA meetings.



3rd Annual Adult Spelling Bee



Event Sponsor



Thursday, November 9th
7:00 PM
Chamber Terrace Level

The fee to participate is \$200 per team and includes:

- FREE admission to the event and 3 FREE guest tickets
- 1 study booklet from the Scripps Howard National Spelling Bee
- 1 book label per speller that will be inserted into a newly purchased Children’s Book.

Admission: \$5.00 Adults; Children under 12 FREE

Remaining 2006 Education Committee Meeting Dates

Tuesday, September 12th

Tuesday, October 10th

The Cherokee County Chamber of Commerce Education Committee is open to all Chamber Members in good standing.

All meetings are held at 3:30 p.m. in the Chamber of Commerce Board Room
3605 Marietta Highway, Canton, GA 30114

2006 Education Committee Objectives

The goals for 2006 are to increase the number of “Partners in Education” by 10%, while continuing to produce the *Partners* e-Newsletter and creating a new “Partners In Education” brochure. Other education programs will include the 7th Annual Principal For A Day, the 8th Annual “Partners in Education” recognition and the 3rd Annual Adult Spelling Bee. As a service to the Cherokee County School District, Work Exit programs, as well as Mentoring, will be promoted.