

# ATHENS BUSINESS

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No. 1

A HAPPY  
NEW YEAR

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NEW YEAR

A Publication  
of the  
Athens Area  
Chamber  
of Commerce

423-745-0334



## THE CHAIRMAN'S CORNER with *David Rymer*

As the holiday season is past, the Christmas and New Year's celebrations for 2010 now a memory, we can take a moment to enjoy and savor those memories made with family and friends. This is a great time to reflect on what has been achieved during 2010, opportunities seized and possibilities created for the upcoming year. Most successes today are realized by planning and preparation that have been done in the past.

Thank you to everyone who contributed, planned, and participated in recent area Christmas programs, such as Toy for Kids, Angel Trees, and Friendly Fellow Food Baskets. It is truly inspirational to see this community pull together and give sacrificially to serve neighbors who are less fortunate. That attitude and sense of community are what makes this area such a great place to live!

I would like to take this opportunity to invite everyone to join us on Thursday, January 27th for the Athens Area Chamber of Commerce's 65th Annual Meeting and Community Awards Dinner. This is a time looked forward to by many, when the Chamber Chairman's gavel is passed, and also when many community leaders are recognized for their years of service to our community and their families. This is our time to come together, honor and celebrate some of the people that make the Athens area great! The evening will begin at 5:00PM with a silent auction. There are always great items to bid on donated by generous Chamber members. Dinner will begin at 6:00PM and will be followed by the program and awards presentations. Tickets are \$30.00 per person and may be purchased at the Chamber office located at 13 North Jackson Street. No tickets will be available at the door, so make sure you purchase yours before the January 20th deadline!

Since this will be my final column as Chairman of the Athens Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, I would like to thank some key people for their contributions in the past year. First and foremost, I would like to thank my wife, Joy, for all her help and support and encouragement. I'd also like to thank Rob President, President/CEO, for his vision and planning for the Chamber. And a thank you to Kay Simmons and Martha Moree who do the behind-the-scenes work for the Chamber that makes us all look good. We all should feel proud of this team!

Finally, I would like to thank this community and the Chamber Board of Directors for allowing me to serve in this capacity for the past year. It has been an honor and a privilege. I look forward to continuing to be an active member and supported of the Chamber for many years to come.

I wish each of you a blessed and prosperous 2011!



The January Spotlight is shining on...

2011

## Athens Area Chamber of Commerce PROGRAM & EVENT SPONSORS

The Athens Area Chamber of Commerce has a very exciting year planned. We would not be able to provide our members and our community with these wonderful opportunities and events without Program & Event Sponsors. We wanted to take this opportunity to say, "THANK YOU!" to them.



## WELCOME TO THESE NEW CHAMBER MEMBERS!

### CLASSIC CHARTERS & TOURS

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*Retail sales*

### SILVER MOMENTS

Mrs. Stephanie Devine  
2 East Washington Avenue  
Athens, TN 37303  
Phone: 423.746.4438

Website: [www.silvermomentsjewelryandgifts.com](http://www.silvermomentsjewelryandgifts.com)  
*Retail sales / jewelry / candles / accessories*

## CHAMBER BUSINESS PARTNERS & INVESTORS

Because members renew memberships at different times throughout the year, listings are provided on a monthly basis. These members renewed their memberships during December 2010.

AUB  
Arnett Heating & Air  
Athens Federal Community Bank  
Athens Housing Authority  
Athens Regional Medical Center  
BB&T Insurance Company  
Ben Finch Photography  
Biddle & Trew, LLP  
Carter, Harrod, Willhite

Coker Millwrights, Inc.  
Crescent, Inc.  
Days Inn of Athens  
Edward Jones-James R. Nelson  
Heavenly Creations by Jen  
Heil Trailer International  
Keith Memorial United Meth. Church  
L & M Motors, Inc.  
Lay Realty Company, Inc.

Partners for Christian Media, Inc.  
Rural Metro Corp. of Tennessee  
Service Master Commercial Cleaning  
Shelley F. Griffith, MD  
Southern Hydraulics Cylinder  
Tennessee Career Center  
Tennessee Service Company  
The Outdoor Store  
Tsali Notch Vineyards, LLC

Ziegler Funeral Home



## \$\$\$ ECONOMIC INDICATORS \$\$\$

### November Unemployment Rate

<b>2010</b>	<b>McMinn Co.</b>	<b>12.1%</b>
	<b>Tennessee</b>	<b>9.4%</b>
	<b>United States</b>	<b>9.8%</b>
<b>2009</b>	<b>McMinn Co.</b>	<b>13.1%</b>
	<b>Tennessee</b>	<b>10.7%</b>
	<b>United States</b>	<b>10.0%</b>

### Local Sales Tax Collected

<b>November 2010</b>	<b>\$ 659,169</b>
<b>July—Nov 2010</b>	<b>\$ 3,404,450</b>
<b>November 2009</b>	<b>\$ 590,720</b>
<b>July—Nov 2008</b>	<b>\$ 3,284,410</b>

*(Figures are from the latest state-provided data.)*

## NEW BUSINESS LICENSES - Nov. & Dec.

### City of Athens

<b>Adelaida Schilling</b>	<b>Sitters on Demand</b>
<b>Auto Outlet</b>	<b>Tailored Foam, Inc.</b>
<b>Comcast Broadband Security</b>	<b>Toscana Pizza &amp; Italian Grill</b>
<b>J and J Tile</b>	<b>Treasures Antiques &amp; Furniture</b>
<b>M.D.S. Builders, Inc.</b>	

### McMinn County

<b>Adelaide Schilling</b>	<b>MDL Remarketing</b>
<b>Advanced Power &amp; Lighting</b>	<b>Memory Machines</b>
<b>Auto Outlet</b>	<b>My Electronics</b>
<b>Braska Jennea Photography</b>	<b>Playground</b>
<b>Camacho's Auto Repair &amp; Car Wash</b>	<b>Nicholas Mashburn</b>
<b>Charleston Construction Co.</b>	<b>Otis P. Bishop</b>
<b>Comcast Broadband Security</b>	<b>Price Backhoe Service</b>
<b>East TN Grading, Inc.</b>	<b>Red Stag Contractor</b>
<b>East TN Properties</b>	<b>Robbie's Small Engines</b>
<b>Ingram Rental</b>	<b>Rose Rene Psychic</b>
<b>J &amp; J Tile</b>	<b>Save Smart</b>
<b>La Bre'</b>	<b>Service Electric Co.</b>
<b>M. L. Clark Ministries</b>	<b>Sitters on Demand</b>
<b>M-Tech</b>	<b>Superior Walls of East TN</b>
<b>Mar-Von Termite &amp; Pest Control</b>	<b>Tailored Foam, Inc.</b>
	<b>Toscana Pizza &amp; Grill</b>
	<b>Treasures Antiques &amp; Furniture</b>

Our Chamber of Commerce is a voluntary organization of citizens who invest their time and money in a community development program working together to improve the economic, civic and cultural well being of our community.

### Why I Should Belong to The Chamber of Commerce?

Active Membership in our Chamber of Commerce carries with it a sense of accomplishment and satisfaction from the knowledge that you are doing your share of an important job.

Although everyone in the community benefits from the work of our Chamber of Commerce, you can accept those benefits with a sense of pride only if you have had a part in bringing them about. Build your business by building your community. Benefits of membership in the Chamber include a wealth of advertising and exposure through participation in various events, inclusion in the Chamber website, newsletter, and networking opportunities.

For information about becoming a Chamber member, please call us at (423) 745-0334.

## Upcoming Chamber and Community Events

### 65th ANNUAL MEETING & COMMUNITY AWARDS DINNER

**Date:** Thursday, January 27 **Time:** 5:00PM Silent Auction  
6:00PM Dinner & Program  
**Location:** Sherman Fine Arts Bldg. at TWC  
**Tickets:** \$30 per person Available at Athens Chamber of Commerce  
13 North Jackson Street, Athens  
**Deadline:** Tickets must be purchased by Thursday, January 20th  
Tickets will not be available at the door  
**For more info:** Call 423.745.0334

### 2ND ANNUAL LEADERSHIP ALUMNI SEMINAR GUEST SPEAKER, TINA WESSON

**Date:** Friday, February 11 **Time:** 8:00AM  
**Location:** McMinn County Senior Center 205 McMinn Avenue  
**Tickets:** \$10 for Leadership McMinn Alumni  
\$15 for General Public  
**For more info:** Call 423.745.0334

### ATHENS AREA COUNCIL FOR THE ARTS PRESENTS VANCE GILBERT

**Date:** Friday, February 11 **Time:** 5:30PM  
**Location:** The Arts Center 320 N. White Street Athens  
**Tickets:** \$15 (Adults) \$8 (Students)  
**For more info:** Call 423.745.8781 or www.athensartscouncil.org

### LUNCH & LEARN SEMINAR WITH PASCARELLA & MILLER, CPAs "SAVE! Don't Pay This Tax Season"

**Date:** Thursday, February 17 **Time:** 11:45AM—1:00PM  
**Location:** To be announced  
**FREE** to the public - Lunch included - Reservation required by Feb. 14  
**Reservations and more info:** Call 423.745.0334

### BUSINESS AFTER HOURS

**Date:** Thursday, February 17 **Time:** 5:30PM—7:00PM  
**Location:** Comfort Inn of Athens 2811 Decatur Pike Athens  
**For more info:** Call 423.745.0334

### ATHENS COMMUNITY THEATHER PRESENTS "ANNIE"

**Sponsored by: SoutEast Bank & Trust and Don & LeeAnn Moates**  
**Date:** February 17—19; 24—26 **Time:** 7:00PM  
February 20 & 27 2:00PM  
**Location:** The Arts Center 320 N. White Street Athens  
**Tickets:** \$14 (Adults) \$8 (Students)  
**For more info:** 423.745.8781 or www.athensartscouncil.org

### ATHENS AREA COUNCIL FOR THE ARTS AUXILLIARY "ARTS GALA"

**Date:** Saturday, March 5 **Time:** 7:30PM—Midnight  
**Location:** The Arts Center 320 N. White Street Athens  
**Tickets and more info:** Call 423.745.8781; www.athensartscouncil.org

### BUSINESS AFTER HOURS

**Date:** Thursday, March 17 **Time:** 5:30PM—7:00PM  
**Location:** Bowater Employees Credit Union  
1112 South Congress Parkway Athens  
**For more info:** Call 423.745.0334

To have your event announced on this calendar contact  
Kay Simmons at [kay@athenschamber.org](mailto:kay@athenschamber.org)  
or call 423.745.0334.

## YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THESE...

### 2nd Annual Leadership Alumni Seminar with Guest Speaker TINA WESSON 2001 Winner of "SURVIVOR—OUTBACK"

Friday, Feb. 11  
8:00AM

McMinn Senior Center  
205 McMinn Ave.  
Athens



\*Tickets:  
Leadership  
McMinn Alumni  
\$10  
General Public  
\$15

### 4th Annual Community Concert with JACI VELASQUEZ

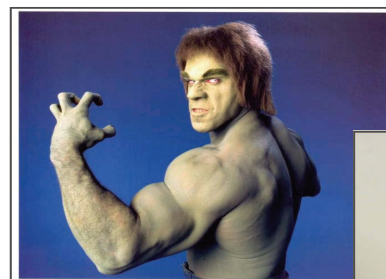
Saturday, April 16  
7:00PM

Athens Junior  
High School  
200 Keith Lane

\*Tickets: \$7 per person  
(no reserved seating)



### 5th Annual Benefit Dinner with Guest Speaker



"THE INCREDIBLE  
HULK"

**LOU  
FERRIGNO**

Saturday, July 16  
6:00PM Dinner  
7:00PM Program

McMinn County High School  
2215 S. Congress Parkway  
Athens



\*Tickets:  
\$20—Dinner Included  
\$10—Program Only

\*Tickets for each event are available at Chamber office  
13 N. Jackson Street Athens or by calling (423) 745-0334

**There will be no Business After Hours in January. Business After Hours will resume in February.**

**All Chamber members are invited to attend the Chamber's 65th Annual Meeting & Community Awards Dinner**

**Thursday, January 27th  
5:00PM Silent Auction  
6:00PM Dinner & Program**

**Tennessee Wesleyan College  
Sherman Fine Arts Building**

**Tickets are available for \$30 per person at the Chamber office  
13 N. Jackson Street Athens  
or call 745-0334**

**Tickets will be sold until January 20th**

**ATHENS AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

13 North Jackson Street, Athens, TN 37303

E-mail: [info@athenschamber.org](mailto:info@athenschamber.org) Website: [www.athenschamber.org](http://www.athenschamber.org)

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Connie Allen  
Murray Willis  
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*ATHENS BUSINESS* is a monthly publication for the members of the Athens Area Chamber of Commerce.

# WINTER WONDERS

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