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WANTED

Member of the Month Nominations

The Gadsden County Chamber of Commerce is pleased to ask you for your nomination for the Chamber Member of the Month award.

This award has been set up to recognize current members (individuals or businesses) who have been significantly involved in the Gadsden County community and/or Chamber activities.

Self-nominations are welcome.

Call (850) 627-9231 or email michelleburdick@tds.net to request a nomination form today!

Waste Pro – January Member of the Month

The Gadsden County Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce Waste Pro was selected as the January Member of the Month. Waste Pro was nominated for this award because of their continuous support of the communities within Gadsden County. Waste Pro received a wall plaque sponsored by Allen Trophy & Awards in Quincy. A sign printed by Shopper's Express Printing & Copy, located in Quincy, will be placed outside of the Waste Pro building.

"It's terrific that a fellow member nominated Waste Pro to be recognized for its outstanding service and serious commitment to our residents," said Michelle Burdick, the Chamber's vice president of membership. "We're proud that Waste Pro is a member of the Chamber and we look forward to their continued participation within our community."

This local business has consistently shown its support of our local communities in several ways since October 2006. First, when awarded the contract to pick up residential refuse for the City of Tallahassee, Waste Pro chose Midway as the location for their regional office. Then, although the original attraction to the 10/90 Commerce Center was because of its proximity to I-10, the company quickly realized the residents of Gadsden County represented exceptional candidates for the

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Spring After Hours

MEMBER ONLY EVENT

Spring After Hours is
scheduled for Thursday,
March 27, 2008.

Members should expect
their invitation to arrive
soon via mail and email.

Save the Date!

Go Gadsden! Leads Group
7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.

Wednesday, February 27
Hampton Inn
165 Spooner Road
(I-10 & SR 267)
Quincy

Presentation by Tim Bush
Bush Bros. Mulching-
Landclearing

Register via email:
michelleburdick@tds.net

Businesses: Don't Hold Out on America

If your business received a 2007 Economic Census form in December, and you returned it on time, the U.S. Census Bureau thanks you. But if you missed the February 12 deadline, they urge you to seek a 30-day extension and complete the form as soon as possible. Many very small businesses were not sent a form, and no action is required from them, but businesses that received forms are required by law (Title 13 of the U.S. Code) to respond.

In today's changing economy, timely and relevant facts and figures are essential for sound business and government decision making. The Economic Census is the primary benchmark for measuring 96 percent of the gross domestic product. Ben Bernanke has said, "The Economic Census is indispensable to understanding America's economy."

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new job openings. Waste Pro has been able to maintain an excellent pool of employees by selecting many of their new hires from area residents. Currently, the company employs about 60 workers and nearly half come from within Gadsden County.

"We're ecstatic to even be considered for this honor," said Ralph Mills, Waste Pro's regional general manager. "We're proud to be a part of the Gadsden County business community." Mills explained they see many good things going on in the county and want to grow as the county grows. As their company continues to expand they will continue to give preference to Gadsden County job candidates.

"They are a community minded business," said Howard McKinnon, a fellow Chamber member and current participant on its board of directors. "Waste Pro immediately joined the Chamber upon locating in Gadsden County and hired people from our area."

Waste Pro credits its success to counting people as their most important asset. The company provides substantial wages as well as benefits such as health insurance and a 401(k) investment plan. Waste Pro feels that by providing a positive work atmosphere their employees excel in the service they provide to the customers.

Waste Pro is currently serving the Town of Havana, the Town of Greensboro, Liberty County, the City of Bristol, St. George Island, and the City of Apalachicola. More recent additions to their service areas include the City of Quincy and the City of Crestview. Facility tours are available for new companies within Gadsden County and for existing businesses looking for assistance in setting up a maintenance facility. For more information, contact Ralph Mills at (850) 561-0800.

Recruitment Seminar

Cumulus Media of Tallahassee, a member of the Gadsden County Chamber of Commerce, is hosting a **FREE** 30-40 minute seminar entitled, **“The Power of Radio for Recruitment Advertising!”** Come learn how your business can find *highly qualified candidates* and *save you money*. Using the most popular local radio stations is more efficient and cost-effective than newspaper or online. This seminar is absolutely FREE. Whether you need employees now, or will need them later, you should plan to attend.

Date: Thursday February 21, 2008

Place: Cambridge Room, Ramada Inn & Conference Center, 2900 North Monroe Street, Tallahassee

Time: 12 noon, with FREE light lunch

Please RSVP to Cindy Burdick via email: cindy.burdick@cumulus.com or call 201-3029.

About Your Host: Cumulus Media of Tallahassee operates five local radio stations: Star 98, 96.1 JAMZ, Gulf 104, Blazin’ 102.3, and ESPN 1410-AM The Fan. These stations are popular in the area, and reach a wide variety of potential future employees for you, in all age ranges, all ethnicities, both male and female, to satisfy those EEO requirements and to give you a terrific variety of candidates to choose from.

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Businesses can request a 30-day reporting extension, or get help with their form, via the Internet (<http://business.census.gov>) or by calling a toll-free number (800) 233-6136 from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. EST, Monday through Friday.

If your company received but has not returned the 2007 Economic Census form, do it now.

BUILD WEALTH, NOT DEBT!

GadsdenSAVES is hosting a **free** seminar to help people learn how to avoid home foreclosure, maintain good credit and to inform them about consumer issues, loans for agricultural issues, businesses, and farm homes, affordable housing, housing repairs, scams, and identity theft.

Guest speakers will include Consumer Credit Counseling Services president, Rick Skaggs; John Roberts, of the Division of Consumer Services in the Florida Department of Agriculture; Ken Armstrong, president of the United Way/Big Bend; Jim Dean, of the USDA Rural Development Program; Gadsden County Consumer Services director, Farnita Saunders; John Sinclair, VP of Premier Bank; David Hauser, an identity theft specialist; and Phyllis Moore, director of Gadsden’s SHIP program.

Date: Tuesday, February 26, 2008

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., with free light lunch

Place: University of Florida Research Center, 155 Research Center Road, Quincy

RSVP: (850) 539-5970, (850) 539-9955, or (850) 539-1315

Sponsors: Capital City Bank, Premier Bank, Focus Credit Union, The Shopper’s Express Print & Copy, the Gadsden County Chamber of Commerce, the Gadsden County Commissioners, Pre-Paid Legal Services, the Cities of Quincy, Gretna, Chattahoochee, Midway, and Havana, Mirror Image Antiques, the Havana Herald, the Gadsden County Times, **WORKFORCE plus** and the Gadsden County Schools, especially East Gadsden High School and West Gadsden High School