



SHOALS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

**Calendar
for the week of
January 14, 2008**



Happy New Year and Best Wishes for 2008

www.SASsystems.com

256.383.2029

Monday, January 14

9:00am – 3:00pm
Youth Leadership Shoals
Business in the Shoals Session
SCBED

10:00am
KTSB Board Meeting
SCBED

CHOICES - Anderson J. H.
- Waterloo H. S.

Tuesday, January 15

CHOICES - Cherokee H. S.
- Lauderdale County H. S.

6:00 a.m until 5:00 p.m.
HELEN KELLER HOSPITAL WILL HOLD ALLAN W. BRAGWELL MEMORIAL BLOOD DRIVE in
the River Room located in the basement of the hospital.
To schedule an appointment time, please contact Kerry Laughlin 256-386-4107

Tuesday, January 15

3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Chamber Mart
Table Top Trade Show Featuring Chamber Members! Open to the public
Marriott Shoals Conference Center
*Gold Sponsors: Jerry Damson Honda
Jerry Damson Nissan
Marriott Shoals Hotel & Spa*

6:30pm
Small Business Awards Dinner
Marriott Shoals Conference Center
Presented by The Courier Journal
Gold Sponsors: Marriott Shoals Hotel & Spa
Wachovia Bank
Silver Sponsor: Regions Bank
Corporate Sponsor: First Southern Bank

Wednesday, January 16

11:30am

Quarterly Ambassador Luncheon
SCBED/ Anderson Conference Room
sponsored by Wellington Place of the Shoals/ Brookdale Senior Living

Thursday, January 17

5:30-7pm
Chamber After Hours
Gold's Gym/ 412 S. Court St. in Florence
sponsored by Gold's Gym
RSVP to membership@shoalschamber.com , 764-4661

Saturday, January 19

8:00 a.m.
Senator Richard Shelby Washington Update Breakfast
Marriott Shoals Conference Center
Tickets \$25, Deadline Wednesday, Jan 16th / 764-4661

Monday, January 21

Chamber Office Closed
Martin Luther King Day

Welcome Back!

O'Charley's Restaurant/ John Varblow
102 Cox Creek Pkwy Florence, AL 35630
766-1997

Member News

Tuesday, January 29th
OnStage presents:
STATE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA OF MEXICO
7:30 PM, UNA Norton Auditorium
Under the direction of Enrique Bátiz and now in its third decade,
the State Symphony Orchestra of Mexico will perform

Save the Date:

Thursday, January 17th / Chamber After Hours / 5:30-7pm / Gold's Gym
Thursday, February 21st / Chamber Networking Breakfast / 7:30-9am / SBS Electric

Friday, February 1

Wear Red Day on Friday, February 1st!

Going red in your own fashion is about finding a personal way to take part in the fight against heart disease in women. You can do something special to Love Your Heart! Now is the time to go red in your own fashion by spreading the Go Red For Women "Love Your Heart" message to your friends, families and colleagues. Make your promise to be heart healthy — join the movement to help conquer heart disease, and encourage others to do the same. Visit www.goredforwomen.org or call 1-888-MY-HEART for ways to Go Red For Women !

April 18th Lauderdale County Children's Policy Council will host the Carson and Barnes Circus at the Cross Point Church of Christ. For more information call Ellen McGowen at 246-1473. The event will benefit Children of Lauderdale County.

USDA SEEKS SMALL-BUSINESS SERVICES

The University of North Alabama Procurement Technical Assistance Center will sponsor a statewide seminar, Doing Business with the USDA Forest Service, from 9 a.m. to noon Jan. 23 at the Pelham Civic Center in Pelham, Ala. The USDA Forest Service Southern Region is seeking businesses to work with national forests in Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Florida, Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and Puerto Rico. Registration is \$25 per person. Deadline to register is Jan. 18.

For registration or more information, contact Phillip Marks at 256-765-4668 or pomarks@una.edu.

Education / Workforce Development Info

Shoals Middle School CAREER FAIR & REALITY CHECK is set for FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. REGISTER NOW ON-LINE!!

<http://www.shoalschambersurvey.com/survey/q.asp?sid=21&k=yumujgtnhc>

- · EMPLOYERS - YOUR FUTURE WORKFORCE NEEDS TO TALK TO YOU!! Please plan to participate!! We need all types of professions represented!
- · We also need lots of volunteers to staff the simulated-society booths for the Realty Check. This is a FUN, eye-opening, budgeting, “wow-real-life-is-expensive-I-think-I-should-stay-in-school-and-get-a-better-job” program for kids. If you or anyone at your organization would like to participate, please contact Stephanie Newland (stephs@shoalschamber.com, 764-4661) or Lelia Wissert (wisselc@auburn.edu, 766-4846).
- · ~900 SHOALS AREA 8th GRADERS are coming to the Career Fair! This will be a GREAT OPPORTUNITY to meet young students, introduce them to your business & your profession and perhaps influence them concerning the classes they should take in high school and beyond to achieve the career of their choice.
- · DID YOU KNOW???. Eighth grade is when students must make their high school class plans & diploma choice ... they decide IF they will take Career Tech courses or not and IF they will go to college or not. This is a critical time and an important decision, but many students don't realize how important their high school plan can be to their future.
- · Please participate! Help YOUR FUTURE WORKFORCE better understand “Why do I have to know how to do THAT?” The more contact they have with employers, the better they will understand the relevance of their educational and life choices to their futures.
- · We also need lots of volunteers to staff the simulated-society booths for the Realty Check. This is a FUN, eye-opening, budgeting, “wow-real-life-is-expensive-I-think-I-should-stay-in-school-and-get-a-better-job” program for kids. If you or anyone at your organization would like to participate, please contact Stephanie Newland (stephs@shoalschamber.com, 764-4661) or Lelia Wissert (wisselc@auburn.edu, 766-4846).

· Shoals Business and Industry WORKFORCE NEEDS SURVEY FOR SCHOOLS (on-line) - Shoals

Employers, if you have not done so already, please go to this link

<http://www.shoalschambersurvey.com/survey/q.asp?sid=1&k=whtnofualy> and complete the workforce needs survey. Your input will assist our local schools to better prepare YOUR FUTURE WORKFORCE! If you've ever wished you could communicate your workforce needs to educators, this is your opportunity! Please help us help you!

· (NEW LINK!) SPEAKERS BUREAU FOR SHOALS AREA SCHOOLS - Please share your wisdom & experience by speaking to / training students &/or educators in Shoals area schools (elementary through college). If you know about it or are interested in it, students would probably like to hear about it (career / skills info, character development, social etiquette, hobbies, travel & life experiences, etc.) Complete this brief on-line survey listing the topics about which you would be willing to speak / train & your contact information, at <http://www.shoalschambersurvey.com/survey/q.asp?sid=22&k=kbtssdidgt>

· The Shoals Chamber of Commerce is a “distance learning community partner” with Wilson High School. Wilson H. S. makes their state-of-the-art DISTANCE LEARNING FACILITY AVAILABLE FOR FREE to all northwest Alabama businesses & community organizations for your employees to use for professional development opportunities, video conference meetings, etc.

Wilson was awarded an ACCESS (Alabama Connecting Classrooms, Educator, and Students Statewide) grant to implement this distance learning program in conjunction with the Alabama Department of Education. This grant has provided the school the ability to fully-equip a distance learning computer lab, complete with tablet laptop computers and video conferencing equipment.

To learn more about this program and how your business may use these facilities, contact Jennifer Roberts, ACCESS Distance Learning Administrator at Wilson School, at Jennifer.Roberts@lcschools.org, (256) 765-2250.