



# SHOALS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

**Calendar  
for the week of  
January 7, 2008**



**Happy New Year and Best Wishes for 2008**

[www.SASsystems.com](http://www.SASsystems.com)

256.383.2029

## **Monday, January 7**

12:30 – 2:30

Cherokee Middle & High School Teachers Professional Development  
(Leave Chamber at 11:00)

## **Tuesday, January 8**

8:00 a.m.

New Member Briefing  
SCBED, Anderson Conference Room

## **Thursday, January 10**

7:30 a.m.

Chamber Board of Directors meeting  
SCBED, Citizens Board Room

3:00 – 5:00

Teacher Supply Depot OPEN  
Volunteers Needed!  
RSVP to [stephs@shoalschamber.com](mailto:stephs@shoalschamber.com), 764-4661

## **Member News**

Friday January 4<sup>th</sup>, **Helen Keller Hospital**

Blood Pressure/Blood Sugar Screenings Sponsored by Keller Volunteer Services.

Screenings are free of charge and will be held in the Main Lobby of the Hospital from 8 a.m. – 12 noon.

H&R Block professionals have updated information that taxpayers need to know about this year. And has designated **January 10th as National Tax Advice Day**. All H&R Block tax professionals will be participating in community outreach efforts; speaking about how new tax laws and missed tax breaks can impact taxpayers in Franklin, Lauderdale and Colbert Counties. **WHERE:** H&R Block offices in Colbert, Lauderdale and Franklin Counties **CONTACT:** To learn more about **National Tax Advice Day**, or to schedule an interview with an H&R Block tax professional, please contact: Melanie Orseske – Community Relations Manager

H&R Block / Cell: 256-443-9201E-mail: [Jordinent@aol.com](mailto:Jordinent@aol.com), [melanie.orseske@tax.hrblock.com](mailto:melanie.orseske@tax.hrblock.com)

Tuesday, January 29<sup>th</sup>

**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 17<sup>th</sup> / Chamber After Hours / 5:30-7pm / Gold's Gym

Thursday, February 21<sup>st</sup> / Chamber Networking Breakfast / 7:30-9am / SBS Electric

**Friday, February 1**

***Wear Red Day on Friday, February 1<sup>st</sup>!***

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](http://www.goredforwomen.org) or call 1-888-MY-HEART for ways to Go Red For Women

April 18<sup>th</sup> 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.

**Shoals Middle School CAREER FAIR & REALITY CHECK** is set for FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. (See more info in Education / Workforce Development section.)

**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](mailto:stephs@shoalschamber.com), 764-4661) or Lelia Wissert ([wisselc@auburn.edu](mailto:wisselc@auburn.edu), 766-4846).
- · ~1200 SHOALS AREA 8<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:stephs@shoalschamber.com), 764-4661) or Lelia Wissert ([wisselc@auburn.edu](mailto:wisselc@auburn.edu), 766-4846).

· TEACHER SUPPLY DEPOT – will be open NEXT WEEK Jan. 10. Please remember the Depot as you clean or rearrange office supplies; paper; desk accessories; good, working (gently used) equipment. Cash donations are also very helpful in purchasing new school supplies. All donations are TAX DEDUCTIBLE, made to the Shoals Area Chamber Foundation. THANK YOU especially to our 2007 – 08 Sponsors: Presenting - Wachovia Foundation, Gold - Sara Lee, Silver – Buffaloe Billing & Medical Solutions, Independent Computer Services, Internal Medicine Assoc., and Ronnie Campbell's Collision Center.

· 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](http://www.shoalschambersurvey.com/survey/q.asp?sid=22&k=kbtsdidgt) - 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=kbtsdidgt>

· 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](mailto:Jennifer.Roberts@lcschools.org), (256) 765-2250.