



City of Talladega

Newsletter

IN THIS ISSUE

New Industry..... Cover

Square Renovations.....2

April in Talladega.....2

New Bridges.....3

Chamber of Commerce.....3

Event Calendar.....4

City Officials.....4

Official Publication of the City of Talladega

April - May 2013

Manufacturing firm opens in Coosa Valley Industrial Park

M-Tek Inc. has come to Talladega and we couldn't be happier. Representatives of city, county and state government as well as numerous business interests turned out for the ribbon cutting ceremony

at M-Tek, in the Coosa Valley Industrial Park on January 24, 2013. M-Tek makes interior trim pieces for Honda and currently employs 54 people, but that number is expected to increase to 128 by the end of 2013. The Talladega County Economic Development Authority constructed the building several years ago hoping to attract a company such as M-Tek Inc.



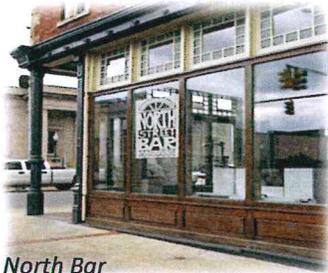
Governor Bentley commented at the ribbon cutting that even though the "partnerships between local and state agencies and Coosa Valley

Pictured above are Akai Harris, Gerald Cade, County Commission Chairman Kelvin Cunningham, Mayor Larry Barton, Gov. Robert Bentley, plant manager Dale Grant, CVEC vice president Leland Fuller, Talladega County Economic Development Authority Chairman Cleve Jacobs, Mark Vandevelde of Honda Manufacturing of America, Masaaki Maeda of HMA, Masaki Sugisawa President and CEO of M-Tek, Kuniyuki Watanabe president of Kasai Kogyo Co., Ltd. Kasai Kogyo is the parent company of M-Tek. Bob Crisp/The Daily Home

are crucial, but the most important factor is the workers. So thank you for what you do. Alabama has the best, the hardest working work force in the country." Bob Crisp/The Daily Home

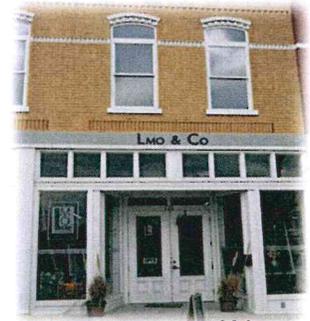
Courthouse Square gets a facelift and new businesses

Over the last couple of years, the City-owned buildings along Court Square North have experienced some much needed tender love and care. The Historic Ritz Theatre recently had a complete HVAC upgrade funded through the City's Capital Improvement Program. With a whisper quiet indoor climate control, the Ritz Theatre is able to launch a year-round schedule of events, concerts and theatrical productions. The City, within the last year or so, also reinforced the Ritz's marquee and repaired the neon and other lighting.



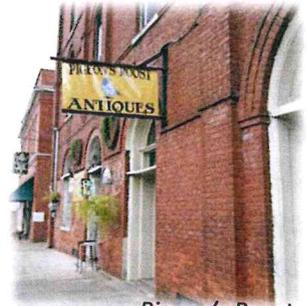
North Bar

In 2011, the City renovated 121 Court Square North with a USDA Rural Business Enterprise Grant and then leased the space to LMo & Company (Art in the Community). The art gallery/studio, owned by Lindsey Moses, is a bright splash of creativity that hopefully will anchor a revitalization of cafes, boutiques and specialty shops in the downtown area. During a recent meeting, the City Council signed a contract with Davis Builders to start the façade renovation of the building between LMo and the Ritz Theatre (pictured on page 3). This project is funded in part with a donation from the Talladega Pilgrimage Council and when completed will give the attached storefronts a clean, uniform and historic façade.



LMo

The City-owned buildings along Court Square North are not the only ones getting a facelift. Next door to LMo, building owner Luke Montgomery has renovated the first floor of his three story building, giving the angled corner front entrance a vintage look with large glass windows topped with a decorative small pane clearstory. This building is now home to the North Street Bar in front and the Pigeon's Roost antique shop in the back facing Court Street. The North Street Bar is run by Kenny Williamson and the space is also available for private parties and special events. On Tuesday nights, artist Tommy Moorehead holds art classes and there are plans for live music from local musicians. The Pigeon's Roost owned by Wayne and Lori Sims offers antique home décor items and jewelry and is open Tuesday through Friday from 10-4 and 10-2 on Saturdays.



Pigeon's Roost



April in Talladega

April 12th - 13th

For the past 39 years the City of Talladega has opened its historic homes to visitors as part of the April in Talladega Pilgrimage. Tickets for the home tours are \$15.00. At Heritage Hall there will be an exhibit of Asian artifacts, decorative arts and furniture called the "The Emperor's Cache." The oldest continuously operating courthouse in Alabama will be open for tours in the center of the historic downtown square. Refreshments will be served along the Historic Hillcrest Stroll - a walking tour through the tree-lined streets of the Hillcrest neighborhood. Friday night will include the Ghosts of Talladega, Oak Hill Cemetery Tour. Tickets are \$5.00 at the gate with tours starting at 5:00 and 5:15 pm.

There will be antiques galore at Townsend's Warehouse at 206 Coosa Street and the Pigeon's Roost off the square and the A.J. Powers Memorial Lodge in Winterboro will have arts, crafts, authors, music and food.

Like every other year there will be great food, starting with a "Taste of Talladega Luncheon" both days at 11:30 at the St. Peter's Episcopal Church (\$15). Then there is the Wine & Cheese reception on Friday night at Heritage Hall at 6:30 pm (\$5.00 donation) and finishing up with a Cooking Demonstration by Garfrerick's of Oxford at Idlewild (limited seating, \$7.50). Saturday night ends the festivities with a big Block Party on the Courthouse Square with food vendors, artists, live music and inflatables for the kids.

Come join the fun - there is something for everyone! Any questions on events, please call 256-362-9075. The Talladega Pilgrimage Council uses proceeds from April in Talladega to fund beautification and historic preservation projects throughout the City of Talladega. Past projects include tree planting along South Street and façade renovation of the Kenwin-Waldrup building. Pre-Sale tickets are available at the Chamber of Commerce.

New Bridges for Talladega

Bridges don't last forever and the City administration knew that the bridges on Isbell Circle, Coosa Street and West Street had surpassed their life expectancy and needed to be replaced. Hoping to find funding to offset what was sure to be a major capital expenditure, the City of Talladega applied for grants through the Alabama Transportation Rehabilitation and Improvement Program (ATRIP). On February 4, 2013, the City learned that all three bridge projects had been approved by the Alabama Department of Transportation. ATRIP will fund 80% of the project (\$842,000) and the City's match will be about \$200,000.

In announcing the funding, Gov. Bentley stated that "Everyone benefits from ATRIP. We're improving public safety by replacing old bridges and repairing and widening outdated roads. ATRIP also helps create jobs. When companies build new facilities, they look for areas with good roads and bridges. ATRIP is giving them what they need. The more companies that build and expand in Alabama, the more jobs we're able to create."

Replacing bridges and maintaining roadways is not only a necessity for attracting new business into the area, it is also essential for the safety and convenience of the citizens of Talladega as they travel to and from jobs, school and go about the business of everyday life. Construction on these new bridges will start within the next six months with completion of all three bridges to be done by 2014.



Talladega County Affiliate is now taking applications for families and individuals needing affordable housing. Applications are on Talladega.com website or mail request to P.O. Box 35 Talladega, AL. 35161



The City of Talladega's façade renovation continues!!



**Greater Talladega/Lincoln
Area Chamber of Commerce**
210 East Street South
Talladega, AL. 35160
(256) 362-9075

Jason Daves, Executive Director
Melissa White, Office Administrator

2013 Board of Directors

Joel Taylor, President	Becky Griffin
Chip Moore, First Vice President	Suzanne Lacey
Brian Gann, Second Vice President	Grant Lynch
Mic Barnett, Treasurer	Luke Montgomery
Fran Pope, Past President	Tina Seals
Keela Brown	Billy Sparkman
	Buster Taylor

What is the Chamber of Commerce?

The chamber is an association of people working together to make the Talladega area a better place in which to live and make a living. It's these business and professional men and women who share a common interest and pride in the Talladega area that make the chamber work.

By meeting as a group or as committees they analyze problems, propose solutions, initiate discussions, examine related facts, and act in accordance with the expressed will of the majority, as they strive to improve business and build a better community.

The goals of the chamber are to provide a safer, cleaner, and more beautiful environment where businesspersons, industrialists and educators acknowledge a mutual dependency. We want to attract new businesses, to make visitors feel welcome, and to promote neighbors helping neighbors. We look with a critical eye on streets and buildings with faded, grim facades. We want a community where each day of accomplishment and tomorrow holds a promise of a better living.

Become a member today by visiting our website : Talladegachamber.com

Your corporate community partners



**Parks and Recreation
2013 Spring Programs**

The City's Park & Recreation Department offers many ways to keep you moving, active and healthy. Take advantage of the many programs for adults, kids and seniors.



Ballet

Mon-Thurs, 3:30-8:00 pm
Spring Street Rec. Center
Contact Lynn Sims @
256-362-6616



**Sunshine
Saturday**

April 27, 2013, Veterans' Park
Kiddie rides, games & vendors
Contact Brenda Burt 256-362-1700



Gymnastics

Wednesdays 3:30 pm
Brecon Rec. Center
Contact Tanya Ingram @
256-245-5998 or
256-404-3528



Bible Study

Wed 9:00 am, Thurs 6:30 pm
Spring Street Rec. Center
Call 256-362-0514



Mother's Day Fun Run

May 4, 2013 - 8:00 am
Veterans' Park
5K run and a one (1) mile splash
walk
Pre-registration is \$20.00
Day of event \$25.00
Call 256-362-0514



Line Dancing

Mondays 6:00 pm
(FREE classes)
Spring Street Rec. Center
Call 256-362-0514



Swim Team

Mon-Friday, Spring Street Rec.
Center
Contact Lisa Williams @
256-362-0514



Piano Lessons

Mon-Tues 3:00- 7:00 pm
Spring Street Rec. Center
Contact Robin Thompson @
256-368-9829



Zumba

Mon-Thurs 5:30 pm, Sat 9:00 am
Spring Street Rec. Center
Contact Karen Allen @ 256-315-7040



NA Meeting

(Narcotics Anonymous)
Tues & Thurs 7:00 pm, Spring Street
Rec. Center
Contact Don King @ 256-362-0514

Community Calendar

April - May 2013

- April 1 - 26 "Emperor's Cache" exhibit at Heritage Hall Museum
- April 1 City Council meeting - City Hall - 5:30 pm
- April 4 Hist. Preservation Comm. meeting- City Hall -5:30 pm
- April 4-5 Anderson & Roe at the Ritz Theatre
- April 5 Lmo & Co. Artist Spotlight
- April 6 Relay for Life Poker Run sponsored by Walgreens
- April 8 City School Board meeting - Houston Elementary
- April 12-13 April in Talladega & April on the Square
- April 13 Classic Car Show in Chamber parking lot
- April 13 Dega Day at Talladega College Campus 10 am-8 pm
- April 15 City Council meeting - City Hall - 5:30 pm
- April 16-27 Rhythmic Circus at the Ritz Theatre
- April 18 Talladega College: Leadership and Sports Banquet
- April 20 Rotary Golf Tournament
- April 27 Sunshine Saturday - Veterans' Park
- April 27 Cruise-In Car Show (Chamber parking lot) 5:00-8:00
- May 2 National Day of Prayer
- May 3-5 Race Weekend
- May 3 Lmo & Co. Artist Spotlight
- May 4 Mother's Day Fun Run
- May 10-12 Talladega College's Annual Reunion Weekend
- May 20 Red Cross Golf Tournament (call chamber for details)
- May 13 City School Board meeting - Talladega High School
- May 24 Mt. Canaan Baptist Church Tablescares Dinner
- May 25 Cruise-In Car Show (Chamber parking lot) 5:00-8:00

Call the Chamber of Commerce (256) 362-9075 to receive email updates about community events



**Talladega
City Officials**

City



Dr. Horrace Patterson, Sr.
Ward 1
patterson.horace@aids.state.al.us



Larry Barton
Mayor
MayorBarton@aol.com



Jarvis Elston
Ward 2
jbelston@taward2.com
website: www.taward2.com



Brian Muenger
City Manager
muenger@talladega.com



Donnie Miller
Ward 3
millersbbq405@yahoo.com



Ricky Simpson
Ward 4
ricks07@bellsouth.net



Joseph C. Ballow
Ward 5
allowba@yahoo.com

The City of Talladega is taking applications for the following City Board positions:

- Board of Adjustments & Appeals
- Talladega Planning Commission
- Historic Preservation Commission
- Industrial Development Board

Application forms are available in the City Clerk's office and on the city's website www.talladega.com. Applications must be returned to the City Clerk's Office at City Hall, 203 South Street West, P.O. Box 498, Talladega, AL. 35160

**General inquiries to the City of Talladega
should be sent to: info@talladega.com.**

www.Talladega.com