

# COMMUNIQUE

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE CHAIRMAN'S CLUB OF THE GWINNETT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

**From the President  
Lead the Way  
in Honoring  
Public Safety  
Professionals**

By Jim Maran



THE CITIZENS of Gwinnett can live, work and play in a safe environment thanks to the extraordinary efforts of Gwinnett's police, fire and emergency personnel. Ensuring that Gwinnett remains a safe and attractive place to raise a family and conduct business is one of the most important quality of life issues for the county in the coming years.

Thankfully, Gwinnett County is home to some of the finest public safety professionals in the state of Georgia. Gwinnett's police, fire, and emergency personnel put their lives in the line of fire everyday to make sure its citizens are safe.

In 2007, Gwinnett County hired 295 new public safety officers, opened two new fire stations, and opened a state-of-the-art police training facility. In addition, the 911 call center received close to 790,000 calls, police officers responded to just over 710,000 calls and fire and emergency services personnel responded to 65,000 calls.

In addition to the Gwinnett County Police Department and the Gwinnett County Department of Fire and Emergency Services, almost all of Gwinnett's municipalities contribute to Gwinnett's safety with their own police and public safety departments.

On March 28, the Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce and Presenting Sponsors Mobile Communications of Gwinnett and Motorola, Inc. will be hosting the Valor Awards to honor those in

*continued on page 3*

**Maximum Impact:**

**Business Leaders Advance Their Influence**

COMMUNITY BUSINESS leaders can conveniently and powerfully learn to advance their influence on Friday, April 18, 2008, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Maximum Impact Simulcast. The event, held at 12Stone Church in Lawrenceville, will reach approximately 60,000 attendees from around the country, providing a matchless way to ef-

fectively embrace higher leadership qualities from the comfort of your own city.

and-coming leaders because of the people that we platform." This year's theme is Advance, focusing on advancing influence, leadership, ability and more. And the material is applicable for all stages of business leaders: senior-level management, mid-level management and even beginners.

Advance is one of the largest



fectively embrace higher leadership qualities from the comfort of your own city.

The idea for MIS was conceived more than eight years ago by Dr. John C. Maxwell, New York Times best-selling author and speaker. He decided to combine his influential voice in the community with his desire to reach leaders at the heart level.

"It's a values-based leadership event that connects the head and the heart," said Mark Cole, vice president of Injoy.

What started out as a half day, classroom-format event with John Maxwell teaching has since become a full-day, experiential conference featuring nine renowned speakers from around the country.

"It's the eighth year and we have partnered with more than 5,000 sites, and more than 450,000 people have attended," said Cole. "It is a must-attend event for up-

events of its kind in the world, yet it is still personal enough to impact individuals and management teams

in measurable ways. In one day, leaders can learn strategies for developing their

collective leadership skills- exceeding their organization's standards for performance, productivity and profit, all the while eliminating expensive travel time that drains people and budgets.

"The Maximum Impact Simulcast is a rich source of ideas, insights, and strategies for truly effective leadership," said Ed Emma, president and COO of Jockey International, Inc. "The event serves to translate the most complex leadership dilemmas into basic principles and memorable lessons that we can apply in our daily work."

For more information about Advance and to discover host locations besides 12Stone, please visit [www.maximumimpact.com/mis](http://www.maximumimpact.com/mis)



## Gwinnett's Aurora Theatre Makes a Splash in this Season's Awards

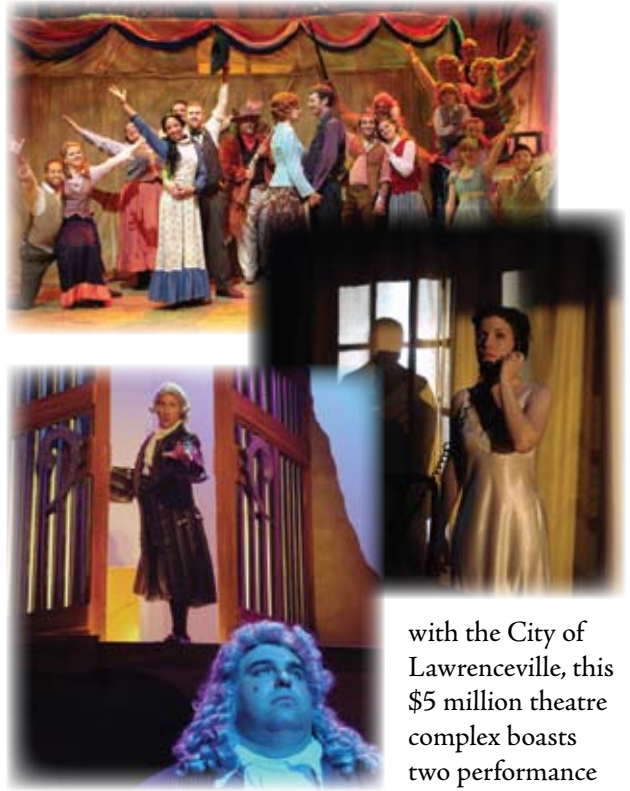
AND THE WINNER IS...

Hollywood has the Oscars, New York has the Tonys and now Atlanta has the Suzis, and Gwinnett's own Aurora Theatre is making quite a splash in this season's awards.

What are the Suzis? Just like the Tony awards in New York, the Suzi Awards, named after the late Atlanta theatre legend Suzi Bass, recognize excellence for professional theatrical productions in the metropolitan Atlanta area. For the 2007-2008 theatre season, every single show submitted for consideration by Aurora Theatre has been designated as "Suzi Eligible", meaning they have been designated for the entire panel to view and judge because of outstanding artistic achievement. Those shows include *Annie Get Your Gun*, *Bach at Leipzig* and *Dial M for Murder*. If you have missed these nominated shows don't fret - there are two more performances in the 2007-2008 season calendar. Opening in March is *The Dinosaur Musical*, a madcap jazzy musical. Think of this musical like *Beauty and the Beast* or *Lion King*, fun for the entire family. In the month of May, we present *Noises Off*, a British farce that takes you behind the scenes of an ill-fated theatrical production. The judging ends July 31st and the winners will be announced this fall.

Aurora Theatre's commitment to excellence does not stop at the curtain line. Producing Artistic Director Anthony Rodriguez instills in his staff the importance of concierge service to all patrons who visit the Aurora Theatre. Core values of the company include personal service for all patrons and great attention to detail. Those qualities set them apart from other theatres in the region. Aurora Theatre understands there are a lot of options for your entertainment dollar and they work to show their appreciation for your patronage.

For those who don't know, after over a decade of growing Gwinnett County's only professional theatre from the ground up, Aurora Theatre has opened a world class theater on the square in historic downtown Lawrenceville. Made possible through a unique partnership



with the City of Lawrenceville, this \$5 million theatre complex boasts two performance venues, The Strick-

land Family Stage sponsored by Metro Waterproofing and the Discovery Point Studio Theatre, a grand lobby, administration offices, rehearsal hall, and the adjacent 4-story parking deck that provides FREE covered parking for theatre patrons with direct access to the lobby. Experience intimate grandeur with 200 seats on the main floor and a luxurious 48-seat balcony nestled in front of a stunning burgundy Wagnerian curtain. The New Aurora Theatre boasts state-of-the art lighting, sound and lift systems that will enable patrons to enjoy live performances to the fullest extent. The Discovery Point Studio Theatre is a flexible venue that will host smaller productions, concerts and comedy nights.

Be sure to attend Business After Hours hosted by the Aurora Theatre on March 20!

## This 'n' That

### Sago Networks Expands Facility and Its Wireless and Fiber Networks

Sago Networks continues to expand its Data-Center facilities in Atlanta (located in Norcross), Tampa and Miami to provide unique, tailored services to customers who need co-location, managed services, data recovery and disaster prevention. The latest 12,000 square foot raised-floor Data-center expansion in the Atlanta facility is expected to be completed in Spring of 2008. Sago is also continuing expansion of its fixed wireless

network, capable of providing up to several hundred megabits (full-duplex) of connectivity to portions of greater Atlanta, Miami, Ft. Lauderdale, Bradenton, Sarasota and up I-95 to Jacksonville. This wireless network ties back into Sago's fiber network at any of 15 POP's (Points Of Presence) in Georgia and Florida. Sago is further expanding its fiber network through partner arrangements with other fiber owners and marketers nationwide. This allows Sago to expand its footprint and provide fiber connectivity nationwide.

*continued on page 4*

## New Chairman's Club Members



### **ATLANTA AUCTION COMPANY, INC.**

The Atlanta Auction Co. also specializes in commercial and residential property auctions. We can also help you with the liquidation of estates, business, manufacturing, storage, marinas, real estate and any other general merchandise or personal property, charity and fundraising and sales meetings. We offer free appraisals and estimates. Let our friendly and professional staff serve your auction needs. Let our 30 years of selling and marketing experience provide you with the "Professional Advantage" when considering selling or buying at auction!

*Larry Troutman*



### **PATHCON LABORATORIES**

Pathogen Control Associates, Inc. (d.b.a. PathCon Laboratories) was founded in October 1986 to provide services in indoor air microbiology and safety. The company has since emerged as one of the nation's most respected environmental health firms. Laboratory services include microbiological analyses of air and other environmental samples from both office and industrial-type settings. These analyses may include the presence of pathogenic and nonpathogenic microorganisms. PathCon has an extensive national database categorized by geographical regions and by seasons of the year which serves as a basis to assess the relevance of levels and types of fungi in indoor and outdoor settings. The company also has a similar database on Legionella bacteria in the environment for both epidemic and non-epidemic settings.

*Brian Shelton*



### **SAGO NETWORKS**

Sago Network's mission is to be the provider for all your Data-Center, Internet Connectivity, Data Backup/Storage and Dedicated-Server Hosting needs. Sago Networks has implemented a rapidly-deployable, high speed, fully diverse network and maintains one of the largest

*Scott Kapler*

bandwidth data-centers in the country. Sago currently owns a 100,000 square foot Data-Center in Atlanta, an 85,000 square foot Data-Center in Tampa and a 10,000 square foot facility in Miami.



### **BRUCE E. CARTER, FAMILY AND COSMETIC DENTISTRY**

*Dr. Bruce E. Carter*

Whether you're looking for a family-friendly, comfortable environment for general dentistry and hygiene or an experienced dentist who enjoys cosmetic dentistry and restorative dentistry – our team is here to serve you! Dr. Bruce

E. Carter and his staff provide all of these services and more. Even more important, Dr. Carter and his staff actually take the time to discover your dental desires and goals. Dr. Bruce Carter has been practicing dentistry since 1985 and has extensive experience and training. He's developed a reputation as a dentist that gives every patient one-on-one attention and thorough, caring dental treatment.



### **XIOCOM WIRELESS**

*Jeffrey Spence*

Xiocom is a wireless broadband network delivery solutions provider, operator and enabler that provides its partners with the essentials of any successful wireless network operation: a committed financial partner and a proven wireless broadband networking solution that is fast, flexible and future-proof.

### **Chairman's Club Event Sponsorships Available**

Sponsorships are a great way to get valuable exposure for your company. Several sponsorship opportunities are available for our many Chairman's Club receptions and special events including our upcoming **Chairman's Club Golf Outing** in April. Please contact Angelia Risher at 770-232-1273 or [angelia@gwinnettchamber.org](mailto:angelia@gwinnettchamber.org) for more information.

### **Public Safety Professionals** *(continued from page 1)*

public safety by presenting awards to the men and women who have given the most to protect and serve the citizens of Gwinnett. Speaking at the event, Charley English, Georgia Emergency Management Agency, will discuss the importance of public safety not only for our

quality of life, but for our economy as well. As leaders in the community, I would like to invite you to join us in celebrating and honoring Gwinnett's public safety professionals. Call Melissa Britt at 678-957-4958 or [melissa@gwinnettchamber.org](mailto:melissa@gwinnettchamber.org) for tickets.

## Upcoming Events

**March 13**

### Chairman's Club Reception

**Presenting Sponsor: Access Payment Solutions**

Time: 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. (following the Board Meeting)  
 Location: 1818 Club  
 RSVP: Angelia Risher at 770-232-1273 or [angelia@gwinnettchamber.org](mailto:angelia@gwinnettchamber.org)

**March 14**

### Success Lives Here Business Leadership Series

**Featuring Real Estate Developer Jim Cowart**

**Presenting Sponsor: Atlanta Real Estate Specialists,**

**Mike Runyan, Broker**

Time: 7:45 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.  
 Location: Sugarloaf Country Club  
 Cost: \$45 for Chamber members; \$55 for non-Chamber members  
 RSVP: Scott Burkholder at 678-584-2270 or [sburkholder@gwinnettchamber.org](mailto:sburkholder@gwinnettchamber.org)

**March 27**

### Government Relations Town Hall Meeting

**Featuring the Gwinnett Delegation**

**Presenting Sponsor: Verizon Wireless**

Time: 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.  
 Location: Gwinnett Chamber  
 Cost: \$15 for Chamber members; \$25 for non-Chamber members, free to Chairman's Club  
 RSVP: Natalie Shore at 770-232-8812 or [Natalie@gwinnettchamber.org](mailto:Natalie@gwinnettchamber.org)

**March 28**

### Valor Awards

**Presenting Sponsors: Mobile Communications of Gwinnett and Motorola**

Time: 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.  
 Location: Atlanta Hilton Northeast  
 Cost: \$35 for members and \$45 for non-members; payment at the door is \$45. Deadline, March 25.  
 RSVP: Melissa Britt at 678-957-4958 or [melissa@gwinnettchamber.org](mailto:melissa@gwinnettchamber.org)

**April 28**

### Swing Into Spring – Chairman's Club Golf Outing

Location: Berkeley Hills Country Club (limited to 108 players)  
 RSVP: Angelia Risher at 770-232-1273

## This 'n' That *(continued)*

### CTR Partners Continues to help Gwinnett Attract and Retrain Quality Businesses

CTR Partners, LLP, a long-time Gwinnett based commercial real estate firm and a winner of the 2007 Pinnacle Small Business Award, has recorded the most profitable two year period in its history. The beauty of their success has been that it is founded on representing the office leasing needs of firms that are adding jobs and

bringing their own success to the Gwinnett market. One of the more prominent firms that has recently enlisted the services of CTR in their search for office space is Securitas Security Systems, USA. This \$127 million firm (and growing!) recently relocated their North American headquarters to Duluth.

For more information on CTR Partners, visit their Web site at [www.ctrpartners.com](http://www.ctrpartners.com).

### Salon 124 Named One of Nation's Fastest Growing Salons

Snellville's 124 Group, owned by Brian Perdue, recently was named one of the 200 fastest-growing salon organizations in North America by *Salon Today* magazine, a top business publication for salon and spa owners. The 124 Group owns and operates Salon 124 with locations in Snellville, Duluth and Roswell, and Genesis Salon, located in Snellville and Suwanee. They also operate The Process Institute of Cosmetology in Lawrenceville. The magazine's eleventh annual Salon Today 200 profiled the selected salons in its January 2008 issue. The 200 salons were selected from applications submitted by Salon Today readers, who represent the 25,000 top-producing salons and spas in the country. The magazine honored the applicants who posted the highest increases in gross sales between 2005 and 2006, and who were on track to increase sales significantly in 2007. More information on The 124 Group and Salon 124 can be found at [Salon124.com](http://Salon124.com).



*Communique is a monthly publication exclusively distributed to members of the Chairman's Club of the Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce*

EDITORS: Delaine S. Gray and Demming Bass

DESIGN/LAYOUT: Ken Rutherford

FOR MORE INFORMATION  
 Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce  
 6500 Sugarloaf Parkway  
 Duluth, Georgia 30097

Phone: 770-232-3000

[www.gwinnettchamber.org](http://www.gwinnettchamber.org) • [info@gwinnettchamber.org](mailto:info@gwinnettchamber.org)



GWINNETT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

CHAIRMAN'S CLUB