



# GALAX DOWNTOWN ASSOCIATION

Working to Benefit the Community of Galax, Virginia

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Merchants, Professionals, and Community in Partnership

Issue 27

## MESSAGE FROM THE GDA PRESIDENT

Next GDA Meeting  
Monday, May 4th  
6:15 pm at Rooftop

We are all suffering through probably the worst economic times to date. I have spoken with so many of you who continue to put your heart, soul, and money into keeping downtown vital and your businesses alive. I'm right there with you; I know first hand just how frustrating it is and how little help and understanding we get.

The GDA supports OUR local Galax Community, Businesses, Services and Professionals. By joining together as a resounding voice we can be heard and have our concerns addressed. That is why I ask each of you to be proactive in this process to ensure that your business continues.

In the next few weeks our GDA board will have a marathon session to discuss options and plan the direction in which we need to go to help keep downtown alive. I also want to compile a list of contacts where you may address your comments and concerns. Each one of Our Voices needs to be heard if we want to see our businesses survive.

In an effort to address our member's valid concerns and issues, I invite you to come and see me personally at A Place In Time (100 S. Main Street) so we can document and address your concerns as well as find resolutions to the many issues we are facing in our community. I will have the contact list for you to pick up and if you prefer to leave your written message I will see that it gets to the appropriate parties. The hardships we are all enduring are REAL and need to be addressed. You may also email them directly to the GDA Director at [director@galaxdowntown.com](mailto:director@galaxdowntown.com).

We would like to welcome Marcus Kuhn with all of his years of experience at TCRH to our board. He will be an invaluable asset to our organization. We look forward to moving forward together as a unified body to create the positive change we all desire.

### GDA Board Elections

In an effort to improve downtown we need dedicated people who are willing to put their time and effort into this process. We have 4 positions open on the board; each requiring 5-10 hours per month. The board is the backbone that supports our downtown community. We need a secretary 2 nights per month, a total of approximately 5 hours for notes and recording the meeting minutes. Three other positions will also be open and available. If you are interested in helping on the board or being on a committee where you can contribute your special skills, please contact Jenny at 236-0668 or Scott at 238-9900.

Every member can contribute something and together we can make the GDA the most powerful marketing tool in the area- Do your part however big or small. We need YOU and YOU need our overall support. Our strength in numbers allows our voices to be heard. There are a lot of good things happening but without prosperous local businesses, what positive outcomes can we expect?

Our next GDA meeting is Monday May 4<sup>th</sup>, 6:15 at Rooftop-Lower Level. Elections will be held at this time, You must have attended 3 meetings in the past year to vote. You do not need any prior GDA experience to be a new active board member or committee member. Contact Jenny or Scott for further information. As a final note, I will personally assist and mentor any new board members. In turn we hope to achieve and create Positive Change for the GOOD of All GALAX.

Sincerely,

Scott Petersen

GDA President



## **Blue Ridge Crossroads Economic Development Authority**

Bernie Deck, Business Development Specialist and Neil Satterwhite came and spoke at the GDA meeting 4/6/09 to highlight services to help established businesses and new business prospects. Services provided include: Confidential Business Consulting, Business Plan Development, Research, Marketing Research, Funding Sources, E-Commerce Classes and Business Skills Workshops. These services are provided to businesses and citizens in Carroll, Galax and Grayson at NO COST. There is a nominal fee of \$80 for business plan printing cost recovery.

Business plans can increase the rate of survival and profitability of your business. Let their entrepreneurial economic development team give YOU the tools necessary to open your business or assist your already existing business with plans to promote continued success and profitability.

Call 276.236.0391 for an appointment or drop in the Crossroads Institute located at 1117 E. Stuart Drive. Galax, VA 24333.

## **Welcome New Businesses:**

**\*Class Act Studios**

**\*Next Generation Tattoo**

**\*Mountain Breeze Log Furniture**

**\*Chestnut Creek Coffee House**

**\*Galax Veterinary Clinic**

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## **CITY GALLERY—Mixer 4/23/09**

*The third in a series of our GDA mixers was a success. For your business to host a future mixer, please contact the GDA Director at 236-0668 or email at: [director@galaxdowntown.com](mailto:director@galaxdowntown.com) to sign up today for this wonderful networking opportunity*

## **Business of the Month:**



Roy's Diamond Center is a family-owned and operated jewelry store located at 108 S. Main Street in Galax, VA. We have been in business since 1977 and can serve all your needs from repairs to new jewelry to custom creations by David Kamoda, our craftsman on staff.

Roy Truitt founded Roy's Diamond Center in 1977, and the tradition of fine jewelry and exceptional customer service continues today not only through Roy but also the rest of the staff, including son Tony and daughter Sandra.

Roy's is to be commended for their continuous support of the local community through participation in festivals, events and sponsorships.

*Chestnut Creek Coffee House GRAND OPENING: Friday  
April 24th, 2009*

Chestnut Creek Coffee will have both early and late hours –  
OPEN: 6:30 AM and CLOSE: Weeknights at 9:00 or 10:00, and  
on weekends until.....

Chestnut Creek is a specialty coffee provider and their beans  
are roasted and sent in small batches frequently....much fresher  
than large chains and a more consistent flavor.

They will search for necessary supplies and buy local and will  
support the local community.

They will feature art and music from local artists.

*"We want everyone to find their favorite drink...and if not,  
we will make any coffee drink or specialty drink that you can  
think of (smoothies, teas, blended juices)"*



**\*\*FREE Dental Clinic: June 12-13th at Alleghany  
High School Gym (Sparta, NC) 8 AM-5 PM**

**Call 773-2452 ext 213 for more Information**

**Sponsored by NC Missions of Mercy**

**\*\*FREE Groceries!! 1st and 3rd Monday of each  
month at 6:30 PM-First Christian Church- 402  
Jefferson Street Galax. Just show up to pick up  
your free bag of Groceries.**

**\*\*FREE Medical Care: Go to the Free Clinic of  
Galax Open Monday- Thursday from 9-1. Located  
at 300 W. Oldtown Street in Galax.**

**Call 236-0421**



