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Old Mexico Restaurant Now Open in Quincy

The Gadsden County Chamber of Commerce announced the grand opening of the Old Mexico restaurant at 6765 Ben Bostick Road in Quincy next to Piggly Wiggly. The Chamber and Old Mexico hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony on the morning of May 4 just before the restaurant officially opened for lunch. The restaurant will be open daily from 11:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

"We're happy to introduce Old Mexico to Gadsden County," said Michelle Burdick, the vice president of membership for the Gadsden County Chamber of Commerce. "Its evening hours will give our residents a place to enjoy a sit-down meal, not only for lunch, but also on weeknights and throughout the weekend."

Old Mexico, a family owned and operated restaurant, offers a warm and inviting atmosphere to relax and dine by combining an artistic metalwork from Mexico with serapes blankets easily recognizable by their colorful striped weave. With stucco walls glazed in antique yellow, the green, terracotta and red shades throughout the interior give off a warm glow. The wood



furniture, much of it handcrafted from recycled cypress and pine, lends a rustic authenticity in creating an experience true to the Mexican heritage. Aged timbers and a tin roof over a row of booths give a sense of privacy to diners.

"We want people to feel welcome and be comfortable while eating good quality food," said the owner and manager, Hector Bautista.

A variety of lunch specials including burritos, enchiladas, taco salad and quesadillas are available for only five dollars and a family of four can easily order dinner and beverages for less than thirty-five dollars. All meals are prepared fresh for each order. A selection of margaritas and Budweiser products is available through the full bar.

During the opening process, Bautista dealt with local vendors and openly expressed appreciation of Quincy businesses such as Stone's Home Center, A.C. Electric, Inc. and Sanford Plumbing Service along with the zoning officials. It is his intent to continue working with Gadsden County businesses and encourages them to contact him about their competitive products for the restaurant.

Bautista and his family fully own and operate a total of three Old Mexico restaurants in Florida, two in Panama City and one in Perry, as well as three additional locations in Georgia

and two more in Alabama. The family also shares ownership of over forty-five Old Mexico restaurants across the southeastern United States.

Contact Bautista at (850) 875-4932 for more information about Old Mexico restaurants. To-go menus are available at the restaurant.

Welcome New Members

Emerald Waste
Tallahassee
(850) 236-1440
Waste Services/Recycling

Old Mexico
Quincy
(850) 875-4932
Restaurant

Mirror Cleaners
Quincy
(850) 627-3750
Dry Cleaner

West End Grille
Quincy
(850) 875-1830
Restaurant

Magnolia House Celebrates 10 years

Residents and staff of the Magnolia House Assisted Living Facility opened their home on May 28 to the community to celebrate their tenth anniversary. Community members from Gadsden and Leon counties dropped in for tours, delicious food and visits with residents. Owner, Bill Allen, honored staff members for their years of service with pins and certificates. Everyone enjoyed a beautiful open house reception complete with heavy hors d'œuvres, a champagne fountain and embossed tenth anniversary napkins.

“We are always happy to open our home to the community and we are so fortunate to have such great volunteers like the ladies from the First Presbyterian Church of Quincy, who filled our home with such beautiful flower arrangements for our celebration,” stated Martha Scott, the executive director at the Magnolia House. Everyone in attendance had a wonderful time and did not want the fun to end.



From left to right: Lola Pearson, Resident Care Coordinator; Martha Scott, Executive Director; Rache’l Layerd, Director of Marketing and Life Enrichment; and Bill Allen, co-owner.

The Magnolia House Assisted Living Facility, located on Strong Road in Quincy, has been helping older adults in the area for ten years do more for themselves by setting the standard for maximizing the quality of life and dignity of its residents in an affordable senior living model. That quality of life is defined as promoting and supporting aging in a home like setting, personal empowerment of the residents, and offering innovative options for the residents.

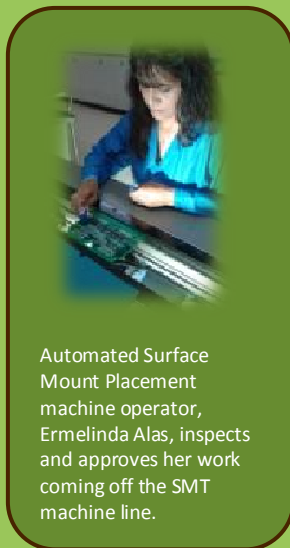
Magnolia House Assisted Living Facility is a current member of the Gadsden County Chamber of Commerce. Contact Martha Scott or Rache’l Layerd at (850) 875-1334 for additional information about the facility.

Member Spotlight



TeligentEMS Gives Back to the Gadsden Community

The Gadsden County Chamber of Commerce wishes to extend our sincere appreciation of long-time member, TeligentEMS, LLC. TeligentEMS is a high-tech electronic manufacturing service located in Havana since 1993. Currently, the company employs a staff numbering 116 with approximately forty-three percent of the employees coming from within Gadsden County.



Automated Surface Mount Placement machine operator, Ermelinda Alas, inspects and approves her work coming off the SMT machine line.

TeligentEMS employees exude a sense of company pride that transfers to their quality work from within the company as well as through their volunteer efforts in Gadsden County. By offering basic and advanced hand-soldering training to newly hired staff and providing cross-training for existing employees through Lively Technical Center, TeligentEMS makes it possible for employees to improve both their skills and their wages. The company also uses the basic soldering class as a “train to hire” program, in which TeligentEMS pays for the training class and then hires the top-performing students from the class depending on how many openings they have. This investment in their employees creates a low job turnover and enables staff to advance in position while creating a strong morale within the company.

The manufacturer and their employees use their intense bond to partner together to help Gadsden County communities. They take part in numerous benefits and community events throughout the year. TeligentEMS is a hands-on participant in the Havana Kiwanis Golf Tournament that raises funds for youth camps and a Tallahassee Community College scholarship as well as the American Cancer Society’s Havana Relay for Life paying tribute to cancer survivors raising awareness and assisting in fundraising activities. TeligentEMS has even won an award for being the number one Relay for Life online fundraising team. The company is strongly committed to science and math education and is known for sending a class from a Gadsden County school on a day field trip to the Challenger Learning Center to take part in a mini space camp. The Gadsden County Senior Center, Carver Heights Senior Citizens, Toys for Havana Kids, Quincy Police Department, the Havana Volunteer Fire Department and the United Way of the Big Bend are among many the organizations assisted through TeligentEMS’s hard work.

“As a company, we believe we must go beyond the standard of ethical business practice and support various charities to the benefit of the broader community and by being responsible to both people and the environment,” stated Chris Eldred, the president of TeligentEMS.

During the past five years, TeligentEMS has donated almost \$30,000 to the United Way. The employees easily participate in these fundraising efforts because the company allows payroll deduction for their gifts and also gives their own corporate matching gift. As with all United Way donations from Gadsden County, the employees understand that their contributions stay in Gadsden County and can be obtained through the human and health care agencies funded by the United Way. A number of TeligentEMS employees have benefitted from this partnership with the United Way when their own families were in need.

“TeligentEMS is a great company and [the president,] Chris Eldred is super to work with,” said Millie Smith, United Ways’ campaign manager for Gadsden County. “This past year Chris delayed a scheduled business trip so he could be there to address his employees when we came to make presentations. Leadership at the top is all that is required to run a successful campaign.”

Smith continued, “He also appointed a great employee campaign coordinator, Stacey Coats, who provided inspiration and positive leadership in her role. We always expect TeligentEMS to be in a leadership role in Gadsden County – and particularly in Havana.”

“As a Havana native and resident, I see the needs and desires of children and the community at large on a daily basis. We, at United Way of the Big Bend, cannot do it alone so we are proud to have TeligentEMS living united with us,” stated Charee Williams, the major gifts associate for the United Way. “If we are only as strong as the people that support us, then we are thankful for having such a dynamic team on our side.”

“The Chamber is honored to have a business like TeligentEMS represent our membership and Gadsden County,” said Michelle Burdick, the vice president of membership. “We all benefit from their willingness to take a hands-on approach to support their employees, local residents and organizations in the county they chose long ago as their home base.”

TeligentEMS has over twenty-five years of experience in providing electronic manufacturing services to military/aerospace, commercial and industrial customers. Customized solutions are easily available because of their combination state-of-the art equipment, technical expertise and organizational flexibility. This leading small business was recently awarded the prestigious Northrop Grumman Supplier “2008 World Class Team Award.” The award recognized TeligentEMS for excellence in the manufacturing of complex electronic circuit card and mechanical assemblies, which Northrop Grumman uses in a variety of military and non-military applications.



Karen Capps, TeligentEMS’s director of finance and Susan Somerville, the accounting supervisor (both cancer survivors) celebrate paying tribute to cancer survivors at the recent Havana Relay for Life.

Upcoming Events

The Gadsden County Chamber of Commerce invites you to participate in the listed upcoming events. Please note RSVPs may be required for these events.

June 13

5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Downtown Havana

"Yappy Hour" – A Pet Happy Hour!

Participating shops stay open late so all pet owners can bring “Fido” or “Fluffy” out for a little “night on the town!” “Gourmet” treats & water bowls will be provided (we’ll have “treats” for humans, too) Come shop & stroll the Streets of Havana while treat your pet to a social evening! We guarantee, ALL will have a unique experience!

For more information, call (850) 539-6900. All pets must be on leash & under control at all times.

June 17

11:00 a.m. to Noon

Gadsden County Chamber of Commerce
208 North Adams Street, Quincy

Identity Theft Awareness Workshop for Business Owners - FREE Seminar

Are your dedicated employees putting your customers at risk? Business owners and managers, as well as individuals in the community, are encouraged to attend this free seminar. Not only will participants receive tips on preventing their own identity from being stolen but business owners will be given refreshers on laws requiring them to protect their customers' private information.

Workshop participants will be informed about how to decrease individual exposure to identity theft and minimize a company's risk of violating federal identity theft legislation. The seminar will also clarify how businesses can avoid becoming recipients of fines up to one million dollars and ten years in jail.

Each workshop has limited space to allow time for a personalized question and answer session however, companies can schedule an in-house seminar at their place of business or at the Chamber.

Call (850) 627-9231 or email gadsdencc@tds.net by 2 p.m. on June 10 to attend.

June 24

8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

Gadsden Historical Society
304 W. King Street
Quincy

Go Gadsden! Leads Group - Presentation by FAMU/Chamber about FDOT Certification Courses

Members are invited to participate in this members only benefit. Go Gadsden! was created as an additional networking opportunity for Chamber members to obtain referrals by presenting their business to fellow members.

Go Gadsden! meets on the second and fourth Wednesday morning of each month.

RSVP by 2:00pm on June 22.

June 25

Noon

Carver Heights Senior Center
407 SW 4th Street, Havana

The Savvy Senior

Capital Health Plan proudly presents The Savvy Senior, a series of lunch and learn programs for older adults who want to learn more about creating and maintaining health, happy, and active lifestyles. Common Eye Diseases of Seniors is presented by Dr. Daniel Lazar, the chief of eye care at Capital Health Plan. The host, Anna Johnson Riedel, is one of the most familiar faces in Tallahassee as the former morning host for WCTV's "Good Morning Show." There is no charge; just bring your lunch. Drinks will be provided. Please RSVP to (850) 523-7333.

Big Bend Hospice Offers Caregivers Support Group in Gadsden County

Big Bend Hospice is offering a Caregiver Support Group for anyone in the community who is providing care to a loved one. The group will meet on the fourth Tuesday of each month from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Magnolia House located at 1125 Strong Road, Quincy. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 23, 2009.

For more information, please call Pam Mason at (850) 878-5310, ext. 747.

Hardee's Franchise Receives Top Awards

Hardee's Food Systems, Inc. recently honored the owner of the local Hardee's restaurants with two top awards for stellar performance over the past year. The awards were presented at the company's annual franchisee meeting, held in Las Vegas.

The Founders Award was bestowed upon Ponder Enterprises, for best exemplifying the entrepreneurial spirit, vision, dedication, leadership, teamwork, community involvement and ideals set by Hardee's founder, Wilber Hardee. The award is the first of what will become an annual presentation.

Co-owners and key operators, Dan and Ernest Ponder, also won the inaugural CKE Restaurants Star of Excellence Award, for showing an extreme dedication to the brand, a continued commitment to excellence, and an impressive list of accomplishments. All brands of CKE Restaurants, including Hardee's and Carl's Jr., both domestic and international were eligible for this award, encompassing over 3,000 restaurants worldwide.

"Hardee's continued success is due in large part to the hard work and dedication of

our franchisees,” said Michael Murphy, President of CKE Restaurants, Inc. “The Ponders share Hardee’s commitment to providing guests with the best food, service and dining experience in the industry. It is a pleasure to have them on the Hardee’s team. It is our hope that all of our owners and operators are inspired and motivated by these great achievements, and will continue to help lead us toward a successful 2009.”

Ponder Enterprises will celebrate their 25th anniversary with Hardee’s this summer. Founded in Donalsonville, Georgia, June 26, 1984, Ponder Enterprises will hold its anniversary celebrations at the Hardee’s of Donalsonville. Ponder Enterprises now has 22 locations in Alabama, Florida and Georgia and will open its 23rd this summer in Adel, Georgia. Ponder Enterprises employs more than 600 people and contributes their continued success to the dedication and hard work of each of these employees.

About Hardee’s

Hardee’s/Ponder Enterprises is a current member of the Gadsden County Chamber of Commerce.

Celebrating over 48 years in the quick-service industry, Hardee's Food Systems, Inc. is a wholly owned subsidiary of CKE Restaurants, Inc. (NYSE: CKR) of Carpinteria, Calif. As of the fourth fiscal quarter ended January 26, 2009, CKE Restaurants, Inc., through its subsidiaries, had a total of 3,116 franchised, licensed or company-operated restaurants in 42 states and in 14 countries, including 1,195 Carl's Jr. restaurants and 1,908 Hardee's restaurants. For more information, go to www.hardees.com.
