

BENEFIT FROM THE VALUE.

THIS ISSUE
INSIDE



— Join ARA at the January 2009 Atlanta International Gift & Home Furnishing Market® and save.

Special offers and exclusive benefits mean this is the year to “*Make it to Market.*”



— ARA and other groups have forged a partnership to promote the use of U.S. farm-raised catfish in

Alabama restaurants and groceries in lieu of punitive legislation requiring catfish labeling.



— The latest news from ARA members and a listing of our newest members.



— ARA is seeking nominations for its Law Enforcement Officer of the Year and Retail Partner awards.



— Two new members have joined the ARA team, a receptionist and a manager of member relations.

Read this news and more about ARA's staff members.



Retail Day spotlights Bass Pro Shops

Martin G. MacDonald with Bass Pro Shops

will be the keynote speaker for the 2008 Retail Day Luncheon, set for Tuesday, Sept. 23rd at The Club in Birmingham. Sporting Goods Business Magazine has recognized Bass Pro Shops as the nation's top outdoor retailer.

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Alabama's high court is at risk

The 2008 General Election promises to be an historic event. On Tuesday, Nov. 4, Alabama elects a U.S. senator, seven congressmen and four appellate court judges among others. While all of these positions keep our democracy alive, **retailers need to focus our attention on the Alabama Supreme Court.**

During the past eight to 10 years, Alabama lured many new businesses and industries to our state. This hard won expansion would not have been possible without massive reforms in our civil justice system.

CANDIDATE PROFILES | GET OUT THE VOTE: Pages 4 and 5

Alabama voters realized that our national image as “Tort Hell” held the state back, costing us quality jobs.

Justice Harold See, who was instrumental in transforming our courts when he was first elected in 1996, has decided to retire. Electing another strong conservative who believes in the rule of law and restraining undue liability on our businesses

and individuals alike is absolutely imperative. Why?

Because, on many issues of vital importance to business, the court is evenly divided; some-

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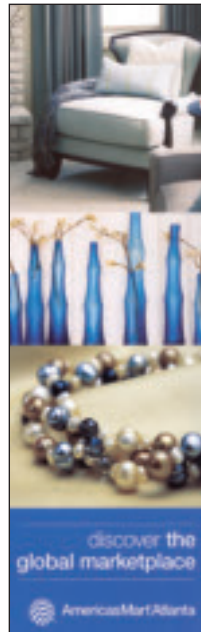
Make it to the Market

To learn more, go to www.AmericasMart.com

The **Alabama Retail Association** once again is partnering with AmericasMart® Atlanta, the world's largest wholesale marketplace, to bring exclusive benefits to ARA members who attend the **January 2009 Atlanta International Gift & Home Furnishing Market®**, which will be held January 7 - 12, 2009.

WHAT'S IN STORE?

- One day during the market will be designated as **Alabama Day** with certain vendors offering special incentives for all Alabama buyers.
- **OneCoast SE**, one of the largest and most popular showrooms at the Market, along with ARA, will host a **reception** on the evening of Alabama Day where you can network with other Alabama retailers.
- The Retail Services Department at AmericasMart® Atlanta will provide a



hospitality room with drinks and snacks, where all ARA members in attendance can rest while traversing the 7.7 million-square-foot of showrooms in the four downtown Atlanta building campus that is AmericasMart®. (Special offers also are in store for hospitality room visitors.)

• **Special accommodation** offers for buyers making their first visit to AmericasMart®.

• **Advance information** about the grand opening events for the new Building Two West Wing, a whole new building of showrooms and exhibit space.

By the end of October, if not sooner, look for more information in your mailbox or inbox about this exciting venture.

Because of the opening of the new building, the January 2009 Atlanta International Gift & Home Furnishing Market® is sure to be the biggest market ever! You don't want to miss it. **Make it to the market with ARA in 2009!**

Medicaid deadline for tamper-resistant prescription pads is Oct. 1

For more information, go to www.medicaid.alabama.gov/programs/pharmacy_svcs/tamper-resistant_Rx_pads.aspx?tab=4

Effective Oct. 1, when writing prescriptions to Medicaid recipients, physicians must use prescription pads with three federally-required characteristics that prevent:

- 1) unauthorized copying of a completed or blank prescription form,
- 2) the erasure or modification of information written on the prescription pad by the prescriber, and
- 3) the use of counterfeit prescription forms.

The law applies only to written prescriptions for covered outpatient drugs. Prescriptions transmitted from the doctor to the pharmacy verbally, by fax, or through an e-prescription are not impacted. The law applies whenever Medicaid pays any portion of the cost of a prescription.

Some features of the new pads include special ink that highlights erasures or changes, sequentially numbered forms, and special patterns or words that appear if the prescription is copied.

Partnership to promote use of U.S. catfish

The **Alabama Retail Association**, Alabama Restaurant Association, Alabama Grocers Association, Alabama Catfish Producers, U.S. Catfish Institute and the Alabama Department of

Agriculture and Industries have forged a partnership to promote the use of U.S. farm-raised catfish in Alabama restaurants and groceries.

Retailers that serve or sell U.S. raised catfish soon will be able to get free promotional materials, including menu stickers and table tents, from the Ag and Industries Department.

For more information on U.S. farm-raised catfish, go to catfishinstitute.com



Retail Day honors Retailers of the Year, Centennial Retailers

... continued from page 1

REMARKS AND THEME

The director of corporate public relations for the Springfield, Mo.-based retailer will talk about the company's decision to go from no stores in Alabama to opening four Bass Pro Shops Outdoor World stores in our state in three years.

His remarks will precede the **Alabama Retail Association's** Retailer of the Year, Centennial Retailer Awards and the first-ever Centennial Insurance Agency Awards, presented by **Alabama Retail Comp**, ARA's workers' compensation program.

The theme for Retail Day this year is "Retail as Economic Development," and a panel discussion on that topic will kick off events at **9 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 23rd at The Club in Birmingham**. (See story, at right) During the **11:30 a.m. luncheon** that follows, Prattville Mayor Jim Byard will introduce MacDonal and note the retail boom Prattville has experienced since the first Alabama location of Bass Pro Shops Outdoor World opened in Prattville, a 140,000-square-foot megastore employing more than 400 associates.

MORE ABOUT BASS PRO SHOPS

On Aug. 27th, the second Bass Pro Shops Outdoor World opened in Spanish Fort in south Alabama. The third store opens in November in Leeds, which is right outside Birmingham. North Alabama gets the fourth Outdoor World store, slated for Decatur and a 2009 opening.

Bass Pro Shops stores are a combination of museum, art gallery, aquarium, outdoor education, conservation and entertainment. Each store is uniquely themed to the region in which they are located so that no two stores are alike.

For instance, the Leeds store will feature a laser arcade with Talladega racing features, old mining structures and local hunting elements. The Barber Vintage Motorsports Museum and Park is adjacent to the store and the Talladega Superspeedway is in a nearby county. The Barber track and the Talladega Superspeedway are tourist magnets, with estimated economic impacts of \$372 million and \$407 million, respectively. The Outdoor World in Leeds will capitalize on the existing tourism base and build on it.

All told, Bass Pro Shops operates 51 destination outdoor retail stores in 27 states and Canada with more than 100 million visitors annually.

MORE ABOUT OUR SPEAKER

In addition to his spokesman responsibilities, MacDonal directs conservation

2008 UAB Retail Day

Tuesday, Sept. 23, 2008

9 a.m.	Continental Breakfast
9:30 a.m.	Retail as Economic Development Panel Discussion Luncheon featuring Martin McDonald with Bass Pro Shops Retailer of Year, Centennial Retailer and Centennial Insurance Agency Awards
11:30 a.m.	
12:30 p.m.	

Where: The Club

1 Robert Smith Drive, Birmingham

Cost:	\$75 full program \$50* lunch only \$25 morning program <i>(special price for ARA guests only)</i>
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* No cost for lunch for ARA board and ARC trustees as well as Retailers of the Year, Centennial Retailers and Centennial Insurance Agencies, who attend as ARA's guests.

and youth development for Bass Pro Shops. The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service has twice recognized MacDonal for his conservation efforts. He was awarded the Presidents Award for Conservation Leadership for his efforts as a member of the Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies Corporate Committee for Teaming with Wildlife. He also received a lifetime achievement award for his leadership to the National Fish Habitat Initiative.

Following MacDonal's address, ARA and the University of Alabama at Birmingham will present 12 Alabama Retailer of the Year awards and three Centennial Retailer awards. ARC will present the inaugural Centennial Insurance Agency awards to six agencies.

HOSTS AND SPONSORS

The Alabama Retail Association is pleased to join with the University of Alabama at Birmingham as host of MacDonal's visit to Birmingham for UAB Retail Day. The Marketing and Industrial Distribution program in UAB's School of Business created the annual UAB Retail Day to inform students of the many and varied career opportunities offered in retailing.

In addition to ARA, UAB Retail Day is being co-hosted by **Firestone Complete Auto Care** and the **Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham**.

Retail as Economic Development panel discussion leads off Retail Day

Three expert panelists will lead a discussion on "Retail as Economic Development." prior to this year's Retail Day luncheon.

After a light continental breakfast at 9 a.m., Tuesday, Sept. 23, **DAVID CARRINGTON**, the chief executive officer of **RacingUSA.com**, an ARA member, a former Retailer of the Year and president of the Vestavia Hills City Council, will moderate the 9:30 a.m. session.

Members of the panel are:

• **JEFFREY BAYER**, founder and chief executive officer of Bayer Properties LLC. Bayer established Bayer Properties in 1983 to provide comprehensive leasing, management, brokerage, and development services. The company's portfolio has grown to 4 million square feet of commercial, industrial and retail space including The Summit – Birmingham and The Summit – Louisville.

• **HUGO ISOM**, partner, The Shopping Center Group. Isom heads tenant representation, land sales and disposition team. The Shopping Center Group provides a full assortment of retail real estate brokerage services to retailers, landlords, developers, investors and financial institutions throughout the Southeast and Mid-Atlantic regions.

• **CAM WARD**, executive director of the Industrial Development Board



of Alabaster and member of the Alabama House of Representatives, representing District 49 (Bibb and Shelby counties). Ward actively recruits new business for Alabaster and works with current business



owners to help develop a positive atmosphere for economic growth.

These expert panelists will identify the challenges faced by developers and community leaders who wish to build attractive, efficient and enjoyable shopping venues.



CAN MAKE A

Your Vote, Your Employees' Vote and Your Coll

... continued from page 1

times issuing decisions 5-4 in either direction. The loss of a conservative bedrock like Justice See makes it all the more important to elect a like-minded conservative in 2008.

The **Alabama Retail Association** is a member of the Alabama Civil Justice Reform Committee, or ACJRC. ACJRC is a nonpartisan organization of pro-business associations, large employers, small employers, agricultural interests and members of the health care industry. As the umbrella organization, ACJRC has led the way in helping educate Alabama voters about our high courts' direct impact on Alabama's economic viability. ACJRC recommends retailers **support Judge Greg Shaw** for the See seat on the **Alabama Supreme Court**; and **RetailPAC**, your ARA political action committee, endorsed Shaw in January of this year.

Judge Shaw currently is serving his second term on the Alabama Court of Criminal Appeals.

Like ACJRC, **RetailPAC** also endorses **Judge Bill Thompson in his re-election bid to the Alabama Court of Civil Appeals**. Judge Thompson currently serves as the presiding judge on the Civil Appeals Court and is seeking re-election to his third term. The Court of Civil Appeals, Alabama's second highest court, hears all cases involving workers' compensation cases on appeal.

Because Alabama's Supreme Court has such a high case load, the state's highest court is forced to deflect about 25 percent of its cases to the Alabama Court of Civil Appeals for resolution.

Please read more about these two fine judges on the next page and encourage your employees and customers to support them.

★ ★ ★ HOW TO MAKE YOUR STORE COUNT ★ ★ ★

One Vote Counts | One Election Counts | One Judge Counts

The **Alabama Retail Association** is asking all retailers to:

★ Encourage All of Your Employees to Register to Vote

Voter registrations in this presidential election year could see a 10 percent or more increase statewide. It is more important than ever for retailers and their employees to be registered to vote and to cast their ballots so the VOICE of retailing is heard. The **registration deadline is Friday, Oct. 24th** for the Tuesday, Nov. 4th General Election. **Download a Voter Registration Card at Election Information in the Political Affairs section of www.alabamaretail.org**

★ Encourage Those Who Can't Go the Polls to Vote Absentee

Sometimes it is impossible to get to the polls on Election Day. If your employees work shifts of 10 hours or more that coincide with polling hours

GENERAL ELECTION CALENDAR

Make certain these dates are on your calendar and that you are communicating with your employees and customers about the Nov. 4 General Election!

For more, see "Election Information" in the "Political Affairs" section of www.alabamaretail.org.

- Oct. 24: Voter registration deadline
- Oct. 30: Absentee ballot applications due
- Nov. 4: **General Election**

Polls open 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.

or if they will be not be in the county on Nov. 4th, they can vote absentee. Please think ahead and apply for an absentee ballot. **Go to Election Information in the Political Affairs section of www.alabamaretail.org** and download an application now for you and/or your employees. Once the application is completed, take it by **Thursday, Oct. 30th**, to the absentee election manager (usually the

circuit clerk) at your local courthouse to receive an absentee ballot. The ballot is then due back by **5 p.m. Monday, Nov. 3rd**.

★ Explain to Your Employees How a Favorable Legal Climate Helps Provide a Stable Retail Climate

The Alabama Civil Justice Reform Committee, a coalition of businesses and pro-business organizations committed to restoring legal fairness in Alabama, including the ARA, has compiled some helpful guidelines for employers on how to communicate with employees about the upcoming election. You can also **find it under Employer's Guide: How Retailers Can Make a Difference under Election Information** at www.alabamaretail.org If retailers do their job on Election Day, we'll see even more gains in strengthening Alabama's retail market. **Please do your part to make the VOICE of retailing heard in Alabama.**

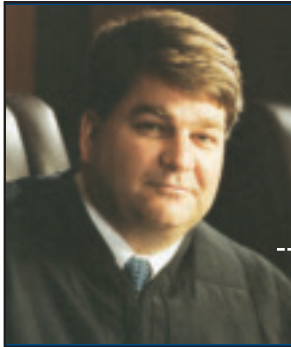
DIFFERENCE IN 2008

Legues' Vote Counts: *Balance of Court on Ballot*

★ THESE COURT CANDIDATES ARE RIGHT FOR RETAILERS ★



Greg Shaw
Alabama Supreme Court



Bill Thompson
Alabama Court
of Civil Appeals



Alabama Court Criminal Appeals Judge Greg Shaw seeks retiring Justice Harold See's seat on the Alabama Supreme Court. Judge Shaw has served seven years on the Alabama Court Criminal Appeals. He was first elected to the Court of Criminal Appeals in 2000 and was re-elected in 2006. Since March of last year, Judge Shaw has served as chief judge of the Alabama Court of the Judiciary, which hears complaints filed by the Judicial Inquiry Commission.

He is married to State Auditor Samantha "Sam" Shaw, whom he met while they were both students at Auburn University. They have two sons. Gregory, age 23, is a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army serving in Iraq, having recently graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point with a degree in engineering. Christopher "CJ," age 21, is studying engineering at Georgia Tech. The Shaws live in Montgomery.

Judge Shaw graduated from Auburn University in 1979, earning a degree in chemistry. In 1982, he graduated in the top 10 percent of his class from Samford University's Cumberland School of Law. In 2004, Judge Shaw completed the master of laws program at the University of Virginia School of Law, receiving a master's degree in the judicial process.

After his admission to the Alabama State Bar in 1982, Judge Shaw worked with a small law firm in St. Clair County. He later started his own general law practice in Birmingham. In the fall of 1984, he became a staff attorney at the Alabama Supreme Court, serving the state's highest court for 16 years.

Judge Shaw currently serves on the Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism, the Alabama State Bar's Committee on Archives and History, and the Alabama State Bar's Judicial Liaison Committee.

RetailPAC and the Alabama Civil Justice Reform Committee have endorsed Judge Shaw for the lone Supreme Court seat on the 2008 ballot.

CAMPAIGN WEB SITE: judgeregshaw.com

Alabama Court of Civil Appeals Judge Bill Thompson is seeking his third term in that office. Last year, Judge Thompson became presiding judge of the state's Civil Appeals Court.

Judge Thompson was first elected to the Court of Civil Appeals in 1996 and was re-elected to the court in 2002.

Prior to serving as a judge, Judge Thompson practiced law in both Birmingham and Montgomery, including serving as assistant legal advisor to Gov. Guy Hunt and working in the law firm of former Chief Justice Perry O. Hooper.

Judge Thompson received a bachelor's degree from the University of Alabama in 1984. He received his juris doctorate degree from the Cumberland School of Law at Samford University in 1988.

Judge Thompson is a member of the Appellate Rules Committee, the Legislative Coordinating Council, and the Judicial System Study Commission. He also is a former chief judge of the Court of the Judiciary.

He grew up in Autauga and Elmore counties and is married to the former Melinda Rainey of Greenville. Melinda is the author of *SWAG: Southern Women Aging Gracefully* and *The SWAG Life*. They have three children.

RetailPAC and the Alabama Civil Justice Reform Committee have endorsed Judge Thompson for re-election.

CAMPAIGN WEB SITE: billthompson2008.com



ARA has almost 4,000 members with 6,000 locations throughout the state. Our VOICE and our VOTE can make a difference in the outcome on Tuesday, November 4th.

**GET OUT
THE VOTE**

NEW MEMBERS NEWS

WELCOME TO ARA



A & D Sitaram, LLC	Selma	Lehr Middlebrooks & Vreeland, PC	Birmingham
Andalusia Greater Regional Otolaryngology-Ent, PC	Andalusia	Luciano-Athens, LLC	Athens
AUM Climate Control, LLC	Montgomery	Luna A Tapas Restaurant	Montgomery
B & B's Soul Food Restaurant	Huntsville	Meher Inc.	Oneonta
Baldwin Neurology LLC	Fairhope	Mobile Dermatology, PC	Mobile
Bay Shore Finance Inc.	Mobile	Mr. Spiffy, LLC	Mobile
Bell Development, LLC	Gulf Shores	Najjar Denaburg, PC	Birmingham
Bow Regards Inc.	Tuscaloosa	Needleworks, LLC	Homewood
C.H.I., LLC	Gulf Shores	O'Kafe's Coffee Roasters LLC	Birmingham
Canterberry-Laundry Corp.	Gadsden	Orthopedic Sports Medicine Clinic of Alabama, PC	Birmingham
Cardinal Restaurants, LLC	Pelham	Pat's Archery Inc.	Jasper
Chase Pharmacy Inc.	Huntsville	Pawlowski & Associates, PC	Mobile
Colbert County Family Practice	Muscle Shoals	Planet Crimson LLC	Tuscaloosa
Complete Automotive Refinishing Supply, LLC	Montgomery	R & P Enterprises, LLC	Athens
DAC Properties Inc.	Mobile	River Dough Inc.	Prattville
Dadeville Animal Clinic, PC	Dadeville	S & M. Distributor, LLC	Slocumb
Daphne Motorsports Inc.	Daphne	S.T. Nelson Enterprises Inc.	Winfield
DAT Holdings, LLC	Mobile	Seek Publishing Inc.	Birmingham
Diva, LLC	Mobile	Spanish Fort Hospitality Inc.	Daphne
Donnie's Buffet, LLC	Montgomery	Synergy Health and Fitness Inc.	Dothan
Drew's Investment Group Inc.	Mobile	Tequila - West Beach Inc.	Gulf Shores
E Wing House, LLC	Mobile	Thai House of Dothan, LLC	Dothan
E-Tees Apparel Inc.	Trinity	The Booth, LLC	Tuscaloosa
Fast Trac, LLC	Tuscaloosa	The Drug Store at Griner's, LLC	Hazel Green
Frank K. Rho, DDS	Prattville	The Explore Center Inc.	Mobile
Ginza Inc.	Hoover	The Mountain Restaurant & Grille	Rainsville
Graves Plating Inc.	Florence	The Oasis, LLC	Athens
Greenville Country Club	Greenville	The Paul Carter Agency Inc.	Mobile
Gulf Breeze Motel	Dauphin Island	The Scribbler Inc.	Birmingham
Habaneros McCalla, LLC	McCalla	The Village Shop of Muscle Shoals Inc.	Muscle Shoals
Hartford Medical Associates, PC	Birmingham	Tuscaloosa Rehabilitation and Hand Center Inc.	Northport
Hickory Pit Bar-B-Q	Trinity	Ubumax, LLC	Tuscaloosa
Homewood Toy & Hobby Shop Inc.	Homewood	University Orthopedic Clinic, PC	Tuscaloosa
Huntsville Gymnastics Center Inc.	Huntsville	USA Title of Alabama Inc.	Hoover
In Italy, LLC	Auburn	Vaughan Ventures Inc.	Somerville
Jaysons, LLC	Dothan	Vincent D. Swanson, LLC	Auburn
Jilbere, an Aveda Lifestyle Salon, LLC	Birmingham	Winfield Children's Center, LLC	Winfield
Jubilee Cityfest Inc.	Montgomery	Winfield Internal Medicine, PC	Winfield
Kippers	Anderson	Wings Too Hot, LLC	Theodore
L & C, LLC	Montgomery		
L & H, LLC	Montgomery		
LA Title Insurance Co. Inc.	Gulf Shores		
Landyacht, LLC	Tuscaloosa		

AWARDS/HONORS

Montgomery agency now member of elite network

Alabama World Travel is a new member of Virtuoso, an invitation-only luxury travel network comprised of more than 300 agencies in 22 countries. Only one percent of travel agencies in America are admitted with only two



agencies in Alabama qualifying. Membership means exclusive travel offers and added-value amenities for Alabama World Travel's clients. Alabama World Travel, led by its president, Liz Sadie Sutton, has been serving the Montgomery area for more than 37 years. AWT has been an ARA member since 1995.

SOURCE: Alabama World Travel
WEB SITE: awtinc.com

'Best Family Dining' at Cracker Barrel

American consumers have selected **Cracker Barrel** Old Country Store®, an ARA member since 2003, as the nation's "Best Family Dining" restaurant for the 18th year in a row.



The restaurant won first place in the Consumers' Choice in Chains study, an annual poll conducted by *Restaurants & Institutions* magazine. The ranking is based a survey of more than 3,100 consumers and their visits to more than 120 of the nation's largest restaurant chains. The results measure opinions on food quality, menu variety, value, service, atmosphere, cleanliness, reputation and convenience. Cracker Barrel, established in 1969 in Lebanon, Tenn., operates 577 company-owned locations in 41 states, including Alabama.

SOURCE: Cracker Barrel Old Country Store
WEB SITE: crackerbarrel.com



For more ARA Members News, go to
 In the News at www.alabamaretail.org
IN MEMORIAM

Farmers Home Furniture family loses credit director

John Darrell McGinnis, executive director for credit administration at **Farmers Home Furniture Co.**, died suddenly July 10. He was 57. Farmers Home Furniture based in Dublin, Ga., has more than 150 locations and employs about 1,600 employees in five Southeastern states. Farmers has been an ARA member since October of 1994. Active and honorary pallbearers for the July 12 funeral were McGinnis' associates at Farmers Home Furniture. Among others, McGinnis is survived by his wife, Betty McGinnis, and two sons, Alex and Aaron McGinnis, all of Dublin.

SEND MEMORIAL DONATIONS TO:
 Trust Fund for Alex and Aaron McGinnis
 in care of Bank of America, 2101 Veterans Blvd., Dublin, GA 31021

NEW VENTURES/STORE OPENINGS

Hibbett opens 700th store; Names new executives

Hibbett Sports Inc. opened its 700th store in August. The newest location of the Birmingham-based sporting goods retailer is at the Colonial Promenade Tannehill shopping center in Bessemer. It celebrated the store's grand opening Aug. 23. In other news, Hibbett Sports has named David Benck as vice president and general counsel and Michael McAbee as vice president of merchandise planning.

SOURCE: *Birmingham Business Journal*

TELL US YOUR NEWS

We'd like to know what's happening at your store or organization. Have you celebrated a major business anniversary? Opened, closed or moved a location? Changed ownership or promoted a key employee? Received an award? Performed a community service?

Let us know! We may use your news in *Alabama Retail Quarterly* or link to your story online. To submit your news, go to **News** at www.alabamaretail.org and click on **Tell Us Your News**.

Save the Date: Thursday, Nov. 13, 2008 ARA Annual Meeting in Montgomery

Learn more under Calendar in AWARDS AND EVENTS section of www.alabamaretail.org

Nominations accepted through Oct. 1

ARA to honor law enforcement officers before Annual Meeting

The **Alabama Retail Association** will accept nominations to recognize an outstanding Alabama law enforcement officer as the "2008 Law Enforcement Officer of the Year" through **Oct. 1**. ARA also will honor one officer specifically for his/her service to the retail community.

The Law Enforcement Officer of the Year, or LEO Award winner, will be chosen from nominations made by local police departments, sheriff's offices, Alabama state troopers and any other state or federal law enforcement agency in Alabama. If you know of an officer deserving of this honor, please contact his/her superior officer and urge them to nominate your choice.

Officers of the Year are recognized for their overall accomplishments as law enforcement officers, however, ARA also recognizes an officer each year for his/her specific contributions to the safety and protection of retailers and their customers.

The Alabama Law Enforcement Officer Retail Partner Award will be presented along with the 10th Annual LEO Award on **Thursday, Nov. 13, 2008**, at a luncheon prior to the Alabama Retail Association's **Annual Meeting** at the **Montgomery Country Club**.

Individuals who would like to nominate a deserving law enforcement officer for either award should include the following:

- A letter of recommendation from the officer's department head or supervisor, including the supervisor's phone, mail and e-mail contact information;
- A brief summary of the nominated officer's accomplishments and performance;



2008 LEO AWARD and RETAIL PARTNER NOMINATIONS

- **Send nominations to:**
 Alabama Retail Association
 P.O. Box 240669
 Montgomery, AL 36124
- **Nomination deadline:**
 Wednesday, Oct. 1, 2008
- **Need more info? Contact:**
 Nancy Dennis at
 (334) 263-5757, Ext. 101
 or (800) 239-5423
ndennis@alabamaretail.org

- Outstanding or significant achievements directly related to law enforcement responsibilities and/or the protection of retailers;
- Any supporting documentation, such as letters of recommendation, or newspaper clippings.

This information will be used in the selection of the LEO and Law Enforcement Officer Retail Partner winners. The selection committee will be made up of retailers and active and retired law enforcement officials.

ARA presents these awards because retailers rely heavily on the cooperation and assistance of local law enforcement in providing safety, security and support for their businesses.

**For more about the LEO Awards,
 go to AWARDS AND EVENTS at
www.alabamaretail.org**



NEWS ABOUT STAFF MEMBERS

Change the World Award goes to Brown

The Business Council of Alabama presented ARA President **Rick Brown** with its inaugural Chairman's Challenge Change the World

Award, given to the person who most affects pro-business legislative policy. He was recognized for his determination, commitment to the cause of business and his hard work in spite of difficult odds, specifically for his work as president of the Business Associations' Tax Coalition. This was the first year for the award to be presented annually at the BCA Governmental Affairs Conference.

Contact Rick at 334.263.5757, Ext. 105, or rbrown@alabamaretail.org



New face at ARA front desk

Elizabeth "Lizzy" Campbell began working in early May as ARA's receptionist.

She is a 2006 graduate of Holtville High School and worked for four years as a waitress at the Front Porch Grill in Millbrook, where she resides.

Contact Lizzy at 334.263.5757, Ext. 100, or lizzy@alabamaretail.org



Lizzy Campbell

in public administration and communication, oversees all of ARA's member affinity programs and is the liaison for members with the association.



Brett Johnson While at Auburn, Brett was a member of FarmHouse Fraternity and the Auburn Student Government Association. He graduated in 2004 from LAMP Magnet High School in Montgomery. Contact Brett at 334.263.5757, Ext. 117, or bjohnson@alabamaretail.org

New Arrival

Howard Samuel Higgins was born 8:20 a.m. Thursday, July 17, 2008. He



weighed 7 pounds and 14 ounces and was 21 inches at birth. Sam, the son of **Keith** and Sharon **Higgins**, joins sister, Sophia. Keith is ARA's information technology manager.

ARA hires manager of member relations

Former ARA intern **Brett R. Johnson** is now ARA's manager of member relations. Johnson, an August graduate of Auburn University with a degree

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