

Contact: Robert Johnson
1194 Camp Avenue
Post Office Box 255
Mount Dora, Florida 32756
Phone: (352) 735-2506
Fax: (352) 735-2542
rdj@commerceparkinvestments.com



Press Release

For Immediate Release

East Lake Chamber Joins Chamber Alliance

(March 28, 2006) East Lake Chamber of Commerce has joined the Chamber Alliance of Lake County, bringing the number of chambers participating in the Alliance to seven, representing 2,500 businesses and organizations in Lake County. The current Chambers that are members of the Alliance are East Lake, Leesburg, Tavares, Lake Eustis, Mt. Dora, Lady Lake, and South Lake.

The purpose of the Chamber Alliance is to assist individual Lake County chambers in communicating with elected officials, and to encourage the participation of individual chamber members in the legislative process. The Alliance focuses on addressing local issues that are of common concern to businesses throughout Lake County. Each Chamber that participates in the Alliance will be independent and will continue to provide traditional member programs and services.

With over 90% of Lake County businesses having less than 50 employees, the area's small businesses generally rely on trade associations or chambers of commerce to represent their interests to the various levels of government. While large trade associations at the State and National level have full-time staff and lobbyists, local chambers rarely have full-time staff to focus on legislative affairs addressing local issues. The Alliance provides local chambers the ability to work cooperatively to address common issues.

"We are exciting about participating in the Chamber Alliance to better serve our members by working with other area Chambers on major issues affecting our community," stated Dr. Ron Holman, President of the Board of Directors.

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