

# ***Augusta Activities***

**The monthly newsletter of the  
Development Authority of Richmond County**

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**[www.AugustaEDA.com](http://www.AugustaEDA.com)**

## **Ready For The Augusta Showcase**

The Development Authority of Richmond County is ready for The Masters, with a variety of guests invited to attend.

The focus for Richmond County this year will be on site selection consultants...those professionals who are hired by companies to find the right location for their new manufacturing, distribution, customer service center, regional headquarters or operational center. This year, the Development Authority of Richmond County will be host to site selection consultants from Atlanta, Dallas, New Jersey, New York and England at various times during the week.

The Development Authority will also participate in the annual Red Carpet Tour, sponsored primarily by the Georgia Chamber of Commerce and the Georgia Allies. Visitors to Augusta on the Red Carpet Tour will be here on Thursday and Saturday of Masters Week. The Augusta Showcase is sponsored by a variety of business development organizations in the area, including the DARC.

## **Groundbreaking Held for Select Specialty Medical; Ribbon Cutting for MCG's New Cancer Research Center**

Ribbon cutting ceremonies were held on March 10<sup>th</sup> at the new Cancer Research Center of the Medical College of Georgia. The Development Authority of Richmond County was recognized by MCG officials during the ceremony as one of the many organizations in Augusta and the State of Georgia to help make the new center possible. The DARC helped to finance the new facility through a bond issuance in late 2004.

Officials with Select Specialty Medical and the Lauth Company held groundbreaking ceremonies in mid-February for the new \$22,000,000 medical care facility on Walton Way in Augusta. The Development Authority of Richmond County provided strategic assistance to Lauth in the planning and development stages of the location process during 2005.

The new Augusta facility will take an entire city block and will be a multi-story building employing 40 people in Richmond County.

## **Lockwood Greene's Study Successful**

More than a dozen Augusta businesspeople from a variety of backgrounds were interviewed in late February by CH2MHill/Lockwood Greene at the offices of the Development Authority of Richmond County. The Community Assessment Study was commissioned by Georgia Power's Community and Economic Development Department.

The assessments are currently being studied by the consulting firm and will be released next month. It is expected to give a review of Augusta's economic base and assets, the growth potential of various industry types, the economic development response materials, and other issues that might be identified. The report will help with the goals of the Development Authority of Richmond County for the years to come.

## **BIO 2006: Chicago**

The Development Authority of Richmond County will participate for the fourth straight year with the local medical community in attending the Annual Conference of the Biotechnology Industry Organization....BIO...to be held in Chicago April 9-13, 2006. Each year, various life sciences companies are identified and visited during the annual conference, focusing primarily on those companies that are growing and searching for a community for a future manufacturing or research facility.

The Development Authority of Richmond County will work the show with three other members of the Augusta Life Sciences Coalition, including the Georgia Medical Center Authority, the Development Authority of Columbia County, and the Office of Technology Transfer & Economic Development at the Medical College of Georgia. A trade show booth, owned jointly by all members of the local coalition, will be part of the Georgia Pavilion at BIO 2006.

## **Briefly.....**

- Stay tuned! The Development Authority of Richmond County will soon be announcing at least two regional Top Ten economic development rankings for Richmond County by various development publications, according to initial reports.
- The Plant Managers Meetings continue to get stronger, with an excellent meeting on March 16<sup>th</sup>. Augusta Technical College is providing a great deal of assistance to local manufacturing companies in the area of training and curriculum for future classes.
- The Development Authority of Richmond County visited eight site selection consultants over a three day period in mid-March in Memphis, Dallas and Fort Worth.
- Next month's issue of Augusta Activities will focus on the latest information from corporate executives concerning economic development marketing...what works and what does not work. The top eight marketing tools will be revealed, and details will be provided on how the Development Authority of Richmond County is marketing Augusta. It is incredible information!