

AVERY DRUGS

In 1973, **Leon Avery** opened **Avery Drugs** on the corner of Turner McCall Blvd. and North 5th Avenue. The pharmacy remained in this location for 20 years before moving to its current site at 710 North 5th Avenue where it has been for the last 11 years. Before opening his own business, Leon Avery attended the University of Georgia Pharmacy School and lived and worked in Cedartown. Upon moving to Rome, he worked for another local pharmacy which he eventually purchased and started Avery Drugs.

Presently, Avery Drugs is the only pharmacy that provides not only prescriptions but home medical equipment, home I.V. therapy, C Paps for sleep apnea, and oxygen equipment. Because of the services that they offer, Avery Drugs has customers in seven counties and some of their customers drive close to an hour to come to their store.

In addition to Leon Avery, the business has three other pharmacists and a total of 15 full- and part-time employees including a respiratory therapist. All of Leon's family also works at the pharmacy including his wife **Martha** who does all of the accounting and his two sons: **Todd**

and **Mark** who take care of the business side of the company. Mark Avery said, "The reason our business is successful is because of the great staff that we have. All of our employees have been with us for many years."

Another service that Avery Drugs offers is the Doc-U-Dose program. This program is like the Medicine-on-Time program but larger products can be added to the packets. The Doc-U-Dose packages have all of the patient's medicines in an envelope that is labeled and color coded. These packets are very beneficial to elderly patients and those in an assisted living home or nursing home. It helps the patient or the administrator of the medicine to ensure that accuracy of the doses and times. In addition to the Doc-U-Dose packaging, the pharmacy also does Blister Packs for those who need their medicine packaged in that capacity.

Avery Drugs works with assisted living and nursing homes to provide prescriptions and medical equipment needs to their residents. They also have free delivery for the homes and



for all of their customers for prescriptions and medical equipment.

"Being a member of the Greater Rome Chamber of Commerce is important to us," said Mark. "We take to heart being a part of the community and being involved in the community. We always look for the Chamber logo decal when we go into another business to shop. As a local business, we need to set the example of how important it is to support other local businesses," he concluded.

On Tuesday, February 8th, Avery Drugs will be holding a Health Fair and will be providing blood pressure and cholesterol screenings. The Health Fair begins at 10:00 a.m. and Avery Drugs would like to extend an invitation to everyone to attend. ■

Chamber Announces Partners in Prosperity Campaign ... (continued from page 1)

promoting existing networks in place in our community.

6. Investor Relations – Working with investors in Partners in Prosperity to keep them informed of the return on their investments.

The Partners in Prosperity Plan is a five-year investment program to help Greater Rome grow and prosper in the coming years. This program will ensure that the Greater Rome Chamber of Commerce has the resources available to continue its momentum and grow its success in working with the other governmental entities and authorities in our region to meet all of the priorities listed.

As Dr. Donald Ratajczak, noted economist and CEO of BrainWorks Ventures, Inc., stated in a special briefing for the governor, "Rome, Georgia is creating more jobs than anywhere else in Georgia other than Atlanta. And it is because of the City,

County, Chamber, and Development Authorities working together as a team and their aggressive economic development and marketing."

Volunteer Leadership for the Partners in Prosperity Campaign:

Campaign General Chairman
Otis Raybon - Vice President, *Rome News-Tribune*

Campaign Honorary Co-Chairs
Frank Barron, Jr. - Retired, *Rome Coca-Cola Bottling*

Dr. J. Paul Ferguson - Retired, CEO, *Harbin Clinic*

2004 Chamber Board Chairman
Bryan Shealy - *Unity National Bank*

2005 Chamber Board Chairman
Steve Kemp - CEO, *United Community Bank*

Platinum Division Co-Chairs
Delos H. (Dee) Yancey III, President and CEO, *State Mutual Insurance Co.*
Steve Jaynes, President and CEO, *SunTrust Bank, NW Georgia*

Gold Division Co-Chairs
Kenneth Davis, M.D., President and CEO, *Harbin Clinic*
Ms. Terri Lupo, NW Region Manager, *Georgia Power Company*

Silver Division Co-Chairs
Willis Potts, Retired Vice President, *Temple-Inland*
Ron Tomlinson, President & CEO, *Coosa Valley Federal Credit Union*

Bronze Division Co-Chairs
Ms. Jan Ferguson, Partner, *Ford, Gittings, & Kane Jewelers*
Duane Reid, President & Owner, *Rome Ford Lincoln Mercury*