

Chamber Celebrates Another Successful Business EXPO

BXPO 2006 turned out to be a wild event. Using the theme "It's a Jungle Out There ... Stay at Home and Shop in Rome," the 19th annual Business EXPO showcased 100 booths, many of which featured jungle and safari-related decorations.

Held at *The Forum* in downtown Rome, EXPO promotes local businesses and encourages residents to keep their dollars at work here in Greater Rome.

Guests to the event took part in a safari trivia contest, in which they searched for information found at various vendor booths. Two lucky safari trivia contest winners each took home \$50 Chamber gift certificates.

The Small Business Action Council would like to thank the EXPO 2006 corporate sponsors, *Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Georgia*, *Coosa Valley Federal Credit Union* and *Purchasing Alliance Solutions*. Without the financial support provided by these great Chamber members, an event of this quality and size could not be as successful as it is.

Also, special thanks are extended to EXPO committee chair **Rob Harbison**, *Peachtree Planning*, and all the other EXPO committee members, including **Missy Armstrong**, *Aliyah Personnel*; **Sharon Baker**, *Women's Information Network*; **Phyllis Barron**, *Coosa Valley Federal Credit Union*; **Gail Johnson**, *Coosa Valley Technical College*; **Debi McGhee**, *AmSouth Bank*; **Jackie Moreland**, *Printworks*; **Natalie Simms**, *Harbin Clinic*; and **Robert Smyth**, *Coosa Valley Federal Credit Union*. Each of these individuals worked diligently to assist in making EXPO 2006 a great event.

Special thanks are also extended to **Duane Reid**, *Rome Ford Lincoln Mercury*; **Andy Kight**, *Vend-Rite*; and **Jamey Lambert**, *Lambert's Coffee and Bottled Water Service*, for sponsoring the vendors' hospitality suite, and to **Jackie Moreland**, *Printworks*, for providing EXPO brochures.

Congratulations to the following winners at EXPO 2006:

Best In Show Award: Downtown Development Authority (Prize is a free booth - \$260 value - at EXPO 2007).

People's Choice Award: Paula's Silver & Gold (Prize is a \$100 discount on a booth at EXPO 2007).

Safari Trivia Winners: Valerie Curtin and Vickie Kidd, both of Rome (each won a \$50 Chamber Gift Certificate). ■



The Rome Downtown Development Authority booth earned the "Best In Show" award at the 2006 Business EXPO.



A large crowd visited the jungle-themed EXPO, which featured 100 vendor booths.

Rome, Cave Spring and Floyd County Vote For Progress

On November 7th, voters in Rome, Cave Spring and Floyd County overwhelmingly voted to enact a special purpose, local option sales tax that will allow the community to continue to improve its already strong quality of life. The \$52.9 million package features projects relating to transportation, fire and safety, facilities and recreation. Along with the \$52.9 million that taxpayers, including residents and visitors, will contribute to this improvement project, the State Board of Transportation has pledged an additional \$20.8 million earmarked for improvements for local roads and streets.

The Greater Rome Chamber of Commerce would like to congratulate the community for voting for progress, and to thank **Dr. Larry Atwell**, who served as both chairman of the citizens committee that selected the projects that were included in the SPLOST package and as the chairman of Rome/Floyd Citizens for Progress, for his tireless work in promoting the merits of this SPLOST package. ■



Dr. Larry Atwell worked tirelessly as the Chairman of both the citizens committee charged with selecting the projects included on SPLOST and Rome/Floyd Citizens for Progress.