

### Small Business Spotlight ... (continued from page 3)

the industry that the Chamber brings. These families are starting new traditions with us. We are also proud that many young people are remaining in the Greater Rome area. Many of our long-time customers now have third and fourth generations in their families that are coming back to us to get their engagement rings because their mother and grandmother did. It is heartwarming to be a part of a community so rich in family values."

Exciting things are happening at Ford, Gittings and Kane. The store is growing and they are expanding their custom design and repair department. "We are continuing to add new lines of jewelry and staying on top of everything new and exciting in the industry," explains Ms. Ferguson. "And we are looking forward to the next 50 years. We are asking anyone who has any memorabilia, pictures, receipts or memories they want to share to bring it in. We are creating a scrapbook of the past 50 years and want to celebrate with our customers in the fall at the completion of our renovation."

For more information about Ford, Gittings and Kane Jewelers, please call 706.291.8811, toll free 800.404.8192 or visit them online at [www.fgkjewelers.com](http://www.fgkjewelers.com).



### Marglen Industries ... (continued from front page)

these plastic bottles to make new plastic bottles. Burnes said, "The environment plays a big part in our philosophy. Recycling plastic makes business sense, but it also makes environmental sense." Marglen Industries is the country's third largest recycler of plastic soda bottles. After upgrading facilities and adding new equipment, Marglen will market its recycled plastic to makers of food-grade packaging.

Mayor **Wright Bagby** applauded the company's decision to expand their local operation. *Chamber of Commerce Chairman of Board Randy Quick (LR '00), South 107, Q102, WRGA, WGJK*, commented, "We are excited about Marglen's \$6 million expansion and the 20 additional jobs that it will bring to our community. This is another example of existing industry making a difference; our community leadership continues to work to assist employers who are already here. We are happy that this kind of decision is being made by our private sector and assisted by the public sector. This also fits well within the goals of the Partners in Prosperity program."

Special thanks to the *Rome-Floyd Development Authority, The City of Rome and Floyd County*, and the *Georgia Department of Economic Development*.



### Richard B. Russell Regional Airport to Receive Grants ... (continued from front page)

**U.** S. Representative **Phil Gingrey** presented a check for \$136,240.00 to *Vice Chairman of the Floyd County Commission Eddie Lumsden (LR '00); Richard B. Russell Regional Airport Manager Mike Matthews (LR '99); Chairman of the Airport Commission Howie Lowden; Coosa Valley Technical College President Dr. Craig McDaniel (LR '87); Chamber Chairman of the Board Randy Quick (LR '00); and City Commissioner Evie McNiece (LR '02)*, for runway enhancements at **Richard B. Russell Regional Airport**. The grants from the Federal Aviation Administration will be used to enhance taxiway centerline markings to alert pilots that they are approaching a runway holding position. This project will also allow for the replacement of the airport electrical vault to make certain the airfield lighting requirements continue operational.

"It is always great to be in Rome and Floyd County. The airport is a critical asset to the people and economy of Floyd County. As globalization continues to change the landscape of business, Richard B. Russell Regional Airport will continue to play an ever-growing role in a stronger, more economically vibrant Floyd County," said Representative Gingrey. "I salute the excellent job done by Mike Matthews and the Airport staff, Floyd County Commission and staff, as well as the Greater Rome Chamber of Commerce, in advocating for improvements and investment in the Airport. I will continue to ask and to continue to reform the process. I am proud that we were able to bring home this Member Initiative"

These improvements to the Richard B. Russell Regional Airport and Towers Field are a strategic part of the implementation of the Rome-Floyd 20/20 Part II. "The infrastructure development of the Airport and adjacent properties zoned for aviation-related purposes to support the growth in aircraft maintenance, repair and non-scheduled aircraft operations are noted as goals to be accomplished in Part II of the Rome-Floyd 20/20 Plan," stated Mr. Quick,

*South107/Q102/WRGA/WGJK*. "Implementation of the plan is already in place now that Coosa Valley Technical College is creating courses in Avionics and Aviation Maintenance Technology."

Addressing Representative Gingrey, Mr. Matthews stated, "Without your help for the airport, the burden would be solely on Floyd County. The enhancements to the airport will enable our pilots to taxi on and off the runways more efficiently and go to replacing electrical vaults. Representative Gingrey, we cannot thank you enough for all of your hard work on this project."

The grants will provide the support to continue the implementation of the Rome-Floyd 20/20 Part II and insure that Richard B. Russell Regional Airport is developed to its full potential creating more jobs for our thriving workforce. The airport plays a crucial part in the commerce of the regional, divisional, and corporate headquarters located in Rome and Floyd County.



Please Join Us For ...

## SpeedNetworking

When: **Thursday, June 19th, 4:00 p.m.**

Where: **Chamber of Commerce, 1 Riverside Parkway**

**\$5.00**

Member Reservation Options:

Online at [www.romega.com](http://www.romega.com)

Email - [asmith@romega.com](mailto:asmith@romega.com)

Call - 706.291.7663

**MUST BE REGISTERED TO ATTEND.**

Space is limited to 20 members. No competitors will be in the same group.