

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Buford Business Alliance Hosts Expo Offering Fun for the Entire Family**

--Buford, Ga., July 9, 2009—Come join us a fun filled day the whole family will enjoy and learn from. Hosted by the Buford Business Alliance (BBA) and the Gwinnett Environmental and Heritage Center (GEHC) from 10 am to 4 pm Sat., July 25, the second annual Visit Buford Expo will be held on the beautiful GEHC campus, located at 2020 Clean Water Dr. in Buford (off Satellite Blvd near Hwy. 20).

“Economic challenges, in combination with high gas prices, led us to develop this event last year. Because we still are somewhat struggling economic times and because of the huge success of last year’s event, continuing it in 2009 made perfect sense,” said Tim Koenning, President of the BBA. “We are excited to bring this event to the local community and show them all the excitement and opportunity that the city of Buford holds for local residents and visitors.”

Outside, parents and children alike will be able to tour the GEHC grounds and trails, while learning about simple, easy ways to “go green” at home, work and school. Wayne’s Train will also be on the campus offering a fun way for kids to see some of the outdoor beauty the center offers. Before heading indoors, be sure to stop by ‘Petey’s All Around Town Ice Cream’ to purchase a scoop or two.

Inside, the event will include exhibitor booths separated into three distinct areas or ‘neighborhoods’; All About Kids, Business to Business and Business to Consumer. Most exhibitors will be participating in the Great Buford Give-A-Way, allowing families to register to win scores of great prizes and freebies from the exhibitors and sponsors.

Children can practice their golf swing at the Collins Hill Golf Club booth, get their face painted by Cathy, meet, greet and hug Chopper, the Gwinnett Braves mascot, Truman, the mascot of Kidsville News and the Chick-fil-A cow before participating in a GwinnANT treasure hunt sponsored by the GEHC.

Parents can enjoy visiting with local business and get information on advice on subjects from individual and business insurance and financial planning to fun and inexpensive entertainment ideas from local venues. When it's time for a break, rest and refuel with lunch from eight local restaurants from barbeque and pizza to Cuban delights.

Booths, sponsorships and advertising opportunities are still available for interested merchants/organizations who would like to participate in this event. For the first time, the festival has partnered with local newspaper *Gwinnett Daily Post* to produce an event guide that will include sponsor spotlights and a schedule of events publishing on Fri., July 24.

The BBA is a non-profit organization that brings together the citizens, city leaders, civic organizations and the businesses of Buford in a communal spirit. BBA sponsored festivals, events and other marketing opportunities promote business and tourism in Buford as well as support annual gifting of scholarships to local students. The BBA meets monthly and is open to the public. Please visit [www.VisitBuford.com](http://www.VisitBuford.com) for more information.

The GEHC, located conveniently between I-85 and I-985, near the Mall of Georgia is designed to enlighten, educate, and entertain the entire family through interactive, hands-on science exhibits and nature trails. GEHC also offers space for meetings, birthday parties and school groups. Please visit [www.gwinnetteh.org](http://www.gwinnetteh.org) for more information.

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