



**For Immediate Release**

**Contact: Kathy Gillenwaters, 483-1321**

## **Chamber Membership Pays off for Local Eatery**

June 5, 2006 – Can membership in the Oak Ridge Chamber of Commerce really benefit your business? According to Yvonne Wilson, Unit Marketing Director for Chick-fil-A in Oak Ridge, it absolutely can.

“The membership of the Oak Ridge Chamber is very active – it is so well supported by the business community here,” said Wilson. “I really feel like I learn what’s going on in the community because I’m plugged into the Chamber.”

Networking events have been key to Chick-fil-A’s business growth according to Wilson. “The Oak Ridge Chick-fil-A set a sales goal this past year which our corporate office felt we’d never reach in this market. We met that goal and expect to increase our sales by another 15% over the coming year. We can directly attribute much of our success in reaching that goal to our involvement in the Chamber. The contacts I’ve developed through coffees and other networking events have allowed me to learn about potential business for our store – and it’s really paid off for us!”

“Success stories like Wilson’s are very common,” said Ben Andrews, Chair of the Chamber’s Membership Campaign and General Manager of Oak Ridge Utility District. “We hear over and over again the positive impact membership in the Chamber has on a business.”

-more-

*Oak Ridge Chamber of Commerce  
1400 Oak Ridge Turnpike  
Oak Ridge, TN 37830  
(865) 483-1321*

Lee Brooks, Vice President and Deputy General Manager of Wackenhut Services, Inc. and Chairman of the Chamber Board remarked, “People may not realize all that the Chamber does for the community. We work with area professionals to meet today’s complex business and community challenges. Through the efforts of more than twenty task forces and committees, the Chamber is the voice for the business and professional community on critical issues.”

“The Oak Ridge Chamber of Commerce works to make Oak Ridge a better place to live and do business. We focus on six strategic progress areas: Political Action, Image, Membership, Housing/Population, Special Projects, and Job Creation/Capital Investment,” added Chamber President Parker Hardy.

The Oak Ridge Chamber of Commerce kicked off its membership campaign Tuesday, June 5. Team captains and their teams will be calling area businesses to share with them the benefits of membership and to answer any questions potential members might have about the Chamber.

For more information or to become a member of the Oak Ridge Chamber of Commerce, call 483-1321 or visit the Chamber’s website [www.orcc.org](http://www.orcc.org).

The Oak Ridge Chamber of Commerce is a Four-Star Accredited Chamber of Commerce with approximately 700 members.

###