

Ginny Givens • Ginny's Custom Embroidery Inc., Walton County

Name: Ginny Givens
Age: Are you kidding? Twenty-eight. If you want you can put 26.
Hometown: Dacula
Business: Ginny's Custom Embroidery Inc.
Location: 3096 Fannie Thompson Road, Walton County
Store hours: Office hours 10 a.m. — 6 p.m. Monday through Friday
Contact information:
 www.ginnygce.com, Office: 678-635-5269, Cell: 770-616-1282
Business experience: Ran a restaurant from ages 3-7. Had a post office at age 4, I think I ran a drive through McD's at age 5. I'm sure I owned a few fashion boutiques as well before the age of 10, all located in my playroom. Point being, I've been running the show since I got here. On a serious note, I have been in the embroidery industry for five years and GCE has been in business for 3 years in October.
What makes your business unique? Lime Green and Hot Pink! GCE has a fresh approach to the embroidery, screen printing and ad specialty industry. Our mission is to provide quality merchandise in an efficient time frame, to listen and to meet our customer's needs and to build lasting professional and personal relationships. Above all, our mission is to in all things glorify God. "Proverbs 3:5-6 — Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight."
What unique challenges have you faced with your business because you are a woman if any? Wow, I don't believe it matters whether you are male/female, short/tall, square/round or any other description, running your own business has many challenges! I think the key is to find something you are passionate about and love to do, and then the challenges are just bumps in the road on an amazing journey. If



Photo by BRIAN ARRINGTON

you line up with the will of God it will all fall into place.
Where do you see your business in 10 years? One of my favorite clichés is "If you want to make God laugh, tell him your plans"; I keep Him in stitches (no pun intended). I'm truly excited to see where the Lord wants to take GCE in the next 10 years. He has blown my mind as the success he has brought the business in the first three. We have exceeded our business goals every year and at this point, our business plan is so surpassed it's pointless to even look at it. Of course, growth is what I would like to see in the next 10 years, perhaps even some employees so I can stop running production before midnight occasionally, and of course more lime green and hot pink apparel choices! I love what I do and pray I am blessed to continue doing just that!

Laura Peters • Peters & Foster Inc., Monroe



Photo by BRIAN ARRINGTON

Name: Laura Peters
Age: N/A
Hometown: Monroe
Business: Peters & Foster Inc.
Location: 205 E. Washington St.
Store hours: 9 a.m. - 6 p.m., Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday; 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Saturday and 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Wednesday
Contact information: peters_foster@yahoo.com, www.peters&foster.c

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Business experience: Graduated from University of Georgia Terry School of Business, Employed full time since 1986.
What makes your business unique? Peters & Foster, Inc. was founded in 1949 by Garland Peters and Dan Foster. Mr. Pete will be 90 years old in September and still comes to work everyday. The

store started as a hardware, appliance and Firestone tire dealer. Mr. Pete would load a Maytag wringer washer on his truck and drive around the area demonstrating the washer until he found a buyer. Sometimes cows and chickens were accepted for payment. We have been very blessed throughout the years to have employees

that are indeed like family. Many have retired after 40 plus years with the company. We also have current employees with 37 years with the company. A lot of our customers have traded with us for years and they in turn introduce their children and grandchild to us. Our familiar faces and friendly atmosphere provide a hometown feel.

I have been involved with the business since I was a young teen. My early duties included vacuuming, stocking the store and arranging the lay-a-way room. From there I performed office duties to all other facets of the business.
Where do you see your business in 10 years? Peters & Foster will strive to continue to provide the community with a friendly consumer oriented place to shop for furniture, appliances and bedding. High quality products at an economical price.

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