



MILLIE LEWIS RECOGNIZED AS THE GREENVILLE CHAMBER'S NOVEMBER 2011 SMALL BUSINESS OF THE MONTH

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(Greenville, SC) The Greenville Chamber is pleased to announce Millie Lewis Modeling and Talent Agency as the winner of the November 2011 Small Business of the Month Award.

About Millie Lewis

Nearly 38 yrs ago, the Millie Lewis Modeling School opened its Greenville doors in the old Bell Tower Shopping Mall (now County Square). Its founder and namesake, Millie Lewis, had begun her business in Columbia about 10 years prior to coming to Greenville. A year after opening here, Barbara Corell was hired as the Director of the young modeling school. In the early 80's, Barbara and her husband, George, purchased the business from Millie Lewis and retained the name of the organization.

The Corells have built Millie Lewis into South Carolina's largest Modeling and Talent Agency while at the same time gained international recognition from the modeling industry for their work with graduates of their Advanced and Professional programs. They've launched the careers of countless women and men who have gone on to work in the local, regional, national and international markets. Millie Lewis graduates have been placed with world renown modeling agencies including: Ford / Elite / Next / Wilhelmina / Folio-Japan and Eye for I – Milan.

While careers in Modeling and Acting are significant and exciting, the Corells have focused their primary efforts on creating programs aimed at building strong self-esteem in children, teens and adults. The Millie Lewis Modeling School has literally seen thousands of individuals pass through its doors seeking various aspects of personal development. The philosophy is simple: When we encourage a person's feelings of self-worth and build inner confidence, we've provided a gift that will last a lifetime!

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Giving back to the community has always been important to Barbara and George. They are both active members of Trinity Lutheran Church in downtown Greenville serving as members of the Congregational Council, teaching Sunday School and working on outreach committees such as GAIHN (Greenville Area Interfaith Hospitality Network) with homeless families. Their volunteer involvements have also included The Chamber, Pendleton Place, Red Cross, United Way, Upstate Coalition for the Homeless, The Warehouse Theater and other cultural organizations. Additionally, George is a graduate of Leadership Greenville and was on the founding Board of Directors of the Greenville Better Business Bureau.

The Corells are both transplants to Greenville. Barb moved to the Upstate with her family when in grade school, and George came to Greenville to work as a reporter for then WFBC-TV (predecessor to WYFF-TV). Both enjoyed careers in advertising prior to purchasing Millie Lewis. They have one son, Brandon, who after graduation from Lander University established Cutter Outdoor Management, a Greenville-based landscaping company.

Learn more at www.millielewisgreenville.com.

About the Greenville Chamber's Small Business of the Month Program

The Greenville Chamber recognizes an extraordinary small business at each monthly board meeting. The Small Business of the Month is chosen by a selection committee from nominations provide by Greenville Chamber members. The Chamber's annual small business of the year is selected from the year's small businesses of the month. The 2011 Small Business of the Month presenting sponsor is Charter Business. Nominations can be made at <http://www.greenvillechamber.org/small-business-of-the-month.php>.

About the Greenville Chamber

The Greenville Chamber is the largest business organization in the region. The Chamber's mission is to build one of the premier business communities in the world by leading through collaboration, building community prosperity, being the voice of business, and enhancing quality of life. For more information about the Greenville Chamber, please call 864-242-1050, or visit www.greenvillechamber.org.

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