



# SEMINOLE CHAMBER CHAT

[www.MySeminoleChamber.com](http://www.MySeminoleChamber.com) Spring-Summer 2019

## IN THIS ISSUE

GOODYEAR TIRE CENTER  
A NOTE FROM THE CHAIRMAN  
SEARCHING FOR VALUE  
SAVE THE DATE CALENDAR  
NEW EMPLOYEE WELCOME  
SPRING & SUMMER EVENTS RECAP

## 45 GOOD YEARS IN THE COMMUNITY

Seminole Goodyear Tire Center, a staple in the Seminole community, is celebrating 45 years in business.

The business, originally owned by Fred and Mary Ruble, opened the franchise in 1974 after the couple moved to Seminole with their youngest daughter Lisa. They moved from Ohio where Fred was an engineer for Goodyear Aerospace. Ruble chose Seminole for the Goodyear Tire Center franchise because of the demographics and the sun, his daughter Lisa says. The franchise was the first to open in the entire Tampa Bay Area. The second opened a few years later on Kennedy Blvd. in Tampa.

The Rubles had four daughters, Cheryl, Sue, Kathy, and much younger Lisa. The elder sisters did not move with the family. Lisa practically grew up in Seminole where she attended Seminole Elementary, Middle, and High School. She remained in the area for college,

attending St. Petersburg College and University of South Florida where she received her B.A. in Finance. Lisa married in July 1987. Her husband Dwayne Snodgrass worked for Thomas Sign and Lisa worked at Barnett Bank. When Fred passed away unexpectedly in 1987 at the age of 62, Mary took over operation of the business. Dwayne left his job at Thomas Sign Co. to work for the family business. When Mary retired, Dwayne continued to oversee business operations. Mary passed away in 2008. Soon after, Lisa left her job in the financial industry to help her husband operate the business. The Snodgrass's and their long-time manager of 35 years, Todd McDermott, maintain operation. Lisa stated that she and Dwayne have been very appreciative of their long-time customers, but are especially thankful for the store's staff, who have forged many great relationships with their



# SEMINOLE GOODYEAR TIRE CENTER

CONTINUED...

clientele over the years, especially Todd and Carl, their technician of 25 years.

Lisa described how her father's business was one of the first on Seminole Blvd, and Park Blvd. was a two-lane road to the beach. She remembers there were orange groves all around, eating breakfast with her parents at Rube's, and Seminole Mall was bustling with a movie theatre and a K-mart. They shopped at one of only two supermarkets in town, the Kash-n-Karry, which is now a Dairy Queen and Auto Zone on Park Blvd. Lisa watched Seminole grow into the community it is today, and Lisa, alongside her husband, is happy that her father's business is still thriving 45 years later.

"We pride ourselves first and foremost on our honesty and integrity and in providing great customer service," said Lisa when asked why

she thought the business still remains successful. "My father always stayed involved in the community;" said Snodgrass, "that is why we have also been a Chamber Member for 45 years." Further, she attributes the business's ongoing success to the long-time Seminole customers who refer their friends and family. They even have customers that have moved as far as Sun City Center and Claremont who still come to Seminole for their tire and repair work.

Seminole Goodyear Tire center offers all tire brands, performs complete auto repair and maintenance services, as well as handles several fleets for area companies and national accounts. They are A rated by the Better Business Bureau and A+ by Angie's List. They are located at 8105 Seminole Blvd. and are Chamber members.

## The Seminole Historical Society, Inc.

*"Where the Present Remembers the Past"*

**Our Museum is located at the  
Seminole City Park  
7464 Ridge Rd  
Seminole, FL 33772**

**Museum visiting hours are  
Thursdays and Saturdays  
10am - 2pm**

**Private tours are available!  
Contact us for details.**

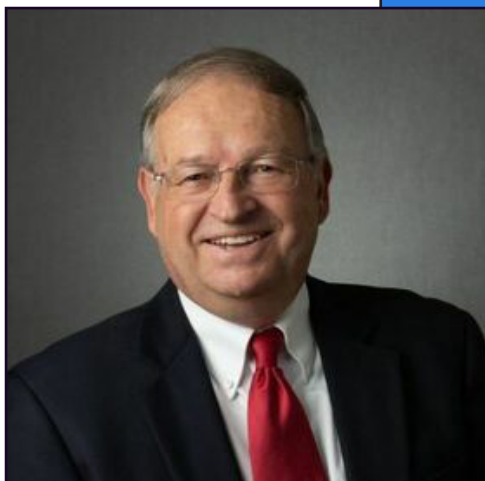
**[www.seminolehistoricalsociety.org](http://www.seminolehistoricalsociety.org)**

**Come see the  
NEW  
Fishing Display!**



# A NOTE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

DR. JAMES OLLIVER



We're now six months in to our exciting, new-look Chamber, and it's already been a very productive year for your Seminole Chamber: outstanding signature events like the Awards Banquet and Seminole Stampede, powerful business breakfasts and record setting First Thursday mixers, ribbon-cuttings, and a powerful new website and Membership Management System.

The year started with so many unknowns. We welcomed a new Executive Director Tara Nichols, and new Assistant to the Executive Director Barb Thomas (who, unfortunately for us will be leaving in July for a great new career opportunity). To this dynamic team we crafted a

strong group of Committee chairs buttressed by an active and committed Board of Directors. The results have been stellar.

The staff is working very hard to provide services and activities that bring value to the members, along with the slate of traditional activities that have, as much as anything else, represented the "culture of Seminole," the business community's interest in make this a great place to live, work and play (as well as shop!), and to give back....

As always, the Board and staff can only go so far. The old saw has never been more true: you get out of your Chamber membership what you put into it!

For all those who have been active in our events and activities, and are taking full advantage of the Chamber's website and social media presence: keep it up! But if you are worried that you don't have the time..., let us help you plug in, network, and grow your business by connecting with other businesses -- and have some fun in the process.

As I write this we are finalizing the details for perhaps our major project of the year -- the move to our new building on the SPC Seminole Campus. Not much to see yet (though the long, long, LONG process of planning has pretty much been completed), but we're THIS close, and want you to mark 8 a.m. Tuesday, September 20 on your calendar as our tentative ribbon-cutting and building dedication!

In the meantime, join us for as many breakfasts, mixers, signature events and other activities as you possibly can. You can never get enough of these types of celebrations!

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DR. JAMES OLLIVER

CHRISTINE O'NEIL, ESQ.

CYNDI BOND

DR. MARK STRICKLAND

RICHARD LANDON

JENNIFER REYNOLDS

MIKE MCQUILKIN

BOB HOLTZMAN

AMY HARTMAN

PAT ALEXANDER

RICK GRIESHEIMER

PERI CRAVEN

SANDY HARTMANN





# SEARCHING FOR “VALUE”

By Jo Ann M. Colton, Seminole Chamber of Commerce Member  
JM Colton Communications & Business Solutions

In today's world everyone is looking for value in all that they do. But, is what you are doing for your business today providing you with the value you seek to steer your business toward its vision for tomorrow? If not; it just might be time to re-evaluate your business direction in order to move forward. . . Each person's idea of "value" associated with various things in life can be very dissimilar. Consequently, if you ask ten people to define the meaning of "value," you will probably get ten different answers. Nonetheless "value" is considered something that is beneficial—like your membership in the Seminole Chamber of Commerce.

The Mission Statement of the Seminole Chamber is "to promote the commercial and community interests of Seminole, Florida and the greater surrounding area" and it echoes the city's respected "Voice of Business" since its founding in 1963. From the anticipated opening of the Chamber's new Seminole building location on the St. Petersburg College Campus on 113th Street later this year to its wide array of monthly, quarterly, and annual events, the Seminole Chamber of Commerce offers all its members "value" in its calendar of events, programs, and related opportunities. But the true value of belonging to any organization all comes down to the input/output membership factor. . . In order to receive the most value for your membership dollars, it is important to participate and get involved (the input). The return on your investment (the output) can be derived from interacting with other Chamber members, working together to find solutions to common business concerns, availing yourself of the many benefits of Chamber membership, considering becoming a Breakfast Meeting sponsor, and possibly volunteering your time and efforts as a Chamber Ambassador or as a member of other committees for the good of the Chamber and all its valued members. All of these actions can help you to grow your business. With 9 more months still ahead of us in this year of 2019,

each of us still has time to steer our business forward and achieve the business success we seek. Remember, you can't keep doing the same thing over and over again and expect different results—that's INSANITY! As Mahatma Gandhi once said, "Be the change that you wish to see in the world." For a "change" of direction, let's really get involved. If you are searching for "value," focus on your membership with the Seminole Chamber of Commerce and motivate others to do the same.

Jo Ann M. Colton is the owner of the Seminole-based JM Colton Communications & Business Solutions. The small business services/marketing consultant and journalist/author, who conducts both business-related and writing-related seminars/workshops, also provides services to aspiring writers. Visit her website ([www.jmcoltoncommunications.com](http://www.jmcoltoncommunications.com)) or call her at: 303-993-9211.

## WAREHEIM

Insurance, Payroll & H. R. Services

Jim Wareheim

[wareheim@msn.com](mailto:wareheim@msn.com)

6220 Seminole Blvd., Seminole, FL 33772

Phone 727-397-3200

[www.WareheimInsurance.com](http://www.WareheimInsurance.com)

# CPA

## PARTNERS

Certified Public Accountants  
& Business Consultants

- Tax Preparation & Planning
- QuickBooks Training & Support
- Financial Statements



Call today  
to schedule your  
**FREE** consultation!

(727) 398-2080

[www.cpapartnersllc.com](http://www.cpapartnersllc.com)





## 34th Annual Golf Tournament

# Sponsorships available NOW!

**EAGLE SPONSOR**  
\$3500 (2 available)

1 year free membership to Seminole Lake  
Country Club (Valued at \$2400)  
Logo on all marketing materials (Invaluable)  
And so much more!

**BIRDIE SPONSOR**  
\$1500 (2 available)

1 Complimentary foursome (Valued at \$500)  
Recognition & closing remarks at awards dinner  
(Invaluable)  
And so much more!

**PAR SPONSOR**  
\$1000

6 Complimentary hole signs (Valued at \$200)  
Recognition during registration (valued at \$100)  
And so much more!

**ACE SPONSOR**  
\$500

1 Complimentary player (Valued at \$125)  
Clickable Logo on Chamber gold web page  
(Invaluable)  
And so much more!

**INDIVIDUAL SPONSORSHIPS ALSO AVAILABLE**

For more details visit  
**MySeminoleChamber.com**

or call us at  
**(727) 392-3245**

# SAVE THE DATE

**AUGUST 20TH** Chamber 101: A Primer to Maximize Your Membership  
8 am to 9:15 am | SPC-Seminole TL building Rm 108

**AUGUST 28TH** Business Breakfast: Grow with Google  
8 am to 9 am | SPC-Seminole TL building Rm 108

**SEPTEMBER 5TH** 1st Thursday Networking Mixer  
5 pm to 7 pm | Flooring America

**SEPTEMBER 10TH** Chamber & Civic Building Grand Opening and Dedication Breakfast  
8 am | The Chamber

**SEPTEMBER 17TH** Chamber 101: A Primer to Maximize Your Membership  
(Time TBD) | The Chamber

Interested in  
sponsoring a  
Chamber event?

Give us a call:

(727) 392-3245

**GREATER SEMINOLE AREA**  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

*Seminole Lake Country Club*

**34th Annual Golf Tournament**  
**HELICOPTER GOLF BALL DROP**  
**50/50 RAFFLE**

**Winner Guaranteed**  
**\$500**

You don't have to golf to enter!

**Oct 17th, 2019**  
Seminole Lake Country Club

**GET YOUR RAFFLE TICKETS NOW!**  
[www.MySeminoleChamber.com/Golf](http://www.MySeminoleChamber.com/Golf)

# SAVE THE DATE

Interested in  
sponsoring a  
Chamber event?

Give us a call:  
(727) 392-3245

- SEPTEMBER 25TH** Business Breakfast: Understanding Today's Advertising & Marketing Strategies | 8 am to 9 am | The Chamber
- OCTOBER 3RD** 1st Thursday Networking Mixer  
5 pm to 7 pm | Barnhorn Financial Services
- OCTOBER 15TH** Chamber 101: A Primer to Maximize Your Membership (Time TBD) | The Chamber
- OCTOBER 17TH** Seminole Chamber 34th Annual Golf Tournament  
1 PM Shotgun Start | Seminole Lake Country Club
- OCTOBER 22ND** Business Breakfast: CPA Partners, Tax Planning for Business | 8 am to 9 am | The Chamber
- NOVEMBER 6TH** Primetime Business Expo  
4pm to 7 pm | SPC-Seminole Conference Center
- NOVEMBER 12TH** Quarterly Luncheon Series: Friendsgiving  
11:30 am to 1 pm | SPC-Seminole Conference
- NOVEMBER 19TH** Chamber 101: A Primer to Maximize Your Membership (Time TBD) | The Chamber
- DECEMBER 5TH** 1st Thursday Networking Mixer & Toy Drive  
5 pm to 7 pm | Truist Bank
- DECEMBER 8TH** Holiday Night Parade "Bright Before Your Eyes"  
6:30 pm | 113th St



Thursday, October 17th  
1 PM Shotgun Start  
Seminole Lake Country Club

SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE NOW  
Be a part of the big event!





# NEW EMPLOYEE WELCOME



Alexandria works as the **Office & Member Communications Coordinator** here at the Greater Seminole Area Chamber of Commerce.

She recently graduated in December of 2018, earning her Bachelors of Science in Integrated Marketing Communications. Soon, she will be pursuing her MBA - Marketing degree and her real estate license.

Though her professional experience starts well before she crossed the stage, her most recent position was working as the Marketing Assistant at an insurance brokerage company. Fun fact about Alexandria is that she recently got married! She now lives in St. Petersburg with her husband, Mark, and their fur-son, Ace.

Alexandria is excited to be working with you all!

55th Annual Seminole Chamber Awards Banquet  
Featuring the Mr./Ms. Seminole Award

## Mad Hatters Ball



Let your HAT match your persona as we honor individuals and businesses who have made a difference within the Seminole Community!

SAVE THE DATE

02.22.20

# SPRING & SUMMER EVENTS RECAP



**INSTALLATION LUNCHEON**--The 2019 Chamber Board was introduced and sworn in at the annual luncheon, speakers included immediate past Chairman Rick Greshiemer, Incoming President Dr. Jim Olliver, the new Executive Director, Tara Nichols, and Mayor Leslie Waters, all of which spoke of the busy yet exciting year ahead for the Chamber.



Mike McQuilkin (Mr. Seminole)

**AWARDS BANQUET**--Over 120 Seminole business owners and residents attended the Marti Gra themed gala. The evening's festivities included the presentation of the Merit award, received by Dr. Mark Strickland, Provost St. Petersburg College Seminole Campus, for his dedicated support to the chamber and community, Business of the Year Award, received by Pat and Carmen Marlow, owners of Flooring America, for the business's outstanding service to his clients and continued business in Seminole, Boss of the Year, was presented to Mr. Dennis DeLoach, founder of DeLoach, Hofstra, and Cavonis, for his professionalism, graciousness and generosity to his employees, and lastly the Mr., Mrs. Seminole Award goes to Mike McQuilkin for his significant contributions to local charity organizations within and for the Seminole Community.



**SEMINOLE STAMPEDE**--The 5-K Run sported a whopping 200 runners at Walsingham Park. Runners, walkers and doggies participated in the early morning shotgun start. Participants were pumped up with a DJ and local business vendors. Many runners finishing in record time, while some took their time along the scenic trail to the finish line, where they were provided snacks and gifts donated by community businesses while waiting on the awards ceremony where 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place overall winners received cash prizes and 1st-3rd place metals were given in each age categories.



# SPRING & SUMMER EVENTS RECAP



**HEALTH EXPO**--Over 40 vendors participated in the April event hosted at the Peacock Center. More than 150 attendees were able to visit with local business and learn more about the health and wellness related goods and services available to them in the Greater Seminole Area.



**Tribute to Teachers**--The Chamber honored 19 area teachers at the annual event. A teacher for each Seminole area School was selected for inspiring teaching skills and their strive to make sure every student succeeds. Teachers were presented with gifts and flowers provided by Chamber members.



**KIDS APPRECIATION DAY**--In partnership with the City of Seminole, we provided an afternoon of fun, games, and prizes to Seminole area elementary schools kids and their parents. Chamber members were vendors and provided games and activities for the kids and parents.





ANDREA HARTMANN  
MANAGING PARTNER / REALTOR®

The Power of Knowledge,  
the Gift of Caring.



**kw** SEMINOLE  
KELLERWILLIAMS, REALTY

SANDY HARTMANN  
BROKER ASSOCIATE®



KELLERWILLIAMS  
*Luxury*  
INTERNATIONAL



## “New Look, Same Great Service”

“Excellent team of realtors. They care about your needs and will take as much time as it takes to help you find what you are looking for. We love our new home.” *Tyler & Jourdan Rogers 6/21/19*

“The absolute Best Realtor, Period. Professionals all the way. I HIGHLY recommend Sandy and her Team for any real estate transaction. You’ll never find anyone better.” *Monica Hollis-Ballouz 5/30/19*

“Best Real Estate experience I have ever had. Laurie Chase was with us every step of the way. Sandy checked in on a regular basis to ensure that we were completely satisfied. I would recommend these great folks to anyone looking to buy or sell.” *Patti Williams 1/9/19*

“Thank you so much for everything you have done for me. You have gone over and above.” *Barbara Wacker 1/19*

“Danielle Lower was the listing agent for our Largo house. She was pleasant, professional, and responded quickly to questions or concerns. Overall the selling process went smoothly working with Danielle and the Hartmann team.” *Dan & Debra Kramer 1/3/19*

**#1 KW Team in Pinellas County, with over \$200  
Million in Home Sales Since 2016**

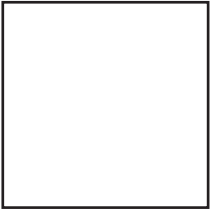
**Call Today**

**727-398-2310**

**5666 Seminole Blvd., Seminole, FL 33772**

Properties@SandysOffice.com • www.SandyHartmannHomes.com





7777 131ST St N, #1  
Seminole, FL 33776  
(727) 392-3245

photo courtesy of St. Petersburg College Writing for Mass Media class, originally published in The Sandbox News, Feb 2014

Hello Chamber Members!  
Your Spring & Summer Newsletter Is Here!

