

SEMINOLE CHAMBER CHATTER

LY 2009

Volume XVII Issue 9

Upcoming Events/JULY 2009



Fri 3 Office Closed for holiday
Sat 4 Happy Birthday America!
**Hometown Celebration at
Seminole Mall 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.**
Amusements, entertainment and
food (Please see flyer)

Wed 8 & 22 Business Education Workshop
SPC Seminole campus, 7:30 a.m.
TLC Building, Rm. 108

Thurs 9 Chamber Ribbon Cutting/Mixer, 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.
Kaineg Orthodontics, 8500 113th St. N.

Tues 14 & 28 City Council, 7:00 p.m., City Hall

Wed 15 Chamber Board Meeting,
7:30 a.m. Chamber Office

Thurs 16 Chamber Luncheon
11:30 a.m. SPC Seminole Campus

Community Event In Conjunction With Chamber:

Tues Aug. 4 "Avoiding Foreclosure" Free Seminar
Seminole Library program room
9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. - for Realtors/Title/Mortgage
6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. - open to public

Chamber Newsletter To Go Green!

The Seminole "Chamber Chatter" newsletter will transition to an electronic format in the next two months or so. Please make sure we have your correct e-mail address for delivery. We feel this approach will be more environmentally friendly and reduce printing/mail out costs significantly. There will continue to be advertising opportunities that will enable us to promote member businesses through the newsletter. As we work through the transition we will appreciate your patience and feedback.

Chamber Office Info

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gretchenc@myseminolechamber.com

Tammy Bibelhauser:

tammyb@myseminolechamber.com

Notary Services Available

New Web Program to Put Your Business on the Map Scheduled for July Luncheon - Change of Venue - SPC

Everything you ever wanted to know about the Seminole Chamber's new web site, and were afraid to ask, will be covered at the monthly luncheon/workshop Thursday, July 16, 11:30 a.m.

Instead of the Banquet Masters location in July, we will meet at **St. Petersburg College, Seminole campus**, in the Conference Center in the Library Annex Building. This new venue will enable us to utilize the latest in technology.

The hot buffet will be provided by Oasis Refreshment Systems, the new food service provider for St. Petersburg College Seminole campus and library. Advance registration/payment (\$12 per person) is appreciated. Register online: www.myseminolechamber.com or call 392-3245.



At the SPC Seminole campus café, inside the UP building are, from left, Provost Dr. Jim Olliver with the key people from new Seminole Chamber member, Oasis Refreshment Systems Inc.: Joseph Wheeler, Marie Thompson, catering supervisor, and R. Joseph Grover, general manager.

June 11 Ribbon Cutting at Colonial Bank Brings Seminole & TI Chambers Together



At the newly-constructed Colonial Bank building, 5885 Central Ave. in St. Petersburg, the Seminole Chamber of Commerce and Treasure Island Chamber came together for a ribbon cutting ceremony. Representatives included, from left, Lori Whitney, Colonial Bank Marketing Manager; Jimmy Johnson, Seminole Chamber Executive Director/Seminole Mayor; Paul Ziegler, Seminole Chamber President & Colonial Bank VP/Branch Manager, Dominique Reiter, Treasure Island Chamber President/Executive Director; and Patricia King, Colonial Bank Senior VP. Both Jimmy and Dominique welcomed the idea of working jointly to help businesses.

KIDS APPRECIATION DAY—30TH ANNIVERSARY

A good time was had by all on the 30th Anniversary of Kids Appreciation Day at Seminole City Park on June 2 - the last day of school. Thanks to the generosity of local businesses and civic organizations about 1,000 parents and children enjoyed the afternoon. Some 680 wrist bracelets were given to elementary school children to qualify them to win prizes. There was food, drink, games, contests, live entertainment and more, supervised by our volunteers. Serving as master of ceremonies, Committee Chair Dr. Steve Nickse probably had the best time of all as he interacted with the kids!



History of Kids Appreciation Day

Kids Appreciation Day started in 1980 as a result of wanting to give positive motivation to our kids.

A small contingency of people, including Yvonne Woods, Ben Kramer, Kathy Shields, Eve Jones and Jimmy Johnson started the first Kids Appreciation Day.

The purpose was to show our kids how much we appreciated them and all they accomplished. From there it has grown to the party it is today. Dr. Nickse (pictured) has participated as a volunteer since he was an adolescent.



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Chamber President's Column By Paul Ziegler

We've Got People!

School's out and the last of the snowbirds have headed home. It is time to take a breath, maybe even get in a vacation as our businesses make adjustments for the summer season. Any of us running businesses have unique challenges in the summer, from handling extra duties while our own employees go on vacation, to making it through the slow time of year. Your Chamber is like any small business and we are entering that cycle as well. We are fortunate to have very capable people to handle that. In other words, "We Got People" as the advertising slogan goes.

Jimmy just returned from heading North to Alaska and Gretchen will be heading North to Chicago soon. Our venerable organizer Tammy will get a few days to spend with Wayne and Luke and family. Somehow everything works out and the jobs get done.

Your Chamber can say "We Got People" in another sense - volunteers.

The Greater Seminole Area Chamber of Commerce is "great" because we have some very special volunteers. At the half year mark, I reflect back on the progress made, including the creation of a new web site, starting a major membership drive, adopting a Coast Guard ship and crew, improving our balance sheet and setting up new systems to process the work in the office, in addition to running our traditional events. It all comes down to dedicated volunteers helping staff to make things happen.

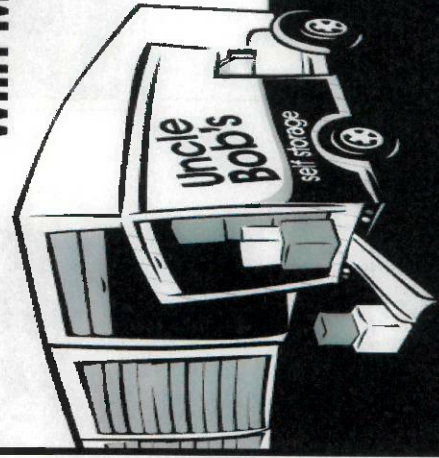
I will not be able to mention everyone in this column, but a few of the stars who have helped us include Dan Berard, web site development; Jim Sheets, Seminole Stamped; Dr. Jim Olliver and Jean Campbell, Tribute to Teachers; Jacob Valintine, membership drive mail out; Bob Holtzman, Business Education Workshop and membership drive; Dick Ardavanny, adopting the ship "Resolute" and trade show; Jackie Tatsak, Doc Kinsey, Mike McQuilkin, Marianne Fisher, Nancy Giles, Steve Zazzaro, David Bates, Vince Palmer, Harriet Brown - members of the "Always There to Help You" group and the perennial star, Dr. Steve Nickse for Kids Appreciation Day. Dr. Nickse - you rock! (If you missed Steve's MC performance at Kids Day, you missed something special - he's the best at this!).

If you are a member who is looking for ways to get the most from your membership, network and get to know the people mentioned above. They are successful, energetic business men and women who can help you and your business and are the kind of people with whom you would want to do business. That's the nice thing about belonging to our Chamber, you are in good company, with the right kind of people who are willing to help others be successful. When someone comments "Why bother belonging to the Seminole Chamber of Commerce," you can answer, "We Got People!"

Lastly, we have a special luncheon workshop aimed at teaching you how to get the most out of the new Chamber web site Thursday, July 16, when we meet at the Convention Center located on the Seminole campus of St. Petersburg College. This is one meeting you should not miss, as what you will learn will make your business money, using the tools available to you.

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SEMIMOLE CHAMBER CHATTER

Welcome New Seminole Chamber Of Commerce Members!

President Paul Ziegler welcomes new members Dave Constable and Earl Christy of "In the Game Productions" Advertising Specialists (booking speakers). Earl, a NY Jets Super bowl III champion, was the guest speaker at the June 18 Chamber luncheon and gave an inspiring motivational talk to the group.



Earl, who enjoys acronyms shared this:

- C - Chamber
- H - Honesty
- A - All in it together
- M - Membership
- B - Business
- E - Excellence
- R - Real

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THANK YOU FRIENDS OF KIDS APPRECIATION DAY!



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SEMINOLE CHAMBER CHATTER

Jimmy's Gem: Duane Crandall

"Duane Crandall is a big-hearted person who really enjoys giving to people," said Jimmy. He is well organized and thinks nothing of going the extra mile, which are good traits to have as the Seminole Recreation program coordinator, and a true friend of the Seminole Chamber. Jimmy chose Duane as his "Gem" for many reasons, pointing out that Duane did a great job coordinating the "Bright Before Your Eyes" holiday parade, helped out with the Seminole Stampede and assisted at Kids Appreciation (he also made a donation out of this own pocket).



It was Duane's idea to have kids color a special surprise banner for Jimmy in remembrance of Kids Day's 30th anniversary.

Hurricane

Preparedness for Businesses Offered

Hurricane season began June 1 and lasts through Nov. 30. Pinellas County's Business Development Center (PCBDC) can help you with disaster planning for your business. The PCBDC provides contact information for local, state and federal agencies that assist businesses in the event of a disaster. Contact the PCBDC at (727) 453-7200, or visit <http://www.pced.org/>

Preparedness checklists for businesses are available at the Seminole Chamber of Commerce office or e-mail your request to gretchenc@myseminolechamber.com



SPAGHETTI LUNCHEON

Wednesday, July 29, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Tickets \$5

Freedom Square Roskamp Auditorium, 7800 Liberty Lane
Take out orders available

For reservations or take out orders
Call 398-0244 prior to July 29

All proceeds to support the ongoing mission of Retired & Senior Volunteer Program of Pinellas County (RSVP)

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Learn & Have Fun! Seminole Chamber of Commerce Business Education Workshop Programs Ahead

Open to all area business people, the free Seminole Chamber-sponsored Business Education Workshops are on the **second and fourth Wednesday of the month, 7:30 a.m., St. Petersburg College, Seminole, TLC Building, Room 108.** This venue allows attendants to practice their "elevator speeches" and to network with other business people before and after the program. The program, which is designed to be interactive, is an educational opportunity. "*When You Stop Learning, You Stop Leading.*"

July 8:

Jimmy Johnson: "How to Stay Positive In the Midst of Negativity." As a lung transplant survivor, Jimmy will share from his own experience and from others who have persevered.



July 22:

Nancy Giles & Gretchen Cain: "Book Talk, " bringing your favorite business or personal motivational book to trade or share.



Community Event:

John Rigg, CEO of Save Our Home From Foreclosure, LLC, will present a free seminar, "Avoiding Foreclosure" on Tuesday, Aug. 4. In conjunction with the Seminole Chamber, the seminar will take place at the Seminole Library program room. There will be two sessions: 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. - for Realtors/Title Companies/Mortgage Brokers; and 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. - open to the public. The Agenda addresses:

- Why Should I Care?
- What is the Definition of Pre-Foreclosure?
- How Does The Process Work?
- How Do You Save Your Home From Foreclosure?

There will be a question and answer time. For more information, contact Scott Meehan, Loss Mitigation Consultant, at (727)776-7261, e-mail: smeehan@sohff.com

www.SaveOurHomeFromForeclosure.com

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JULY 2009

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July EnviroBusiness Hazardous Waste Collection Day **Wednesday, July 8, 2009**

Monthly EnviroBusiness Hazardous Waste Collection Days Are Just for Businesses

The next EnviroBusiness hazardous waste collection day is scheduled for Wednesday, July 8, 2009 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Household Electronics & Chemical Collection Center, 2990 110th Ave. N., St. Petersburg. The EnviroBusiness hazardous waste collection days are just for businesses and are scheduled for the second Wednesday of every month. **Businesses pay the contractors directly, at the county's reduced contract prices.*** Any business may drop off their hazardous electronics. To drop off chemicals, businesses need to qualify as small waste generators (producing less than 25 gallons, or 220 pounds, of chemical waste per month). For more information, call (727) 464-7500 or visit www.pinellascounty.org/bizwaste.

The collections offer businesses an inexpensive and convenient way to properly dispose of unwanted hazardous electronics and chemical waste. About ninety percent of all the electronic equipment dropped off is either reused or recycled.

Hazardous business waste includes electronic items such as TV's, computers, printers, copiers, fax machines, cell phones, and telephones. It also includes items such as fluorescent light bulbs, cleaners, toner cartridges, pesticides, laboratory vials, paints, process waste, and much more. Businesses should find an alternate means of disposal for explosives and medical waste.

*About the contracted prices for businesses, for many electronic items such as laptops or phones, there is no charge. For other electronic items, the charge is minimal such as 5 cents per pound for a keyboard or 10 cents per pound for a monitor. A licensed hazardous waste contractor must be on-site to handle business hazardous waste. To arrange for drop off and payment, businesses should call EQ Florida Inc. at (813) 319-3400 (chemicals), or Creative Recycling Systems, Inc. at (813) 621-2319 (electronics).

Shop at the Art in the PARC

Artwork has been created by PARC artists with developmental disabilities in the Fine Arts Studio & Gallery, supported by trained instructors with assistance from community volunteers

Friday, July 24, 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

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