Your Chamber Newsletter



WELCOME TO WEST CALCASIEU CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

REPRESENTING VINTON, SULPHUR & WESTLAKE



Like us on Facebook 🚹

<u>**Click here to visit the West</u> <u>Calcasieu Chamber Webpage</u>**

New Chamber Members

<u>Lights On ABA Services, LLC</u> - Sulphur - Scott Williamson (Owner) <u>Cotton Logistics</u> - Lake Charles - Chuck Matheny (Regional Vice President) <u>Flock of Five Gift and Art Emporium, LLC</u> - Sulphur - Lisa Reed (Owner) <u>Landmark of Lake Charles</u> - Randy Stelly (Administrator)

Latest News

Ribbon Cutting for Olympic Mixed Martial Arts & Fitness



Shown from left are Mayor Chris Duncan, Owner Bret Smithey, Owner Aaron Davis and Coach Tyler Scalisi with family & friends.

Olympic Mixed Martial Arts & Fitness held a Ribbon Cutting on Friday, January 29, 2016 located at 496 S. Post Oak Road, Sulphur, La 70663. Providing Brazilian Jiu Jitsu, Mixed Martial Arts, Submission Wrestling & Weights and Cardio. Partner Owners: Aaron & Theresa Davis and Bret & Lori Smithey. For more information call - 337-526-8927

<u>Ribbon Cutting for MidSouth Bank -</u> <u>Sulphur</u>



MidSouth Bank held a Ribbon Cutting/Grand Opening of their newly remodeled banking center in Sulphuron Friday February 12, 2016.



SWLA Economic Development Alliance, Chamber SWLA and Alliance Foundation Luncheon

Pictured here from left to right: Mayor Kenny Stinson (Vinton), Mayor Bob Hardey (Westlake), Lena McArthur (our Exec. Director) and Mayor Chris Duncan (Sulphur)

February Monthly Business Luncheon Pictures:

Business of the Month LifeShare Blood Center



LifeShare Blood Center was awarded The Business of the Month Award for February. Accepting the award is Board Member Mr. Michael Lanham with LifeShare and presenting is Chairman Jody Barrilleaux. Picture accredited to Southwest Daily News - Heather White.

Outstanding Customer Service Award Faye Hardy - McDonalds



February Customer Service Award was presented to Faye Hardy of McDonalds on Ruth Street in Sulphur, Shown is Melvin Gehrig (Owner of the local McDonalds Franchise), Chairman Jody Barrilleaux, Faye Hardy and Board Member Mrs. Debby Nabours. Mrs. Debby Nabours organized this award program through the WCCC. Faye was nominated by Mrs. Barrilleaux. Picture accredited to Southwest Daily News - Heather White.

Guest Speaker

Greg Naquin, CPA, CFPTM with McElroy, Quirk & Burch



Guest Speaker for our February Monthly Business Luncheon was Mr. Greq Naquin, CPA, CFPTM with McElroy, Quirk & Burch. Shown from left to right: Treasurer Ethan Miller, Chairman Jody Barrilleaux, Mr.Greg Naquin, Executive Director Mrs.

Lena McArthur, Immediate Past Chairman Karen Farnum and Chairman Elect Rick Fitts.

Picture accredited to Southwest Daily News - Heather White.

EMPOWERING WOMEN LUNCHEON

Quarterly Luncheon Series Date: February 25, 2016 Time: 12-1pm Location: West Cal Events Center 401 Arena Road, Sulphur, LA 70663

This event is open to all women to encourage, empower and emphasize our strengths. This WCCC premier event series will enrich and inspire as well as provide an opportunity to build positive partnerships.



NANCY TOWER as our Keynote Speaker

Many of you know Nancy Tower, but since she's "gone underground" as she puts it for the last year or so - I'll reintroduce you to her.

Nancy Tower is the wife of Ron Tower from Sulphur. They have been married for more than 30 years <u>in total</u> (I'll let her explain that) ^(C). She is proud to share that she has one step-son, two daughters and six grandchildren.

Nancy graduated from Sulphur High School and McNeese. She started her career right down the road from us at the Sulphur McDonalds in 1982 and to this date people still

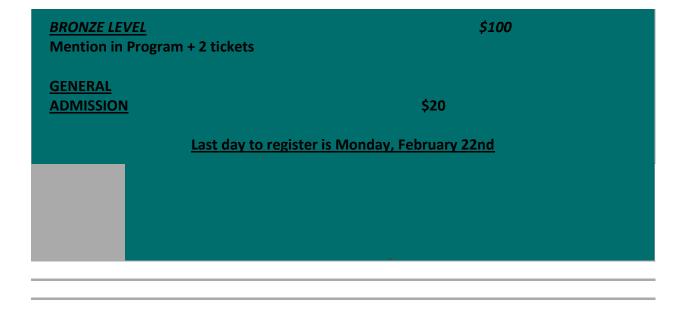
remember the birthday parties that she would host for kids at that store. Of course, that was just the beginning - her resume is vast and rather comical, so I'll let her tell you more about it. She did recently retire from Sasol North America where she worked for 23 years as the communications manager, also assuming the training manager's role in 2005. She served on our own Sulphur City Council from 2005 to 2010 and she has volunteered for more local and statewide organizations than I could count on my fingers and toes - so we won't try to go through them now.

According to Nancy, the most important thing in her life is her faith and she's going to share some empowering words with us about Vision.

***We now must begin offering to our members the opportunity to either request a specific level of sponsorship or reserve their tables. We hope that you will consider one of the levels of sponsorship, purchase a table, or at least Purchase a ticket.

<u>EMPOWERING WOMEN LUNCHEON</u> Sponsorship Opportunities

PRESENTING SPONSOR Logo on program Company name labeled as part of event with WCCC Reserve seating and signage at table Signage at door Time on agenda to address attendees Booth space in designated area	\$700
PLATINUM LEVEL Logo on program Company name labeled as part of event with WCCC Reserve seating and signage at table (1 Table of 8) Signage at door Booth space in designated area	\$500
GOLD LEVEL Logo on program, Mention in all printed materials Company name labeled as part of event with WCCC Reserved seating, (1 Table of 8)	\$300
- <u>SILVER LEVEL</u> Mention in Program + 4 tickets	\$200



***Any new businesses interested in joining the West Cal Chamber has two great reasons to join now with free advertisement offered through these Chamber Members below - What a great incentive. Spread the

Word!!



The way to grow your business.

signarama-sulphur.com | info@signarar 229 S. Cities Service Highway | Suite 4 NEW CHAMBER MEMBER

West Calcasieu Chamber Member Exclusive

This certificate is awarded to

New Member

FREE One Week of Digital Billboard Advertising on an Obvious Mobile Billboard Truck Offervalid for 90 days after your Chamber Membership begins

\$25 new artwork fee if we create your billboard Complete the information on the reverse and email it to us to begin

MOBILE

Daniel Wainwright, Owner Obvious Advertising (337) 513 0229 info@obviousadvertising.com **Community Calendar & News**

5th Annual "A Night to Remember" Fundraiser <u>City of Refuge</u> - <u>Veterans Homeless</u> <u>Shelter</u> West Cal Event Center, Sulphur, La Date: March 12, 2016



ds go to construction of new

Click here for support by placing an ad in the program

AMERICAN PICKERS To Film In Louisiana

IT'S PICKING HAVE ANY ITEMS, A COLLECTION, Here are some of the items we're looking to buy: **OR JUNK YOU WANT TO SELL?**

- Motor scooters: Vespas, Lambretta, Cushman
- Old advertising signage
- Motorcycles
- · Bicycles (Pre-60's to turn-of-the-century)
- · Old toys: tin, wind-up, cast iron
- Pre 50's vending machines
- · Pinball and slot machines
- · Old movie posters
- · Unusual radios: transistor, tabletop, etc.
- Antique casino/gaming machines
- Vintage movie memorabilia
- Vintage advertising Items
- Taxidermy
- Vintage concert posters & t-shirts
- · Early Boy Scout items
- Pre 60's vintage diner collectibles
- · Pre 60's TV merchandise
- Pre 50's western/equestrian gear
- Classic motorcycle memorabilia
- Sports memorabilia
- Casino tables
- Houdini items
- · Old rodeo items
- · Airline collectibles: Pan-Am, TWA, Etc.
- · Late 70's & earlier military items
- · Extraordinary mobster memorabilia
- Vintage police officer collectibles
- Firefighter collectibles
- · Pre 40's telephones
- · Folk art
- Vintage BB guns/cap guns
- · Early Halloween items
- Pre 40's Christmas items
- Hawaiiana/Tiki Collectibles
- Vintage sports collectibles
- Vintage election memorabilia
- Musical instruments
- Civil War antiques
- Vintage gas pumps
- · Pre 70's old neon signs
- Strange woodcarvings
- Vintage collegiate collectibles

We currently are not looking for: Farming/ agriculture items, tools, glassware, appliances, tractors, crocks, stoves or country primitives

PLEASE NOTE: No retail shops or flea markets, After all, Mike and Frank are modern day archaeologists! Happy picking! ERICAN PICKERS

DON'T QUITE KNOW WHAT'S IN

YOUR BARN OR STORAGE SHED?

LOUISIANA is excited to welcome Mike Wolfe, Frank Fritz and Antique Archeology to the area. The team will film episodes of their hit series AMERICAN PICKERS throughout

赶 🕃 cineflix

Mike and Frank are always on the hunt

you! If you have a large collection you

American Pickers, now's your chance!

• Your name • Contact number • Description of your item(s)

If you and your rusty gold qualify, you could be visited by Mike

think is worth the pick and want on

Or leave a message at: 1-855-OLD-RUST

and Frank and appear on American Pickers!

Be sure to include the following info:

for rusty gold, and they want to hear from

To be considered you must email us at: americanpickers@cineflix.com

Louisiana. Filming is scheduled for March 2016.

AMERICAN PICKERS is a documentary series that explores the fascinating world of antique 'picking' on History. This hit show follows two of the ...most skilled pickers in the business, Mike Wolfe and Frank Fritz, as they embark on an epic road trip across the U.S. in search of America's most valuable antiques from motorcycles, classic cars and bicycles to one-of-a-kind vintage memorabilia. Mike and Frank are on a mission to recycle America, restore forgotten relics to their former glory, and learn a thing or two about American history along the way.

AMERICAN PICKERS is looking for leads and would love to explore what you may have. They are on the hunt for interesting characters with interesting and unique items. Some of what they look for: vintage bicycles, toys, unusual radios, movie memorabilia, advertising, military items, folk art, vintage musical equipment, vintage automotive items, early firefighting equipment, vintage clothing, pre-50's western gear.

AMERICAN PICKERS is produced by Cineflix Productions for History. New episodes air Wednesdays at 9pm ET on History.

If you have a large collection or want to refer someone to Mike and Frank, email: your name, number, address and description of the collection and photos to: <u>americanpickers@cineflix.com</u>855-old-rust.

****Junior Achievement of Southwest Louisiana will host a JA in a Day at R W Vincent Elementary on Tuesday, March 8th from 8 am - 12:00 pm. All kindergarten through fifth grade classes will receive a complete JA financial literacy program. Volunteers are need to teach the programs. They are easy to teach and fun for the students. Please contact Meg Lovejoy at mendoveloyed org or 527-6168 for more information.

<u>****Color Vibe 5K</u> is returning to Lake Charles on Saturday, Feb. 20, 2016. The event will be held at the Arcade Amphitheatre at the Lake Charles Civic Center (1000 Bord du Lac Dr.) and the run will begin at 8 a.m. Throughout the course, participants run, walk, or dance their way through color stations, where vibrant colors tie-dye white outfits and costumes. When it's over, everyone is invited to stick around for a large colorful dance party hosted by a professional sound crew and DJ. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life Lake Charles. Children 12 and under can participate for free. For more information or to sign for the Color Vibe 5K, visit www.thecolorvibe.com/lakecharles.ohp or email support@thecolorvibe.com.

*** Tickets are now on sale for next year's 2016 Louisiana Winter Beer Festival which will be held on Saturday, March 5, 2016 from 1 to 5 p.m. at the Historic Calcasieu Marine National Bank Building (844 Ryan St.) in Downtown Lake Charles, LA. You can get your tickets at www.lawinterbeerfest.com. This will be the second year for the Craft Beer festival, benefiting the Lake Charles Symphony, and the event organizers are expecting a selection of well over 100 Louisiana and American craft beers, meads and ciders for attendees to sample. Regular admission tickets are \$50 per person, which grants the attendee admission to the festival at 1 p.m. on Saturday, a commemorative tasting glass and unlimited samplings of the regular festival beer offerings. VIP tickets will also be available for \$100 per person. The VIP ticket grants early admission to the festival at noon on Saturday; an express VIP entry gate; access to exclusive beer selections; a special commemorative VIP tasting snifter; access to a VIP restroom; and a token for food from one of the festival food vendors. VIP tickets are limited. Designated drivers will receive access to the festival, free water and soft drinks, and a commemorative tasting glass for \$15. Presenting sponsors for this year's festival are Empire of the Seed Historic Properties and L'Auberge Casino Resort. Beer sponsors will be Crescent Crown Distributing and Southwest Beverage.

***To better accommodate their donors, <u>Lifeshare Blood Center</u> has adjusted the hours at their facility located at 214 Dr. Michael DeBakey Drive in Lake Charles. They will still be open Monday, Tuesday and Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and the first and third Saturday, 8 a.m. to Noon, but on Wednesdays they will open at 6:30 a.m. and close at 3 p.m. and on Thursday they will open at 10 a.m. and stay open until 8 p.m. Every 2 seconds a patient needs blood to live. They must rely on volunteer blood donors to live. Potential blood donors receive a mini-physical prior to the donation procedure, including a check of temperature, pulse, blood pressure and iron level. Donors must be age 16 or older (16 year olds require written parental consent), weigh at least 110 pounds, feel well and healthy at the time of donation, eat a good meal and increase fluid intake prior to donation. Donors will be asked to present identification. For more information and to schedule a blood donation or blood drive, call (337-436-4932).

***The Arts Council of SWLA, City of Lake Charles, and Deep South Productions are getting ready for the upcoming season of <u>Live @ the Lakefront</u>, the annual free outdoor concert series taking place at the Lake Charles Civic Center's Arcade Amphitheatre on three consecutive Fridays, March 11, 18, and 25, 2016. Live @ the Lakefront will be from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., and the event will offer an extensive artisan market, local food vendors, and interactive activities for the whole family. All beverage sales benefit the Arts Council's year-round services and programs. The 2016 live music line up and Headliner sponsors will be announced after the New Year. For information on sponsoring this event, call 337-439-2787.

Shell Chemical Breaks Ground On Major Louisiana Expansion

In Ascension Parish, \$717 million project will create world's largest single-site production of alpha olefins

GEISMAR, La. - Today, Gov. John Bel Edwards and Shell Chemical LP officials highlighted the beginning of construction for the company's \$717 million linear alpha olefins manufacturing plant in Geismar. LED Secretary Don Pierson joined company executives - including Shell Americas Vice President of Manufacturing Aamir Farid; Shell Chemical General Manager of Higher Olefins/Derivatives Rutger Beelaerts; and Shell Geismar General Manager Rhoman Hardy - along with U.S. Rep. Garret Graves and Ascension Parish President Kenny Matassa in a groundbreaking ceremony at the company's Ashland Belle-Helene reception center.

The project will make Shell Chemical's Geismar location the largest single-site producer of alpha olefins in the world. In addition, the Shell Chemical project will retain 650 existing jobs in Geismar; create 20 new direct jobs with an average annual salary of \$104,000, plus benefits; and result in an estimated 93 new indirect jobs, for a total of more than 110 new jobs in the Capital Region and surrounding areas.

Gov. Edwards said, "We are proud of Louisiana's status as one of the world's great markets for the petrochemical industry. Shell Chemical is one of our most important economic driver companies, and we salute them for recognizing Louisiana as the most competitive location for expanding their production with this next-generation investment. We look forward to continued success for Shell Chemical and for the many hard-working Louisiana employees who contribute to that success. Their families will benefit, as will Ascension Parish and surrounding communities. This is a great win for our state."

The three-year project will culminate with Shell Chemical beginning operation of the new manufacturing plant in early 2018. The company has selected Baton Rouge-based Turner Industries as its general construction contractor. At peak building activity, the project is expected to generate 1,500 construction jobs.

"We're excited to be formally breaking ground for the AO-4 expansion, a project that will reinforce Shell Geismar's position as a key contributor to the economic vitality of our region and our state," said Rhoman Hardy, Shell Geismar general manager. "We'd like to express our appreciation to the Louisiana Department of Economic Development for their invaluable assistance in making the AO-4 project a reality."

The new manufacturing plant will produce intermediate chemicals that are crucial for a variety of consumer and industrial products, including packaging plastics, synthetic lubricants, drilling fluids and household detergents. Capacity of the linear alpha olefins unit will be 425 kilotons per year, and the new plant will be the fourth alpha olefins production plant on the 800-acre site, where Shell Chemical has operated since 1967.

"Ascension Parish is at the intersection of sustained economic development and the highest

quality of life for Louisiana families," Ascension Parish President Kenny Matassa said. "We are proud that Shell Chemical continues to invest in Ascension Parish, and we look forward to many more years of fruitful collaboration."

"We are very appreciative of Shell Chemical's continual investment in Ascension Parish," said President and CEO Mike Eades of the Ascension Economic Development Corporation. "Today's announcement is a testament to the quality of our workforce and the excellent business climate in our parish."

LED began discussing a potential project with the company in November 2013. To secure the project, the state offered a competitive incentive package that includes the comprehensive solutions of LED FastStart[®] - the nation's No. 1 state workforce development program. In addition, the company is expected to utilize Louisiana's Enterprise Zone and Industrial Tax Exemption programs.

"BRAC congratulates Shell on its expansion and global leadership in production of alpha olefins," said President and CEO Adam Knapp of the Baton Rouge Area Chamber. "Not only does this expansion create direct, high-wage positions at Shell, but it also provides a significant number of jobs for our region's leading industrial contractors, representing significant economic opportunity."

2nd Annual "Pull for Families Helping Families" Clay Shoot! <u>Friday, March 18, 2016</u>

Where:

Lake Charles Gun Club 18, 2016 6601 Ward Line Road two start times - 10:30am or 1:30pm Lake Charles, LA 70607 When: Friday, March

Choose from

Registration is now OPEN for our 2nd Annual "Pull for FHF" Clay Shoot to be held Friday, March 18, 2016. This will be a 10 station shoot for 4 person teams - Entry fee is \$100 per person, (\$400) per team. If time permits, there will be a Long Bird and Flurry Contest. There will be food and drinks for everyone to enjoy, shotgun shells and ear protection will be provided. We ask that participants provide their own eye protection (standard sunglasses). Choose from two event times - 10:30 AM or 1:30 PM!

Pre-registration is required. Golf carts, Gators and 4 -wheelers are welcome and encouraged! A few spare golf carts may be available on a first-come, first-served basis. Shoot to be held at the Lake Charles Gun Club - 6601 Ward Line Road, Lake Charles, LA 70607

All proceeds will benefit the programs of Families Helping Families...Supporting ALL Disabilities!

Our <u>mission</u> is to enable and empower individuals with disabilities and their families by providing information, referral, education, training, peer support, and advocacy skills.

If you need more information or have any questions, please contact Susan Benoit at <u>subenoit@fhiswla.org</u> or call (337) 436-2570 or visit our website at: <u>www.fhtswla.org</u>



A Family-Friendly Event • Rain or Shine • Concrete Parking

VEHICLE REGISTRATION

Early Bird Registration - \$30 • Day of Event - \$35 Open to cars of all makes, models and years, as well as trucks, motorcycles, golf carts, ATV's and side-by-sides.

LOCATION

SOWELA Technical Community College 3820 Sen. J. Bennett Johnston Ave. Lake Charles, LA 70615

Questions? Call (337) 421-6903 or email marianne.white@sowela.edu.

TICKET INFORMATION Spectators - \$5 • Kids 12 and Under FREE

HAPPENINGS

Food vendors
Military and first responder vehicles
Vehicle awards

Find us on: facebook:

Cars for COWBOYS

Take a Chance to Win 1 of 3 New Cars

2016 Buick Verano Donated by Jack Hebert at All-Star Buick/GMC

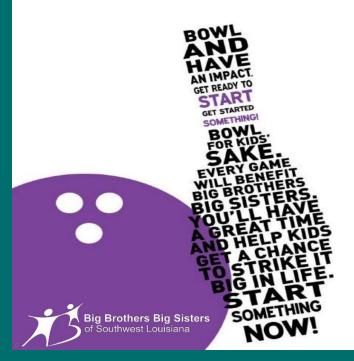
2016 Chevrolet Cruze Donated by Billy Navarre Chevrolet/Cadillac

2016 Toyota Camry LE Donated by Philip Tarver & Lake Charles Toyota

Tickets \$20 Drawing September 3, 2016 Need not be present to win

For more information www.mcneesecarsforcowboys.com

Big Brothers Big Sisters -Bowl for Kids' Sake



Saturday, May 7, 9:30am to 4:30pm @ Petro Bowl. Register now: bbbs-swla.kintera.org/bowl2016 For more information, please contact: Sally McPherson at 337-478-5437, ext 114 or bfks2016@bbbs.swla.net Will you help us help match more children in need of academic, social, and

emotional support with caring role models? Form a team, raise pledges and then come to our bowling party and enjoy entertainment, music, prizes, and fun.

Bowling team minimum pledge of \$180 to participate, but we bet you can score more! Teams can be up to 6 people. Sign Up Now! Lanes are Open!

Click here more details

*L.I.F.T. (Living Information for Today), is a social program for lake area widows and widowers sponsored and hosted by Hixson Funeral Homes. They meet on the 2nd Wednesday of every month at their Moss Bluff location, the 3rd Wednesday in Sulphur,

and the 4th Wednesday in Lake Charles. All start at 10 a.m. For more info call Jody Barrilleaux 337-794-3113.

***HALOS (Healing After Loved Ones Suicide)** Support Group will meet on Tuesday. Sept 1. at 6 p.m. in the cafeteria of West Calcasieu Cameron Hospital in Sulphur. For more information, call Jody Barrilleaux at 337-794-3113.

WEST CAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE Lena McArthur/Executive Director Stacie Monteilh/ Administrative Assistant 337-313-1121 Visit Our Website! www.westcal.org