



Chamber Update

Join us Thursday at the East-West Business After Hours

Don't miss the joint Business After Hours for the West and East Chambers of Commerce to be held this Thursday, April 3 from 5-7 p.m. (not our usual time of 5:30-7:30!) at the Louisiana Medical Center & Heart Hospital located at 64030 Hwy. 434 in Lacombe.

SBAC Models for Success Breakfast set April 17

The Small Business Advisory Council will hold its first bi-monthly "Models for Success" Breakfast on Thursday, April 17 from 8-9 a.m. at Southeastern Louisiana University's Koop Drive facility, Room 325. Scott and Paul Ballard of Covington will talk about how they and their brother, Steve, took the knowledge and experiences they gained from operating two national franchise locations and parlayed them into building their own original national franchise operation—WOW Wingery. Come and hear their secrets of success learned since their first WOW Wingery and Café opened in December 2001.

Thanks to the sponsorship of Gulf Coast Bank, there is no cost to participate. Pre-registration is required. Seating is limited.

Save the date for Business Roundtable in April

The next Business Roundtable will feature the home decorating and furniture industry and will take place at 8 a.m., Friday, April 18 at the Chamber. Come and share experienced perspectives on a range of topics affecting this industry, and benefit from the knowledge of your fellow professionals.

Visit our website to register for any Chamber event:

<http://events.sttammanychamber.org>

Reserve your space for EXPO '08!

Only five short weeks until EXPO '08, the region's largest business trade show, which is set for Wednesday, May 7 at the Castine Center. Booths are selling FAST! Click links to the [Exhibitor](#) or [Sponsorship Agreement](#). Call 892.3216, ext. 21 or email info@sttammanychamber.org for more information. Our current EXPO sponsors are:

Platinum Sponsors—DQSI, Fairway Medical, Humana, Sunshine Pages/Eatel, Times-Picayune, and WGSO

Gold Sponsors—Lakeview Regional and Sophisticated Woman

Silver Sponsors—AT&T Real Yellow Pages, Covington's Village Walk, Inside Northside, and Network Logic

Committee meetings this week

- Small Business Advisory Council, Tuesday, April 8 at 8 a.m., Chamber office

Ribbon Cuttings

Members are welcome to attend and celebrate the grand opening this week of:

Bevolo Gas & Electric Lights
2 p.m., Thursday, April 3
68467 Highway 59, Suite 7
Mandeville
249.6040

If your business has plans for expansion or if you know of a new business startup that wants to hold a Ribbon Cutting, contact info@sttammany chamber.org.

Vote this Saturday, April 5

Don't forget to vote this Saturday, April 5, in the Republican closed party primary for the 1st and 6th Congressional Districts.



Spotlighting Our Small Business Members

This spotlight on small business is a new project of our Small Business Advisory Council (SBAC). Winners are drawn from business cards collected in the fishbowl at Chamber events. The more Chamber events you attend, the greater your chance of being in the spotlight!

- **Charles N. "Chuck" Branton** was recently honored by CityBusiness as one of the top 50 lawyers in the region. His firm represents small businesses and is engaged in the areas of family law, criminal defense and general litigation. For more information, please call **Branton & Associates** at 985.641.4798 or www.sttammany law.com.

MEMBER HAPPENINGS

Lt. Governor Mitch Landrieu, the Department of Culture, Recreation & Tourism and Louisiana Office of State Parks invite you to the Grand Opening of New Cabins at Fontainebleau State Park on Friday, April 4 at 10:30 a.m. Tours of the cabins and site to follow. RSVPs are requested at 888.677.1400 or for more information please

contact Seth Harvey in the Office of Lieutenant Governor Mitch Landrieu, at 225.342.8153.

Louisiana Technology Council (LTC) will host its 7th Annual Homeland Security Forum—Technologies Used in Combating Multiple Forms of Terror Presented on Bio, Cyber, Man-Made and Nature—on Friday, April 11 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Pan American Life Center in New Orleans. Prominent international, national, state and local security experts will speak on all forms of terrorism, how technology has played an important role in combating terrorism, how Louisiana businesses are taking an active role and how they can participate. For a list of speakers and the current agenda or for more information on this event, please visit <http://www.ltc-la.org/en/cev/?100>.

Speakeasy Center in Mandeville will teach an intensive course on the English language for advanced beginners. Two four week sessions will be offered. For more information call 985.792.0901 or visit www.speakeasycenter.com.