

A Publication for the Members of the St. Cloud Greater Osceola Chamber of Commerce

THE ST. CLOUD CHAMBER – YOUR CONNECTION TO GROWTH AND SUCCESS!

MISSION STATEMENT: The St. Cloud Greater Osceola Chamber of Commerce is dedicated to:

- Providing business leadership, education and networking for economic growth.
- Promoting and preserving our quality of life.

July 27, 2010

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- Candidates Forum August 3
- Quarterly Luncheon with Elections August 12
- Politics in the Barn August 17

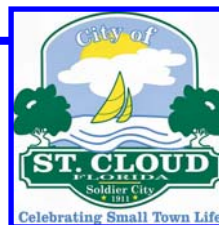
PUBLIC INVITED TO HEAR CANDIDATES IN COUNTY COMMISSION RACE – DISTRICT 4

The St. Cloud Chamber of Commerce welcomes the public to the Chamber's Roundtable/Forum for candidates in the contest to represent District 4 on the Osceola County Commission. The Roundtable/Forum is scheduled for Tuesday, August 3, beginning 6:00 p.m. at the St. Cloud Senior Center, 3101 17th St., St. Cloud. The Roundtable is produced by and will be managed by the Governmental Affairs Committee of the St. Cloud Chamber. Robert Bass, Committee Chairman, will serve as moderator. Questions will be presented to each candidate by Moderator Bass. The questions will be developed by a small task force of Governmental Affairs and held in confidence to ensure fairness to all candidates.

Questions will deal with issues of current and future general interest and relevance to the governance of the County.

Candidates campaigning for District 4 are Frank Atkisson, Jose Colon, Melani Davis, Bob Healy Jr., Don Miers, Donny Shroyer and Mel Welch.

Sponsors for District 4 Roundtable



DR GREGO, SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS, TO SPEAK AT QUARTERLY LUNCHEON

Dr. Michael Grego will be the featured speaker August 12 for the St. Cloud Chamber Quarterly Luncheon, which also features Annual Election to the Board of Directors and presentation of Quarterly Awards for Volunteer, Community Image Renovation, Community Image New Construction, Business of the Quarter, Non-Profit Organization and Ambassador of the Quarter. Dr. Grego, superintendent of Osceola County schools, will address the FCAT results and the future for education in Osceola County, both from an academic standpoint and a financial standpoint. Sponsoring the event is **CenterState Bank Central Florida** and **Education Foundation - Osceola County**. Location Royal Crest Room, Royal St. Cloud Golf Links, 5310 Michigan Ave., St. Cloud.

Quarterly Awards will be announced during the event, as well as the candidates elected to the Board of Directors for the 2011-2013 term. Call the Chamber to reserve your seat. Registration is \$17 per person.

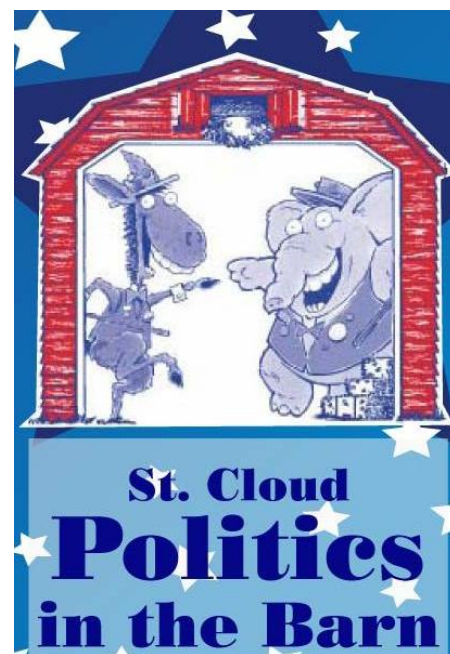
Vote for Chamber Board Candidates by Absentee Ballot

There are two ways to vote for the candidates: first, vote in person at the Luncheon August 12, where voting closes at 12 noon; secondly, by Absentee Ballot which must be requested from the Chamber between now and August 9, and returned to the Chamber in a sealed envelope by 5 p.m., Monday, August 9. Voting by Absentee Ballot must be done by the authorized representative of record in the files at the Chamber and must be requested in writing (including email). When the request has been verified, the proper person will receive a blank ballot and Voter Confirmation Form to be used in the process, which must both be returned to the Chamber office. Sealed Ballots will be turned over to the Official Ballot Counting Committee at 12 noon on Friday, Aug. 12.

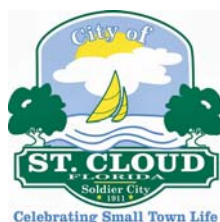
Call now to reserve your seat and to request an Absentee Ballot if you plan to use one.

POLITICS IN THE BARN AUGUST 17

The St. Cloud Chamber's bi-annual "Politics in the Barn" will be held at the **St. Cloud Civic Center**, 3001 17th St., St. Cloud August 17, beginning at 6 p.m. Candidates meet the public one-on-one, enjoy a BBQ dinner, listen to Country Singer Kenyon Lockry entertain and vote in a straw ballot. The straw ballot includes the Governor's race where you can select from a candidates line up that includes: Republicans Mike McCalister, Bill McCollum, and Rick Scott; Democrats Brian P. Moore and Alex Sink. The Florida contest of the U. S. Senate seat involves Republican candidates William Escoffery III, William "Billy" Kogut and Marco Rubio; Democrats candidates Glenn Burkett, Maurice Ferre, Jeff Greene and Kendrick B. Meek, and Independent Candidate Charlie Crist. On the local level, Osceola County Commission District 4 has seven candidates: Republicans Frank Atkisson, Melani Davis, Donny Shroyer and Melvin Welch; Democrats Bob Healy, Jr. and Don Miers; and Independent Jose Colon. Two races for St. Cloud City Council have opposing candidates, Seat 1 (Rebecca Borders and Jay Polachek) and Seat 3 (Eric Holhon and Russell Lane Holmes). Mickey Hopper of **Stewart Approved Title** is Committee Chairwoman of "Politics in the Barn." Tickets are available at the Chamber 407-892-3671 at \$12 per person (\$5 for ages 10 & under).



SPONSORS FOR POLITICS IN THE BARN



1207 ILLINOIS AVE ST CLOUD, FL. 34769



JOB FAIR – AUGUST 12

On Thursday, August 12, Congressman Bill Posey is sponsoring a job fair at Osceola Heritage Park, 1875 Silver Spur Lane, Kissimmee, jointly sponsored by Osceola Economic Development Committee, Kissimmee Chamber, Osceola County Sheriff's Office and the St. Cloud Chamber. Time 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

The fair includes job related workshops. To participate as an employer, visit www.posey.house.gov. Companies currently participating include: All Care Health Services, Central Florida Institute, CSI – Nurse World, Hilton Grand Vacations, In/On Cable Installers, Massey Services, New Frontier Academy, Staples Inc., U.S. Army, Walt Disney World Swan & Dolphin Hotel.

U.S. CENSUS BUREAU THANKS CHAMBER

Chamber staff receives a plaque from the U.S. Census Bureau for the support give by the Chamber to help with Census preparation. Over 30 meetings and training sessions were held in the Chamber Board Room as well as promulgation of census information. Other community entities that provided valuable support are **City of St. Cloud** and **St. Cloud In The News**. Picture at left is, left to right, Betty Medema and Madelyn Long of the Chamber, and Martha Brown of the Census Bureau.



MEMBER ACTIVITIES

- **CenterState Bank Central Florida** is holding its Community Charity Golf Tournament at **Kissimmee Bay Country Club**, Saturday, August 28; Tee sponsor - \$50; Putting Green Sponsor - \$100; Driving Range Sponsor - \$150; Beverage Cart Sponsors - \$200; Team scramble event – registration 7 a.m. Shotgun start 8 a.m.; proceeds will benefit **St. Cloud Food Pantry** and CenterState Bank Central Florida Scholarship Program at Valencia Community College. Steak lunch; beverages on course, door prizes. Awards for longest drive, closest to the pin, par three hole-in-one; Call Charlie Anderson 407-201-9517; Tom White 407-847-3800; Andy Pisciotto 407-891-8396. \$70 per player or \$280 per team. Checks payable to Community Charity Golf Tournament. Would welcome your participation by donating an item that could be used as a door prize.
- **Savannah Court Assisted Living Residence** is having an open house Friday, July 30 and Saturday, July 31 at its location 3791 Old Canoe Creek Road, St. Cloud. Refreshments Friday 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.; Saturday 12 p.m. – 3 p.m. Door Prizes for those who attend. Call 407-892-8502 for further details.
- **Osceola Center for the Arts** is presenting “Bye Bye Birdie”, a rock & roll musical comedy, with performances running August 6 – 22. Schedule of times has shows Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. in the Main Stage. Admission is \$15. For box office, call 407-846-6257.

MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Save the date – Pioneer Day, Saturday, November 13, being held by **Osceola County Historical Society**, 750 North Bass Road, Kissimmee. Free admission 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., live entertainment, living history re-enactors, Mosquito County BBG cook off, kids area. Mark your calendar.
- **Ritter's Tropic 1 Orchid Nurseries**, 2994 Neptune Rd., Kissimmee, announces its Summer Orchid Sale July 31 to August 8. Large selection of species, hybrids and intergenerics. Special Bargain Tables too. 25% off on all sale plants. For more information, call 407-846-3020 or 407-855-8809.
- **Stantec Consulting Services, Inc.** has announced that they are acquiring WilsonMiller, Inc., a company headquartered in Naples, with 265 employees spread over 10 offices in Florida. WilsonMiller, Inc. is a multidisciplinary planning, design and engineering firm providing services for infrastructure, transportation, land management and environmental projects to public and private clients. Stantec, an international firm with 150 offices in many states and Canada, employing over 9,500, has, until this acquisition, had a smaller presence in Florida. Chamber members have come to know Stantec through its many projects completed in Osceola County and through the involvement in the Chamber of Kevin Rainey, a former Chamber Board Chairman who heads up the St. Cloud office.

- **Personal Mini Storage**, 350 Commerce Center Dr., St. Cloud, is holding its annual School Supply Drive. Items such as #2 pencils, wide-ruled notebook paper, glue sticks or 8-oz. glue bottles, 24 pack crayons, markers or colored pencils, wooden rulers and pocket folders with prongs are much in demand. Please bring in all your school supply donations by August 7.

CHAMBER FACEBOOK CONTINUES TO GROW

The Chamber Facebook account has over 300 “Friends” due to the diligent efforts of **Diana Treese** who initiated this project on behalf of the Chamber and continues to manage it.

BUSINESS AFTER HOURS SHOWCASES CONVENIENT CARE OF ST. CLOUD

Business After Hours host **Convenient Care of St. Cloud**, 1931 Narcoossee Road, St. Cloud, introduced members to its new facility. The well attended event was supported by the great food of **St. Cloud Regional Medical Center** whose culinary staff catered the event. Convenient Care was set up by St. Cloud Regional Medical Center as an outreach walk-in service facility. It is well equipped to provide a number of services that otherwise might send patients to the emergency ward. Staffed by two resident physicians, Dr. Patrick Dang and Dr. Luis Mojicar, one can drop in without an appointment and know that broken limbs can be confirmed with an immediate X-ray and set and be back out without major delay. Other services include school and sports physicals, I/D abscess, joint injections, ingrown nail removal, adult chronic medical care, routine exams, annual physicals, musculoskeletal injuries and work related injuries. Weekday hours are Monday – Friday 9 a.m. - 8 p.m. Saturday and Sunday 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. This facility provides a great service to employers who offer wellness programs for their employees that might include DOT physicals, pre-employment physicals, drug screens, rapid drug test, audiograms, annual work & school physicals, vaccinations, influenza vaccines, H1N1 vaccine, BAT testing, FIT testing, PFT testing, antibody titer draws and PPD.

St. Cloud Regional Medical Center CEO Rebecca Brewer explained the above to BAH attendees and informed everyone that a new physician will be joining the hospital staff in September, a neurologist as well as a female GYN, all of which speaks well to the progress being made to enhance the medical quality offered to the community.

Chamber Chairwoman Connie Benca of **Osceola Council on Aging** introduced the new members attending: **A-A/C Go Green LLC, Turner Construction Co., Convenient Care of St. Cloud, Independent Producers of America Inc., Jalapenos Mexican Restaurant, Kathy Pierson Communications** and **St. Cloud Cleaning Services**. Connie also recognized Mickey Hopper of **Stewart Approved Title, Inc.**, St. Cloud City Councilwoman, who attended. She made one happy attendee leave with a smile. James Pridgen, **Pinch-A-Penny Pool Supplies and Service**, won the 50/50 Adult Scholarship drawing. Kevin Cunningham K. **Cunningham Exterminating Inc/Cunningham Travel**, sold James the winning ticket. Kevin was the 50/50 guru salesman. The Featured Member business card drawing was one by Dr. Jay Cullinane, **St. Cloud Chiropractic Inc**. Dr. Jay will receive a Member Spotlight page in a future Insider edition. Several nice door prizes were provided by hosts Convenient Care of St. Cloud. Our thanks to Convenient Care for an excellent BAH and to the new service it brings to the community.



New Members attending Business After Hours



Rebecca Brewer, above, speaks to the BAH crowd about new and future additions in the St. Cloud medical services being offered.

New Medical Facility, pictured below, host of July BAH



James Pridgen, above right, receives a nice surprise when he had the winning ticket from the Adult Scholarship Fund raffle. He is presented his winnings here by Connie Benca, Chamber Chairwoman.

THANK YOU

John Corona, **Coronas Creations**, St. Cloud, enlightened the Chamber last week. He had stopped by at a critical moment when Madelyn was trying to change the overhead fluorescent bulbs, only to realize her ladder was too short to be able to reach the high ceiling. John, a painter, brought in his ladder from his truck and took over the task. Thank you, John, for brightening our day.

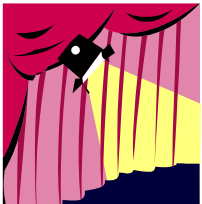
LEADS

- **St. Cloud Osceola Business Connection**, Tuesday, 8:00 am.
 - www.scobc.com for information.
- **Monthly Leaders Luncheon**, 1st Tuesday, 12 noon
 - Meet the first Tuesday of every month.
 - 11 members in Leads group – still growing.
 - Madelyn Long has been very good with inviting guests to our meetings and helping promote us as a Leads Group. We appreciate every guest we have.
 - Our goal is to add 3 new members by the end of the year. With Madelyn's help, we can bring new members to our group and reach our goal.
 - Kelly Esposito, owner of **Serenity Massage and Bodywork, Inc.** is the president of MLL. Serenity Massage specializes in therapeutic massage, skin care, waxing treatments and yoga classes.
 - www.monthlyleadersluncheon.com
- **Osceola Business Leaders**, every Thursday, 12 noon.
 - Just a reminder – Osceola Business Leaders will re-launch its Leads Group this Thursday, July 29th. We are very excited to start. We need new members to join,
 - We will meet every Thursday at 12 in Chamber Board room. Look forward to seeing everyone there.
 - Please contact us if you are interested in joining our team!!!!!! Amy.buehler@stewart.com or Dakiti.mobley@regions.com.
 - www.osceolabusinessleaders.com
- **Osceola Business Partners**, Wednesday, 12 noon
 - Osceola Business Partners is one of the original Leads Groups of the St. Cloud Chamber of Commerce and today is 26 members strong. OBP meets every Wednesday at noon; on the second Wednesday of each month, we host a luncheon for our members and guests. One of the most unique features of OBP is the time of day we meet. We find that it works for many new

businesses and after a few months with us, they are so busy with all of the leads they receive, they must leave us and join a group that meets earlier in the day. Members of OBP believe we need to give back to our community and are proud that we support the **Food Pantry**, adopt families during the holidays and are always willing to lend a hand and get involved with community and Chamber events. We are *St. Cloud Proud!*

- <http://www.osceolabusinesspartners.com>
- **St. Cloud Business Exchange**, Thursday, 7:30 a.m.
 - Leads passed – 11
 - Slots available for Jeweler, Plumber, Car Mechanic, Electrician, Pet Groomer
 - Visitor: from “Kevin Przybyl, **Breathe Easy Foundation**, a foundation for Cystic Fibrosis.
 - **Rhapsody Baton and Dance** participated in State Competition. One student placed 3rd and one of the students will go on the National Competition.
 - Speaker: Deanna Roberts, **Mary Kay Cosmetics**, enlightened everyone on the operations of Mary Kay. Looking for make-up? Looking for a way to earn extra money? Call Deanna!
 - 9 members attended BAH on Wednesday evening. Keith Ronan, **Elijah Web Solutions**, has been the lucky man.... won two drawings: One at BAH and another in Leads Group. Way to go Keith!!! Maybe you should play lotto.
 - Congratulations to St Cloud Little League. Once again the State Tournament was held at the St Cloud Ball fields. What a way to bring visitors into our community. The leads group would like to say “Thanks” to Robert Bass, **Main Street Appraisal**, for his dedication and leadership in St Cloud Little League.
 - Speaker next week: **Dr Frank Murray, DDS**.... You will love this man... Come visit us on Thursday @ 7:30am ... Chamber Board room.
 - Contact for Leads Group: Linda Pridgen, President jltc@earthlink.net
 - Leads group website: www.stcloudbiz.com

MEMBER ADVANTAGE DISCOUNT OFFERS



SPOTLIGHT ON IMPORTER & EXPORTER/ WHOLESALER

SINOTECH (N.A.) LLC
WENDELL TOMIMBANG

407-891-9916

1408 Hamlin Ave., St. Cloud

Offer: Preferential rates for member distributors, wholesalers, retailers and contractors for our full line of HVAC, refrigeration and building material products.

If you have a discount to offer Chamber members, or have a change in your discount offer, contact Jane, 407-892-3671.

****THANK YOU FOR SHOPPING WITH A CHAMBER MEMBER****

UPCOMING EVENTS

August 3	6:00 p.m.	County Commission Candidates Forum	St. Cloud Senior Center, 3101 17th St.
August 12	11:30-1pm	Quarterly Luncheon with Elections	Sponsor - CenterState Bank & Education Foundation ; speaker Dr. Michael Grego
August 17	6:00 - 8:30 pm	Politics in the Barn	St. Cloud Civic Center, Building B, 3001 17th St.
August 18	5:30-7:30pm	BAH	ALCO , 2320 New Beginnings Rd Kissimmee
Monday September 6		CHAMBER CLOSED	
September 9	11:30-1pm	SEMINAR	
September		Fairways & Friends	Harmony & Royal St. Cloud Golf Links
September 15	5:30-7:30pm	BAH & Principals Reception	Include Reception for Principals with BAH. Will intro principals, group shot.
September 10 - 12		Board Retreat	
September 25	5pm - 11pm	Annual Awards Banquet	

OUR BRONZE PARTNERS SHARING OUR VISION



*City Beverages
of Orlando*

