



# CHAMBER CONNECTION

A publication of the Ruston-Lincoln Chamber of Commerce

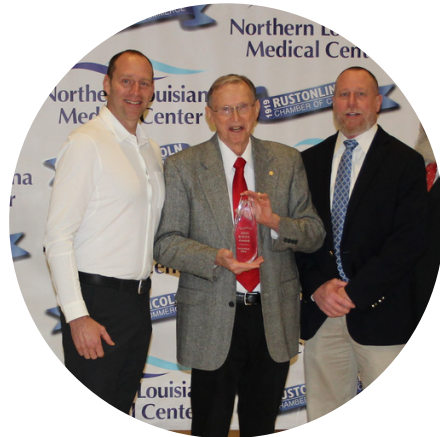
FEBRUARY 2022

## Congratulations!

Congratulations to all the award winners and thank you to all who joined us in celebration at our 102nd Annual Awards Banquet, presented by Northern Louisiana Medical Center.



Robert E. Russ Award  
**Bill Hogan**



Business Of The Year  
**Irrigation-Mart**



Ambassador OTY  
**Janet Wilson**



Young Business Leader OTY  
**Jeff Miller**



Student Entrepreneur OTY  
**Emory Nicole Winters**

Continued on page 2. Click [here](#) to see our full album on Facebook. See all winners with bios [here](#).



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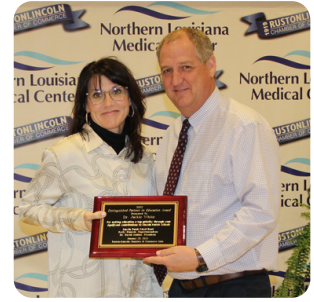
# *Continued Congratulations!*



**Bill Best Humanitarian  
Wilbert "Coach" Ellis**



**Distinguished Partner in Education  
Northern LA Medical Center**



**Distinguished Partner  
in Education  
Dr. Jackie White**



**Outstanding Law  
Enforcement Officer  
Ronald Findley**



**Outstanding Educator  
Marilyn Orr Hyams**



**Outstanding Firefighter  
Jimmy R. Knox**



**Volunteer OTY  
C. Alisa Greene**



**Outgoing Board Directors  
Ron Veitch  
(not pictured, John Deason)**



**Outgoing Chairman  
Ryan Madden**



**Hospitality  
Grambling State University**



**Top Five Young Leaders to Watch  
Candace Bowen, Bayou Title  
LaToya Houston, Quality Care at Home  
Sarah McKinnie, Origin Bank  
Oliver Neal, Meyer, Meyer, LaCroix & Hixson  
Phillip Smart, City of Ruston**



# Welcome

## NEW MEMBERS

Continued



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If you would like information on joining the Chamber contact Ashley at [asmith@rustonlincoln.org](mailto:asmith@rustonlincoln.org) or 255-2031.

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## LEADERSHIP LINCOLN XXXV HEALTHCARE & SOCIAL SERVICES DAY



Leadership Lincoln's focus in January was Healthcare and Social Services. The class visited with representatives of Lincoln Parish organizations that help make LP a great place to live. More than any other day of the program, Healthcare and Social Services Day can pull at the heart strings as so many share their passions with the group.

Class XXXV met at the Chamber and traveled to Life Choices of North Central Louisiana hearing from the director, Kathleen Richard, and also met with Lindsey Crawford, the director of Freedom13 Ministries. Back at the Chamber, they met remotely with Dr. Jackie White and Chelsea Streets of The Health Hut to learn about the services available there. Thomas Graham came by and talked to them about the benefits of being an Ambassador and other ways of being involved with the Chamber. Tami Davis and CEO, Kathy Hall talked to them about Northern Louisiana Medical Center and provided a tasty lunch made by the hospital cafeteria team. Elizabeth Turnley from Russ Place also came by and told about their facility.

A visit to the Boys & Girls Club of NLA allowed the class to see the facility and hear from Janet Wilson and Director, ElDonta Osborne. The day was completed by visiting Rolling Hills Ministries for a tour and to meet with John Cowling about the many ways RHM serves during times of need.



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# Happy Anniversary

## February

### 80+ Years

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### 20+

Andritz Fabrics & Rolls (formerly Xerium)  
Dawg House Sports Grill

### 15+ Years

Beehive Outlet

### 10+ Years

Impact Healthcare Solutions  
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Mark Johnson Plumbing, Inc.  
OfficeLinx  
Ruston Animal Clinic  
Wood Marine, LLC

### 5+ Years

2 Crazy Girls Flower Shop  
A+ Computer Specialists  
Champion Trophies  
City of Ruston  
Courtyard by Marriott  
Emprint Moran Printing  
Lincoln Parish Farm Bureau  
Lincoln Parish Sheriff's Office - Sheriff Stephen Williams  
North Louisiana Economic Partnership  
Northeast Louisiana Assn. of Realtors  
Ruston Regional Specialty Hospital

### 1+ Years

Choudrant Appliance, LLC  
Coastal Urgent Care  
Kidcam Summer Camp at Lincoln Parish Park  
Lincoln Parish Journal  
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Ruston Lions Club  
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We wish you all a happy membership anniversary! We appreciate you and look forward to many more years!



# February Happenings!



Feb 10    Leadership Lincoln Industry Day

Feb 14    Happy Valentine's Day!

Feb 15    Ribbon Cutting, Primerica, 2 p.m.

Feb 17    S.A.I.L. Industry Day

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**THOMAS GRAHAM**



**RICK GREENE**



**KRISTI GREER**



**KATHY HALL**



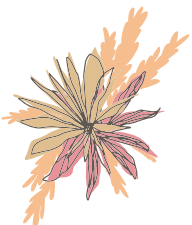
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Chair Elect & Community Devt:  
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Thomas Graham, The Lincoln Agency & LP Crime Stoppers

Events, Planning & Devt:  
Callie Grubb, Century Next Bank

Organizational Devt:  
Brent Causey, Delta Broadband, LLC

Legislative Devt:  
Tyler Storms, Attorney

Immediate Past Chair: Ryan Madden, Napper & Madden

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Brandon Sutherland, LP School District  
Anthony Tchakounte, Ruston Cleaning Services  
Morgan G. Thornhill, Uptown Downtown  
Lindsay Tomlinson, Origin Bank  
Danny Walpole, Walpole Tire & Service  
Patricia Willis, The Children's Shoppe

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Sarah McKinnie, Origin Bank  
Doug Postel, LP Police Jury  
Ryan Richard, Louisiana Tech Univ.  
Grace Ruiz, LA Delta Community College  
Phillip Smart, City of Ruston, Economic Devt  
Amy Stegall, City of Ruston, Main Street  
Stephen Williams, LP Sheriff's Office  
TBD, Grambling State Univ.

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Anthony Tchakounte, Ruston Cleaning Services  
Ron Veitch, Anti Pest & Veitch  
Janet Wilson, Boys and Girls Clubs of NLA

## STAFF

TBD, President  
Ashley Smith, Membership Coordinator  
Celeste Butler, Accounting  
Ivana Flowers, Communications & Special Events  
Victoria Sullivan, (volunteer) S.A.I.L. Manager