



CHAMBER CONNECTION

A publication of the Ruston-Lincoln Chamber of Commerce

MAY 2021

101st Annual *Chamber Awards Banquet*

May 25, 2021
Library Events Center | 6:00 PM

Presented by



Chamber Awards to be Presented

CATHI COX-BONOL

Robert E. Russ

LOG CABIN GRILL & MARKET

Business of the Year

SARAH WARREN

Origin Bank Young Business Leader of the Year

THOMAS GRAHAM

Ambassador of the Year

AMANDA CARRIER, JOHN COWLING, DANIEL DUPUY, MISSY GIBBONS & REBECCA LEWIS SMART

Young Business Leaders to Watch

The Banquet will begin at 6 p.m. with a fruit and cheese social. Dinner will be served at 6:45 p.m. by Uptown Downtown Ruston. Attire is business or semi-formal.

Tiered level sponsors are Origin Bank and Hunt, Guillot & Associates (HGA). Decorating sponsors 2 Crazy Girls & Southern Grace Events and Blessings. [Click here](#) to see additional award winners and more!



INVESTING IN OUR COMMUNITIES...

means investing in you. We are here for all the moments in your life. Anywhere. Anytime. What's next for you?



Your bank. Your community. Your family.

RUSTON: 505 North Vienna Street / 2109 Farmerville Highway

1.866.454.9228 [cnext.bank](#)



Welcome

NEW MEMBER



KTVE/KARD
(318) 323-1972
200 PAVILION RD., WEST MONROE
MYARKLAMISS.COM

If you would like information on joining the Chamber contact Ashley at asmith@rustonlincoln.org or 255-2031.

Use Your Time Wisely *Webinar (at the Chamber)*

May 19, 12-1 pm | Register Now!

Free Webinar!
Hot Rod BBQ lunch options available for \$10.

Learn best practices and analyze trends about how customers engage with your business online, then turn these insights into well-informed, actionable decisions through Google analytics.

This session will include:

- An introduction to Google Analytics
- Creating and understanding reports
- Making goals
- Using Analytics with other Google tools

Grow with **Google**

impressions
Advertising
www.PromoteYourBusiness.net
903 Shreveport Road
Minden, LA 71055
318-377-8413

ENSURE
THE INSURANCE AGENCY
*Insuring business, home, auto, & life.
Ensuring peace of mind.*
318.232.1300
www.ensureagency.com

Roseburg
A Forest Products Company

ST. FRANCIS
MEDICAL CENTER

Downtown Campus 309 Jackson Street Monroe, LA (318) 966-4000	Community Health Center 2600 Tower Drive Monroe, LA (318) 966-6200	Medical Office Building 1200 Celebrity Drive Ruston, LA (318) 232-1580
--	--	--

stfran.com

99.3
The Peach
70s, 80s, & whatever we want!

255-1111
RUSTON LINCOLN
CRIME STOPPERS
Rewards up to \$2,000

Congratulations!

JANET WILSON

Please join us in congratulating Janet, Director of Resource Development with the Boys and Girls Clubs of N. LA, for being named Ambassador of the Quarter. We are so excited to have Janet on our Ambassador Team and are so thankful for what she brings to the group. Pictured: Victoria Sexton, Ambassador Program Coordinator, presenting Janet with a gift card to award her for a great job in Q1.



If you are interested in becoming an Ambassador please email vsexton@mycentric.org for more information.



SPOTLIGHT ON Ambassador

JANET WILSON

BOYS AND GIRLS CLUBS OF N. LA
DIRECTOR OF RESOURCE DEVT.
JWILSON@BGCOFNL.ORG

WHAT MOTIVATES ME TO WORK HARD?

The children I raise money for at the Boys and Girls Club are the kids that need us most and honestly with the pandemic, they need us now more than ever, especially in the area of academics and mental wellbeing.

IF I COULD CHOOSE TO DO ANYTHING FOR A DAY, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

I would like to spend the day playing with all of my grandchildren, children and husband on a beautiful Gulf beach!

DO I PREFER TO LISTEN TO THE RADIO, PODCASTS, OR OTHER?

I prefer to listen to Pandora and pretty much always choose the Lauren Daigle station! Praise music instantly puts my mind where it needs to be.

WHAT IS MY PROUDEST ACCOMPLISHMENT?

I am SUPER grateful for the 2 adult children that I raised. They are kind, generous, loving followers of Jesus.



SPOTLIGHT ON

Board Member & Ambassador

VICTORIA SEXTON

CENTRIC FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

MARKET DEVT. SPECIALIST,

MORTGAGE LOAN ORIGINATOR & CCUFC

VSEXTON@MYCENTRIC.ORG

WHAT MOTIVATES ME TO WORK HARD?

My members. I would be nothing without the constant support of the community and the people who trust me with their business. It is constant motivation when members continue to come to me and allow me to handle all aspects of their finances and transactions. God has given me a unique opportunity in my workplace and I do everything that I can to make sure that I am giving Him all the glory in helping my members. I strive to be “unmatched” as my mentor would say, so that is what keeps me going.

WHAT IS MY PROUDEST ACCOMPLISHMENT?

My family. Brody and Mattison are the best things to ever happen to me. My life would be absolutely nothing without them and they are my motivation to be and do better. I thank God every day for blessing me with more than I could ever deserve.

WHAT WOULD I SING AT KARAOKE NIGHT?

“You’re Not Sorry” – Taylor Swift
(TAYLOR’S VERSION, if you know you know) 😊

WHAT DID I WANT TO BE WHEN I WAS YOUNG?

A Veterinarian. I now know that I could never possibly give an animal a shot or even place a bandage on one, but I can definitely rescue plenty of animals off the side of the road and keep them at our house. I’ve been rescuing animals since I was a little girl and don’t plan on stopping any time soon. We now have two rescue dogs, Dak and Louie, who happily view themselves as our children.

WHAT IS MY FAVORITE THING ABOUT MY CAREER?

The Chamber blessed me with the opportunity to work at Centric by letting me know of an open position. I am so grateful that Centric took a chance on me and that I now work for a company that has allowed me the opportunity to grow more professionally than I could have ever imagined possible. My favorite part about my career is that I can be a solution to anyone who walks in my office. As a Certified Credit Union Financial Counselor, I am able to help people achieve goals that once seemed completely unattainable to them. As a Mortgage Loan Officer, there is no greater feeling than calling someone to tell them that they are approved for their first home. It is never a no, but a WHY and a WHEN. If you have a goal, we can achieve it at Centric.



Thank you!

Thanks to all who are
a part of the official
#RUSTONOPOLY
game. Preorders can
be made once the
mockup is received.

#RUSTONOPOLY

THERE WILL NOT BE A
BUSINESS
AFTER HOURS THIS
MONTH. WE'LL
RESUME IN JUNE.
PLEASE JOIN US FOR
OUR ANNUAL
AWARDS BANQUET AT
6PM ON MAY 25TH!

CHAMBER LEADERSHIP

Chair & Legislative Devt:
Ryan Madden, Napper & Madden

Vice Chairs
Chair Elect & Finance:
Eric McCulloch, Edward Jones

Membership Devt:
Ron Veitch, Anti Pest & Veitch

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

Community Devt:
Elizabeth Turnley, Individual

Organizational Devt:
Brent Causey, Delta Broadband, LLC

Immediate Past Chair: Marisol O'Neal, Origin Bank

DIRECTORS

John Deason, Courtyard by Marriott
Thomas Graham, The Lincoln Agency
George Lee IV, Temple Baptist Church
Bobby Mounts, PJ's Coffee of New Orleans
Victoria Sexton, Centric FCU
Tyler G. Storms, Storms Law
Brandon Sutherland, LP School District
Anthony Tchakounte, Ruston Cleaning Services
Morgan G. Thornhill, Uptown Downtown
Danny Walpole, Walpole Tire & Service
Patricia Willis, The Children's Shoppe

EX-OFFICIOS

Jeremy Dubose, Crime Stoppers
Ryan Richard, Louisiana Tech Univ.
Doug Postel, LP Police Jury
Stephen Williams, LP Sheriff's Office
Marc Newman, Grambling State Univ.
Nadja Haynie, LA Delta Community College
Lindsay Tomlinson, Origin Bank
Ronny Walker, City of Ruston

AMBASSADORS

Victoria Sexton, Centric FCU (Program Manager)
Rachel Cooper, Individual
Chris Gantt, Princeton Place
Missy Gibbons, Skip Russell State Farm
Thomas Graham, The Lincoln Agency
Rick Greene, Moxey NeLA
Kristi Greer, Academy Mortgage Corporation
David Long, The Ensure Agency
Stacy Scheer, The Arbor & Terrace
Anthony Tchakounte, Ruston Cleaning Services
Ron Veitch, Anti Pest & Veitch
Janet Wilson, Boys and Girls Clubs of NCL

STAFF

Judy Copeland, President
Ashley Smith, Membership Coordinator
Ivana Flowers, Communications & Special Events
Victoria Sexton, (volunteer) S.A.I.L. Manager

Ribbon Cuttings & Ground Breaking Celebrations

More photos on Facebook @RustonChamber.



PARK HAUS
(318) 366-3309
112 WEST PARK AVE., RUSTON
PARKHAUSRUSTON.COM



PAISLEY PEACH GIFTS & BOUTIQUE
(318) 413-7518
113 NORTH SERVICE RD. EAST, RUSTON
[FACEBOOK](https://www.facebook.com/PaisleyPeachGifts/)



FROSTY FACTORY OF AMERICA, INC.
(318) 255-1162
2301 SOUTH FARMERVILLE ST., RUSTON
FROSTYFACTORY.COM



BERTHA'S UPSCALE THRIFT
(318) 436-2145
107 PELICAN BLVD., RUSTON
[FACEBOOK](https://www.facebook.com/BerthasUpscaleThrift/)



LOUISIANA ORCHARD REALTY
(318) 243-7803
302 WEST MISSISSIPPI AVE., RUSTON
LAORCHARDREALTY.COM

hiTech
Simplify 
Cybersecurity Solutions



**High-quality care
where you need us.**

ochsnerlsuhs.org

 **LSU Health**
MONROEE MEDICAL CENTER

McCarter Financial Group, LLC
Psalm 1:3
Most people don't plan to fail, they fail to plan.
S. Greg McCarter, LUTCF

GMcCarter@suddenlinkmail.com (318) 255-1444
McCarterFinancialGroup.com (318) 255-1480 (fax)

• Life & Health Insurance
• Medicare & Retirement Planning

Happy Anniversary
May



15+ YEARS

Azure Pools & Spas
Celebrity Theatres of Ruston
D & H Wholesale Medical, Inc.
Melanie Massey Physical Therapy
Ruston Kiwanis Club

10+ YEARS

Holland Real Estate Group, Inc.
Summit Financial Wealth Advisors
Village Market

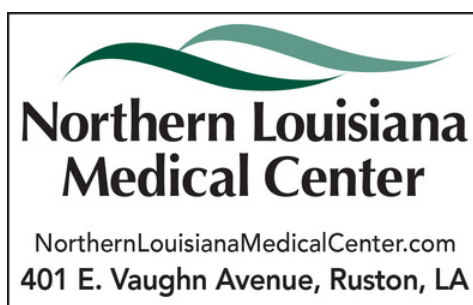
5+ YEARS

Goff and Goff Attorneys

1+ YEARS

The Flying Burger
Uptown Downtown

We wish you all a happy membership anniversary! We appreciate you and look forward to many more years!





May Happenings!

May 4 Ambassadors Meeting, 12pm

May 4-5 Leadership Lincoln at Northern Exposure at the Capitol

May 13 Ribbon Cutting, Rock Island Physical Therapy, 10am *New Business*

May 19 Use Your Time Wisely Webinar, 12pm

May 25 Annual Chamber Awards Banquet, 6pm

May 27 Ribbon Cutting, Uniti Fiber, 2pm *New Business*

May 27 Leadership Lincoln Graduation

May 31 Memorial Day *Chamber will be closed.*

VISIT OUR WEBPAGE FOR MORE INFO & HAPPENINGS.

[News](#)

[Events](#)

[Jobs](#)

[Hot Deals](#)

[Member2Member](#)

be remembered
CROWDERCONCEPTS
PROMOTIONAL PRODUCTS COMPANY
Ruston, LA
318.255.4545
www.crowderconcepts.com

Mention this ad for 10% off - expires 5/31/2021

LINCOLN REALTY Inc.



Dicky Nealy
Broker

2406 Kavanaugh Road
Ruston, LA 71270
dicky.lri@gmail.com

Office: (318) 255-7480
Mobile: (318) 243-6253
Fax: (318) 254-8077

 **Origin Bank**
Bank Original
www.Origin.bank

MEMBER FDIC


genesisenergy

2000 Farmerville Hwy. Ruston, LA 71270
www.genesisenergy.com

Store your stuff at
**WESTSIDE
SELF STORAGE**
Serving Ruston over 30 years!
Conveniently located near Tech Campus
821 W. California • (318) 255-8750

 **HGA**

Hunt, Guillot & Associates
Ruston, Louisiana



Thank you Rob Owens & Team at Beau Vines @ The Revelry for hosting a great **Business After Hours** in April! Food, drinks, and company were great!

NEXT:
UPTOWN DOWNTOWN
JUNE 22, 5-6:30PM



More photos on Facebook [@RustonChamber](#).

Pillars

CLICK THE LOGOS TO VISIT OUR SPONSOR PILLARS.

ELITE TIER



CHAIRMAN TIER



PRESIDENTIAL TIER



À LA CARTE

