



CHAMBER CONNECTION

A publication of the Ruston-Lincoln Chamber of Commerce

NOVEMBER 2021

SHOP EARLY, SHOP LOCAL!

NOVEMBER 1-27



Every time you spend \$20 or more at a participating shop, you are entered into a drawing for weekly prizes and a grand prize of \$1,000 cash!

DETAILS ON PAGE 4



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Welcome NEW MEMBERS



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(318) 251-1590
700 WOODWARD AVE., RUSTON
RUSTONMONTESSORI.ORG



LA TECH ATHLETICS
(318) 257-3637
1650 WEST ALABAMA AVE., RUSTON
LATECHSPORTS.COM



KICKZTHRONE
(318) 805-2942
108 SOUTH TRENTON ST., RUSTON
KICKZTHRONE.COM
OWNER: DARIUS COOPER



RUSTON GOLF COMPANY
(318) 372-0968
205 NORTH TRENTON ST., STE. 2, RUSTON
RUSTONGOLFCOMPANY.COM
OWNER: WESLEY WHEELIS

*Ribbon Cut
11/4, 2pm*



METROFLEX GYM RUSTON
(318) 243-0120
127 GUS LN., RUSTON
METROFLEXRUSTON.COM
OWNER: RICHARD JOWERS

*Ribbon Cut
10/17, 10am*



Welcome

NEW MEMBERS

Continued



NUTRITION & WELLNESS CENTER

SOUTHERN HOSPITALITY WELLNESS AND NUTRITION CENTER
(318) 202-3619
1526 NORTH TRENTON ST., RUSTON
[FACEBOOK](#)
OWNER: SHERRY HINTON



KIRBOW TIRES, LLC
(318) 255-1545
615 SOUTH MONROE ST., RUSTON
[KIRBOWTIRES.COM](#)
OWNERS: JOE & APRIL TATUM



QUALITY CARE AT HOME
(318) 245-0779
[QUALITYCARERUSTON.COM](#)
OWNER: LATOYA HOUSTON



LSU AGCENTER/LINCOLN PARISH
(318) 251-5134
307 NORTH HOMER ST., #101
[LSUAGCENTER.COM](#)
PARISH CHAIR: GARY STOCKTON

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



SHOP EARLY, SHOP LOCAL!

The Chamber and Downtown Ruston are excited to announce "Shop Early, Shop Local," a campaign to encourage the support of local businesses, to kick-off on Monday, November 1 and culminate on Saturday, November 27 at the City of Ruston's Kickoff to Christmas celebration in Railroad Park at 6:00 p.m.

PARTICIPATING SHOPS

Avenue Christian Bookstore
Azure Pools & Spas
Bertha's Upscale Thrift
Borders Poultry of LA
Boutique Barr
Callie's Corner
Chartreuse Pear
Chessy's Boutique
Cotton Top Print Shop
Creative Exchange
Devine Wine & The Keg
Duncan's 19th Hole
Dusse' Boutique
Embellishments
FanBase
Fine Line Supply Co.
Garden Baby
Gibson's Fresh Grocer
Goldie Boutique
Grit & Grace
Ivy & Stone Ruston
Jan's Optical
Joe's Tire Service of Ruston
McKinney Honda
National Jewelry
Paisley Peach Gifts & Boutique
Park Haus
Pearce Lumber Company
Polaris of Ruston
Rolling Hills Ministries, Inc.
Ruston Artisans, LLC
Ruston Florist
Ruston Golf Company
Ruston House of Flowers
The Children's Shoppe
The Collective
The Fabric Shop
The Fashion of Ruston
The Frame Up

Make a purchase of \$20 or more at participating stores and be entered to win. Each week, one ticket will be drawn to award (5) \$20 gift cards from 5 local stores to someone! At the Kickoff to Christmas event on November 27, more names will be drawn for addition gift card give-a-ways. The final ticket drawn will award a shopper with **\$1,000 cash**, sponsored by **Jim Taylor Auto Group** and **RocketFast Car Wash!**



From the Shelf to Under Your Tree!

When you shop local, you eliminate the stress of wondering if your items will arrive on time, if your order is damaged, or if you were even sent the correct items. When you purchase off the shelves, you are in control of those gifts being perfectly under your tree when they are supposed to be.

The effects of shopping local are extensive. The money received by local businesses for their goods or services goes right back into our community in various ways. For example, local business owners employ local residents, purchase locally-produced products and inventory, and give back directly to the community.

Shop Early, Shop Local is being promoted as an event on the Chamber's, Downtown Ruston's, and Experience Ruston's Facebook pages. All shops are listed along with their addresses.

Final Call for Nominations!

Click below for award descriptions. Awards will be presented at the 102nd Annual Awards Banquet to be held on Tuesday, Jan. 25, 2022.

NOMINATION FORMS FOR ANNUAL AWARDS

ROBERT E. RUSS AWARD ORIGIN BANK STUDENT ENTREPRENEUR OTY

BUSINESS OF THE YEAR (BOTY) YOUNG BUSINESS LEADER OF THE YEAR

BILL BEST HUMANITARIAN BETTY ROBBINS VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Living Local



IF YOU MISSED THE DEADLINE FOR THE 2022 "LIVING LOCAL" RELOCATION & COMMUNITY GUIDE, REACH OUT TO ASHLEY TODAY!
255-2031 | [ASMITH@RUSTONLINCOLN.ORG](mailto:asmith@rustonlincoln.org)

ST. FRANCIS
MEDICAL CENTER

| | | |
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| Downtown Campus 209 Jackson Street Minden, LA (318) 836-0000 | Community Health Center 2000 Towne Drive Minden, LA (318) 836-6000 | Medical Office Building 1733 Celebrity Drive Bossier, LA (318) 332-1500 |
|--|--|---|

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Leadership **CLASS XXXV** LINCOLN

Economic & Workforce Development Day

More photos on Facebook [@RustonChamber](#)



Jacques Lasseigne, LA Workforce Commission



Michelle Tolar, Blake Wheelis, United Way NELA



Ribbon Cutting,
Michelle Long, Certified Personal Trainer

Leadership Lincoln is sponsored by Origin Bank and Hunt, Guillot & Associates along with other tiered membership levels. See rustonlincoln.org/leadership-lincoln for all sponsors and info on this program.


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Dicky Nealy
Broker

2406 Kavanaugh Road
 Ruston, LA 71270
dickyng@gmail.com

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



S.A.I.L. ORIENTATION DAY



Orientation consisted of Biz Kids, presented by Centric FCU and team building at 2High Trampoline Park. Orientation was sponsored by 2High and lunch was sponsored by Uptown Downtown.

PROGRAM SPONSORS

Title – Centric FCU

Tshirt – Raising Canes

Travel – Skip Russell State Farm

[More about this program.](#)





**Last Call!
Register for these
Christmas events.**



Powered by
JTB Rentals & LP Police Jury

LINCOLN LIGHTS UP THE PINES
DEC. 2-4

Presented by

RUSTON CHRISTMAS PARADE
DEC. 11, 6PM

Cathi Cox-Boniol will serve as
Grand Marshal of the parade.

Please note new start time for parade is 6pm.



The limited edition
#RustonOpoly games
are due to arrive by
mid November, in time
for Christmas gifts.
Pre-order yours now.

VOTER GUIDE ON AMENDMENTS

Courtesy of Rep. Patrick O. Jefferson

Early Voting: through Nov. 6 | Election Day: Nov. 13

[View your sample ballot here.](#)

AMENDMENT #1

Sales Tax Streamlining

A vote **FOR** would allow a central commission to oversee the collection, electronic filing & policy guidance for state & local sales taxes.

A vote **AGAINST** would continue to constitutionally require separate collection, filing & policy oversight of sales taxes by the state & local governments.

AMENDMENT #2

Tax Reform

A vote **FOR** would lower the maximum rate of the income tax & allow removal of a major state tax deduction, triggering statutory reforms for individual & corporate income & franchise taxes.

A vote **AGAINST** would keep the constitution's current tax rates & the requirement to allow a deduction for federal taxes paid, which would stop all the statutory reforms.

AMENDMENT #3

Taxing Authority for Levee Districts

A vote **FOR** would allow the boards of the levee districts created since 2006 to raise up to a 5-mil property tax without voter approval.

A vote **AGAINST** would continue to require levee districts created since 2006, to get voter approval for any tax millage.

AMENDMENT #4

Tapping More Dedicated Funds to Fix a Deficit

A vote **FOR** would allow the transfer of more dedicated funds to fix a state budget deficit.

A vote **AGAINST** would keep the current 5% limit for tapping dedications to fix a deficit.

ADDITIONAL ITEM

Parishwide Proposition - 4.49 Mills Cont. - PJ - 10 Yrs.

A vote **FOR** would renew the millage for Lincoln Parish Library for an additional 10 years.

A vote **AGAINST** would discontinue the millage renewal.

November

35+

Bromell Agency

30+

Triad Builders of Ruston

15+

All Hours Fitness
Hot Rod Bar-B-Que
Princeton Place
The Fabric Shop

10+

6-K Development
Danni Jones Physical Therapy
& Wellness Lab
Johnny's Pizza House
Trenton Dental Center

5+

David T. Cole, CPA
Edward Jones - Eric McCulloch,
Financial Advisor

1+

Locker Room
Rhodes Realty
Ruston Eye & Vision
True Care Dental, LLC
ZenBusiness

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





Ribbon Cutting Celebrations

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



BROOKS INSURANCE BROKERS, LLC

(318) 693-2223

903 KENDALL ST., RUSTON

BROOKSINSURANCEBROKERS.COM

OWNERS: TROY BROOKS & PATRICIA MIMS-BROOKS



MICHAEL BROOKS FAMILY CLINIC

(318) 436-2600

612 SOUTH FARMERVILLE ST., RUSTON

[FACEBOOK](#)

OWNER: CHRIS BOWMAN



LINCOLN PARISH PARK ARCHERY RANGE

(318) 251-5156

211 PARISH PARK RD., RUSTON



Have you recently changed the location of your business, has the business recently changed in ownership, are you a new Chamber member? Contact Ashley to schedule a ribbon cutting ceremony and let us celebrate with you!
255-2031



MICHELLE LONG, CERTIFIED PERSONAL TRAINER

(318) 381-3185

[FACEBOOK](#)



Ribbon Cutting Celebrations

More photos on Facebook @RustonChamber



LINCOLN REALTY, INC.
(318) 255-7480
2406 KAVANAUGH RD., RUSTON
LINCOLNREALTY.COM
OWNERS: MARK & SHAREE GRANGER



LOUISIANA TECH CAREER CENTER
CAREER CLOSET
(318) 257-4336
337 KEENY HALL, TECH CAMPUS
LATECH.EDU/CAREER-CENTER
DIRECTOR: RON CATHEY



MINERVA 319
(318) 450-2388
807 HERGOT AVE., ROOM 122, TECH CAMPUS
CEO: PATRICK MILLS



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**Business
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hosted by
Devine Wine & The Keg

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November 16
5-6:30pm

Networking · Refreshments · Prizes
Food by Log Cabin & Ponchatoula



October Business After Hours



2782 HIGHWAY 33, RUSTON | [FACEBOOK](#) | 318.548-8722
MORE PHOTOS ON FACEBOOK [@RUSTONCHAMBER](#).



November Chamber Happenings!

Tentative Schedule

- Nov 2 Ambassadors Meeting, 12pm
- Nov 4 Ribbon Cutting, Ruston Golf Company, 2pm *New Member*
- Nov 5 Shop Local Prize Drawing! *See pg 4*
- Nov 12 Shop Local Prize Drawing! *See pg 4*
- Nov 13 Election Day - Ballot - Constitutional amendments info on page 9
- Nov 16 Business After Hours, Devine Wine & The Keg, 5-6:30pm
- Nov 17 Leadership Lincoln Government/Judicial Day
- Nov 17 Ribbon Cutting, MetroFlex Gym Ruston, 10am *New Member*
- Nov 17 Ribbon Cutting, Boys & Girls Club of N. LA (Dubach), 2pm *Additional Location*
- Nov 18 S.A.I.L. Media Day
- Nov 19 Shop Local Prize Drawing! *See pg 4*
- Nov 24 Shop Local Prize Drawing! *See pg 4*
- Nov 25 Thanksgiving (Chamber & CVB offices will be closed 11/25-26)
- Nov 27 Final Shop Local Prize Drawing & Kick-Off to Christmas! *See pg 4*

VISIT OUR WEBPAGE FOR MORE INFO & HAPPENINGS.

News

Events

Jobs

Hot Deals

Member2Member



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À LA CARTE



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, Russ Place

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 Sullivan, 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

TBA, Crime Stoppers
Ryan Richard, Louisiana Tech Univ.
Doug Postel, LP Police Jury
Stephen Williams, LP Sheriff's Office
Shannon Reeves, Grambling State Univ.
Grace Ruiz, LA Delta Community College
Lindsay Tomlinson, Origin Bank
Ronny Walker, City of Ruston

AMBASSADORS

Victoria Sullivan, Centric FCU (Program Manager)
Rachel Cooper, Individual
John Cowling, Rolling Hills Ministries
Jenifer Daily, Century Next Bank
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 Sullivan, (volunteer) S.A.I.L. Manager