

MONROE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WEEKLY REPORT

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Delegation from Ouachita Parish Travels to Washington D.C.

Officials with the Monroe Chamber of Commerce and the City of Monroe will travel to Washington D.C. on Tuesday, February 8 to meet with members of the Louisiana congressional delegation and other federal government representatives. The trip is one of two that the Monroe Chamber makes every year to discuss long term community projects with elected officials and members of their Washington based staff.

The Monroe Chamber delegation includes Mayor Mayo, Monroe City Council Chairman Jay Marx, incoming Chairman for the Monroe Chamber Paul Hutcheson, Terry Baugh with Ouachita Terminals, Doug Salter with ANGUS Chemical and vice president of the chamber's governmental division, David Hampton with Progressive Bank, Otis Jones with the Southside Economic Development District, Louisiana Representative Kay Kellogg Katz, District 16, David Hitchcock with Next Autoworks, Sue Nicholson, president and CEO for the chamber, Tom Nicholson with Strauss Interests and Lori Reneau, chamber executive vice president.

The group will meet with the congressional delegates and their staffs on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. In addition, the assembly from Monroe will also meet with Rodney Slater, former Secretary of Transportation and member of Patton Boggs Law Firm, which serves as the chamber's Washington D.C. lobbying firm. Norma Krayem and Neil Potts with Patton Boggs will meet with the Monroe group to review and advise on several area projects. In addition, the group will meet with officials at the US Chamber for an update on several federal issues.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- **Tuesday, February 8 at 12 noon**-The Monroe Chamber's Ambassador's Club will meet at the Atrium. Cost is \$10 per person. Monroe City Fire Chief Jimmie Bryant will be the guest speaker.
- **Tuesday, February 8 at 6:00 p.m.**-Monroe City Council will meet at the Monroe City Council Chambers at Monroe City Hall.
- **Tuesday, February 8-Friday, February 11**-Members of the Monroe Chamber, City of Monroe and the Greater Ouachita Port will travel to Washington DC for the annual winter lobbying trip.
- **Thursday, February 10 at 11:30 a.m.**-The Monroe-West Monroe CVB will host the Tourism Industry Luncheon. Dr. Nick Bruno is the guest speaker. Cost is \$12 per person. Please RSVP by February 8th to 387-5691. The event will be held at Catfish Cabin.
- **Tuesday, February 15 at 11:00 a.m.**-Ground Breaking for Pleasant Haven Estates. The new subdivision is located at 1200 DeSiard Street in Monroe.
- **Tuesday, February 15 at 4:00 p.m.**-The Monroe Chamber Executive Committee will meet at the Monroe Chamber office.
- **Wednesday, February 16 at 2:00 p.m.**- Ribbon Cutting and Open House for Glenwood Medical Clinic. The new business is located at 3995 Sterlington Road. An open house will follow the ribbon cutting ceremony.
- **Thursday, February 17 at 11:00 a.m.**-The 2011 Leadership Class will be announced. The press conference will be held at the Monroe Chamber office.
- **Thursday, February 17 at 4:00 p.m.**-The Monroe Chamber Board of Directors will meet at the Monroe Chamber Office.
- **Friday, February 18 at 1:00 p.m.**-Ribbon Cutting for the St. John Pharmacy. The new business is located at 110 Saint John Street.
- **Saturday, February 19 at 11:00 a.m.**-Ribbon Cutting for Habitat for Humanity. Location: 1517 Breard St.

Glenwood Quality Healthcare Now In North Monroe



Please Join Us To Celebrate the Opening of



Wednesday, February 16, 2011

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony – 2:00 P.M. Open House – 2:30 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.

3995 Sterlington Road Monroe, LA 71203

Refreshments Will Be Served

Imaging Center

diagnostic imaging and radiology services

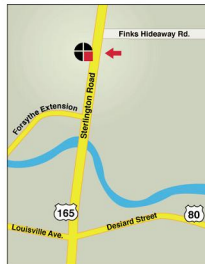
Family Practice Clinic

a full service primary care medical practice

Urgent Care Clinic

medical and minor emergency care - 7 days a week and after hours

1-877-726-WELL WWW.GRMC.COM



Save the Date and Mark Your Calendars!

The NELA-SHRM Chapter presents the 28th Annual Employee Relations Seminar

When: Friday March 11, 2011

Time: 7:45 AM to 3:00 PM

**Location: Holiday Inn Holidome
(1051 Hwy 165 Bypass – Monroe, LA)**

The 2011 Business Outlook Summit Hosted by ULM and Louisiana Tech University

When: Friday, April 8, 2011

Time: 8:00 a.m. to 12 noon

Location: TBA

Northern Exposure 2011

When: Tuesday, May 3

Time: 12 noon-7:00 p.m. (Program & Reception)

Location: Louisiana State Museum, Baton Rouge

Winter Lobbying Trip

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“This visit and the one we make in June are important to keep the entire Louisiana Congressional delegation updated and informed about projects in Ouachita Parish,” said Hutcheson. “We have to work in concert with the elected officials and their staffs in order to see progress. The discussions we have with the Congressional delegation will be about finding long term solutions for the development of our community,” he continued.

“This year our visit will include a strategy session with staff at Patton Boggs, the Chamber’s lobbying firm,” said Sue Nicholson, chamber president and CEO. “Patton Boggs has helped our community secure over \$10.8 million dollars in the last 5 years,” she said.

The group will meet at the U.S. Chamber office with other Louisiana Chamber officials for a policy briefing with U.S. Chamber executives. The Monroe delegation will return to Monroe on Friday following an Economic Development lunch, which is hosted by the Louisiana Metro Chambers of Commerce and Louisiana Economic Development. U.S. Treasury Secretary Tim Geithner will deliver the keynote address.

NELA-SHRM

Thursday, February 10th, 2011 from 11:30a-1:00p

Please join us for our February meeting. This month's speaker is Lisa Bradley, CPA, Vice President of Finance/Controller at St. Francis Medical Center. She will speak on HR Financials. This meeting has been submitted for HRCI credit.

We are meeting at the Holiday Inn - Holidome, 1051 Martin Luther King Jr Drive (Hwy 165 North), Monroe, LA. Our meeting and luncheon starts at 11:30 AM, with the educational portion of our event from 12:00 noon until 1:00 PM. Guests and members alike are welcome to join us for a wonderful meal, great conversation, networking opportunities, and an informational speaker in fields relative to today's HR professional.

The cost for NELA-SHRM members will be \$13 which covers the cost of the meal. The cost for non-members is \$20 per person.

We encourage you to come and discover what NELA-SHRM has to offer the business and HR community. So please take a moment to consider joining NELA-SHRM for 2011. The yearly dues are \$50 per year and applications are available on our web site.. If you still have not made up your mind, please join us for a meeting to see what you have been missing.

You can go to our calendar to get more information about each event. Please RSVP each month by the Tuesday before the meeting at the link below: www.nelashrm.org or directly back to me.

THE MONROE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 90th ANNUAL MEETING AND BANQUET

The Monroe Chamber of Commerce's 90th Annual Meeting and Banquet was held Thursday, February 3rd at the Monroe Civic Center Conference Hall. The evening began with a reception at 5:30 p.m., followed by the banquet at 6:30 p.m. Emcee for the evening was Harvey Hales, with Shelter Insurance and a former chairman of the Monroe Chamber. Keynote speaker was Dr. Nick Bruno, President of the University of Louisiana at Monroe.

"We were honored to have Dr. Bruno join us for our banquet," said Terry Baugh 2010 Monroe Chamber Chairman. At the event, Baugh provided a recap of 2010.

Baugh also recognized Paul Hutcheson, Northeast Louisiana Market President for IberiaBank, who will serve as Chairman for 2011. Hutcheson outlined the chamber's plans for the coming year and noted that the chamber's work was not done. "We have seen good things happen in our community because we have built a good foundation over the years," Hutcheson said. "We will continue to work to develop a world-class workforce, to build vital infrastructure, and to create an environment that fosters business growth and development."

The highlight of the evening was the presentation of the Rambin-Silverstein Memorial Civic Award to Morris F. Mintz. Mintz is a respected businessman and entrepreneur and a recognized community leader. Mintz has served as chairman for several non-profits, including United Way of Northeast Louisiana and the Public Affairs Research Council of Louisiana. Mintz is the principal owner and Managing Director of Strauss Interests located in Monroe, LA, which includes several companies engaged in both traditional and non-traditional investing as well as the development and management of commercial real estate. In addition, He is Chairman of the Board for PacTec, Inc., a Clinton, LA manufacturer of specialty and over-sized, bulk packaging products.

The Monroe Chamber of Commerce and Kitty DeGree of DeGree Enterprises recognized Dr. Terry King, MD as the recipient of the 2010 Kitty DeGree Foundation Lifetime Business Achievement Award. King is Board certified pediatric cardiologist and a world renowned pioneer in the field of Pediatric Cardiology. In 1975, he received a patent for the development of a Cardiac Umbrella Catheter that radically changed pediatric cardiology throughout the world. His other businesses include Kingsland Ranch, an 850 acre Red Angus cattle ranch in West Ouachita, and Copelands of New Orleans and Restaurant Sage in Monroe and 102 Bistro in Ruston. Together King's businesses employ over 200 people with an annual payroll of \$4 million.

Other special recognition awards presented during the program include the 2010 Bernard Heflin Ambassador of the Year Award that went to Reginald Fontana with Sparks Nissan/Kia Motors. The Chamber also recognized Dianne Rosier who served as Chairperson of the 2010 Annual Gala and Auction.

Sponsors for the event include ANGUS Chemical, Associated Business Printing, Inc., ATMOS, CenturyLink, CHASE, DeltaStyle, P & S Surgical Hospital, Progressive Bank, Pecanland Mall, St. Francis Medical Center, Entergy, FunRadio 92.7 FM, Luffey, Huffman, Ragsdale and Soignier, Opus Broadcasting, The City of Monroe, The News Star, The Radio People, Patty Stewart Photography, and Vantage Health Plan.



MORRIS MINTZ HONORED WITH 2010 RAMBIN-SILVERSTEIN MEMORIAL CIVIC AWARD

Morris F. Mintz was honored Thursday night at the Monroe Chamber of Commerce's 90th Annual Meeting and Banquet with the chamber's highest honor, the Rabin-Silverstein Memorial Civic Award. The Silverstein Award has been presented annually for 45 years to recognize leadership and accomplishment above and beyond that which is expected during the course of one's career. The Monroe Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors renamed the *David C. Silverstein Memorial Civic Award* to the *Rabin-Silverstein Award* in 2001 in recognition of the unselfish and heartfelt spirit of community that late Monroe Mayor Melvin Rabin brought to his decades of public service. The Rabin-Silverstein Award is presented each year to an individual who has not only displayed outstanding leadership and service, but who has also demonstrated an unselfish sense of community spirit through volunteer service that has advanced the City of Monroe, Ouachita Parish, and northeast Louisiana. James Moore, the 1997 Rabin-Silverstein Award recipient, presented Mintz with the distinguished award.



Mintz, a Monroe native, was recognized for the time, talent and resources he has provided to move Ouachita Parish forward. He was described as brilliant and a humanitarian, who knows how to get things done. Mintz, who received an undergraduate degree in economics and a M.A. in Finance from the University of Alabama, served as Chairman of the United Way of

Northeast Louisiana and served on the board of the Monroe Chamber of Commerce, the Ouachita Economic Development Corporation, the Coalition for Quality Public Education and is also a strong supporter of the Food Bank of Northeast Louisiana and the Children's Coalition. Mintz also served as Chairman for the Public Affairs Research Council and is a member of the Committee of 100. Governor Buddy Romer appointed Mintz to the LEDEC Board in the late 1980s. In addition, he served on the ULM College of Business Advisory Board and the City of Monroe Air Industrial Park Advisory Board.

Mintz is a principal owner and Managing Director of Strauss Interests located in Monroe, LA, which includes several companies engaged in both traditional and non-traditional investing as well as the development and management of commercial real estate. He is also Chairman of the Board for PacTec, Inc., a Clinton, LA manufacturer of specialty and over-sized, bulk packaging products. Mintz serves on the Board of Directors of Monroe based Progressive Bancorp, Inc., where he is also Secretary of the Corporation and on the Board of Baton Rouge based Louisiana Companies, Inc.

In 1979 he was a co-founder of Sunbelt Manufacturing, Inc. in Monroe and served as its Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer until 1989. The company was subsequently sold to Tyco International, and now operates under the name of Berry Plastics Corp. Prior to his current position, Mintz served as President and CEO of Strauss Distributors, a Louisiana based wholesale wine and spirits distributor.

Mintz is an active member of Temple B'nai Israel, serving in several leadership positions. He is a Board Member and Secretary for Louisianans for American Security Political Action Committee, an APAC member and serves on the board of the Goldring/Woldenberg Institute of Southern Jewish Life.

Mintz and his wife Melinda have three children Mark and wife Jennifer, Clifford, and Sarah. In addition, he has a granddaughter named Lillian Rose. His parents are long time residents of Monroe, Saul and Jean Mintz. Mintz is not the first person in his family to receive the Rabin-Silverstein Award. His wife Melinda was recognized in 2004, his father Saul won the award in 1986 and his grandfather Clifford Strauss was honored in 1975.

The decision of the Rabin-Silverstein Memorial Civic Award is based on (1) contributions to community progress during the years of the nominee's leadership involvement, (2) evidence of civic leadership ability, (3) evidence of personal, professional or business standing in Ouachita Parish, (4) total length of service to Ouachita Parish, (5) record of citizen volunteerism rising above that expected during the course of the individual's career, and (6) evidence of an unselfish sense of community that puts the good of the City, the Parish, and the region above any personal interests of the individual.

KING AWARDED 2010 KITTY DEGREE FOUNDATION LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT IN BUSINESS AWARD

In 2003, through her involvement in and dedication to the Monroe Chamber of Commerce, Kitty DeGree of The Kitty DeGree Foundation, envisioned an opportunity for the Monroe Chamber to recognize people in the community who exemplify excellence in business. As a result, she established the Kitty DeGree Foundation Lifetime Achievement Award in Business. It is presented annually to an individual who has demonstrated outstanding achievements as a business leader throughout their career.

On Thursday evening, at the Monroe Chamber's 90th Annual Meeting and Banquet the 2010 Kitty DeGree Lifetime Achievement Award in Business was presented to Dr. Terry D. King, MD, a long time business professional and a physician.



King grew up in Texas and attended the University of Texas at Austin and the Medical School at the University of Texas at Galveston. Following graduation, he served as a Major in the United States Air Force. He is a Board certified pediatric cardiologist and a world renowned pioneer in the field of pediatric cardiology. In 1975, he received a patent for the development of a Cardiac Umbrella Catheter that radically changed pediatric cardiology throughout the world. This device is still in use today and is used to close holes in the heart without having to perform open heart surgery. Through the course of King's medical career, he has cared for and saved the lives of thousands of Louisiana children.

King's second business began as a hobby and developed into Kingsland Ranch located in West Ouachita Parish. The ranch has 250 head of cattle and a blueberry operation. King raises Red Angus cattle, which are certified as "natural beef". The ranch provides the beef for his restaurants, 102 Bistro in Ruston, Restaurant Sage and Copelands of New Orleans in Monroe. Today, King's five businesses employ over 200 people with an annual payroll of \$4 million.

In addition to his long history as a business leader, he is also an active civic leader having served on the Board of the Monroe Chamber of Commerce, the Living Well Foundation, and Blue Cross/Blue Shield. He is actively involved with the American Heart Association and Families Helping Families. King is also one of the founding fathers of the local Ronald McDonald house and a founding member of the Louisiana Blueberry Producers, as well as a member of the Red Angus Organization.

A prolific researcher and writer, King is the author of numerous articles and scholarly journals, especially in the field of pediatric cardiac disease; he has participated in many clinical education activities, where he frequently serves as a speaker. His impressive resume includes numerous certifications, including the American Board of Pediatric Cardiology and the American Board of Pediatrics. King was awarded several fellowships including the Wythe Fellow, the American Academy of Pediatric Cardiology and the American College of Chest Physicians among others. In addition, he is a member of 16 medical organizations, including the American Heart Association and the American Society of Innovators in Technology

His honors include the Award of Excellence in Pediatrics in 2008, the Pioneer Award from the Pediatric Interventional Cardiological Society, The Louisiana Public Health Founders Award, the North American Hemisphere Award for Research, the recipient of the Manuscript of the Year from the American Association of Medical Instrumentation, and the Matthew Gay Memorial Award.

He has deep roots with Ochsner Foundation Hospital in New Orleans and with St. Francis Medical Center where he serves as a Member of the Board of Directors, the Director of Pediatrics and the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit, which he founded in 1978, along with the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit and the first St. Francis Cath Lab.

King also served as Clinical Professor for the Department of Pediatrics at Tulane, Medical Chairman for the "New Stories in Pediatrics..." Symposium, Clinical Associate Professor in Pediatrics at the LSU School of Medicine and on the Advisory Board for the ULM School of Nursing.

King, who describes himself as an "old country doctor," is an active member of First Baptist Church in West Monroe. He and his wife Nancy have 5 children and 14 grandchildren, all living in the Monroe area. The award was presented by Susan Hoffmann, Northeast Louisiana Market President for J.P. Morgan Chase Bank.

To qualify for the award, nominees must meet the following criteria: 1) Owned and/or was in a major administrative level position at a business(s) in Ouachita Parish over a span of at least 20 years (currently active or recently retired). 2) Assisted in expansions, acquisitions, and/or growth of the business(s) resulting in new products or services, increased profitability and/or additional employment. 3) Showed exceptional vision and ingenuity in responding to and overcoming adversities, while exhibiting outstanding professionalism in business.



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www.lsbdc.org

Starting and Financing A Small Business

FEB 12, 2011	SATURDAY	9:00-11:00 AM	ADMINISTRATION 2-105
MAR 10, 2011	THURSDAY	6:00-8:00 PM	ADMINISTRATION 2-105
APR 9, 2011	SATURDAY	9:00-11:00 AM	ADMINISTRATION 2-105
MAY 12, 2011	THURSDAY	6:00-8:00 PM	ADMINISTRATION 2-105
JUN 4, 2011	SATURDAY	9:00-11:00 AM	ADMINISTRATION 2-105

This workshop is highly recommended for all individuals interested in

- determining the feasibility of their business idea,
- planning to start or have just started a small business,
- expanding their business,
- seeking a small business loan, or
- wanting to learn more about planning.

Topics of discussion will include business feasibility, business planning, sources of funds for start-up and expansion, small business resources, and required licenses. **There is no charge to attend the workshop,**

but pre-registration is required. Call (318) 342-1224 for more information or to register or register online

at www.lsbdc.org.

The LSBDC at ULM is a program sponsored by the Louisiana Small Business Development Center (LSBDC). The LSBDC operates in partnership with the U.S. Small Business Administration, the Louisiana Economic Development, and participating universities. The support by the U.S. Small Business Administration through such funding does not constitute an express or implied endorsement of the co-sponsor(s) or participants' opinions, products, or services. The Small Business Development Center will not discriminate against anyone based on color, sex, race, religion, creed, or ethnic background. Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities and limited English proficiency (LEP) will be made if requested at least two weeks in advance. Contact LSBDC-ULM at 318-342-1224.

The University of Louisiana at Monroe is a member of the University of Louisiana System and an affirmative action EOE. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



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Commerce
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The Monroe Chamber's mission
is to lead in the creation
of an environment in which
our businesses thrive.



You are Invited to Join
The Monroe Chamber Ambassador's Club for Lunch
12 Noon, February 8, 2011
The Atrium

Guest Speaker is Monroe City Fire Chief Jimmie Bryant

Please RSVP to Sarita Daniel at 323-3461
Cost to attend is \$10 per person, which includes lunch