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THE WOODLANDS AREA CHAMBER of COMMERCE

# BUSINESS TODAY

August 2013



**Congratulate our new Vice Presidents! Check the details on page 2.**  
 1st row: Karen Hoylman, Lou Ann Tiger, Chair Elect Amy Milstead, Dawn Candy  
 2nd row: Keaton McDaniel, Chairman James Stillwell  
 3rd row: Danny Schroder, Dwight Arnold, Michael Barnhill  
 Inset: Debbie Kaschik, Linda Nelson, Gil Staley, Vicki Fullerton



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TOGGLE FULL SCREEN

## BUSINESS BRIEFS

**ST. LUKE'S RE-DESIGNATED "SPECIALTY CENTER"**

St. Luke's The Woodlands Hospital has been re-designated a United Health Premium Cardiac Services Specialty Center for its quality care for Cardiac Surgery, Interventional Cardiac Care and Electrophysiology.

SLWH met criteria based on medical standards and expert advice—incorporating measurements of breadth of care, staff experience, emergency care, quality, and reputation.

**CHUCK RITTENHOUSE RELOCATES OFFICE**

Chuck Rittenhouse CPA, PLLC, has moved his office to 1610 Woodstead Court, Suite 365, The Woodlands, in order to provide a higher level of service to his clients. His phone number is still 281-882-8831 and his e-mail address is [chuck@rittenhousecpa.com](mailto:chuck@rittenhousecpa.com).

**RASCON FEATURED ON RADIO**  
Melissa Rascon, Oman, Berry & Associates' Senior Tax Manager/Executive Director, was featured on local Houston radio broadcast, "The Price of Business with Kevin Price, part of Wall Street Journal Radio Network. Rascon discussed much anticipated protocols of Obamacare and numerous changes taking place that will impact small business owners and individuals.



L-R are Marc Berry, Paul Oman, Melissa Rascon, Congressman Kevin Brady and Terry McDunaway

**WOODFOREST DEVELOPMENT CELEBRATES FOUR YEARS**

Woodforest Development is marking four years of sales and is hosting a four-weekend birthday celebration. Visitors can stop at the Homefinder Lodge for cake and registering for prizes.

Sales in Woodforest, with homes from \$180,000's to more than \$1 million, have been robust this year with a 78% increase over 2012.

**TWO HUGHES LANDING BEGINS CONSTRUCTION**

The Woodlands Development Company, wholly-owned subsidiary of The Howard Hughes Corporation, began construction of Two Hughes Landing, second Class A Office building in the 66-acre mixed-use development of Hughes Landing on Lake Woodlands.

The 197,000-square-foot, eight-story building is the second of 11 office buildings planned for Hughes Landing. Completion is scheduled for next spring.



Two Hughes Landing

**WINKLER AND MATLIN TO HEADLINE "IN THE PINK"**

Henry Winkler ("Happy Days") and Marlee Matlin will speak at Memorial Hermann's In the Pink of Health Luncheon presented by CB&I on October 11.

Co-chairs Carie Hyman and Melissa Preston said, "They have an inspirational and entertaining story about overcoming adversity and the heights you can reach by believing in yourself."

**PRADO JOINS STRONG FIRM**  
Lisa Prado joined The Strong Firm as a Paralegal. She has 15 years' experience in Texas law, specializing in civil, insurance, and commercial litigation.

She began her legal tenure with Joe Brad Brock while attending Del Mar College. She also worked with Mostyn Law Firm and Walker & Crawford.



Lisa Prado and Greg Strong

**ART OUTLET RECEIVES PAINTINGS**

Art Outlet has received 458 new original oil paintings. It now has more than 3,000 paintings! It offers many beautiful abstracts for offices, conference rooms, or lobby. Art Outlet now

offers leasing of its paintings and a free two-day home trial.

Art Outlet is located next to Office Depot on I-45.

**KIDVILLE CELEBRATES 1ST ANNIVERSARY**

Providing children fun and creative experiences that foster self-esteem and competence is the vision of Kidville's owner Karen Roberts. The unique facility offers childhood development from infancy to six years.

With a Bachelor's in theater and Master's in education, Roberts implements programs that encourage children to explore, experiment and learn.

**LEGACY PREPARATORY BREAKS GROUND**  
Legacy Preparatory Christian Academy broke ground for their permanent school. It purchased the 25-acre site on Coe Lane between the Research Forest expansion and FM 1488. Construction will begin immediately with an expected completion date of January 2014.

Founded in 2005, Legacy is comprised of grades pre-kindergarten through 12th.



LPCA Groundbreaking

**PHOTO BOOTH OFFERS SPECIAL ENGAGEMENTS**

Market Street Photo Booth is now appearing for special engagements at Market Street! Their recent weekend events included Mother's Day, Memorial Day, The H-E-B Wine Walk, and Father's Day.

Patrons enjoyed memorable photo opportunities in a traditional Photo Booth with custom branded Market Street photo strips that included the event information.

**MCABW AWARDS \$500**

Carol Gooch, founder of Montgomery County Association of Business Women, presented \$500 to Margie Teylor, Resource and Development Manager of Montgomery County Emergency Assistance, as the 2nd Quarter non-profit for the organization.

The funds sponsored the

Annual MCEA Great American Duck Race, which "helps people help themselves".



Marge Taylor, The Duck, and Carol Gooch

**MILSTEAD INTRODUCES 24-HOUR CAR RENTAL**

Milstead Automotive has added 24-hour car rentals to its professional services.

"We established car rental service for our customers several years ago," said Chairman Chair-Elect Amy Milstead, Milstead Automotive & Transmission's president. "By popular request, we are expanding the service and making it available to the public day or night."

**THE MALL HOSTS SUMMER ART PROJECT**

In its continuing partnership with The Woodlands Waterway Arts Festival, The Woodlands Mall hosted a Summer Art Project for students entering fifth and sixth grades in the 2013-2014 school year. The first 40 students who registered created an art project to be exhibited in The Mall's Spotlight on the Arts Gallery.

**ELIS APPOINTED TO ADVISORY COUNCIL**  
Past Chamber Chairman Byron Ellis, CFP®, CLU, ChFC, CRPC, Senior Partner/Private Wealth Advisor with Ellis & Ellis, Ameriprise Financial Services, was appointed to Ameriprise's Advisory Council.

Marking his eighth appointment, he joins other top-ranked advisors to discuss issues and business opportunities with Ameriprise Chairman/CEO and other leaders to shape the company's future.

**NEST UP AT HOME & GARDEN SHOW**  
All the resources needed for home projects—big/small, classic/unique, trendy/smart—will be under one roof during the 11th Annual Fall Home and Garden Show at The Woodlands. Scheduled for August 24-25

at The Marriot, it will feature exhibits with new ideas to beautify the home's interior and exterior. Information: [WoodlandsShows.com](http://WoodlandsShows.com).

**TYNES JOINS J. BEARD**

Brett Tynes has joined The J. Beard Real Estate Company. He represents buyers and sellers of real estate investment properties. His focus is on investment real estate, specifically leased medical, light industrial, office, and retail projects.

He brings extensive experience in all phases of public company valuations, market analytics, and investments.



Jeff Beard and Brett Tynes

**REPUBLIC PAYMENT EXPANDS SERVICES**

In an era of increasingly restrictive lending guidelines from banks, credit unions and other financial institutions, entrepreneurs are looking for innovative solutions to financial challenges. Republic Payment Systems, a credit card processing firm for area restaurants and small businesses, has expanded their range of business services to include small business loans.

**THAXTON IS BAR ASSOCIATION TREASURER**  
David Thaxton, Associate at Sibbs & Co., has been installed as the 2013-2014 Treasurer for the Montgomery County Bar Association.

He practices corporate transactional law at Sibbs. He received his Juris Doctorate and Bachelor's of Arts from Notre Dame. He is very fluent in Spanish.

**MEMORIAL HERMANN ACHIEVES RECOGNITION**  
Memorial Hermann announced several hospitals have again been recognized for superior care in Women's Health Services as measured by Healthgrades.

Memorial Hermann NW, Memorial Hermann SE, Memorial Hermann SW, Memorial Hermann The

Woodlands, Memorial Hermann Katy, and Memorial Hermann Memorial City received the 2013 Gynecologic Surgery Excellence Award.

**LANDERS JOINS LJF MARKETING**

Linda Freede, LJF Marketing president, announces Jennifer Landers is its Account Executive. She will interact with clients and account services plus develop marketing plans and implement strategy.

Jennifer was Montgomery County Youth Services' Director of Development/Special Events and Girl Scouts of San Jacinto Council's Development Manager.

**BAR ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES SCHOLARSHIP**

The Woodlands Bar Association announces Javier Pera won its Future Lawyers Scholarship. A senior at Academy of Science and Health Professions, he is ranked 177/13.

He was chosen for his academic and leadership records. Pera will major in Political Science at the University of Houston.

**DRAGON BOATS ARE COMING**

YMCA is celebrating the 15th Anniversary of the popular community event, YMCA Dragon Boat Team Challenge. It will be September 26-29 at Northshore Park.

It has grown since the inaugural year—adding dragon boats, teams per bracket, two more brackets, and another day of competition! Information: [www.ymcadrdragonboat.org](http://www.ymcadrdragonboat.org).



Dragon Boat

**INTERFAITH CELEBRATES 40 YEARS**

In 1974, before opening the master-planned community of The Woodlands, George Mitchell envisioned a community that included a faith-based organization. His vision laid the groundwork for Interfaith. Interfaith's services have contin-

ued to develop in response to the community. Every service was in response to residents' requests; many programs were started by volunteers.

**ELAIR IS "BREAKTHROUGH WOMAN"**

The Greater Houston Commerce Chamber of Commerce honored seven 2013 Breakthrough Women at The Greater Houston Conference for Women. Past Chamber Chairman Nekeia Blair, The Blair Law Firm, was honored.

These dynamic women are trailblazers in their industries, careers, and communities. They took risks and embraced change.



Jennifer Landers



Jim Wendt stands at the entrance of his namesake park, Wendtwoods Park, in Creekside Park.

**LSC-MONTGOMERY OFFERS TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM**

Lone Star College-Montgomery's live entertainment technology program uses timing and technology to bring concert goers, church worshippers, and theatre enthusiasts the best sound and lighting experiences.

The program offers design and set-up, plus lighting, video, and audio equipment operation. This includes microphones, sound speakers, projectors, recording equipment, sound and mixing boards.

**MCYS ANNOUNCES BRIDGE BUILDERS**

Montgomery County Youth Services strives to provide a safe place for youth to find help in overcoming life's challenges. Outstanding volunteers in 2012 received Bridge Builder Awards.

Named for outstanding community service were Amy Milstead, Board Bridge Builder; Chardelle Schanden Addison, Volunteer Bridge Builder; and Debbie Lykka, Staff Bridge Builder.

**ESSLER SPEAKS TO ROTARY**

Former State Representative Rob Essler addressed fellow Rotarians about advance-

ing educational issues in the State Legislature, including Public Education Performance Management System. He described data that evaluates and improves academic performance.

Essler was presented a Paul Harris Award for his long service to the community, education and Rotary.

**TWFG INTRODUCES SLOGAN**

The Woodlands Financial Group's new promise and slogan for its Insurance Services was introduced to agents and staff.

President/CEO Goody Bunch said the four-word phrase supports their basic philosophy by incorporating the insurance word "policy" into a line that promises "Our Policy is Caring."

**LONE STAR FHC PROGRAM GROWS**

Lone Star Family Health Center's Conoce Family Medicine Residency Program is one of the nation's few Teaching Health Centers, offering unique models for preparing primary care physicians in a Community Health Center setting. More than 50% of the graduates remain in the Greater Houston Area; 2-3 annually decide to stay in their service area.

**FOOD BANK LAUNCHES CAMPAIGN**

For 30 years, the Food Bank has been Montgomery County's largest hunger-relief organization—feeding 40,000 people monthly.

Its Board launched a \$6.5 million Food for Life Campaign to purchase/renovate a 60,000 sq-ft facility on five acres in The Woodlands Trade Center—six times larger than the current facility.

**FRIENDSHIP CENTER HOSTS EVENT**

To celebrate the Friendship Center's Meals on Wheels Campaign, Board and Campaign Chair Dr. Don Stockton attended a Gather & Give event. It was their most successful Campaign launch—raising \$20,000.

Meals on Wheels delivers meals to homebound seniors. With a limited staff, the program operates because of 115 volunteers.

## BUSINESS BRIEFS

Send your information to [kphobman@woodlandschamber.org](mailto:kphobman@woodlandschamber.org)