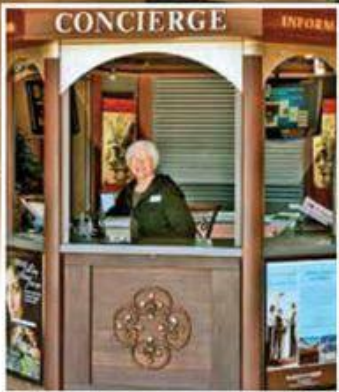


# BUSINESS TODAY

October 2014



*Learn more about The Chamber's Partners program on page 16.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Michael Spearman, CEO of Ototronix**, was recently interviewed by Rick Schissler on a weekly internet radio show, *Business Hour*. Spearman was also interviewed by host Lou Garino on 1110 KTEK-AM. Spearman discussed new hearing implant technology.



Michael Spearman

**Blo The Woodlands**, North America's original blow dry bar, invited Better Homes and Garden Real Estate Gary Greene realtor Cecelia Smith and Jennifer Pitcaithly, one of her Team Sanderson team members, along with other clients and associates, to try their signature blo out service at their Blo Crush party.



L-R: Sallie Ben Attar and Cecelia Smith show off their "blo outs"

**Commissioner James Noack** was recently interviewed on local ABC-13 regarding the Kuykendahl Bridge Expansion in The Woodlands. For more information on Commissioner James Noack, visit [www.precinct3.org](http://www.precinct3.org) or call 281-367-3977.

**MW Cleaners**, the largest dry-cleaner in the country, has rolled out the carpet for its customers – literally. The drycleaner recently placed new door mats with a new slogan, 'Be Clean, Stay Green' at their 37 Houston-area locations to reflect their commitment to the environment.



**Lone Star College System** will be asking citizens to decide on a \$485 million bond referendum, which will provide more facilities to help train workers necessary to

fill high-demand middle skill jobs in the greater Houston area.

**The Strong Firm P.C.** has signed an 8,615-square-foot lease on the second floor of Two Hughes Landing on Lake Woodlands. "Hughes Landing delivers a dynamic and thriving setting ideal for interacting with other entrepreneurial and growing organizations," said Bret L. Strong, Founder and managing shareholder of The Strong Firm P.C.

**Woodlands Christian** embraces a blended digital learning environment (DLE). All students will now be equipped with an Apple MacBook or an iPad. Experts agree that educational institutions at all levels should equip teachers to leverage technology in their classrooms. According to the U.S. Department of Labor, 65% of today's school children will eventually be employed in jobs that have yet to be created.

**St. Anthony of Padua Catholic School** opened its doors for the 2014-2015 school year recently. The school serves students in PreK3 through 8th grades and has a few openings in the PreK3 class. Mrs. Petillo's fourth grade class worked together on a team builder on the first day of school.

**A. Strong CPA**, The Woodlands-based professional tax and accounting firm, has recently moved its offices to Two Hughes Landing. "This new area provides an ideal location within The Woodlands business community to continue serving our clients in The Woodlands area, and it will become an exciting hub for business and entertainment as it evolves," said Founder, Angela Strong, CPA.

**Market Street Photo Booth** signed a 2-year contract with a high-end staffing agency. "Our aim is to strategically grow our company while maintaining the best in class personnel, product and service for our Corporate and Charity Clients in particular", said Adreana Betti owner of Market Street Photo Booth.

## EVENTS / SERIES

Austin-based **Uncle Lucius** recently took the stage with singer/songwriter Kyle Hutton at Dosey Doe. Uncle Lucius is comprised of four musicians born and bred in Texas and is getting ready to release its 3rd album *And You Are Me*. For interviews or more information contact Donna Wick Public Relations at 832-993-1604

### The Special Angels of The

**Woodlands** is cooking up a delicious fundraiser. In November the group will host a gumbo cook-off at Papa's Ice House to benefit the organization's Adopt an Angel tuition assistance program. SAW is a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization that provides a day activity center for adults with mental and physical disabilities.

**The John Cooper School** will host the 10th Annual Signatures Author Series featuring celebrity chef and author of eight books, Tyler Florence, in November at The Woodlands Waterway Marriott Hotel and Convention Center. Florence is the host of several Food Network shows, including Food 911, The Great Food Truck Race, and Tyler's Ultimate.

## GIVING BACK

**Woodforest Charitable Foundation** donates \$564,000 to numerous charities. Local charities recently attended a Charity Partnership Breakfast hosted by the WCF at Amerigo's Grille. Charity representatives collectively received \$564,000 from WCF.



**Sam Houston State University** offers unique business scholarship to LSC-Montgomery students. In the business world, money is the bottom line, and Laura Crockett, Brittany McVey, and John Woodward are all recipients of the SHSU's Smith-Huston Scholarship; a \$28,000 award provided each spring to LSC-Montgomery students who plan to major in business.



Laura Crockett, Brittany McVey, and John Woodward

**YMCA Operation Backpack** sets a new record of total backpacks donated and more importantly the number of children served who will be prepared for the new school year. To date, more than 1000 backpacks, packed to the brim with school supplies, were col-

lected at the South Montgomery County YMCA! This is a 20% increase over last year.



Through **CHI St. Luke's Health - The Woodlands and Lakeside Hospital's** participation in MCUW's 10th Annual Socks & Undies drive, the organization collected enough packages of new Socks and Undies to provide 433 students in Mo.Co. with new undergarments to help start off the school year on the right foot.



"Ragin' Cajun announced the launch of Cuz We Care, a new giving-program with the goal of partnering with 12 children's non-profits each year. A recent partner is Caiden's Hope, a Woodlands-based children's charity that helps families with children in the neonatal intensive care unit.



Dominic Mandola, president of Ragin' Cajun, presents a check to a non-profit organization.

**Stepoe & Johnson PLLC** Woodlands office team looked a little soggy after they took the ALS ice bucket challenge recently.

