

# GATEWAY NEWS

A Publication of the Iberville Chamber of Commerce MAY 2017

**SAVE THE DATE**

Iberville Chamber of Commerce

**DANCING WITH THE STARS**

**SATURDAY, AUG. 19**  
Carl Grant Civic Center, Plaq.

**2017 STARS**

- ★ Lori Morgan, Iberville Parish Sheriff's Office
- ★ Ashley Mendoza, Ashley Reid Co.
- ★ Daniel Schnebelen, Iberville Ochsner Medical Complex
- ★ Dr. Arthur Joffrion, Iberville Parish School Board Superintendent
- ★ Justin Mendoza, Dow Chemical Co.
- ★ Medric Smith, St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church
- ★ Kenny Payne, Plaquemine Police Chief
- ★ Brad Daigle, Ruggiero & Assoc., A division of Insurance & Financial Services, Inc.

For more information on sponsorships, call the Chamber 225.687.3560



## Chamber begins 'Lunch & Learn' sessions as resource

The Chamber has initiated a new Lunch & Learn program, designed to provide member businesses with valuable information on a wide variety of business topics.

The goal of the program is to provide members with resources and information to help them become more efficient and successful. The first session, held May 17, was on how Google tools, such as its calendar, docs and slides, can help build collaboration on team projects.

**The June session, set for June 14 at the Chamber office, will be on sales tax collection and will be facilitated by Iberville Sales Tax Director David Hall. A light lunch will be provided.**

"This is another way we are working to make Chamber membership valuable and relevant for members," said Chamber Director Hank Grace. "Members interested in a specific topic should contact our office, and we'll work toward addressing that need with a Lunch & Learn."

## Comfort Care tops field in Chamber golf tourney

Comfort Care Hospice was the big winner of the Chamber's 19th Annual Golf Tournament, held at the Island Country Club in March. The large field of teams also assured participants of plenty of networking opportunities at the popular event. The second place winning team was Plaquemine Bank, and the third place team was sponsored by State Rep. Chad Brown.

Platinum sponsors for the tournament were Plaquemine Bank, and Plaquemine Truck Stop and Travel Center. Corporate sponsors for the tournament included A. Wilbert's Sons, LLC, Axiall Corporation - a Westlake Company, Boardwalk Louisiana Midstream LLC, Citizens Bank and Trust Co., The Dow Chemical Company, Fred's Travel Center, Hargrove & Associates, Jacobs Field Services North America,

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*Pictured from left is the first place team, sponsored by Comfort Care Hospice. They are: Beau LeBlanc, Jacob Maranto, Christopher Patin and Mario Migliacio.*



## From the Executive Director

### Dear members,

During this month of graduations, I want to congratulate our graduates of the 6th Leadership Iberville class. Photos of the class are shown at right.

Leadership Iberville is an important program because it educates local business representatives on the assets and issues that face us, and gives them tools to become leaders in our community. It also encourages them to step up and get involved. We need their voices and hands to move our parish forward!

I also want to congratulate all our high school and post-secondary graduates, and thank the many area teachers who contributed to their success. An educated workforce is one vital part of a progressive community.

You may soon be hearing about or hearing from Ashley Mendoza, who is the Chamber's new Membership Director. In her new contract position, she will also assist us with some marketing, including having a more active facebook presence. Welcome Ashley!

**DANCING WITH THE STARS:** Please save the date of our 2017 Dancing with the Stars event on August 19. We have a great lineup of stars and this year's event promises to be more fun than ever!

Anyone wanting to get involved with a Chamber committee, please let me know. Enjoy your summer!

*Hank Grace*

# Leadership Iberville graduates its sixth class in May

Leadership Iberville held its closing session and graduation for the 16 graduates of it's sixth class at The Dow Plantation House on Tuesday, May 9. The class was treated to a steak lunch and presented with a gift for their graduation. Leadership Iberville is now accepting nominations for the class of 2018. For more information, call 687-3560.



*Leadership Iberville Class of 2017 graduates include, front row from left: Stacy Blanchard, Iberville Parish School Board; Brandi Scivicque, Eastman; Ginny Leonard, Daigle's Supermarket; Kasimaria Castle, Total Petrochemicals; Beth Bueche, Max Rehab; middle row from left: Dan Bucholtz, The Dow Chemical Company; Robert Samson, The Dow Chemical Company; Marcus Rutherford, A. Wilbert's Sons, LLC; Sharon Oubre-Williams, West Baton Rouge Chamber; Ronnie Anderson, Brown-Eagle Group, Inc.; Corey Sarullo, Plaquemine Bank; Seth Cannon, Axiall, A Westlake Company; back row: Warren Bates, Syngenta; and Bryant Kessler, The Bank of Commerce. Not pictured are Hillary Garner, Axiall – A Westlake Company; and Darla Singh, Ochsner Medical Complex Iberville.*



*Members of the Leadership Iberville class at the government and education sessions. In the top photo they are shown with State Rep. Chad Brown at the La. State Capitol, and in the bottom photo they are shown at Iberville Math, Science & Arts Academy West.*

# Comfort Care tops field in Chamber golf tourney

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Inc., Kelly's Industrial Services, Inc., Ochsner Medical Complex-Iberville, Prime Occupational Medicine, and SGS Petroleum Services.

Team sponsors included Comfort Care Hospice, Eastman Chemical Company, Essential Federal Credit Union, Performance Contractors, Inc., Louisiana State Representative Chad Brown, and Syngenta. Hole sponsors were Advantous Consulting, LLC, Anthem Bank & Trust, Baton Rouge Coca Cola, Brown Eagle, Clear Choice Communications System, Danny's Cajun Catering, Entergy, Goudeau's Healthmart Pharmacy, Guaranty Bank & Trust Co, Hanks Buick-GMC, Inc., Iberville Parish Tax Assessor Randy Sexton, Lofton Staffing & Security Services, Neighbors Federal Credit Union, SNF Flopam Inc., St. Louis Planting, Inc., Sunshine Storage an U-Haul, The Bank of Commerce, and Woodson Incorporated.

Volunteers for the event included Margie Landry of Bank of Commerce, Donna Purpera of Axiall - A. Westlake Company, Edward Earl Comeaux of Comeaux Brothers Construction, Heather Smith of Guaranty Bank & Trust, and Gary LaBauve of Neighbors Federal Credit Union.

Thanks to all our sponsors, volunteers and participants!



*Pictured is the second place team, sponsored by Plaquemine Bank. They are Steve Panepinto; Stan Barbier; Corey Sarullo and David Harris.*



*The third place team was sponsored by Louisiana State Representative Chad Brown. Pictured representing the team are Chad Brown and Clint Seneca. Not pictured are team members Monty Migliacio and Mark Migliacio.*



**INDIVIDUAL WINNERS:** Pictured from left are winners of other contests in the golf tourney. Winner of the Closest to the Pin #16 was Christopher Patin, Comfort Care Hospice; winner of Longest Drive #14 was Davis Harris, Plaquemine Bank; winner of the longest drive #7 was Lonnie Rogers, Kelly's Industrial Services; winner of Closet to the Pin #3 was Tom Boss, Jacobs Field Services North America.

**Low interest  
business loans  
available**

The Chamber has up to \$50,000 available for businesses to expand operations, make capital improvements or purchase needed equipment!





Shown at the February Chamber membership luncheon are, from left, Jolain Landry, past Board chair; School Superintendent Dr. Arthur Joffrion, who was guest speaker; Aaron Pierre, Chairman of the Chamber Board of Directors; and Chamber Director Hank Grace.

## Mendoza named new Membership Director

Ashley Mendoza has contracted with the Chamber to act as its new Membership Director. She will also assist the Chamber with some marketing efforts.

Mendoza has more than a decade in the communications and public relations industry, and is recognized as a leader in the field.



Prior to founding Ashley Reid Company, Ashley served as the senior marketing and communications leader at Albemarle Corporation, a global specialty chemicals company. In that role, she led the company's employee communications, media relations, crisis response, marketing and events teams for six years.

Before joining Albemarle, Ashley managed employee, media and government relations communications at Georgia Gulf Corporation, a multinational chemical and building products company.

Ashley is a graduate of Louisiana State University, with a B.S. in Secondary English Education and an MBA with concentrations in marketing and entrepreneurship. Ashley lives in Plaquemine, Louisiana with her son, Reid.



Scott Kirkpatrick, Chairman of Capital Region Industry for Sustainable Infrastructure Solutions (CRISIS) was the guest speaker at the April Membership Meeting. He discussed infrastructure problems and efforts to make infrastructure projects a reality. Pictured, from left, are Chamber Executive Director Hank Grace, Kirkpatrick, and Bryan Casebonne and Danny Cedotal of Shintech Louisiana, sponsor of the luncheon.

## NEW MEMBERS

**Plaquemine Beauty Salon Inc.** (225) 687-6086

**DLP Trucking LLC** (225) 776-5842

**Louisiana Public Safety Company** (225) 385-4717

**Aggregate Transport Service LLC** (225) 264-3661

**Express Employment** (225) 926-5627

## State of the Parish Address by Parish President J. Mitchell Ourso, Jr. Thursday, July 13 Nottoway Plantation Cypress Ballroom

11:30 - Networking Noon-1 pm - Lunch and speaker

Seating is limited - call 225.687.3560 or register at [www.ibervillechamber.com](http://www.ibervillechamber.com), \$20 member, \$30 others



**NEW CHAMBER HOURS:**  
Monday-Thursday 7:30 am - 4:30 pm  
Friday - 7:30 am - 2 pm

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Plaquemine, LA 70765-0248  
225-687-3560  
[www.ibervillechamber.com](http://www.ibervillechamber.com)

The Iberville Chamber of Commerce is an equal opportunity provider.