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## Chamber Update

August 10, 2010

### **THIS SATURDAY NIGHT!!!**

#### **LAST CHANCE to buy your ticket for the \$10,000 Raffle Party!**

The \$10,000 Raffle Party, our premier annual fundraiser, is this Saturday, August 14 at the Castine Center! For each \$125 ticket donation, two guests will enjoy food by local restaurants, wine, beer and musical entertainment by local favorite Four Unplugged. The highlight of the evening will be the drawing for the big **\$10,000 prize**. However, ticket holders do not need to be present to win.

To purchase a ticket now [click here!](#)

#### **Workforce Development continues as Chamber's goal**

One of our Chamber's main goals continues to be workforce development to ensure the needs of businesses are met, and to enable all individuals to be productive, working citizens.

We work hand-in-hand with the First Planning District Workforce Investment Board (WIB), which we partnered with in late 2005 to address workforce shortages experienced by employers post Katrina. The First Planning District WIB and the St. Tammany West Chamber collaborated to create a workforce and business services center in 2006. Since that time the Chamber has continued to serve as a workforce intermediary connecting employers, as the voice of business for West St. Tammany, to employees and education and training providers. In the past, our contract with the First Planning District WTR has been renewed annually to assist us

#### **LAST CHANCE TO PURCHASE YOUR TICKET!!!**

#### **"Ticket to Paradise" \$10,000 Raffle Party**

Not only does your \$125 donation enter you for a chance to win \$10,000, it also allows you and a guest to enjoy a night of food, fun and live music. Come celebrate in the company of fellow Chamber members and you might even go home with an extra \$10,000 in your wallet.

**Saturday, August 14th  
7 - 11 p.m.  
Castine Center in Mandeville**

Buy your tickets now:

[Click here](#) to purchase your tickets

or

Call Kellye Donnelly, Events Manager at 985-892-3216, ext. 28 or email [Kellye@sttammanycommerce.org](mailto:Kellye@sttammanycommerce.org)

**\$125 ticket donation admits two adults. Winner need NOT be present!**

with various goals, which address:

- Short and long-term workforce needs of targeted industry sectors.
- The development and implementation of recruitment, retention and marketing strategies.
- Connecting employers to resources available at the St. Tammany Business and Careers Solutions Center and other economic development organizations.

However, under these economic hardships, there is uncertainty about whether or not this contract will be renewed. Workforce needs and training are critical to St. Tammany's economic development, therefore we are currently examining other avenues of funding to ensure workforce development remains our priority. For additional information on the WIB, please [click here](#).

Every week Chamber members send us information about events and positive stories about their businesses. **Click [here to view Member Happenings](#).**

#### Chamber Event

Thursday, August 12  
Joint Business After Hours with East St. Tammany Chamber  
[Louisiana Medical Center & Heart Hospital](#)  
64030 Highway 434, Lacombe  
5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

**Our largest fundraiser of the year!!!  
Saturday, August 14  
\$10,000 Raffle Party @ Castine Center  
7:00 - 11:00 p.m.**

Tuesday, August 17  
SBAC Seminar @ SLU Room 325, Koop Drive.  
Topic: Understanding Financial Statements  
Speaker: Bill Joubert, Director Small Business Development Center  
7:30 - 9:00 a.m.

Friday, August 20  
Speed Dating for Businesses @ Courtyard by Marriott

**Special thanks to our following sponsors:**

#### Entertainment Sponsors:



#### Paradise Sponsors:



#### Big Kahuna Sponsors:



101 Northpark Blvd., Covington  
8:00 - 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday, August 25  
Cultural Economy luncheon @ La Provence Restaurant  
25020 Highway 190, Lacombe  
Speaker: Chef John Besh  
Sponsor: [Northshore St. Tammany Parish](#)

11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Friday, August 27  
B2B Networking @ Chamber office  
610 Hollycrest Blvd., Covington  
8:00 - 9:00 a.m.

[Click here](#) to make reservations for any Chamber event.



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