Sandy Sparks Colter, Vice President of Mortgage Production, has lived in St. Lucie County since 1981. Originally from Indiana, Sandy moved to Florida with her parents and three brothers. A brief move to Philadelphia introduced Sandy to the banking industry where she began her career in Mortgage Servicing. Upon returning to Florida, she managed retail and wholesale mortgage operations during her 15 year stint at a local Treasure Coast bank. In 2004, Sandy obtained a diploma from the Graduate School of Banking at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge. The school's purpose is to provide graduate-level studies for bank officers and broaden their understanding of major banking functions.

Sandy is happily married and enjoys being “Aunt Sandy” to her seven nieces and nephews. She enjoys photography, travel, NFL football (Go Eagles!) and LIFE! She and her husband, Chris, share a passion for nature photography and established Artigraphs Photography in 2005. Sandy joined The Oculina Bank in October 2006 to establish a residential mortgage operation and oversee loan servicing. Her focus is to provide mortgage lending for the Treasure Coast area with prompt, friendly customer service and quick local decisions.

The Oculina Bank is a full service community bank with six branches serving Indian River, St. Lucie, and Martin Counties. Oculina now has offices in Sebastian at US One and Roseland as well as Fellsmere. Additional locations include Palm City, South Hutchinson Island, and two offices in Vero Beach making banking relationships available throughout the Treasure Coast area. (Learn more at www.oculinabank.com).

Are you wondering about the name, The Oculina Bank? The name derived from the Oculina bank, a reef of tree-like coral (oculina varacosis), that parallels the shoreline from Fort Pierce to Cape Canaveral, about 15 miles out to sea. Discovered by Harbor Branch scientist John Reed and his team in the 1970s, it is the second largest coral reef in the world and the largest in North America.

Sandy is joined by Robert Votaw as part of the Oculina lending team developing relationships, servicing our communities, and generating new loans. Robert, Kristie Woodward, Dot Judah, of the Sebastian office staff are located at 13600 US Highway One. Isabel Marron manages the Fellsmere office. Sandy floats along the Treasure Coast from Martin to Indian River County and can be contacted by phone or email anytime at (772) 485-5613, scolter@oculinabank.com.

If you would like to “make the front page” of our newsletter, make sure you schedule time this month at one of our networking activities, and maybe your name will be drawn for the monthly spotlight! Check out our calendar inside!
August Networking Events

Breakfast at Express Huntin’ N Fishin’

The Owners, Tammy & Jeff Wilson (far right) & Staff of Express Huntin’ N Fishin’

Luncheon at Disney

Emily Holliman, CEO, Sebastian River Medical Center, Luncheon Sponsor

Mary Jayne Kelly, Executive Director, Cultural Council of Indian River County, Luncheon Speaker

Check out next month’s issue for pictures from the August Business & Pleasure held at the Keg Shack!
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Sebastian River Area Chamber of Commerce
Calendar of Events
September 2008

Sept. 1  Labor Day, Chamber Closed

Sept. 4  Executive Committee Meeting
Noon   Chamber Office

Sept. 5  Chamber Breakfast
8:00 a.m. Sebastian Soccer Association
North County Aquatic Center, 9450 95th Street, Sebastian
(off of CR 512, just west of CR 510)

Sept. 8  Media Auction Committee Meeting
Noon   Sebastian River Medical Center
Blues Birthday Bash Committee Meeting
5:30 pm  Chamber Office

Sept. 9  Chamber Luncheon at Joanie’s Hometown Grill
Noon   13260 U.S. 1, Sebastian
Networking Opportunities
Lunch Sponsor: Results Plus, LLC
Reservations Please! $12.50 with reservations, $15 at the door

Sept. 15  Media Auction Committee Meeting
Noon   Sebastian River Medical Center

Sept. 18  15th Annual Media and Silent Auction
6:00 pm  Disney’s Vero Beach Resort
Free to Members, $15 for the Public

Sept. 22  Blues Birthday Bash Committee Meeting
5:30 pm  Chamber Office

Sept. 26  Brown Bag Lunch at Riverview Park
Noon   Michelle Peters-Synder, “The Nature Conservancy:
Working to Restore Oyster Mats”

Sept. 27  Sebastian River Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Board Retreat
8 a.m.-1 p.m. Environmental Learning Center, Wabasso
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Telephone 772/581-2040
Fax 772/388-3689
email: Emily.Holliman@SrMhca-corp.com

Emily Holliman, FACHE
Chief Executive Officer

Theresa Durst
Branch Manager
West Sebastian
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Locator 75-FL-R158
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Sebastian River Area Chamber of Commerce
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15th Annual
Media and Silent Auction

The event is designed to provide advertising opportunities to our businesses who want to increase their exposure in the market place, through a variety of media and promotional venues donated by professional marketing and advertising experts.

Free to Chamber Members
$15.00 for Non-Members

Thursday, September 18, 2008
At 6:00PM
Disney’s Vero Beach Resort
Sponsored by

Sebastian River Medical Center
Vero Beach Magazine
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In Conjunction with our September Business & Pleasure Cash Bar and Hors d’oeuvres

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**Treasure & Space Coast Radio – 60 Second Spots - $1,000**

**Hometown News – Quarter page ad - $577.75**

**Treasure Coast Sports & Leisure – Back Cover - $3,200**

**Paris Productions – Two Hours of Public Relations Service**

**PD-Go! Web Solutions - $500**

**ADPRO Graphic – Business Cards**

**PIP Printing – Business Cards**

**WWCTV10 with Marcia Littlejohn – Eight minute segment**

**Scripps Treasure Coast Newspapers – Over $4,400 in advertising specials**

**Computer Healthcare – Spyware/Virus Cleaning**

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To participate in the program visit: www.personneldynamics.net
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The “Best Places To Work” of Indian River County will be divided into two categories:

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Surveys must be completed by October 1st Awards Banquet to be held on November 14, 2008
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For more information or any questions email Jenny Zeran at jeneesje@hotmail.com or zlaw9@cfl.rr.com
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RSVP: September 24th

Laurie Collings
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Listed below are the proposed candidates names as provided by the Nominating Committee for Election 2008. Please vote for three (3) candidates only. You must be a bona fide Chamber member to cast your vote. Ballots will be counted on November 1, and the results will be announced at that November luncheon.

Candidates

_____ Susan Adams – Marsh Landing
_____ Sandi Gerhke – Riverside Bank
_____ Emily Holliman – Sebastian River Medical Center
_____ Patti Jamar – RE/MAX Riverside
_____ Sherri Sproch – Sherri’s Floral Shoppe
_____ Don Wright – Exit Realty Associates

MAIL YOUR BALLOT IN, OR DROP IT OFF AT THE CHAMBER OFFICE, 700 MAIN ST., SEBASTIAN, 32958, OR FAX IT TO 772-589-5993.

COMPANY NAME AND REPRESENTATIVE (PLEASE SIGN)
Sebastian River Area Chamber of Commerce
Monthly Networking Opportunities
Just Fax This Back and We Will Take Care of the Rest!

Early Bird Breakfast and Ribbon Cutting
**Sebastian Soccer Association**
North County Aquatic Center, 9450 95th Street, Sebastian
(off of CR 512, just west of CR 510)
September 5, 2008

Chamber Luncheon
**Joanie’s Hometown Grill**
13260 US 1, Sebastian
Networking Opportunities
Sponsored by Results Plus, LLC
$ 12.50 with Reservations, $ 15.00 at the door
September 9, 2008

Business & Pleasure
**15th Annual Media and Silent Auction**
Disney Vero Beach Resort
Free to Members, $ 15.00 General Admission
September 18, 2008

Check the Networking Activity you will be attending and tell us how many will be joining you!

Business Name ________________________________

Contact Person ________________________________

Chamber Fax # 772-589-5993

Twenty four hours in advance of all functions the chamber must notify the host of the number of reservations, and must guarantee that number. We can accept calls or faxes for reservations up until twenty four hours prior to the event. If, for some reason, you are not able to attend a function for which you have made reservations, please call us at 589-5969. Your reservation for any function or event is considered a commitment to pay.
Sebastian River Area Chamber of Commerce
Board of Directors, List of Nominees

Pursuant to the Sebastian River Area Chamber of Commerce By-Laws, Article Iv, Section 2 b and c, the Chamber’s Nominating Committee has submitted the following business members as nominees for the slate of new board of directors to serve terms from 2009-2011. Chamber members may add additional names to the ballot by petition bearing the genuine signatures of at least ten (10) qualified members of the Chamber. Such petition shall be filed with the Nominating Committee by September 1, 2008. The determination of the Nominating Committee as to the legality of the petitions shall be final. Members shall chose three of the candidates to serve three year terms on the Board of Directors of the Chamber. The official ballot will be available September 2, 2008, and the election results will be tabulated on November 1, 2008. We thank the following members for agreeing to serve if elected:

Susan Adams – Marsh Landing Restaurant
Sandi Gehrke – Riverside Bank
Emily Holliman – Sebastian River Medical Center
Patti Jamar – ReMax Riverside
Sherri Sproch – Sherri’s Floral Shoppe
Don Wright – Exit Realty Associates

Membership News

In the weeks since the lightning sparked devastating fire at the Environmental Learning Center on June 30, there has been a heartening expression of concern. To help with fundraising for rebuilding the wet lab and classroom, the Nature Nook is holding a “Fire Sale” with 20% to 40% off selected items. There are several fundraising events coming up to help the ELC recover. For more information, please contact Holly Dill, Executive Director at holly@DiscoverELC.org.

Alan Polackwich, Riverside Bank President in Indian River County announced that Sebastian resident & SRHS graduate Mark Hasenauer received a $1,000 scholarship as part of the Bank’s sixth annual Riverside Bank Scholarship Program. Students were selected based on their academic goals, community service and essays about why they feel they deserve the money. Since 1982, Riverside Bank has been helping people across Florida manage their money. Riverside Bank in Sebastian is located at 13633 US Hwy 1 and their phone number is 581-1490.

Citrus Bank is now 1st United Bank! You may have seen the sign changes in August. Their dedicated team of banking professionals continues to offer 1st class services to their clients. At 1st United Bank, they always put you 1st. They are located in Sebastian at 1020 U.S. Highway 1.

The VNA recently appointed Dr. Nicholas A. Coppola as a medical director for its “Healthcare on Wheels” mobile unit in Indian River County. Dr. Coppola will be responsible for overseeing quality of patient care on the mobile unit, acting as a liaison with the Indian River County medical community and providing ongoing organizational support.

Run for a Healthy Start, breakout your running shoes! The 1st annual 5K Run for a Healthy Start Family Fun Run/Walk will begin at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 11th at Pointe West, Vero Beach. For more information, contact Shira Johnson at 772-563-9118 or email info@irchealthystart.org.
Sebastian River Area Chamber of Commerce
Nominees for Board of Director’s Elections

Susan Adams attended Florida State University earning a Juris Doctorate from the College of Law. After law school, Susan accepted a position with the law firm of Nabors, Giblin and Nickerson, P.A. working with county governments to implement effective legislation. Susan returned to Indian River County in 2003 and assumed a management position at Marsh Landing Restaurant in Fellsmere. In 2005, Ms. Adams was elected to the Chamber’s Board of Directors, and has served as Vice President since then. She decided to become more involved, and successfully ran for Fellsmere City Council and is serving her first term. She is also a member of the recently chartered Fellsmere Exchange Club.

Sandi Gehrke has been a resident of North Indian River County for 28 years. She takes pride in her community. She is Vice President/Branch Manager of Riverside Bank in Sebastian and has been in banking for over 30 years. Sandi believes success is all about building relationships, forming partnerships and most of all caring. Sandi has been a Chamber member for 8 years and ambassador for 3 years, and received the Ambassador of the Year award in 2007. She has taught Real World 101 at SRHS, and has a strong partnership with both Sebastian and Fellsmere Elementary schools. Sandi is also a Charter member of the Fellsmere Exchange Club and she volunteers for many non profit organizations.

Emily Holliman is the Chief Executive Officer for the Sebastian River Medical Center. She has been with Health Management Associates, Inc., since March 2004 where she was VP of Operations, COO of Central Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson, Mississippi. Emily received her Master of Business Administration degree and Master of Health Administration from the University of Alabama. She also received her Bachelor of Science degree in Commerce and Business Administration – Health Care Management. Ms. Holliman is a board certified healthcare executive. She served on the American College of Healthcare Executives Management Services Editorial Board, volunteers for Habitat for Humanity and American Heart Association. She was awarded the ACHE Reagent’s Early Careerist award for Mississippi. She and her husband Lee relocated to Florida last July.

Patricia Jamar has been co-owner of RE/MAX Riverside with her husband, David, since 1999 and joined the firm full time in July 2004. She holds a real estate broker’s license, however is currently inactive. Prior to joining RE/MAX, Patricia was the general manager of Indian River Mall for 8 years, general manager of Horizon Outlet Center (now Vero Beach Outlets) for 2 years and general manager of Vero Mall for 3 years. She earned the Certified Shopping Center Manager (CSM) designation in 1994 from the International Council of Shopping Centers. She is a past member of the Board of Directors of the County Chamber, and is currently a board member of the Sebastian River Area Chamber. She has served on the City of Sebastian Community Redevelopment Advisory Committee and is a volunteer at the Sebastian River Medical Center.

Sherri Sproch will bring her effervescent personality and her warm and bubbly approach to helping businesses achieve their goals. Born in Dallas, TX, Sherri moved to Indian River County at age 11. Twenty two years ago, Sherri founded Sherri’s Floral Shoppe based upon her love of orchids. Sherri has also held her real estate license since 1981, and found her real estate home at Billero & Billero, where her peers nominated her with the “Sunshine Award.” Sherri is a member of the Realtors Association of Indian River County, Sebastian River Area Chamber of Commerce, and the Sebastian Jr. Woman’s Club. Her love of people and their needs and concerns have made her beloved throughout the community. She truly has never met a stranger that she didn’t know.

Don Wright has an extensive background in business, having personally owned businesses, homes, condo, and timeshare/ hotel condominium properties over the past thirty years. He attended Franklin & Marshall College in 1968, and graduate programs in law, economics, insurance and risk management at the University of Harford, CT. He earned the CPCU designation in 1982 and recently received his Graduate Realtor Institute Designation. He is a member of the IRC Chamber, an Appointed Director of the Sebastian River Area Chamber, he serves on the Metropolitan Planning Board. Don is a member of the Realtors Association of Indian River County, Realtors Commercial Alliance, Chairman of the City of Sebastian Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee. He is also President of the South Moon Under Homeowners Association and Chairman of the Economic Development Taskforce for the Sebastian River Area Chamber of Commerce.
Sebastian River Area
Chamber of Commerce
1958—2008

Board of Directors, 2008

President – Marjorie Duffell, National City
VP – Susan Adams, Marsh Landing Restaurant
VP - Maggie Sammons, Custom Air Systems
Treasurer – Rick Wisner, Wisner Controls
Secretary–Cindy Bryant, The Official Dining Guide

Elected Directors

Patti Jamar – RE/MAX Riverside
Michelle Barkley—Complete Electric
Theresa Tolle—Bay Street Pharmacy
Debbi Vickers–Scripps Treasure Coast Newspapers

Appointed Directors

Daisy Knowles- Sebastian River Medical Center
Mickey Capp—Capp Custom Builders, Inc.
Don Wright – Exit Realty Associates
Chuck Mechling—Collier Club, Inc.
Chris Pinson—Sebastian Entertainment Center
Ben Bishop—Squid Lips Overwater Grill

Ex-Officio

Wesley Davis – Indian River County Commissioner
Eugene Wolff – Councilman, City of Sebastian
Jason Nunemaker–City Manager, City of Fellsmere

Beth L. Mitchell – Executive Director

Celebrating 50 Years of Excellence!
1958-2008
Our 15th Annual Media and Silent Auction is scheduled this month, in conjunction with the monthly Business and Pleasure. Disney’s Vero Beach Resort is a great venue for this event, and we are pleased to be back there this year. Our committee, led by Cindy Bryant (in her fourth year), has done great things for the event. In our slowed economy when everybody is cutting back, our media partners have once again stepped up to the plate to provide us with media packages that should be beneficial to our small businesses. The committee, comprised of Cindy, Craig Biggers, Brenda Richie, Daisy Knowles, Denis Finizio, Michelle Barkley and Kim Cerreto, deserve kudos for all of their time and effort. Check out the flier in this newsletter for media packages thus far. This is not a final….just a peak!

Our monthly lunch will be at Joanie’s Hometown Grill, here in Sebastian. Joanie is serving up Thai Pasta Salad w/grilled chicken, which makes me hungry when I think about. We are changing things up a bit for our lunch and re-inviting all of our new members. We will dedicate the lunch program to networking with all of the Chamber members. It should be fun, and a great way to be introduced to new businesses.

Tropical Storm Fay put the kibosh on our Candidates Forum for the County Commission race, which was cancelled after the noon weather report on Tuesday the 19th. We would like to thank the City of Sebastian staff, including Al Minner and Sally Maio for supporting this event. We were disappointed that we couldn’t hear from the candidates, or broadcast the forum on TV for the north county residents, but you can’t do much about the weather. Our stellar committee, Don Wright, Rene VandeVoorde, and Susan Adams were prepared and ready and we thank them for their support!

The Blues Birthday Bash is coming together. We have a great line up of entertainment for the three day event, scheduled November 14th, 15th, and 16th. Maggie Sammons has taken the lead on this project, and with her track record for the Fellsmere Frog Leg Festival, we predict a very successful fundraiser for the Chamber building, a great birthday party celebrating our 50 years, and a great event to bring folks into North Indian River County. This committee is meeting every two weeks, and there is a great need for volunteers for the weekend. Let us know if you want to get in on the action, we could use some help! Be sure to check out www.myspace.com/bluesbirthdaybash.

Have a profitable month!
15th Annual Media and Silent Auction
We’re going to Disney!
Sept. 18, 2008
A sample of the packages to be auctioned off:
(This is just a start)
Business Cards from Action Printers
Sebastian River High School Marquee
for one year!
One Half Page Ad in the Vero Life Magazine
Business Cards from The Ad Agency
Treasure & Space Coast Radio advertising
on News Radio
Multiple advertising opportunities with the Chamber!
If you would like to contribute an item for the Media or the Silent Auction, please give us a call, or email us at info@sebastianchamber.com, we can work out the details for you!

Many thanks to our Sponsors:
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