



Upcoming Events:

JUNE 2011

**FOR THIS MONTH'S
ACTIVITIES, SEE OUR CALENDAR**

*More information is contained on our
web site: www.seminolechamber.net*

Retirement Party for Jimmy Johnson, Exec. Director

Come one, come all!

There will be a retirement party for Jimmy Johnson on Thursday, June 9, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Lake Seminole Square, 8333 Seminole Blvd. Please RSVP to Jamie at 392-3932.



Jimmy Johnson

Johnson will conclude his 11 years as Seminole Chamber Executive Director on June 10. He will remain in the office of Mayor of Seminole and continue to be a resource to the Chamber.

Chamber Chatter newsletter!

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Chamber Office Info

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web site: www.seminolechamber.net

Jimmy Johnson:

jimmyj@myseminolechamber.com

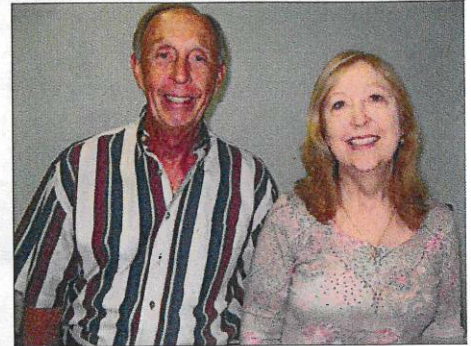
Gretchen C. Wells:

gretchenc@myseminolechamber.com

Notary Services Available

Two Heads Are Better Than One at Seminole Chamber

The Seminole Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors has decided to re-name positions and eliminate the title of Executive Director. Upon the retirement of Executive Director Jimmy Johnson, effective June 10, Gretchen Cain Wells will become the Chief of Operations (COO) and Roger Edelman will be hired as President. Current President Mike McQuilkin, who serves as an officer voluntarily, will be called Chairman of the Board, and Gary Scarsbrook, Vice Chair-



Roger Edelman and Gretchen C. Wells

man.

Wells and Edelman will work as partners, each with their areas of expertise, but sharing the mission of promoting economic development in the greater Seminole area. "We offer numerous resources and networking opportunities to help businesses thrive," said Wells, who will concentrate mainly on daily operations, while Edelman will develop sales and marketing. In addition to memberships, the Chamber offers many other products, from advertisements on the web site and in the newsletter, to sponsorships of events and projects. "All these avenues help a business become 'top of the mind,'" said Edelman.

Wells has worked in the Seminole area since 1986 and is a graduate of the University of Illinois in teaching of English/Communications. She is a former Executive Editor of Tampa Bay Newspapers, Inc., joining the Seminole Chamber staff in 1998 as Assistant Executive Director.

"I have enjoyed working with Jimmy Johnson tremendously and will stay in touch with him. I also am looking forward to combining my skill sets with Roger's. I believe we will have a very powerful team," said Wells. Edelman was born and reared in Cincinnati, Ohio, and moved to Florida in 1985. He had a 27-year career in sales and management with a Fortune 500 company, and his own business, APF Industries Inc. in Largo. During the last 8 years, Edelman has served on Boards in the non-profit sector, such as Pinellas Village and PARC.

June 16 Power Luncheon Is A

"Thank You" to All Our Members

The Chamber will meet Thursday, June 16, 11:30

a.m. at **Freedom Square Retirement Community**

in the Roskamp Auditorium for the monthly

"Power Luncheon." The program is YOU! We want

to use this time to acknowledge our members and all

they do for our Chamber. So, don't miss out on some

well-deserved credit for participating in projects and

events. If you are new to the Chamber, that's OK, too. We can thank you "in ad-

advance" for your commitment to increase economic development by supporting

the Seminole are business community. Reservations/advance payment (\$15 per

person) requested.



SEMINOLE CHAMBER CHATTER

KIDS APPRECIATION DAY IS JUNE 8

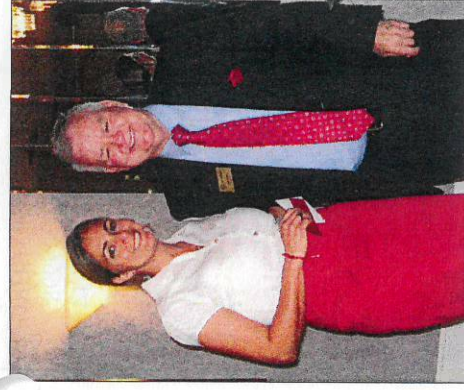
The 32nd annual Kids Appreciation Day is set for the last day of school, June 8, from 3 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at Seminole City Park. Dr. Stephen Nickse, chair, is expecting nearly 1,000 elementary-age school children, along with their parents and siblings. "The park will be packed with activity and excited children," said Nickse. He wishes to thank everyone for their generosity. "I am so pleased with all the support from the community. The donations will help to put smiles on a lot of kids faces," Nickse said.



Nickse was impressed that Chamber members were thinking out of the box this year, citing as an example Marty Maddox of Yoga 4 All, who had a fund-raising event for Kids Appreciation Day and earned more than \$500.

Knowledge is Power

State Rep. Larry Ahern, Dist. 51, gave a legislative update to Seminole Chamber members at the May 19 luncheon at Lake Seminole Square Retirement Community. He touched on cuts in unemployment benefits and lamented the loss of teachers' jobs from the Pinellas County School system. Ahern encouraged all to keep in communication with legislators on proposed changes and attend public forums to express their opinions.



Welcome New Seminole Chamber Members

Mercedes LaVaila, with Jimmy Johnson, recently joined the Chamber as a new business owner. Mercedes Events and Design is a home-based operation. Phone: 727-366-1761 E-mail: info@mercedeseventsanddesigns.com



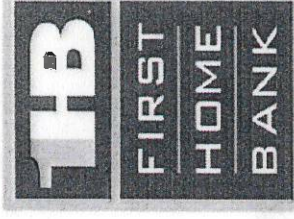
Jamie Osborne and Laverne Welch, representing new Chamber member Grand Villa Assisted Living, are greeted by Chamber President Mike McQuilkin. Grand Villa is at 750 Starkey Rd., Largo, FL 33771; phone: 727-586-0108, e-mail: Mkt.crc.LAR@SMAcommunity.net; web: www.LargoSeniorLiving.com

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A senior home health care agency with real heart

Harmony Home Health at 13787 Belcher Rd. in Largo hosted the Seminole Chamber-sponsored Business Connections & Education Workshop on May 25. Harmony Home Health founder Jonathan Bowman spoke about entrepreneurship, using examples from his personal experiences since 2004. Bowman said he knew from the start this would be a heart-based business. He created a culture of caring and professionalism with the goal of providing personalized senior assisted living care at home that's dependable and affordable. Bowman said he realized early on that he couldn't do everything himself and surrounded himself with a compassionate and knowledgeable team.

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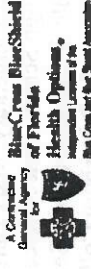
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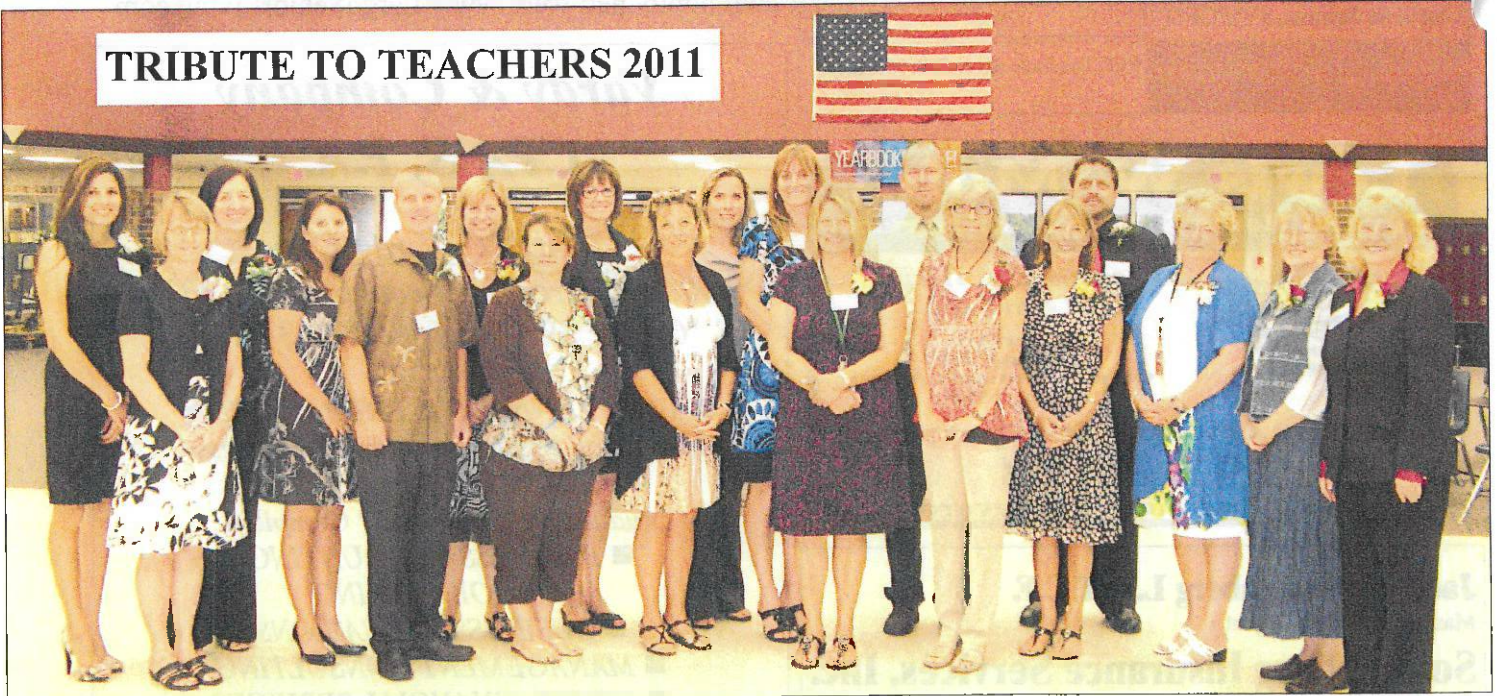
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TRIBUTE TO TEACHERS 2011



The Seminole Chamber of Commerce honored teachers from 19 area schools at the Tribute to Teachers Breakfast May 3. Recipients included Bardmoor Elementary, Karen Munyan; Bauder Elementary, Kelly Austin; Bay Pines Lutheran, Jonathan Plocher; Blessed Sacrament, Courtney Gaull; Indian Rocks Christian School, Jennifer Kinsey; Keswick Christian School, Leslie Baxter; Madeira Beach Elementary, Natasha Coles; Madeira Beach Middle, Daniel Vukelich; Oakhurst Elementary, Mary Hart; Orange Grove Elementary, Joanne Kyne; Osceola Middle School, Katherine Baquero; Osceola Fundamental High School, Tracey Ræcek; PARC Discovery Learning Center, Cathy Morgan; Seminole Elementary, Cindy Mucerino; Seminole Middle, Bernadette Green; Seminole High, Kathy Gavin; Seminole Vocational Education Center, Chris Juul; Starkey Elementary, Linda Raybourne; St. Petersburg College, Seminole campus, Sherry Wagner.