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WESLEY CHAPEL
Chamber of Commerce

CHAMBER BIZ

November 2010

2nd Annual Fall Festival



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Honorary Mayor Debbie Yoerg & Chamber President, Laura Miller, hold tiger cubs from Dade City's Wild Things Zoo. The zoo's founder, Kathy Stearns, shows off a crowd pleasing baby monkey.

A large number of local residents and visitors were drawn to the Chamber's Fall Festival that was held at **The Grove at Wesley Chapel** on both Saturday and Sunday, October 16 and 17. We were fortunate to have beautiful weather for the seasonal event, and fun was had by all.

Children enjoyed all the special activities, especially the ones planned for them by the Rotary Club of Wesley Chapel - hayrides through the adjacent fields and woods, scarecrow-stuffing, and a pumpkin patch. There were also bounce houses, face-painting and other interactive crafts.



Ronnie Setser's Custom Car Show



Hyundai and Mazda of Wesley Chapel (Presenting Sponsor) Frank Broughton.

Continued on Page 2

PURPOSE STATEMENT

Our purpose is to engage business and community leaders as a voice to enhance the wonder of Wesley Chapel.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to continually improve the quality of life in the Greater Wesley Chapel area. We will actively promote a prosperous business climate, foster an orderly expansion of the community, and support and encourage the individuals and families through cooperative partnerships.

Continued from Page 1

Adults enjoyed strolling and shopping among the more than 100 vendor booths and ogling all the sharp vehicles in **Ronnie Setser's Custom Car Show**. The car show was a wonderful addition to the festival. Live music was provided by bands that included The Looper Band, Greenlight Iguana, Bryan Edwards, Ferengata, Harold Jones, Nunes at Night, The Bucket List and 10th Concession.

The variety of food was great, and congratulations were extended to the winners of Wesley Chapel's Battle of the Wings: "Judges' Choice" - **Lexington Oaks Golf Club** (a last-minute entry) and "People's Choice" - **Santo's Pizza and Pasta**.

Stores in The Grove at Wesley Chapel gave us enthusiastic feedback about their increased business over the weekend, and we already have vendors requesting applications for next year. We thank all who participated in this year's successful event and **Hyundai and Mazda of Wesley Chapel**, our presenting sponsor.

Judge's Choice
Lexington Oaks Golf Club



People's Choice
Santo's Pizza and Pasta

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Economic Development Committee

The September meeting of the Economic Development Committee (EDC) featured an informative talk by **Greg Lenners** from The Shops at Wiregrass. In October the EDC welcomed guest speaker **John Harding**, regional President/CEO for the University Community Healthcare Group, the organization that will be building the Wesley Chapel Hospital on Bruce B. Downs Boulevard.

Jeff Miller and **Lutfi Jadallah**, co-chairs of the EDC, attended the recent Transportation Summit in New Tampa and came away with much information to be shared. The EDC helped to coordinate the Pasco Candidates Forum, which was held on October 5 at the Center for the Arts at Wesley Chapel High School. A second public forum before the November elections, also at the Center for the Arts, was on October 12 and focused on Amendment 4.

EDC meetings are open to all Chamber members and are held on the fourth Thursday of each month from 11:30 am-12:30 pm in the **American Consulting Engineers Building** (behind the Hampton Inn) at S.R.56 and I-75.

2010 – 2011 Board of Directors

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Welcoming Our New Members for September

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 lee.hoffman@us.aflac.com

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 Tampa, FL 33647
 Sandy Antona
 (813) 973-7703
 bellavitamarket@bellavitamarket.com

Center for the Arts at Wesley Chapel

30651 Wells Rd.
 Wesley Chapel, FL 33545
 Patrick McDermott
 (813) 794-8772
 pmcdermo@pasco.k12.fl.us

Compumax Int'l, LLC

13134 U.S. Hwy 301
 Dade City, FL 33525
 Bill Larkin
 (352) 521-4093
 compumax@embarqmail.com

Dade City's Wild Things

37245 Meridian Ave.
 Dade City, FL 33525
 Kathy Stearns
 (352) 567-9453
 mail@dadcetyswildthings.com

Eileen Halczyn

Wesley Chapel, FL 33543
 halczyn@verizon.net

Firehouse Subs -New Tampa

19022 Bruce B. Downs Blvd.
 Tampa, FL 33647
 Anita Patel
 (813) 977-3181
 anita@impactfhs.com

Florida Medical Clinic Wesley Chapel

27343 Wesley Chapel Blvd.
 Wesley Chapel, FL 33543
 Dr. Joseph Cozzolino
 (813) 991-9355
 mhicks@floridamedicalclinic.com

Kiefer Village Jewels - Lutz

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 Lutz, FL 33559
 Laureianne Morse
 (813) 909-2393
 laurianne@kvjewels.com

Loran Tripp Porter

34038 Triple Crown Ct.
 Dade City, FL 33525
 (813) 679-1255
 loran@thewiregrassranch.com

Pebble Creek Golf Club

10550 Regents Park Dr.
 Tampa, FL 33647
 Kim Martin
 (813) 973-3870
 kmartin@ace-golf.com

Precision Equipment Services, LLC

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 Wesley Chapel, FL 33544
 Don Crawford
 (813) 753-8709
 dcrawford@pes-llc.com

PrePaid Legal Services, Inc.

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 Wesley Chapel, FL 33543
 Pat Douglas
 (813) 625-3483
 patdouglas08@aol.com

Spinner Law Firm

Cypress Glen Prof. Park
 26843 Tonic Dr. Ste 101
 Wesley Chapel, FL 33544
 Charlie Spinner
 (813) 991-5099
 cspinner@spinnerlawfirm.com

Stuart Automotive

1911 Oakmont Ave #11
 Tarpon Springs, FL 34689
 Robert
 (727) 234-7700
 robnira@gmail.com

Thurow Financial Services

110 W. Reynolds St. Ste 109
 Plant City, FL 33563
 Chris Thurow
 (813) 759-8180
 cthurow@thurowfinancialservices.com

Viamedia

3001 Gandy Blvd. N.
 Pinellas Park, FL 33782
 Chris Hammel
 (813) 833-5222
 chammel@viamediatv.com

Vicki Buchanan Photography

38501 5th Ave at 8th Street
 Zephyrhills, FL 33541
 Vicki Buchanan
 (813) 312-8173
 Vicki@vickibuchananphotography.com

Watson Clinic Dermatology at Zephyrhills

6901 Medical View Lane
 Zephyrhills, FL 33542
 Dr. Rick Moore
 (813) 788-7867
 rmoore@watsonclinic.com

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Thank You to our Renewals for September

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Bright House Networks	KnowledgePoints	Saint Leo University
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 32733 Eiland Blvd., Ste. 101



To schedule your business' Ribbon Cutting, please contact the Chamber office at office@wesleychapelchamber.com or (813) 994-8534.



Message from the President

I am happy to report our Fall Chamber events were a huge success. A special thank you to everyone who came out to support our Annual Banquet and the Wesley Chapel Fall Festival. Your attendance is important to the success of Chamber events. Together we create a sense of community while giving local businesses the opportunity to promote themselves and grow the local economy. Thank you again.

Laura Miller
 President

A Word from the Executive Director

As we move into the Chamber's new fiscal year (Oct. 1), I want to say congratulations and thank you to Cindy Fleming for her outstanding commitment and dedication to the Chamber over the years, especially serving as President these past two years. We are fortunate to have her in our Chamber. I also want to congratulate all of the winners of this year's awards at the Chamber's Annual Awards Banquet. We had a terrific group of businesses and individuals recognized.

Congratulations and good luck to Tracy Traugh who has served as our salesperson for the past year. She has recently taken a job as a sales rep for the Tampa Tribune. Though she is no longer officially working for the Chamber, her territory will be Wesley Chapel. She plans to be an Ambassador and to still participate in many Chamber activities. Tracy was always pleasant, cheerful, helpful and loyal to the Chamber. She helped bring a welcoming reputation to the Chamber.

David West
 Executive Director



Business "After-Hours"



AJA Wiregrass
 Christina Navatta

Thank you for supporting your Chamber.

Monthly Chamber Business Breakfast held at Saddlebrook Resort

RSVP Requested. Prepay to save time and money.
\$10 (with RSVP) - \$12 (without RSVP)



August Breakfast



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Speaker:
Mira Beck,
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Rotary Club of Wesley Chapel (Sunrise)

**Thank You for
Supporting Your Chamber.**

To sponsor a Breakfast, contact the Chamber at executivedirector@wesleychapelchamber.com

Power Networking Lunch Facilitated Training

We've had four Power Networking events this year, and with each one, more people come out to network. We are learning more so we can earn more!

Power Networking will be held November 15th at **Pagelli's Italiano** restaurant in The Shops at Wiregrass (2001 Piazza Ave., Wesley Chapel, FL 33543), 11:45am-1:00pm. The price is \$10, including lunch.

We ask that you call to preregister since there is strategic planning that happens PRIOR to the event, in the hopes of pairing you with other business professionals who are most likely to help you grow your business.

Last month, we examined some of the Ten Commandments of Networking a Mixer, adding structure to what can be an unstructured environment. This month we'll work on creating referrals for each other. Reserve your seat early, as this month's format allows for only 30 people!

To RSVP for Power Networking, please contact the Wesley Chapel Chamber at (813) 994-8534 or office@wesleychapelchamber.com no later than November 12th.



Ambassadors' Corner

**Spotlighted
Ambassador**



**Carol Goebel,
Trail Wind Travel
(813) 447-0781
gcoebel@aol.com**

Carol Goebel has been in the travel and hospitality business for a long time - as a concierge for a Marriott resort in North Carolina, as guest service manager for an oceanfront resort in Myrtle Beach, and as a director of property management at a resort on Fripp Island in South Carolina. In Naples, Florida she worked for a large gated golf-course community. It was after moving to Wesley Chapel four years ago that Carol started her own online business - Trail Wind Travel.

"I've always enjoyed traveling," Carol says, "and I've learned a lot more by running my own business, particularly the cruise side of travel." A recent focus has been the arrangement of fund-raising cruises for churches and non-profit organizations. Helping these various causes has been very rewarding.

Shortly after starting her business, Carol attended some WOW (Women of Wesley Chapel) meetings sponsored by the Chamber. She quickly became a Chamber member and has been active ever since. She is currently a co-chair of WOW, was an honorary mayor candidate, has worked on several committees, and has been a Chamber Ambassador for a couple years. "It's been a win-win-win situation," she notes. Her business has expanded and she has met many wonderful people.

As an Ambassador, she enjoys visiting new members to take them their Chamber "gift-bags," and at breakfasts and mixers, she makes sure those new attendees are welcomed and introduced to other members. Carol encourages others to reach out and become ambassadors.

Trail Wind Travel can be reached at (813) 447-0781 or gcoebel@aol.com.

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WOW - Women of Wesley Chapel

The WOW group is open to all women in the Chamber who would like to network and promote their business to each other. No dues are required and the meetings are held on the first Friday of each month at 7:30am. WOW meetings are held at Branch of Christ Ministries, 27223 State Road 56, in Wesley Chapel.

Co-chairs **Vicki Hamilton**, **Carol Goebel** and **Debbie Yoerg** were pleased to have 46 women in attendance at their October meeting. The presenter was **Dulce Loehen**, a Certified Business Coach with FocalPoint Business Performance of Tampa Bay. Dulce spoke on creating a personal strategic plan and vision for your business. Ghada Jadallah and Claire Stack, owners of *A Dash of Salt & Pepper*, provided a delicious breakfast.

The November speaker will be **Mary Adele Cluck** from Fifth/Third Bank, who will speak about Women and Finances. You are invited to attend, make some new friends, and maximize your business skills. Non-Chamber members may attend three Chamber functions as a guest prior to membership purchase.

Education Committee Report

Schools appreciate the support of the business community. Can you help with one of our projects?

The Great American Teach-In, November 18, 2010. On this occasion, careers, hobbies and volunteer interests are shared with local students. Presentations can be as brief as an hour and can be worked around your schedule. Contact one of the Education Committee chairs below for more information.

Teachers' Treasure Chest. The Treasure Chest should open during the spring semester in a storage unit at Wesley Chapel Storage, making a wide variety of classroom supplies available, free-of-charge, to teachers. Do you have pens, pencils, notebooks, or art supplies that could be donated? If you have no recyclable items, think about donating Office Depot gift cards or cash. We're also looking for shelving to display items. To learn more, please contact us.

Scholarships. Our goal is to provide four scholarships to high school seniors at our awards breakfast next April. Please let us know if your business is interested in being a scholarship sponsor.

Wendy Bechtelheimer 813-695-9033
wb.tampabayselfstorage@gmail.com

Holiday Festival



The Wesley Chapel Chamber of Commerce will present its annual gift to the community—The Holiday Festival and Tree Lighting, on Saturday, December 4. The festival will include a children's area with Santa Claus, live music, food, a tree-lighting ceremony, and a reading of *The Night Before Christmas* by The Story Lady for all the children. Festivities will start at 4pm, and everyone is invited to come and join us.

We are looking for sponsors for this event, so please contact the Chamber office for information on how you can help.




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The members of our Founder's Club are special partners with the Chamber. They believe so strongly in the work we are doing that they take a major step to support us financially. A very special THANK YOU for their support of the Chamber.

Wendy Bechtelheimer
Facilities Manager

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GOLD MEMBERSHIP

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*A very special THANK YOU to these members
for their support of the Chamber!*

White Tiger Cub Gets First Collar at PetSmart in Wesley Chapel



*David West & "Diamond"
the White Tiger*

*Kathy Stearns (Owner) &
Diamond drinking from a bottle.*



A 28-pound, 9-week-old white tiger, Diamond is a rarity in the wild, let alone on the leash aisle at PetSmart. She is a new member of the family at Dade City's Wild Things, a nonprofit sanctuary for about 200 animals, including lions, tigers, bears, monkeys, deer, otters, birds and other wildlife. David West had a chance to be there when Kathy Stearns (founder of Wild Things) picked out Diamond's first collar.