

News Clips Report

Hammond chamber installs new board WBRZ-TV - Online

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Advocate Livingston-Tangipahoa editor

HAMMOND — Area business leaders turned out for the 2011 Hammond Chamber of Commerce Installation and Awards Luncheon on Friday at Twelve Oaks Dining Hall at Southeastern Louisiana University in Hammond.

As outgoing board Chairman Michelle Gallo, with Child Advocacy Services, handed the gavel over to incoming Chairman Chris Moody, of Moody & Johnson Attorneys at Law, businessmen and women listened to his plans for 2011, starting with gaining the community's support for SLU.

" I want Hammond to support Southeastern like Lafayette supports ULL," the LSU graduate said.

With this year's chamber theme of " Hammond Go Green," Moody told those attending the banquet to " go green, go Lions."

Moody told business owners that as the new chairman he'd like to " investigate building more bike lanes around campus and the community."

He said that he also plans for the chamber to partner with the city of Hammond and the Downtown Development District to build up the number of businesses in downtown Hammond.

" It (downtown Hammond) is the pearl in the center of our oyster and it needs to be polished," Moody said.

" We want to attract new, ' green' businesses to Hammond," Moody said.

But Moody said his main goal for the new year is to support Hammond's existing businesses and bring new businesses to the city.

" For that, we need your help," he told chamber members.

Honored at the banquet for their outstanding service were Cassie Ragan, who received the Chairman's award; Ron Taylor, who received the Community Service award; and Andrew Kirsch, who received the Ambassador of the Year award.

Also honored were Member of the Year recipient The Daily Star and Liz Reno and Michael Wiggins, who both received the Volunteer of the Year award.

This year's Chamber of Commerce officers are Moody, Ragan, Holly & Smith Architects; Grady Brame, Stirling Properties; and Gallo.