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People in business

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Submitted photo

Sides & Associates, a local advertising, risk communications and marketing firm, was recently recognized with five international awards for work done for Our Lady of Lourdes Regional Medical Center, Lafayette Regional Airport and Devon Energy Corp. Awards were given for Lourdes' "Higher Tech — Highest Touch" television commercial, the airport's "Click Here!" economic development brochure and the Plaquemines Parish Emergency Guide produced by Devon Energy Corp. The Lourdes commercial was awarded a Gold Davey Award; Click Here! received a Gold MarCom and Silver Davey Award and the Plaquemines Parish guide received a Silver MarCom and Silver Davey Award. The Davey and MarCom awards are among the advertising industry's most prestigious competitions, drawing entries from across the world.

Phillip Kaufman has been appointed to the state Certified Shorthand Reporters Board of Examiners.

Kaufman, of Lafayette, is president and CEO of Kaufman & Associates, a court reporting and litigation support company.

He is also a member of the National Court Reporters Association and the National Verbatim Reporters Association.

The Certified Shorthand Reporters Board of Examiners promotes proficiency and efficiency in court reporting.

Kaufman will represent the 7th Congressional District.

Stirling Properties and ERA Stirling Properties recently honored their top agents in the Greater Lafayette Region at the company's annual meeting.

The Commercial Division of Stirling Properties honored **Ryan Pecot** with the Platinum Award, **Jeff Landry** won the Gold Award, while the Silver Award went to **Charles Cornay**.

The Residential Division of ERA Stirling Properties presented the Diamond Award to **Janice Simar**. Gold Awards went to **Diana Hebert**, **Pam Bordelon**, **Monica Lyon** and **Kathy Welch**. **Angie Moorman**, **Johnna Domingue**, **Lisa Sheppert**, **Pamela Hebert**, **Denise Clary** and **Beatriz Cannon** won Silver Awards, while Bronze Awards were presented to **Tory Matthews**, **Paula Duncan** and **Chris Flynn**.

The Hon. **Phyllis Keaty**, a judge with the 15th Judicial District Court in Lafayette, has been named a fellow of the Louisiana Bar Foundation.

Chad Burns is the newest agent for Keaty Real Estate.

A native of Lafayette and a graduate of St. Thomas More High School, Burns is an avid

supporter of local high school athletics. He is also active with the Jacob Crouch Foundation and Faith House.

Mike Rubio has been named Director of Operations at Apex Innovations.

Rubio is a graduate of UL, where he belonged to Beta Alpha Psi National Honor Fraternity and Beta Gamma Sigma Honor Society.

He received his bachelor's degree in accounting in 2003, when he was nominated as outstanding graduate, and received a bachelor's degree in finance in 2004.

Rubio comes to Apex with four years of banking experience. He was previously employed as the only bilingual personal banker with Capital One, where he specialized in deposit accounts and loans.

Mike has two sons, 10 and 6, and is engaged to be married.

Lori Spreyer of Carencro has been appointed to a state board on sleep medicine.

The Advisory Committee on Polysomnography serves to assist the State Board of Medical Examiners in all matters related to the study of sleep.

The committee is composed of nine gubernatorial appointments.

Spreyer is a sleep consultant for Philips Respironics and the secretary for the Louisiana Academy of Sleep Medicine. She was nominated by the academy.

Maria Benoit was presented with a 2008 Quality Business Award from Sterling Health Plans during its National Sales Convention.

The award recognizes Rookie and Veteran agents who are top performers with high persistency and no complaints lodged against them.

Benoit was presented with the rookie Shooting Star trophy by Sterling President Debbie Ahl.