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Executive Director:  
Beth Osteen

# Camden Area Chamber of Commerce Newsletter



Volume 9, Issue 4

JULY 2012

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## Featured Industry of the Month: Spectra Technologies LLC.

"You've come a long way, baby," Maryjo Cohen, CEO and President of National Presto Industries, told Spectra Technologies LLC. in a letter read at the company's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration on Wednesday, June 27, 2012. Spectra Technologies LLC. was founded on July 1, 2002, with only two employees, the original founders, David Siggers and Mike McAlexander. Later in late 2003, National Presto Industries purchased the small enterprise to complement its defense division. Ten years after inception, 200 employees call Spectra home.

During the celebration at its production facility, Spectra Technologies LLC., took time to honor some of her former employees, and the area businesses that have significantly supported Spectra and who were instrumental in Spectra's success, and her customers. With their encouragement and support, Spectra has seen its annual sales grow from

\$350,000 in its infancy to over \$40 million. "We don't get it done by ourselves" Siggers said, "the local area businesses that supported Spectra in the early years were instrumental in setting the tone for a successful future". Specifically thanked were CSI construction, Highland Industrial Park, Highland Machine works and Mid-South. Siggers and McAlexander left General Dynamics to form Spectra where General Dynamics became their first customer and remains one today.

David Siggers, President of Spectra Technologies, stated that Spectra is a home-grown business, started in Camden. Spectra has pumped more than \$65M into the local economy through payroll and through the purchasing of goods and services, over her 10 years in business. Siggers attributes the success of Spectra by following a quality policy that expects Spectra to provide a bene-

fit to the customer, the shareholder, the employee, and our suppliers. Although McAlexander is now retired from Spectra, the vision he and Siggers instilled from the beginning are still readily apparent today through the success of the company.

During that ten years, Spectra Technologies has seen many firsts. They were the first company to build TNT demolition blocks outside of a government-owned facility, the first commercially-owned company to build Claymore mines for the U.S. Army and Marine Corps, and the first company to produce high velocity tactical and practice ammunitions outside of a government-owned facility. Each Spectra employee is committed to the relentless pursuit of excellence in providing quality products to the men and women of our armed forces.





## 13th Annual Star Spangled Spectacular

For the past 13 years, Camden Area residents have anticipated the highlight of the summer, the Fourth of July fireworks and family fun. Despite the burn ban, this year's spectacular will be bigger than ever and that includes the fireworks display.

**July 4<sup>th</sup>**  
**Camden Regional Airport**  
**Gates Open 6PM**  
**Program Starts 7PM**

**Festivities Include:** musical entertainment, skydivers, The Air Evac Helicopter, fire trucks, inflatables and pony rides for the kids.

Camden Police Department will be on hand with special displays from their new Dive Trailer, Cert

Vehicles, Crime Scene Van and a special appearance given by **CALLIE** the drug, crime and search & rescue dog.

DeAnthony Curtis with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and Corey Williams with the Detroit Lions along with several others will be on hand signing autographs.

Many autographed sports items to be given away, including a autographed football signed by Kevin Williams with the Minnesota Vikings (must be present to win) .

Ladies, don't feel left out on all the giveaways, there will be several items to be given away for you too!

Non Profit organizations will **sell** concessions (hamburgers, hot dogs, snow cones, freeze pops, popcorn, cokes, water, lemonade). **Everything else is FREE!**

**FIREWORKS!** More than ever before!

**Bring your lawn chair or a blanket and come enjoy an evening with the family free of charge with the exception of concessions.**

Paid for in part by the Camden A&P Commission and sponsored by the Camden Ministerial Alliance.

## Featured Business of the Month: **What's Cookin'**

Established in September 2009, What's Cookin' is a unique and creative restaurant in a building with local history and memorabilia that will delight and please any age.

Located at 113 South Adams in Camden, What's Cookin' offers a varied menu which will please meat-eaters and vegetarians

with a one of a kind, down home atmosphere that you just can't get anywhere else but at What's Cookin'.

What's Cookin' allows local non-profit organizations to sell tickets and then serve Sunday lunch as a fundraiser at their restaurant (please call What's Cookin' and ask about this service).

Keith Bohannon, Terry Thornhill and Mike Tidwell are the owners and they have about 20 employees.

Contact Information:  
870.836.7002

You can find What's Cookin' on Facebook if you go and hit LIKE at: <https://www.facebook.com/#!/whats.cookin.5>



FREE Small Business Training is **now Offered at the** Camden Accelerated Business Services (CABS) Center

625 Adams SW, Camden, AR  
71701 (OPED Building)

Call 870-836-2210 or  
[oped@att.net](mailto:oped@att.net) to Pre-Register

**Minding Your P's and Q's:** Business Etiquette and Professionalism: July 24<sup>th</sup> – 11:00-2:00

The Arkansas Small Business and Technology Development Center at Southern Arkansas University presents:

**“Minding Your P's and Q's:** Business Etiquette and Professionalism.”

Good manners are good business, yet rudeness runs rampant! Do your employees project the image you want your customers to see? Is your phone being answered in a customer friendly and efficient manner? The cyber, cellular, time-compressed business

world of the 21st century has created new situations. Everyone in your organization can gain confidence in their knowledge of the rules. Start using this marketing advantage that is as important as your products and services.

## 2012 7th Annual Teachers Appreciation Breakfast

The Leadership Camden Alumni invite you to join us to honor and celebrate those in our community who make a significant impact on our children — **OUR TEACHERS.**

Please join us in welcoming teachers of the Camden-Fairview & Harmony Grove School Districts at this special event.

### **CAMDEN-FAIRVIEW SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**Date:** Wed., August 8

**Time:** 7:30 – 9:00 am

**Place:** Camden-Fairview Middle School

647 Dooley Womack Dr.  
Camden

### **HARMONY GROVE SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**Date:** Tues., August 14

**Time:** 7:00-8:00 am

**Place:** Harmony Grove School Cafeteria

401 Ouachita 88 Camden

To request additional information and submit registration contact:

**Valerie Wilson,  
SAU Tech**

**P.O. Box 3499  
Camden, Arkansas  
71711**

**Phone: (870) 574-4514**  
**[vwilson@sautech.edu](mailto:vwilson@sautech.edu)**

All proceeds will be donated toward the endowment of the Junior Leadership Camden Area Scholarship Fund



## CEU's offered for Nurses and CNAs

Pine Hills Health & Rehab will host Mr. Floyd Strayer from the Attorney General's Office. He will offer information regarding **"Internal Investigations of Allegations of Abuse or Neglect"** and give advice on how to avoid these issues.

This will be offered as a 4 hour CEU approved by the office of Long Term Care. Please contact Beth Chadwick if you would like to attend at 870.510.7718. This event is scheduled for July 31<sup>st</sup> 8:30 a.m. to 12 Noon at the WK Green Center at OCMC in Camden.

*"We often think of nursing as giving meds on time, checking an X-ray to see if the doctor needs to be called, or taking an admission at 2:00 a.m. with a smile on our faces. Too often, we forget all the other things that make our job what it truly is—caring and having a desire to make a difference."*

**Erin Pettengill, RN,  
quoted in RN Modern  
Medicine**

## Please join us for the 43rd Annual BPW Barn Sale

**September 29th 9:00 am  
to 5:00 pm**

Come out for another day at South Arkansas's largest Arts and Crafts Show and enjoy the Arts, Crafts, Food, Entertainment, Children's Activities, and the Car Show.

Please visit:  
**[www.bpwbarmsale.org](http://www.bpwbarmsale.org)** for  
details and application



## *The Lincoln Museum needs items*

**The Lincoln Alumni Association has established a museum in a building at the corner of Lincoln Drive, across from Car-Mart. Alumni are now seeking any memorabilia from the school, which closed in 1970.**

**Items can be donated or loaned to the museum. For more information, call 836-7010 or 836-5618.**



## WHITE OAK LAKE STATE PARK CALENDAR OF EVENTS Saturday July 7 - Thursday July 12, 2012



### Saturday July 7, 2012

#### 10 a.m. Freedom Dog Parade

Come out and celebrate our freedom with your dog! We welcome you to dress up your dog for the holiday and join our parade of pups. There will be a contest for some of our best dressed dogs! The parade will be held through the campgrounds.

#### 2 p.m. Festive Bandana Art

Kids join Park Interpreter Beckie at the Visitor Center to make your very own bandana to take home for the holiday!

#### 4 p.m. Firework Art

Kids meet Park Interpreter Beckie at the Visitor Center to

make some festive firework art with items found in nature at White Oak Lake State Park.

#### 9 p.m.

#### Shine Me a Story

Meet Park Interpreter Beckie at the Fishing Dock to explore some stories of the past the stars shine down on us every night. Remember to wear insect repellent if needed.

### Sunday July 8, 2012

#### 10 a.m. Macro Invertebrate Mayhem

Kids meet Park Interpreter Beckie at the playground for a game to discover some small creatures with giant shoulders we stand on in our everyday lives.

#### 1 p.m.

#### What do I pack?

Meet Park Interpreter Beckie at the Amphitheater to discover what you should and should not take on a hike through the forest here at White Oak Lake State Park.

#### 3 p.m.

#### Superhero's of the night

Meet Park Interpreter Beckie at the Amphitheater and discover what animals of the night have superhero powers.

#### 8:30

#### Night Stroll

Join Park Interpreter Beckie to take a stroll through the forest and experience the wonders of the night. Remember to bring a flashlight and to wear good walking shoes and insect repellent if needed.

### Monday July 9, 2012

#### 8:30 a.m. Birding at White Oak Lake State Park

Join Park Interpreter Beckie at the Beech Ridge Trailhead and discover what birds make their home at White Oak Lake State Park.

#### 10 p.m. Hiking safely with bears

Meet Park Interpreter Beckie at the Amphitheater and discover safety tips for hiking with bears in our forest.

#### 1 p.m. Wonderful butterflies

Kids join Park Interpreter Beckie at the visitor center to explore the wonderful world of butterflies and get to make your very own butterfly life cycle to take with you.

### Tuesday July 10, 2012

#### 10 a.m. Meet a tree

Join Park Interpreter Beckie at the Spring Branch Trailhead to discover our forest using your senses and get a chance to meet your very own tree in our forest.

#### 1 p.m. The Lorax

Kids meet Park Interpreter Beckie at the visitor center to explore the classic story of the Lorax by Dr. Seuss.

#### 3 p.m. Dress the beaver

Join Park Interpreter Beckie at the Amphitheater to discover one of the many animals you can see at White Oak Lake State Park in a new way.

#### 7:30 p.m. Sunset walk

Join Park Interpreter Beckie at the overflow campsites and take a nice stroll around the campground to watch the sun go down on our forest.

### Wednesday July 11, 2012

#### 9 a.m. Leave no trace

Kids meet Park Interpreter Beckie at the Beech Ridge Trailhead to discover what it means to "Take nothing but pictures, leave nothing but footprints."

#### 10 p.m. Civil War stories

Meet Park Interpreter Beckie at the visitor center and hear some interesting Civil War stories that occurred in the area around White Oak Lake State Park.

#### 4 p.m. Nature Jeopardy

Meet Park Interpreter Beckie at the picnic area to play a fun game of jeopardy with a nature twist.

### Thursday July 12, 2012

#### 8:30 a.m. Birding at White Oak Lake State Park

Join Park Interpreter Beckie at the tent campsites to explore the many birds that make White Oak Lake State Park their home.

#### 9:30 a.m. Sense of wonder stroll

Meet Park Interpreter Beckie at the Beech Ridge Trailhead to experience our forest in a new way using your senses.

#### 1 p.m. Sharing Nature

Join Park Interpreter Beckie at the Amphitheater to discover that by having a firsthand experience with wildlife in our State Parks can help you find peace and a connection with your life.

*White Oak Lake State Park is located 2 miles off Hwy 24 in Bluff City, AR. Contact the park on camping rates, questions about events or information about the park at 870-685-2748. Or visit them online at [www.arkansasstateparks.com](http://www.arkansasstateparks.com).*





**Bringing People and Jobs Together.<sup>SM</sup>**

Finding employment in this economy is challenging, but imagine you're a young person who needs a job but you have no experience. Then imagine you don't have the tight education and face other obstacles that make getting that first job seem impossible.

There are over six million young people in the U.S. today who are not connected to school or work. We believe these young people could begin to change the trajectory of their lives if they were given an opportunity. Business can play an important role in making this happen. They can help disconnected youth get on a pathway to a better future.

Companies involved in these types of programs report increases in employee engagement, customer loyalty, and employee retention. Every U.S. company can play a part in creating pathways to employment for low-income and disconnected youth. This is a win-win situation for all of us.

The Workforce Investment Act of Southwest Arkansas is looking for training sites to help employ these young people. If you are interested in becoming a training site, at no cost to you, please call David Nelson at (870) 235-7507.

Thank you,

**R. "Reese" Broadnax**  
 Director of Workforce Development  
 Southwest Arkansas Planning and Development District, Inc.

**ARKANSAS WORKFORCE CENTER**

P.O. Box 767 • Magnolia, AR 71754  
 (870) 234-4030 • Fax (870) 234-0135  
[www.southwestarworks.org](http://www.southwestarworks.org)

## 2012 BARN SALE 5K RUN/WALK

### 2012 BARN SALE 5K RUN/WALK (September 29th) AND IT WILL BE BETTER THAN EVER!!

#### Would your business or organization like to sponsor the 2012 Barn Sale 5K Run / Walk?

For any contribution over \$100, your company's name or logo will be printed on the back of the 5K t-shirt, graphics by Barnes Limited. The sponsorship levels are:

**Silver Level (\$100-\$199): 2 free t-shirt and 2 runner's entry fee waived.**

**Gold Level (\$200-\$299): 4 free t-shirts and 4 runner's entry fees waived.**

**Platinum Level (\$300 or more): 10 free t-shirts and 10 runner's entry fees waived.**

All contributions under \$100 are gratefully accepted as general sponsors.

E-mail: [info@CamdenAreaChamberofCommerce.org](mailto:info@CamdenAreaChamberofCommerce.org) if interested.

**T-shirt Deadline is September 7th**



#### Community Blood Drive to be Hosted

**Pine Hills will host a Community Blood Drive on July 26<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

**Please call Hilda Jones at 870.836.6833 to schedule your appointment to donate!**

**Refreshments and a t-shirt will be provided for each donor!**



#### Director of Nursing recognized by the Arkansas State Board of Nursing

Congratulations to Debra Holmes, RN for receiving the 2012 Most Compassionate Nurse Award! This award is presented by the Arkansas State Board of Nursing. Debra is the Director of Nursing at Pine Hills Health & Rehab and we are honored that she is part of our Pine Hills Family. Debra has been part of our dedicated family since 2004.

This is the second award for Pine Hills Health & Rehab this year!



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Featured Business  
of the Month  
Section in the  
Chamber  
Newsletter & on  
the Chamber  
Website!!  
[http://](http://www.teamcamden.com/index.php/chamber/fbom)

[www.teamcamden.com/index.php/chamber/fbom](http://www.teamcamden.com/index.php/chamber/fbom)

One business  
will be  
highlighted each month  
on a first come, first serve  
basis.

Forms available at  
[www.teamcamden.com](http://www.teamcamden.com)  
or email

[www.teamcamden.com](http://www.teamcamden.com)

## July 2012 Calendar of Events

July 4  
12th Annual Star  
Spangled Spectacular  
@ Camden Regional  
Airport  
6 pm

July 16  
Business After Hours  
@ Teague Eye Care.  
Please RSVP the  
Camden Area  
Chamber of  
Commerce at:  
[info@CamdenAreaChamberofCommerce.org](mailto:info@CamdenAreaChamberofCommerce.org)

July 20  
Chamber Board  
Meeting @ **Allen's**  
12 pm

July 20  
Submission Deadline  
for August Newsletter

July 24  
**Minding your P's and  
Q's**

July 26  
Community Blood  
Drive