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| |  | | --- | | You are receiving this email because you signed up for our mailing list. If you're having trouble viewing this message, [open it in a browser window](http://track.bizzuka.com/v/443/aed000ebf1f264085ab8016a57e2018c9012a002ca135532). | | |  | | --- | | http://soundoff.bizzuka.com/editor_images/image_d2e084b1/template1/color_bar.png | | |  | | --- | | ***March 2014*** | | http://soundoff.bizzuka.com/editor_images/image_d2e084b1/template1/line.png | | *Connections Newsletter*  http://soundoff.bizzuka.com/editor_images/image_d2e084b1/template1/line.png   |  |  | | --- | --- | | *[http://soundoff.bizzuka.com/editor_images/image_0f35b73e/connections.gif](http://track.bizzuka.com/c/443/aed000ebf1f264085ab8016a57e2018c16e2f2c4841cc9dd190b7a71e391c456)* | [**Connections Professional Networking  Luncheon Friday, March 7 Petroleum Club  Lunch Buffet $18**](http://track.bizzuka.com/c/443/aed000ebf1f264085ab8016a57e2018c16e2f2c4841cc9dd190b7a71e391c456) |   [http://soundoff.bizzuka.com/editor_images/image_d2e084b1/template1/line.png](http://track.bizzuka.com/c/443/aed000ebf1f264085ab8016a57e2018c16e2f2c4841cc9dd190b7a71e391c456)   |  |  | | --- | --- | | *[http://soundoff.bizzuka.com/editor_images/image_0f35b73e/files/slcc_resized__resized_20140219144502.png](http://track.bizzuka.com/c/443/aed000ebf1f264085ab8016a57e2018c16e2f2c4841cc9ddd8fd5aa7a63aca6b)* | [**2013 Career Achievement Awards  Each year the members of  Connections honor exceptional women with the Career Achievement Award. They are women who have presented themselves as role models in representing the epitome of professional accomplishment and sharing personal skills to enhance the lives of others.  This year we are pleased to honor two such women who have contributed much to the Lafayette community. They are Flo Meadows and Nancy Mounce Cochrane. Each in her own way has made Lafayette a better place in which to live.  They have served as examples for women to follow in their different walks of life.  Flo Meadows has shown how a woman can return to college to finish her degree in accounting after twenty years away. She did it with honors and was selected to  deliver the commencement address. She has worked as controller to Chief Financial Officer of Cadence Capital Partners and now is in  Commercial Real Estate. She has excelled in a field formally dominated by men and led the way for women.  Flo went on to Chair the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce in 2011 and lead it in achieving Five Star Accreditation.   Flo is always willing to help other women achieve.  She volunteers with the American Heart Association, LEDA, Acadiana Center for the Arts and the Leukemia Society to name a few.  In 2013, Flo received the Junior Achievement of Acadiana Business Person of the Year.  Flo is an inspiration to women to do their best.  Nancy Mounce Cochrane is an example of  how a woman who is passionate about serving others can do so even in retirement.  Nancy began her career as a teacher in 1970.  She was a strong proponent of teacher involvement in making educational decisions often speaking out at Board meetings on their behalf.  Nancy was one the first women to break the glass ceiling of women in government when she was elected to the Lafayette City Council and subsequent Chairperson of the Council. After twenty years in education, she retired only to return to school to obtain a Masters is Psychology.  She began a counseling business and also volunteered her services to many young people needing help. She is now serving on the Editorial Board of the Advertiser.  She came to the help of all employees of the School Board when she stepped to the plate to help keep the Insurance Coverage.  She has participated in the Chamber of Commerce, Republican Women, Louisiana Association of Education,  Municipal Association  and many others. Nancy, thorough her continuous leadership, has made a difference in the life of many others and has shown the way for women to serve.  Please bring a guest or two to join in the spirit of Networking. See you all there!!**](http://track.bizzuka.com/c/443/aed000ebf1f264085ab8016a57e2018c16e2f2c4841cc9dd190b7a71e391c456) |   [http://soundoff.bizzuka.com/editor_images/image_d2e084b1/template1/line.png](http://track.bizzuka.com/c/443/aed000ebf1f264085ab8016a57e2018c16e2f2c4841cc9dd190b7a71e391c456)  *[http://soundoff.bizzuka.com/editor_images/image_0f35b73e/files/CutieRodlynB_W_resized__resized_20130530110839.png](http://track.bizzuka.com/c/443/aed000ebf1f264085ab8016a57e2018c16e2f2c4841cc9dd190b7a71e391c456)*   |  |  | | --- | --- | | [http://soundoff.bizzuka.com/editor_images/image_d2e084b1/template1/qr_code.png](http://track.bizzuka.com/c/443/aed000ebf1f264085ab8016a57e2018c16e2f2c4841cc9dd190b7a71e391c456) | [**PRESIDENT’S  MESSAGE    Rodlyn Cochran**  Dear Connections Ladies,  What comes to your mind when you think of spring?  I am thinking of beautiful flowers, green grass and leaves, baby birds chirping, new fashionable clothes, perfect temperatures, and time change.  Connections Open enrollment is in March and April of 2014.  I would like each of you spring into action and renew your Connections membership, now!  Get ready to network your way to success!     Here are 4 networking tips:  1. Be a connector. Work to think of connections you can make for the person to whom you are speaking. People will naturally want to connect you with prospects as well.  2. When you share, share the benefits your customers receive as a result using your products and services. People want to know, “what is in it for them?”  For example, “as a result of my services, my clients reduce their stress and improve their stamina. This results in increased self-confidence, increased earning potential and the energy to enjoy their time with their family.”  3. Express your positive thoughts about the person and/or their business. So many times we assume successful people don’t need to be commended or reassured, but everyone enjoys it.  4. Remember, business networking is marketing, and marketing is a process. Chances are you won’t get 5 new clients or customers from your next networking event. Your goal should be for others to get to know you, the resources you possess and the services you offer. People want to do business with people they like. Realize that these events allow people to become acquainted with you and eventually utilize your services or recommend you to someone else.  We will have a drawing for a member’s business to be spotlighted in our next newsletter.  Please make sure you drop your business card for the drawing!](http://track.bizzuka.com/c/443/aed000ebf1f264085ab8016a57e2018c16e2f2c4841cc9dd190b7a71e391c456) |   [http://soundoff.bizzuka.com/editor_images/image_d2e084b1/template1/line.png](http://track.bizzuka.com/c/443/aed000ebf1f264085ab8016a57e2018c16e2f2c4841cc9dd190b7a71e391c456)    [http://soundoff.bizzuka.com/editor_images/image_d2e084b1/template1/line.png](http://track.bizzuka.com/c/443/aed000ebf1f264085ab8016a57e2018c16e2f2c4841cc9dd190b7a71e391c456)  [http://soundoff.bizzuka.com/editor_images/image_0f35b73e/files/announcements.jpg](http://track.bizzuka.com/c/443/aed000ebf1f264085ab8016a57e2018c16e2f2c4841cc9dd190b7a71e391c456) [***Connections Board Slate 2014-2015***  *President - Nanette Heggie* *President Elect - Deidre Detraz* *Secretary - Vonda Broussard* *Treasurer - June Brillhart* *Membership - Mauri Robicheaux* *Program - Fritzie Shoun* *Public Relations - Rebecca Taylor* *Newsletter - Connie Marcantel* *Board Member at Large - Rodlyn Cochran* *Arrangement Chair - Renee Box & Kathy Mere*  *Nominating Committee: Nanette Heggie, Kathy Mere, Vonda Broussard, Fritzie Shoun, June Brillhart, Cynthia Beslin, Pat Sonnier, Deidre Detraz, Mauri Robicheaux, Rodlyn Cochran and Connie Marcantel*   ***Connections Scholarship Changes***](http://track.bizzuka.com/c/443/aed000ebf1f264085ab8016a57e2018c16e2f2c4841cc9dd190b7a71e391c456)[*Changes have been made for the scholarship program. The scholarship funds have been raised from $500 to $1000. The age limit is now 24 - 55 and the GPA has been lowered to a cumulative 2.5.*](http://track.bizzuka.com/c/443/aed000ebf1f264085ab8016a57e2018c16e2f2c4841cc9dd190b7a71e391c456) [***Welcome to our new and renewing Connections Members!!!***](http://track.bizzuka.com/c/443/aed000ebf1f264085ab8016a57e2018c16e2f2c4841cc9dd190b7a71e391c456) [**Debra Billeaud Billeaud Technology 849-6354** [**debra@billeaudtechnology.com**](mailto:849-6354/debra@billeaudtechnology.com) **Bonnie Barbier Bon Pet Sitting 962-6828** [**bonpetsitting@yahoo.com**](mailto:bonpetsitting@yahoo.com)](http://track.bizzuka.com/c/443/aed000ebf1f264085ab8016a57e2018c16e2f2c4841cc9dd190b7a71e391c456)  [***"Spotlight on Business"...February***  *Ree Mere / Realtor* *Associate Broker* *280-0833 Mobile* *235-7770 Office* [*ree@reemere.com*](mailto:ree@reemere.com)  *Ree brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to the real estate transaction with 26 years as a professional full time agent. Her dedication to her clients is based on a commitment to honesty, indepth community and market knowledge,    marketing savvy, effective negotiation skills, and integrity.  Moving around the country as well as her involvement in the local community also gives her the experience to assist relocating clients. She puts her clients first by making herself accessible, being a good listener as well as a good communicator and responds quickly to her client’s needs.   She pledges herself to protect the individual right of real estate ownership and to widen the opportunity to enjoy it.  You can expect the best from Ree as she always gives 110%.*  *So if you or someone you know decides to buy and/or sell real estate in and around the Lafayette area, please give me a call.*    **Bring your business card and at each meeting we will draw a name. Your business will then be "Spotlighted" in the next monthly newsletter.**](http://track.bizzuka.com/c/443/aed000ebf1f264085ab8016a57e2018c16e2f2c4841cc9dd190b7a71e391c456) [http://soundoff.bizzuka.com/editor_images/image_d2e084b1/template1/line.png](http://track.bizzuka.com/c/443/aed000ebf1f264085ab8016a57e2018c16e2f2c4841cc9dd190b7a71e391c456)  [**$36 Annual Membership Fee (Please make seperate check)  2014 - 2015 Membership Application**  New Application / Yearly Renewal (Circle One) Date Joining/Renewal: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Publish in Yearly Directory? Y / N Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Y / N Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Y / N Title/Position: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Y / N Business Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Y / N Business Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Y / N Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Y / N Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Y / N Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ BUSINESS CLASS: (Please select up to 2 categories from the list below) \_\_\_\_\_ Administrative \_\_\_\_\_ Advertising \_\_\_\_\_ Business Consultant \_\_\_\_\_ Business Services \_\_\_\_\_ Computer Services \_\_\_\_\_ Design \_\_\_\_\_ Education \_\_\_\_\_ Employment Services \_\_\_\_\_ Entertainment \_\_\_\_\_ Financial \_\_\_\_\_ Food Services \_\_\_\_\_ Funeral Services \_\_\_\_\_ Health Services \_\_\_\_\_ Insurance \_\_\_\_\_ Interior Design \_\_\_\_\_ Legal Services \_\_\_\_\_ Marketing/Public Relations \_\_\_\_\_ Media \_\_\_\_\_ Mental Health Services \_\_\_\_\_ Non Profit \_\_\_\_\_ Nutrition \_\_\_\_\_ Personal Services \_\_\_\_\_ Printing \_\_\_\_\_ Property Management \_\_\_\_\_ Real Estate \_\_\_\_\_ Retail \_\_\_\_\_ Sales \_\_\_\_\_ Signs \_\_\_\_\_ Social Services \_\_\_\_\_ Travel Services \_\_\_\_\_ Volunteer Services \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_](http://track.bizzuka.com/c/443/aed000ebf1f264085ab8016a57e2018c16e2f2c4841cc9dd190b7a71e391c456)  [http://soundoff.bizzuka.com/editor_images/image_d2e084b1/template1/line.png](http://track.bizzuka.com/c/443/aed000ebf1f264085ab8016a57e2018c16e2f2c4841cc9dd190b7a71e391c456)   |  |  | | --- | --- | | [http://maps.google.com/maps/api/staticmap?test=2&center=111+heymann+blvd+lafayette+la&markers=color:red|111+heymann+blvd+lafayette+la&zoom=15&size=200x200&sensor=false](http://track.bizzuka.com/c/443/aed000ebf1f264085ab8016a57e2018c16e2f2c4841cc9dd190b7a71e391c456) | [Petroleum Club 111 Heymann Boulevard (Oil Center) ***Buffet lunch $18*** Please bring cash or **preferred method of payment check.**  Networking begins at 11:30 a.m. Meeting begins at 12:00 Noon.  Please **RSVP** by noon on **Wednesday, March 5.** It is important that you let us know if you plan to attend. **email:** [***connectionsprofnet@gmail.com***](mailto:connectionsprofnet@gmail.com)](http://track.bizzuka.com/c/443/aed000ebf1f264085ab8016a57e2018c16e2f2c4841cc9dd190b7a71e391c456) |   [http://soundoff.bizzuka.com/editor_images/image_d2e084b1/template1/line.png](http://track.bizzuka.com/c/443/aed000ebf1f264085ab8016a57e2018c16e2f2c4841cc9dd190b7a71e391c456)   |  |  | | --- | --- | | [**Door Prizes**](http://track.bizzuka.com/c/443/aed000ebf1f264085ab8016a57e2018c16e2f2c4841cc9dd190b7a71e391c456)  [**Thank you to our members and guests for the many door prizes at the January meeting.  Rodlyn Cochran...Bizzuka Pat Sonnier... Retired Gail Wolf...Retired Rose Moss...Mary Kay Gwen Doucet...Teche Federal Bank Melanie Herpin...Premier Designs Jewelry Rebecca...Acadiana Profile Barbara Savoie...Adwardmaster Jo Ann Pugh...Community Activist**](http://track.bizzuka.com/c/443/aed000ebf1f264085ab8016a57e2018c16e2f2c4841cc9dd190b7a71e391c456) | *[http://soundoff.bizzuka.com/editor_images/image_0f35b73e/gift%20bags.jpeg](http://track.bizzuka.com/c/443/aed000ebf1f264085ab8016a57e2018c16e2f2c4841cc9dd190b7a71e391c456)* |   [http://soundoff.bizzuka.com/editor_images/image_d2e084b1/template1/line.png](http://track.bizzuka.com/c/443/aed000ebf1f264085ab8016a57e2018c16e2f2c4841cc9dd190b7a71e391c456)    [http://soundoff.bizzuka.com/editor_images/image_d2e084b1/template1/line.png](http://track.bizzuka.com/c/443/aed000ebf1f264085ab8016a57e2018c16e2f2c4841cc9dd190b7a71e391c456)   |  |  | | --- | --- | | [Mark Your Calendar!  Connections Meeting –**March 7, 2014** Networking and business card exchange begins at 11:30 a.m. Meeting starts promptly at 12:00 noon at the Petroleum Club.  Connections Monthly Board Meeting - **Monday, March 10 at noon...Bizzuka office.** Deadline to submit articles to be included in the next Connections Newsletter – February 15.  Mark Your Calendar - Future Connections’ Meetings  **April 4 , 2014**](http://track.bizzuka.com/c/443/aed000ebf1f264085ab8016a57e2018c16e2f2c4841cc9dd190b7a71e391c456) | *[http://soundoff.bizzuka.com/editor_images/image_0f35b73e/files/2014_calend.jpg](http://track.bizzuka.com/c/443/aed000ebf1f264085ab8016a57e2018c16e2f2c4841cc9dd190b7a71e391c456)* |   [http://soundoff.bizzuka.com/editor_images/image_d2e084b1/template1/line.png](http://track.bizzuka.com/c/443/aed000ebf1f264085ab8016a57e2018c16e2f2c4841cc9dd190b7a71e391c456)   |  |  | | --- | --- | | *[http://soundoff.bizzuka.com/editor_images/image_0f35b73e/graduation%20cap.jpg](http://track.bizzuka.com/c/443/aed000ebf1f264085ab8016a57e2018c16e2f2c4841cc9dd190b7a71e391c456)* | [**$1000 Connections UL Lafayette Scholarship**  Connections Professional Woman's Networking Organization awards a minimum of one UL Lafayette Scholarship per year with preference given to a mature woman student between the ages of 24 and 55 - one either returning to college for a career change, or a mature first-time student. Selection is based on academic merit, cumulative GPA 2.5 or higher, and professional promise by the Connections Scholarship Committee. Should you know of a woman meeting the criteria above, please encourage her to contact the UL Lafayette Scholarship Office in Martin Hall for a Connections Scholarship Application. The deadline for submission for 2014 Scholarship Applications is rapidly approaching. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_](http://track.bizzuka.com/c/443/aed000ebf1f264085ab8016a57e2018c16e2f2c4841cc9dd190b7a71e391c456) |   [http://soundoff.bizzuka.com/editor_images/image_d2e084b1/template1/line.png](http://track.bizzuka.com/c/443/aed000ebf1f264085ab8016a57e2018c16e2f2c4841cc9dd190b7a71e391c456)   |  |  | | --- | --- | | [**FAITH HOUSE IMMEDIATE SUPPLY NEEDS** Laundry Detergent        Dishwashing Liquid Lysol & Floor Cleaner Diapers - Sizes 4 & 5 Paper Towels                                  Towels & Washrags Ethnic Hair care products Sanitary products Twin Sheets & Blankets      Brooms & mops Paper Plates, Utensils, Bowls, & Cups      **ITEMS NEEDED FOR WHEN WOMEN MOVE OUT OF SHELTER** Sheets/Blankets                 Carseats & Fans Pots/Dishes/Utensils Kitchen Tables/Chairs Furniture (Sofa, Bed, Dresser, Etc.)                      Suitcases  **Items can be brought to the Connections’ Meeting and Mary Usner will deliver them to Faith House.**  **Special thanks to Ms. Mary Usner for bringing these much needed items to Faith House!**](http://track.bizzuka.com/c/443/aed000ebf1f264085ab8016a57e2018c16e2f2c4841cc9dd190b7a71e391c456) | [http://soundoff.bizzuka.com/editor_images/image_0f35b73e/faith%20house.jpg](http://track.bizzuka.com/c/443/aed000ebf1f264085ab8016a57e2018c16e2f2c4841cc9dd190b7a71e391c456) |   [http://soundoff.bizzuka.com/editor_images/image_d2e084b1/template1/line.png](http://track.bizzuka.com/c/443/aed000ebf1f264085ab8016a57e2018c16e2f2c4841cc9dd190b7a71e391c456)  [http://soundoff.bizzuka.com/editor_images/image_0f35b73e/connections%20board(1).jpg](http://track.bizzuka.com/c/443/aed000ebf1f264085ab8016a57e2018c16e2f2c4841cc9dd190b7a71e391c456)   |  |  | | --- | --- | | [**Connections Officers**  Rodlyn Cochran - President Tammy Johnston - President Elect Connie Marcantel – Newsletter VP Nanette Heggie – Public Relations VP Cynthia Beslin – Membership VP June Brillhart – Treasurer Susan Palumbo - Program VP Lourdes Broussard - Secretary Pat Sonnier – Board Member at Large and Career Achievement Joann Pugh-Scholarship Chairperson Cathy Mere - Arrangements Chair  CONNECTIONS is a monthly newsletter published by the members of CONNECTIONS. For consideration of all information and articles, contact Newsletter Vice President and Editor, Connie Marcantel at 406-2650 or [connie@acadiana.bbb.org](mailto:connie@acadiana.bbb.org). If you would like to become a member of CONNECTIONS, contact Cynthia Beslin, Membership Vice-President at 232-1737 or [cynthia.beslin@prudential.com](mailto:cynthia.beslin@prudential.com).](http://track.bizzuka.com/c/443/aed000ebf1f264085ab8016a57e2018c16e2f2c4841cc9dd190b7a71e391c456) | [**CONNECTIONS PURPOSE AS BY OUR CONNECTIONS CONSTITUTION**  SECTION ONE: TO PROVIDE A PROFESSIONAL , EDUCATIONAL AND PERSONAL SUPPORT NETWORK FOR CAREER-ORIENTED WOMEN.  SECTION TWO: TO PROVIDE AN ARENA IN WHICH CAREER-ORIENTED WOMEN CAN MEET ONE ANOTHER.  SECTION THREE: TO PROMOTE PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS OF WOMEN IN THE COMMUNITY.  SECTION FOUR: TO PROVIDE MODELS FOR THE COMMUNITY.  Enjoy yourself at our meeting!!](http://track.bizzuka.com/c/443/aed000ebf1f264085ab8016a57e2018c16e2f2c4841cc9dd190b7a71e391c456) |   [http://soundoff.bizzuka.com/editor_images/image_d2e084b1/template1/line.png](http://track.bizzuka.com/c/443/aed000ebf1f264085ab8016a57e2018c16e2f2c4841cc9dd190b7a71e391c456) |   [http://soundoff.bizzuka.com/editor_images/image_d2e084b1/template1/color_bar.png](http://track.bizzuka.com/c/443/aed000ebf1f264085ab8016a57e2018c16e2f2c4841cc9dd190b7a71e391c456) | | | [Connections Professional Networking for Women, PO Box 51463, Lafayette, LA 70505](http://track.bizzuka.com/c/443/aed000ebf1f264085ab8016a57e2018c16e2f2c4841cc9dd190b7a71e391c456)  [If you don’t want to receive emails from us anymore, [click here to unsubscribe](http://track.bizzuka.com/u/443/aed000ebf1f264085ab8016a57e2018c9012a002ca135532).](http://track.bizzuka.com/c/443/aed000ebf1f264085ab8016a57e2018c16e2f2c4841cc9dd190b7a71e391c456) | |