FROM THE CEO: INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATES FREEDOM

July 4 brings opportunities to celebrate freedoms we enjoy because of our democratic system of government. Independence Day celebrates the unanimous adoption of the Declaration of Independence by the Second Continental Congress in Philadelphia on July 4, 1776.

Though Congress has enjoyed fewer and fewer unanimous decisions as this nation ages, our daily freedoms of movement, religious choice, financial pursuits, press, gathering together, and free speech continue as they are supported by our Constitution based on the Declaration.

Therefore, as July 4 approaches, let us think about ways to enjoy and appreciate these freedoms. Interesting ways can

- Support one of your local recreational facilities, whether it is a local business or public-park-type facility, exercising the right to gather.
- Talk with a friend about local or national government issues and see if there may be ways to collaborate for improvement, using freedom of speech.
- Read a newspaper or the online application from a reputable news outlet to review how freedom of the press works.
- Pray or make an earnest wish for the well-being of your community and government to observe freedom of
- Gather to enjoy a spectacular celebration that may include an afternoon of local attractions capped off by an exciting fireworks display.

As you move from point to point, reflect that there are numerous locations around Earth where the local populace cannot enjoy these freedoms. One only needs to watch the war in Ukraine or follow the events in the several authoritarian-based global governments where freedoms are either restricted or non-existent.

Join me in celebrating Independence Day 2022 with friends and family and be thankful that the fathers of our nation drafted the Declaration of Independence. Former president Franklin D. Roosevelt said it best: "In the truest sense, freedom cannot be bestowed; it must be achieved. Achieve your freedoms on July 4 by enjoying them with thanks.

Don Long

CEO, Lake Nona Regional Chamber of Commerce



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RENEWED MEMBERS

All-Star Dance Company Byrge, Andrea Center for Advanced Gastroenterology Chicken Salad Chick Coach Chris **Belfry Restaurant**

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EVENT GALLERY



Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony at Friends of Fisher House Orlando Summer Kitchen Terri Turner (center), Fisher House manager, cuts the ribbon for the new summer kitchen located at their Lake Nona location on May 17. Turner retired on June 10 after more than 40 years of government



Business Luncheon: Access to Justice With Clerk of Courts Tiffany Moore Russell
Tiffany Moore Russell, Orange County Clerk of Courts, delivers a presentation on the role of the Clerk of Courts at Ronald McDonald

House Charities on May 20. (Photo by Danielle Conley)



Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony at Lightly Salted Lightly Salted owners Mike (right) and Lauren Kirk (middle) receive the autographed souvenir ribbon from Chamber CEO Don Long (right) at

the Grand Opening on May 19. (Photo by Danielle Conley)

Meet Their Diversity Goals
The Nona Professional Ladies hear from Cynthia Washington, president of WCI of Florida LLC, on May 23 at Wycliffe Discovery Center. (Photo by Danielle Conley)



Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony at Gymboree Play & Music, Nona Don Long (left), Chamber CEO, presents the signed ribbon souvenir to Amanda Sirianni, owner of Gymboree Play & Music, Nona, at the ribbon-cutting ceremony on May 24. (Photo by Danielle Conley)





Chamber Connections: New Member Showcase Networking The Chamber Connections Group held a new member showcase at Wycliffe Bible Translators with the newest LNRCC Chamber members on June 2. (Photo by Danielle Conley)



First Tuesdays After Hours: Nona Adventure Park Glenn Cooke (left) with Arcimoto talks about this latest fun electric vehicle option. Arcimoto, a Chamber Bronze Partner, sponsored this First Tuesdays After-Hours event on June 7 at Nona Adventure Park, LNRCC Chamber members sampled appetizers along with drink specials while enjoying professional networking with a sunset backdrop. (Photo by Danielle Conley)



Breakfast Connections: Let's Talk about Men's Health! Breakfast Connections: Let's Talk about Men's Health! AdventHealth's panel of doctors with moderator on June 9. (Johnson, executive producer of AdventHealth TV; Dr. Harrison Youmans, M.D., orthopedic sports medicine; Dr. Rikin Patel, M.D., panel to discuss men's health at the Ronald McDonald House Charities in Lake Nona on June 9. (Photo by Danielle Conley) urology; and Dr. Yaphet Tilahun, M.D., colorectal surgery.



CULVER'S LAKE NONA 11978 Narcoossee Rd

Chamber Connections: Speed Networking

First Thursdays at 8:00 a.m.

Thursday, July 7



JOIN US FOR NETWORKING AND A GAME NONA FC x The Villages

SATURDAY, JULY 9

6:00 p.m. Networking 7:00 p.m. Game **AUSTIN-TINDALL SPORTS COMPLEX**



2 for \$10 MEMBERS - KIDS FREE

Let's go Longhorns! #WEARENONA



Ribbon Cutting and Grand Opening Earthwise Pet Lake Nona Activity (Activity (Activi



Saturday, July 9 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Ribbon Cutting at 12:15 p.m.

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TRAVEL IMPACT AND MARKETING **INITIATIVES FOR 2022**

> Thursday, July 14 8:00 - 9:30 a.m.

Ronald McDonald House Charities



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