

CONGRATULATIONS! and Welcome to Charlotte County Suncoast Trucking Academy



In This Issue

UPCOMING EVENTS

Welcome to Charlotte County Economic Development Office Newsletter

Please enjoy your copy of the Charlotte County Economic Development Office Newsletter. If you need any further information, please feel free to contact our office at 941-764-4941 or at FloridaEDO@charlottefl.com.

Bayshore Wine & Beer Fest

October 13th
2-6 PM

Taste extraordinary
wines, beer, olive oil,
bread,
cheese & other goodies.

Purchase wine & beer
accessories.

Enter to win
door prizes.

Enjoy live music.

Prizes, Vendors and
Loads of Fun!

Tickets Just \$5
(Includes
Tasting!) Available at the
Event.

**Bayshore Live Oak
Park**
23157 Bayshore Road
Charlotte Harbor,
Florida

Suncoast Technology Forum Luncheon

We're having a very special event and you're invited!

Please join us, **October 16, 2012** from 11:30 AM to 1 PM at the Captain's Table, Fisherman's Village, Punta Gorda, FL for the Suncoast Technology Forum Luncheon.



The Charlotte County Economic Development Office is hosting the Suncoast Technology Forum monthly meeting with guest speaker Joe Haber, Chief Information Officer of Cheney Brothers. Also scheduled to attend will be Cheney Brothers President Bill Foley and Warren Newell of New Project Development.

Joe will be talking about the technology that goes into receiving and moving goods through their warehouses and how technology allows monitoring their fleet of trucks for temperatures, locations and a variety of other essential criteria.

941.627.1628 ext. 101

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Charlotte County
New Business Tax
Receipts

September - 118

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 1 - Charlotte Harbor CRA Advisory Committee Meeting 11 AM, Room 119

October 4 - ECEC Meeting (Call for information)

October 5 - National Manufacturing Day

October 8 - Murdock Village CRA Advisory Committee 5 PM at the EDO Conference Room 504

October 13 - Bayshore Wine & Beer Fest, 2-6 PM

October 16 - Suncoast Technology Forum Luncheon, 11:30-1 PM, Captain's Table, Fisherman's Village

October 17 - IDA Meeting Noon at the EDO Conference Room 504

November 1 - ECEC Meeting (Call for information)

November 5 - Charlotte Harbor CRA Advisory Committee Meeting 11 AM, Room 119

So mark your calendars and join us for lunch and technology!

REGISTER

The Cost will be:

- \$15.00 for Suncoast Technology Forum Members,
- \$20.00 for STF Members at the door.
- \$25.00 for Guests/Non-members, \$30.00 at the door.

STF Member Discount Program



Don't forget, if your company is currently an active member of the local Chamber of Commerce or Economic Development Organization in Sarasota, Manatee or Charlotte

Counties, you will receive a 15% discount off the respective annual STF membership fee for your first year!

Visit [STF](#) and select **Join Now > Online Application:**

1. Check the appropriate membership category.
2. Complete the brief online application and information section.

Submit the completed application. Membership fee discount - Select 'Manual' payment method and you will receive an invoice for the reduced member rate.

Suncoast Trucking Academy

Punta Gorda, Florida is the home of a new business; Suncoast Trucking Academy. Located at 28040 Airpark Drive in Suite 104, the company is dedicated to providing exceptional, safe training for students interested in employment in the transportation industry. The academy supplies the training vehicles in a multi-acre setting. The comprehensive, 150 hour program on campus includes vehicle operation, inspection, maintenance, hazmat classification, speed, space, maps, as well as safety regulations and accident procedures. The student earns certification from the Suncoast Trucking Academy in preparation for the state examiner's testing.

The executive team is experienced and thoroughly trained in CDL Class instruction. Their slogan describes the experience Suncoast Trucking Academy offers: "18 wheels - endless possibilities."

For more information on beginning programs and current classes, contact Don Garner, President, at 941-855-0193.

Global Entrepreneur Week November 11-17

Global Entrepreneur Week is November 11-17. The Charlotte County Economic Development Office and the Enterprise Charlotte Foundation will be hosting three events to commemorate the week.

The week will start off on Tuesday, November 13th from 8 AM to 10 AM at the Charlotte Technical Center with Good Morning, Charlotte! Wake Up with Charly Caldwell, "Success, The Internet and You!", presented by SBDC. In this presentation, Charly will review his 7 Fundamentals of Online Success and exactly how they apply to helping you create and maintain a successful online presence. The session is FREE. An a la carte breakfast bar is available. **Register by calling 941-764-4941.**

Wednesday, November 14th, there's the Entrepreneur Award Lunch and "Life's a Pitch!" with Brent Britton from 11:30 to 1 PM at the Charlotte Regional Medical Plaza. Join us for lunch as we present this year's Charlotte County Entrepreneur of the Year Awards and enjoy Brent Britton's interesting and motivating presentation, "Life's A Pitch!" to learn how to pitch your company and yourself to potential customers and funding sources. A very interesting session! The cost is \$10.00 and lunch is included. [Register online.](#)

Rounding out the week on Thursday, November 15th, it's "Get Your Social Media On! Tools You Need to Grow Your Business" presented by SCORE with Tamara Patzer at the Mid-County Library Computer Lab from 4 to 7 PM. This is ideal for beginners and intermediate users. It includes the latest information available about the current state of internet marketing using an interactive live audience participation approach to web presence analysis. Participants can ask pertinent questions and get real immediate answers to help them with their business. The cost will be \$35.00. Seating will be limited to 18 students. [Register online.](#)

Branding Florida

On Monday, September 10th, Debrah Forester, Kay Tracy and Lucienne Pears, of the Charlotte County Economic Development Office, along with members of the Lee County Economic Development Office, represented Southwest Florida's regional stakeholder organizations at a meeting to

November 6 - General Election

November 12 - EDO closed for Veterans Day

November 11-17 - Global Entrepreneur Week

November 13 - Good Morning Charlotte! Wake up with Charly Caldwell, Charlotte Technical Center, 8-10 AM

November 14 - Entrepreneur Awards Lunch & Life's A Pitch! , Charlotte Regional Medical Plaza, 4th Floor Conference Room, 11:30 AM

November 15 - Get Your Social Media On! Mid County Library, 4-7 PM

November 20 - Suncoast Technology Forum Luncheon, Polo Bar & Grill, Lakewood Ranch, 11:30 - 1 PM

November 21 - IDA Meeting Noon at the EDO Conference Room 504

November 22 & 23 - EDO closed for Thanksgiving

December 3 - Charlotte Harbor CRA Advisory Committee Meeting 11 AM, Room 119

December 6 - ECEC Meeting (Call for Information)

December 15 - Chamber Christmas Parade, 12 noon

December 19- IDA Meeting Noon at the EDO Conference Room 504

December 24 & 25 - EDO

share opinions, perceptions and experience about our state's business opportunities, challenges and promising future. The joint effort was to pursue new business branding with Enterprise Florida Inc. (EFI) and their partner North Star Destination Strategies (NSDS).

NSDS is the nation's leader in place branding. EFI is looking forward to significant economic development expertise and unique objectivity to this process as they lead the research, strategic development and the implementation of efforts for the new business brand of Florida. Together, the ideas of stakeholders across the state, will lead to creative development and local perspective to the messaging by NSDS.

"The goal is to reach the same level of distinction as our state's tourism brands" said the President & CEO, Enterprise Florida, Gray Swoope. Swoope continued by saying "This (effort) will not simply be a (new) logo. This will be Florida's business brand, expressing the identity that we want the world to see as it pertains to business in the state. Once developed, the brand and the message will help encourage job creation and expansion, enable trade opportunities and promote Florida's competitiveness among economic development interests. It is important to note, the brand message will not supersede your organization's brand, or any community's brand, but instead will allow us to speak to business about business here with one voice."

It is the expectation of North Star Destination Strategies that the new brand will be introduced late January, at the quarterly EFI stakeholders meeting.

Leadership Charlotte

Tom Patton, Director of Charlotte County Economic Development, will be one of the graduates of the 2013 Leadership Charlotte class, along with other members of the business community.

Leadership Charlotte is a nine month program for those looking to increase their leadership skills and gain a better understanding of the opportunities and challenges in our community. For more information, call Julie Mathis at the Charlotte County Chamber, 941-639-2222.

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy

The Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council submitted the 2012-2017 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs) to the U.S. Economic Development

closed for Christmas

January 1 - EDO Closed for New Years

January 3 - ECEC Meeting (Call for Information)

January 7 - Charlotte Harbor CRA Advisory Committee Meeting 11:00 AM, Room 119

January 14 - Murdock Village CRA Advisory Committee 5 PM at the EDO Conference Room 504

January 15 - Suncoast Technology Forum Luncheon, Polo Bar & Grill, Lakewood Ranch, 11:30 - 1 PM

January 16 - IDA Meeting Noon at the EDO Conference Room 504

January 21- EDO Closed for Martin Luther King Day

January 26 - Hands Across the Harbor

February 4 - Charlotte Harbor CRA Advisory Committee Meeting 11 AM, Room 119

February 7 - ECEC Meeting (Call for Information)

February 18 - EDO Closed for President's Day

February 19 - Suncoast Technology Forum Luncheon, Polo Bar & Grill, Lakewood Ranch, 11:30 - 1 PM

February 20 - IDA Meeting Noon at the EDO Conference Room 504

March 4 - Charlotte

Administration (EDA). The five year plan was developed with input from the community. Charlotte County was well represented by having three projects listed under the Priority Project list including an Incubator; Murdock Village; and Mote Marine. The CEDS focuses on strategies that will lead to job creation and diversification of the regional economy. Projects included in the CEDS may be eligible for funding by the EDA.

Hands Across the Harbor

The 5th Annual Hands Across the Harbor will be held on January 26, 2012. This grass-roots community event is hosted by the Charlotte Harbor and Punta Gorda Community Redevelopment Areas and benefits the Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center (CHEC). The event brings to gather residents and businesses from both sides of Charlotte Harbor. Participants can choose between an 8K competitive run; an 5K walk or a 10 or 20 mile bike ride. Join the growing list of sponsors and/or register for the event by visiting www.handsacrosstheharbor.com.

Florida Companies to Watch

Marketing Arm International, a local company that manufactures and exports environmentally friendly products for pest management will be recognized as one of 50 Florida Companies to Watch on October 19 in Orlando Florida. Marketing Arm International takes pride in being headquartered in Charlotte County by labeling their product with the label "Made in Port Charlotte, Florida, USA". Tickets to the gala event are still available at www.Florida.CompaniestoWatch.org. Marketing Arm International is a member of the Enterprise Charlotte Economic Council and supports several local organizations and events.

National Manufacturing Day

Friday, October 5th, is [National Manufacturing Day](#), as declared by the National Association of Manufacturers and the Manufacturing Institute. We salute all of our local manufactures.

November 6th Election Day
Polls Open 7 AM - 7 PM

Harbor CRA Advisory
Committee Meeting 11 AM,
Room 119

March 7 - ECEC Meeting
(Call for Information)

March 19 - Suncoast
Technology Forum
Luncheon, Polo Bar & Grill,
Lakewood Ranch, 11:30 - 1
PM

March 20 - IDA Meeting
Noon at the EDO
Conference Room 504

Early Voting

**Sat. Oct. 27, 2012 THRU Sat. Nov. 3, 2012
7AM to 7PM**

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