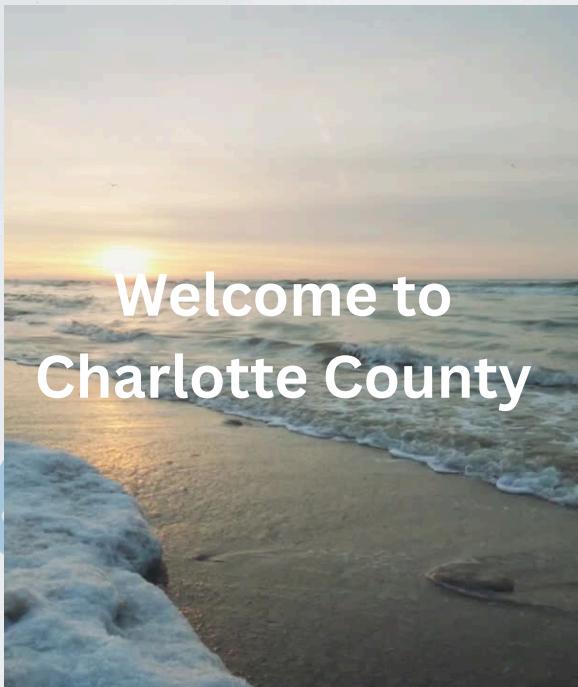


MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



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Welcome to Charlotte County

JULY 2025 CLEARED FOR TAKEOFF

Welcome to July!

From soaring aerial ambitions to boots-on-the-ground outreach, June was a powerhouse month for Charlotte County Economic Development. We welcomed statewide leaders, celebrated 40 Under 40 trailblazers, and advanced major initiatives in aviation, manufacturing, and workforce training. The region continues to deliver on its promise of opportunity—and here's how we kept things moving forward.

Charlotte County Economic Development Presents to CCIM

Kay Tracy, Director of Charlotte County Economic Development, delivered a powerful presentation to the The CCIM Institute on the growth trends shaping our market. With strong momentum in aviation, healthcare, cybersecurity, and logistics, Charlotte County is a launchpad for opportunity. We're not just growing—we're growing smart.



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CHARLOTTE COUNTY: 5 FINALISTS IN 'COOLEST THING MADE IN FLORIDA'

Charlotte County is making waves in the Florida Chamber's "Coolest Thing Made in Florida" contest with five standout nominees. Local innovators like Baby Barrier® Pool Fence, ProGlider Boats, Underwater Fish Light, Vestas Aircoil, and SuperTrak are representing the region's manufacturing excellence. Each product is designed and built right here in Charlotte County, showcasing the county's strength in innovation and advanced production. Their nominations spotlight the growing impact of local industry on Florida's economy.



Vestas aircoil a/s

**baby
barrier**
Pool Fence Company



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Business & Site Development News



FEATURED PROPERTY

Woodlawn Drive - Located on the south side of Punta Gorda Airport. This parcel is one of the most compelling land plays in the Charlotte County market.

Zoning: ECAP - Enterprise Charlotte Airport Park

Utilities: City of Punta Gorda, FPL

Site Status: Certified ECAP site

Listing Agent: Michael Saunders & Company

[**View Full GIS Property Listing**](#)

CCPS Students Race at Daytona

Port Charlotte High students are off to Daytona for the Electric Go-Kart Racing Series Finale. Their custom-built kart, part of FPL's STEM-focused Electrathon program, marks a first for the school. After racing at Homestead and Sebring, they'll compete for the title at Daytona while gaining hands-on skills in engineering and innovation.

[**Read more**](#)



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Workforce Development & Education



CTC'S ELECTRICAL PROGRAM

Charlotte Technical College celebrated a major milestone on May 30 with the graduation of its first adult electrical class. Fourteen students completed 1,200 hours of hands-on training, earning industry certifications and a direct path into high-demand electrical careers. With strong local demand and more students already on the waiting list, this program is powering Charlotte County's future one graduate at a time.

[Read the full story](#)

2025 Learners to Earners Workforce Summit

Charlotte County joined state leaders at the 2025 Learners to Earners Summit, where the message was clear: talent drives the economy. From early learning to apprenticeships, Florida is reshaping its workforce—and Charlotte County is helping lead the charge.

[Read more](#)



**“Talent continues to
replace the tax incentive
as the economic
development tool of
choice.”**

-Mark Wilson, Florida Chamber of Commerce



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Workforce Development & Education



NEW FSW DEGREE POWERS THE NEXT GENERATION OF ENTREPRENEURS

Florida SouthWestern State College is now enrolling for its new A.S. in Entrepreneurship, launching this fall. Designed for future business owners and innovators, the program blends hands-on training with real-world connections—including pitch opportunities through Cap Table Nation.

[Read more](#)

Karly Jordan Earns State Certification

Congratulations to Karly Jordan of Karly Jordan Organized and Clean LLC on receiving her official Woman & Minority Business Certification from the State of Florida. Her achievement shows how certification can open doors to new contracts and visibility.

[Learn More](#)



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Workforce Development & Education



MARK ODELL COMPLETES IEDC BRE TRAINING

Congratulations to Mark Odell (AKA #MarkOnTheMove) for completing the International Economic Development Council's Business Retention & Expansion (BRE) Program! With this national certification, Mark brings even more expertise to the ground-level work of helping Charlotte County businesses grow and thrive.

June's 40 Under 40: Angelica Asperilla

From managing a mobile medical clinic to teaching Pilates, Angelica Asperilla is redefining leadership in Charlotte County. As the Mobile Medical Clinic Coordinator for Virginia B. Andes Volunteer Community Clinic, she brings care directly to our neighborhoods, blending healthcare, heart, and hometown pride.

[Read her story](#)



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Business Support Events



"ARE YOU LENDER READY?" SBA SERIES RECAP

In case you missed it: Our two-part "Are You Lender Ready?" series with the SBA helped local businesses understand what lenders look for. From credit to cash flow, get the key takeaways [HERE](#). These workshops offered practical insights for businesses at any stage. Whether you're just starting out or planning to expand, it's worth the read.

SBDC at FGCU's AI Series Draws Full House in Charlotte County

Charlotte County businesses packed the room for our two-part "Smarter Business with AI Tools" series led by the SBDC at FGCU. These fully booked, no cost sessions explored how AI can streamline marketing, content creation, and operations—giving local entrepreneurs the tools to work smarter, not harder. If you missed it, you can still catch the key takeaways and resources online.



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Business Support Events



"2025 HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS WEBINAR" OFFERS PRACTICAL TIPS FOR BUSINESSES

From emergency plans to insurance checklists, our 2025 Hurricane Preparedness Webinar helped local businesses get storm-ready before the season ramps up. If you missed it, you can still watch the full session and access expert tips to safeguard your operations.

Click [HERE](#) to view resources.

FloridaCommerce Hits the Ground Moving

EJ Ghobar from **FloridaCommerce** spent a few days with **Mark Odell** exploring industrial sites, workforce efforts, and even trekking wetlands in a Fat Truck with Supertrak Inc. See how Charlotte County is preparing for the future of business.

[Read more](#)



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Business Insights

ARE YOU MISSING OUT ON THIS SIMPLE BUSINESS ADVANTAGE?

If you own a business in Charlotte County, there's one small but powerful step that could make a big difference: filing your Business Tax Receipt (BTR).

This license isn't just a legal requirement—it's a gateway to grants, loans, disaster relief, and local support programs. During COVID, businesses without a BTR couldn't access emergency funding like CARES Act grants or SBA assistance. That same rule could apply in future crises.

Even more? Without a BTR:

- Your business insurance may not cover you.
- You could be disqualified from free support and resources.
- Customers may view your business as unverified or unprofessional.

The good news? Filing is fast, affordable, and online.

Don't miss another opportunity—learn what a BTR unlocks for your business [HERE](#).

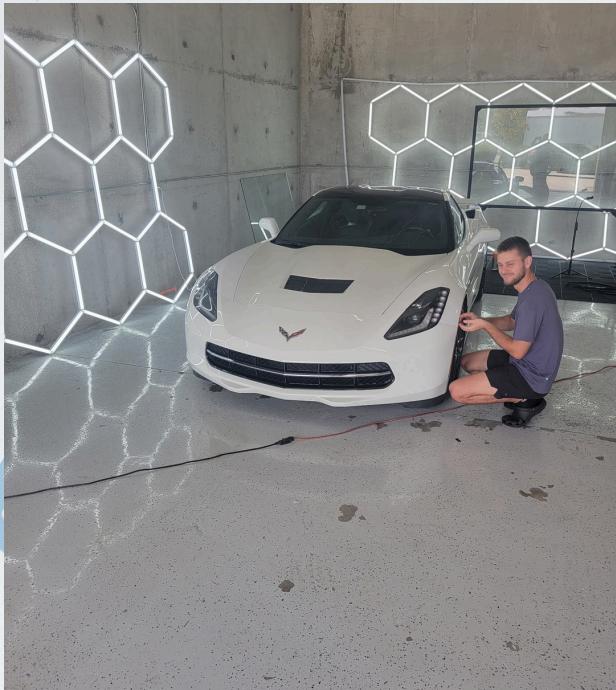


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Business Spotlight



WORX PERFORMANCE

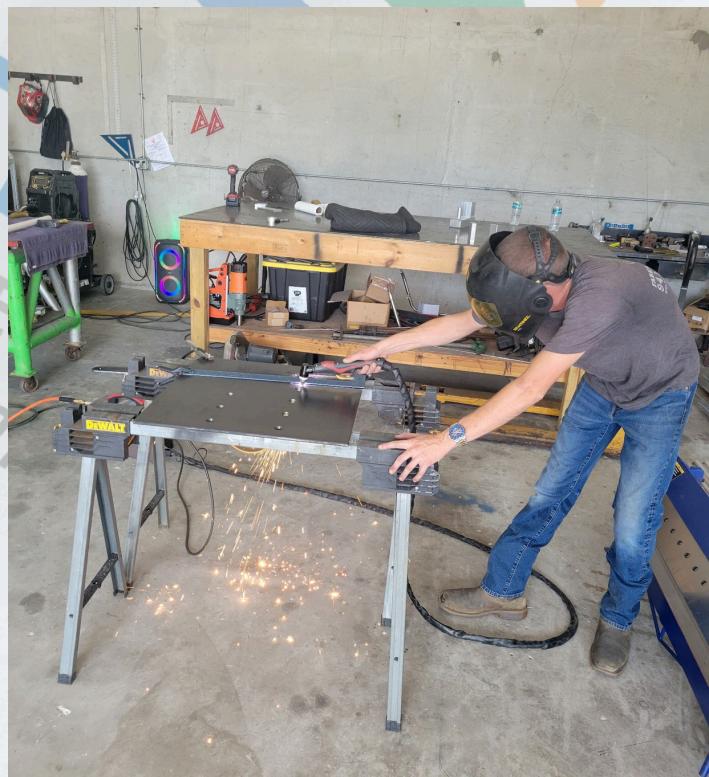
Worx Performance is now open in the Enterprise Charlotte Airport Park (ECAP), bringing high-end automotive detailing and protection services to Charlotte County. Specializing in ceramic coatings, paint correction, and precision tinting, the studio is setting a new standard for vehicle care in Southwest Florida.

Learn more about their services and growth: [HERE](#)

Faber Fabrications

Faber Fabrications has joined the growing industrial ecosystem in the ECAP. Known for precision metalwork and custom fabrication, Faber delivers innovative solutions across sectors, from construction to aviation. Their arrival underscores Charlotte County's continued growth in advanced manufacturing.

Discover more: [HERE](#)



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Featured Event

See You at the Innovator's STEM Pavilion at the Florida International Airshow

- 📍 Location: Florida International Airshow
- 📅 Dates: November 1-2, 2025
- 🕒 Demonstrations: 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM
- 🔧 Setup: Friday, Oct 31 from 12:00 – 5:00 PM or Saturday, Nov 1 from 7:30 – 9:00 AM

Attention Businesses: Be a part of a dynamic, hands-on STEM showcase that brings together students, educators, and professionals from across Southwest Florida to inspire the next generation of innovators. Whether you're working with virtual reality, robotics, medical tech, or aerospace, there's a place for you in the Pavilion.

How to Apply:

- Deadline: September 30, 2025
- Complete the form [HERE](#).
- Or email the form to: dbconsulting.cteservices@gmail.com



Be among the first to participate in the Innovator's Stem Pavilion at the Florida International AirShow

Education is the foundation of our future! By participating in our Hands-On STEM Pavilion Showcase, you have the unique opportunity to inspire and empower the next generation of innovators and leaders.

Are you passionate about career education and sharing your passion with others? Do you have students in your classroom that wish to showcase a hands-on project? Do you love experimenting, creating, and showcasing your innovative projects? We have just the event for you!

What is the Hands-On STEM Showcase?

STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. Our interactive STEM Pavilion at the Florida International Airshow is designed to bring together students, educators, parents, and enthusiasts to celebrate and explore the diverse career programs available in Charlotte County and Southwest Florida. This event provides a platform for participants to present projects, share ideas, and inspire others to pursue STEM fields. Examples of STEM events could include: Use of Virtual Reality Goggles to design & build, Drones in Schools program, Entrepreneurship projects, use of medical diagnostic equipment including interactive mannequins, Professional audio/video technology, use of robots for Agriculture, Airplane structures/riveting and many other fascinating projects to arouse those interested in learning more about a career in STEM.

EVENT DETAILS

Dates: November 1st and 2nd, during the Florida International Airshow
Setup: Friday from 12:00 – 5:00pm or Saturday morning from 7:30 – 9:00 am
Demonstrations: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Please submit your participation form by September 30th. Sign up by scanning the QR code or visiting FloridaAirshow.com/STEM to fill out the application or submit this form to dbconsulting.cteservices@gmail.com.

Questions? Please email dbconsulting.cteservices@gmail.com

Complete the form below to register:

SPONSORED BY:
 CHARLOTTE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
FUNDING OUR FUTURE WORKFORCE

2025 FIAS Innovator's STEM Pavilion Entry Form

Participant Information:

Name of School/Organization: _____

Grade Level: Elementary Middle School High School College

Contact Person: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Project Information:

Title of Project: _____

Description of Project: _____

Number of Participants: _____ Saturday/Sunday Saturday Only Sunday Only

STEM Vendor Benefits and Pricing:

\$250 per STEM Vendor (Fees will increase for submissions after JULY 30th)
• Includes: 10x10 space space under the STEM tent, a table, 2 chairs, electricity, parking, and 4 free tickets per day.
• Additional spaces are \$250 each, and for more than two spaces, please contact DeeLynn Bennett at dbconsulting.cteservices@gmail.com

Submission Details:

- Submission Deadline: September 30, 2025
- Submit this form to: dbconsulting.cteservices@gmail.com

Additional Information:

A virtual meeting will be held for all participants to discuss setup and breakdown details. Virtual sessions via Microsoft Teams:

- October 9 – 10 AM
- October 14 – 6:30 PM

Invitations will be sent to the email provided on the application.

Note:
No vehicle movement within the FAA area between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm.

Signature: _____



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Featured Event

Paychecks for Patriots A Win for Employers and Veterans

Charlotte County is proud to support those who served. The upcoming Paychecks for Patriots Hiring Event on August 20, 2025, connects veteran job seekers with employers who value their leadership, discipline, and experience.

Hosted by CareerSource Southwest Florida in partnership with Charlotte County Economic Development, the event gives veterans early access from 9:00–10:00 AM, with the general public welcomed from 10:00 AM–1:00 PM.

Why it matters:

Veterans bring proven skills to the workforce, and Charlotte County offers a veteran-friendly environment with strong support systems and job opportunities across industries.

📍 3745 Tamiami Trail

[Register Your Business](#)

 **CareerSource
SOUTHWEST FLORIDA**

A proud partner of the  network

In conjunction with [Charlotte County Economic Development](#)

Attention Vendors!
Paychecks for Patriots JobFair
August 20, 2025
9:00AM-1:00PM
REGISTER TO SECURE YOUR TABLE!

Calling all businesses in Southwest Florida to register for the Paychecks for Patriots Hiring Event

Doors open to:
Veteran job seekers: 9:00am to 10:00am
General public: 10:00am to 1:00pm

Register Online: [Click or Scan to Register](#) 

Event Details:
3745 Tamiami Trail
Port Charlotte, FL 33952
August 20, 2025
Check in: 8:30AM

Questions:
Bill Welch
Business Services Director
wwelch@sawd.org
(239) 931-8200 Ext: 1805

An equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. All voice/telephone numbers on this document may be reached by persons using TTY/TDD equipment via the Florida Relay/Service at 711. CareerSource Southwest Florida is the direct service provider for various workforce programs which are fully supported by the U.S. Department of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Agriculture as part of awards totaling \$13.3 million. All statements, press releases, requests for proposals, bid solicitations, public statements, social media, bulletins, resource guides, website and visual presentations are fully funded with federal money.

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New Video Series Launch: Home Front Heroes The Journey From Boots to Roots

We're proud to announce the launch of Homefront Heroes, a new video series spotlighting veterans who have built meaningful lives and careers in Charlotte County after their military service.

Our first feature highlights James Jerome, a U.S. Marine Corps veteran and Commercial Banker at Crews Bank. In this inspiring video, James shares what brought him to Charlotte County—and why he chose to stay. From career opportunities to a strong sense of community, his story reflects the values that make our region a standout destination for veterans.

Watch James Jerome's story and explore the series [**HERE**](#).

Charlotte County is proud to support veterans—not just in words, but in action.



UPCOMING EVENTS



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Click here for more details: <https://cleared4takeoff.com/category/event/>



**SBDC – Grow with Google
In-Person Event**



**Grow Your Network at the New
Business Card Exchange in Charlotte
County**



**Virginia B. Andes Volunteer
Community Clinic – Speakeasy
Soiree'**



3rd Quarter ESO Meeting



SBDC AI WORKSHOP (Details TBD)



Paychecks for Patriots 9 to 1 PM