

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



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NOVEMBER 2025 CLEARED FOR TAKEOFF



Welcome to November! Charlotte County Honors, Innovates, and Grows

From community partners to local businesses, October was a month that defined progress in Charlotte County.

Businesses expanded, students excelled, and partnerships across education, industry, and government showed what collaboration can achieve.

Together, we're building a future that's both strong and service-driven — a place where innovation, opportunity, and community thrive side by side.

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Business & Site Development News

CHARLOTTE COUNTY

A Premier Place for Business.

Charlotte County provides effortless access to the waterways of Charlotte Harbor, the fun-filled getaway of Punta Gorda, and the timeless charm of Old Florida. National parks and trails make outdoor adventures ones to remember. And Pinnacle Industrial Park is where your business can really soar.



PINNACLE INDUSTRIAL PARK – FLORIDA FIRST SITE

Located off Jones Loop Road in Punta Gorda, Pinnacle Industrial Park is a 60-acre certified Florida First Site offering over 864,000 square feet of planned industrial space by 2026. With immediate access to I-75, PGD Airport, and major logistics routes, the site is ideal for advanced manufacturing, aerospace, and distribution operations. This property is an opportunity for fast-track development.

 [View Property Details](#)

7 Brew Coffee Brews Up Growth in Port Charlotte

7 Brew Coffee has officially opened its first Port Charlotte stand at 4275 S. Tamiami Trail, adding a fresh jolt of energy to one of Charlotte County's busiest commercial corridors. The fast-growing drive-thru coffee chain created more than 70 local jobs and celebrated its opening with a \$1,500 donation to the Animal Welfare League—showcasing a community-first approach that perfectly fits Charlotte County's business-friendly spirit and growing retail landscape.

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SEE WHAT HAS EVERYONE TALKING 

7 BREW COFFEE

PORT CHARLOTTE



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Business & Site Development News



**It's Bella Napoli!
Port Charlotte's
Own World Champion**



CHARLOTTE COUNTY WINS NATIONAL AWARD FOR GOVERNMENT INNOVATION

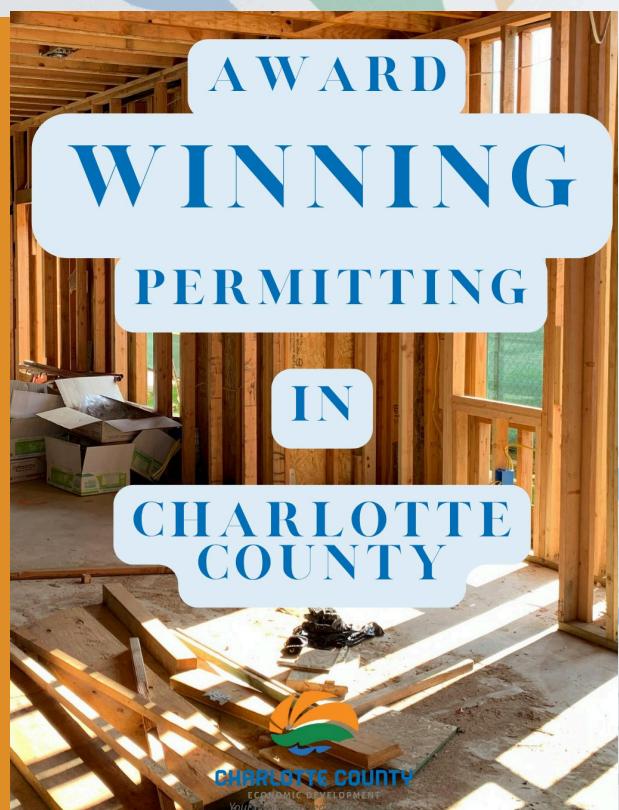
Charlotte County has earned national recognition for innovation—winning a 2025 Government Experience Award for streamlining its permitting process. By integrating the Accela platform with the Clerk of Court's e-Recording system, the county cut permit wait times by 50%, helping projects start sooner and businesses open faster. The result is a more efficient, business-friendly environment that makes living, working, and investing in Charlotte County easier than ever.

[READ MORE](#)

WORLD CHAMPION PIZZA, HOMEGROWN OPPORTUNITY

Charlotte County is home to world-class talent, and proof is on the menu. Vitangelo Recchia, owner of **Bella Napoli Pizzeria & Restaurant** in Port Charlotte, has been named Best American Pizza Maker for the second year in a row at the World Pizza Championships in Parma, Italy. His story reflects the power of skill, entrepreneurship, and community support, showing how Charlotte County nurtures talent that rises to the top, right here at home.

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Business & Site Development News



2026 SBA SMALL BUSINESS AWARDS NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN

The U.S. Small Business Administration is accepting nominations for the 2026 Small Business Awards, honoring entrepreneurs, advocates, and organizations making an impact. Categories include Small Business Person of the Year, Manufacturer, Blue-Collar, Rural, and Woman-Owned Business of the Year.

Deadline: December 8, 2025

[**Read more**](#)

ADVENTHEALTH COMING TO PUNTA GORDA

Charlotte County's healthcare network is expanding in a major way as AdventHealth announces plans to bring advanced care to Punta Gorda. The move signals a new chapter in local access: shorter drives, deeper specialty coverage, and more coordinated care. As AdventHealth brings its whole-person care model to Charlotte County, the region takes another step toward a healthier, more connected community where families and businesses can thrive.

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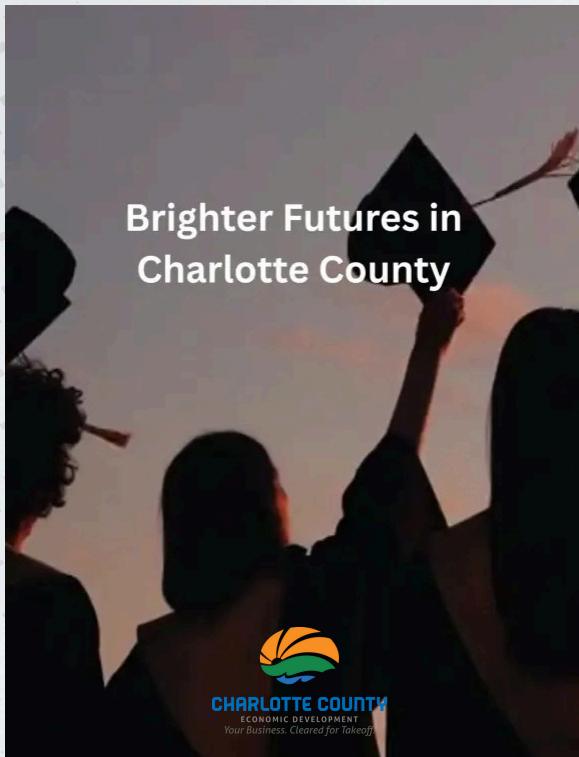


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Workforce Development and Education



FLORIDA HIGHER EDUCATION SHINES

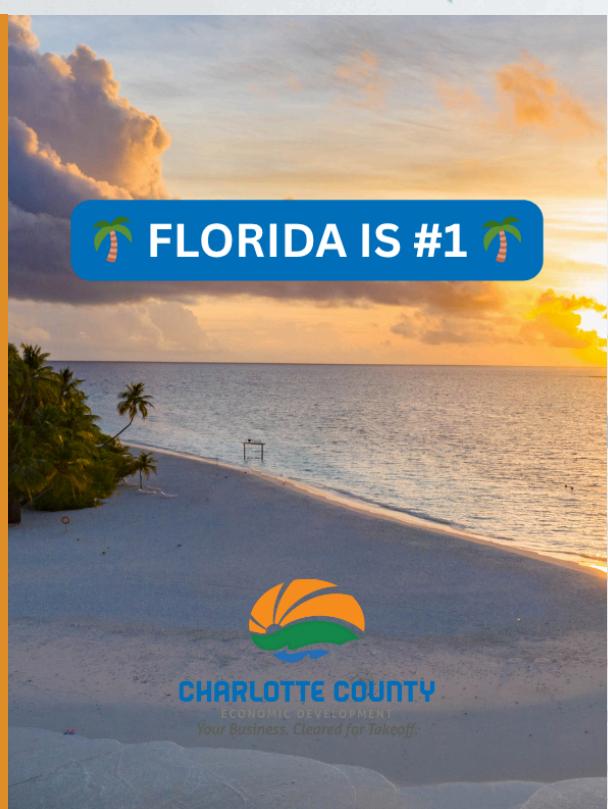
Florida has once again been named the #1 state for higher education—for the 10th consecutive year, according to U.S. News & World Report. This achievement highlights Florida's unmatched affordability, graduation rates, and student success. The impact is being felt in Charlotte County. Local schools like FSW and CTC give students affordable pathways into high-demand fields like healthcare, advanced manufacturing, and aviation, while partnerships with FGCU and USF expand access to degrees, research, and innovation.

[Read more](#)

FLORIDA RANKED #1 IN SKILLED WORKFORCE ATTRACTION & DEVELOPMENT

For the third year in a row, Florida has been named the #1 state for attracting and developing a skilled workforce, according to the 2024 Lightcast Talent Attraction Scorecard. With top rankings in job growth, competitiveness, and high-wage career opportunities, the Sunshine State continues to lead the nation in workforce readiness—driven by record investments in education, training, and innovation.

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Workforce Development & Education

Workforce Attraction Internship:
A Powerful Strategy for Building the Future Workforce

CHARLOTTE COUNTY INFRASTRUCTURE FUELS EDUCATION AND INNOVATION

Charlotte County's growing infrastructure is paving the way for discovery. FGCU and Babcock Ranch have announced plans for a new living laboratory dedicated to sustainability research, combining higher education, environmental stewardship, and community development. Built on ranch land, the project will expand local capacity for education and research while strengthening the region's potential as a hub for innovation, workforce training, and future investment.

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WORKFORCE ATTRACTION INTERNSHIPS

Charlotte County is turning workforce development into a long-term growth engine. From middle school aviation programs to high school students earning industry certifications before graduation, the talent pipeline is strong and expanding. By aligning education, industry, and economic development, we're preparing graduates for high-demand careers.

[**Read more**](#)



CHARLOTTE COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
Your Business. Cleared for Takeoff.

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Workforce Development & Education



A DOCTOR MEETS A DOCTOR: CONNECTING CLASSROOMS TO CAREERS

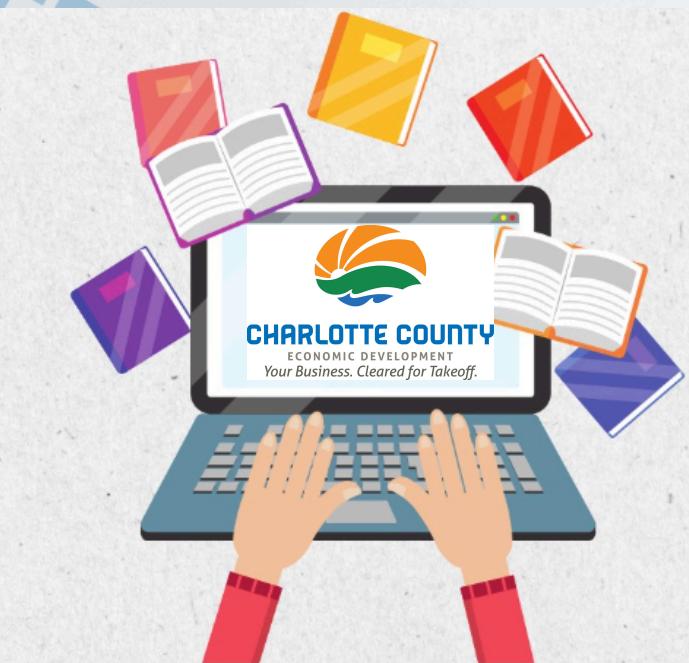
When Dr. Brian Granstra of Charlotte County Public Schools met Dr. Timothy Lucas of FSW Charlotte, #MarkOnTheMove was there to make the introduction! The two education leaders teamed up to discuss workforce-ready programs in Supply Chain Management and Data Analytics—bridging the gap between education and employment. You could call it a “networking check-up” for Charlotte County’s future.

[**READ MORE**](#)

VERIZON SMALL BUSINESS DIGITAL READY: FREE COURSES FOR GROWTH

Charlotte County businesses can now tap into Verizon’s Small Business Digital Ready program, offering free online courses to boost digital skills, marketing know-how, and business growth. It’s an easy way to expand your reach, strengthen your strategy, and stay competitive in today’s economy.

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Business Support and Networking



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MEMBERSHIP: WHY IT MATTERS

Joining your local Chamber of Commerce is one of the smartest investments a business can make. Beyond networking, Chambers build credibility, increase visibility, and give small businesses a bigger voice in the community. From professional development and advocacy to cost-saving programs and events that connect, Chambers help local businesses grow stronger together, because when businesses thrive so does the whole community.

[Read Now](#)

VOICES OF VISION: CHARLOTTE COUNTY LEADERS ON WORKFORCE GROWTH

At the Charlotte County Workforce Roundtable, local leaders from education, healthcare, and business shared how collaboration is shaping the county's future. Moderated by Kay Tracy, the discussion featured insights from FGCU, HCA Florida Fawcett Hospital, and Charlotte County Public Schools on aligning talent, training, and opportunity. Their message was clear: Charlotte County's success depends on partnership-connecting classrooms, industries, and innovation to power a stronger workforce.

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Business Support and Networking

Business Tax Receipt

APPROVED

WHY FILING A BUSINESS TAX RECEIPT IS A SMART FIRST STEP

In Charlotte County, filing a Business Tax Receipt (BTR) is more than a legal requirement—it's your gateway to growth and credibility. A valid BTR helps protect your business, qualify for grants and loans, and connect you with local support programs. Whether you're opening a storefront or working from home, filing proves you're part of Charlotte County's business community and ready to thrive.

Read Now

CHARLOTTE COUNTY LOGISTICS: GLOBAL TRADE OPENS NEW DOORS FOR GROWTH

Florida's new trade partnership with Italy is creating international opportunities that reach all the way to Charlotte County. With the opening of SelectFlorida's Milan office and new agreements on transportation and infrastructure, local industries—from logistics to advanced manufacturing—stand to benefit.

Thanks to its strategic location, skilled workforce, and expanding infrastructure, Charlotte County is poised to attract global investment, boost exports, and strengthen its role as a logistics hub for Southwest Florida and beyond.

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Charlotte County Florida Logistics: Global Trade Takes Off



Florida Expands Trade with Italy

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Business Support and Networking



FIT FOR LIFE GAMES — MARK ODELL'S "OLYMPIC-STYLE" QUALITY OF LIFE CHALLENGE

Mark Odell took his competitive spirit to Tringali Park for the Fit For Life Games Bag Toss, showing how staying active and connected is part of Charlotte County's lifestyle. The event, hosted by Charlotte County Parks & Recreation, highlights the community's commitment to wellness, recreation, and fun. Win or lose, Mark proved that in Charlotte County, quality of life is always the real victory.

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CELEBRATING LEADERSHIP: KAY TRACY

This Boss's Day, we're celebrating Kay Tracy, whose leadership continues to drive innovation, collaboration, and growth across Charlotte County. From building partnerships that strengthen our workforce to championing new opportunities for businesses, Kay leads with vision and heart—making Charlotte County a place where both people and progress thrive.



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Recognition and Community Highlights



FSW STRENGTHENS CHARLOTTE COUNTY'S TALENT PIPELINE

#MarkOnTheMove caught up with Dr. Timothy Lucas at Florida SouthWestern State College's Punta Gorda campus, where new programs in Supply Chain Management and Data Analytics are preparing students for high-skill, high-wage careers in logistics and technology.



With certificate and A.S. degree options, these programs align perfectly with Charlotte County's growing workforce needs—connecting education, innovation, and opportunity. Big thanks to FSW for leading the way in workforce development.

[**Read More**](#)

SWFL ROTARY MAKES GLOBAL IMPACT

From Port Charlotte to Times Square, Rotary members—including youth from the SWFL Interact Club—shared a message of culture, compassion, and connection. Now, as the books return home to local schools, this story of service proves that even small clubs can create global change through creativity and heart. ❤️

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Recognition and Community Highlights



CHARLOTTE PLAYERS OPEN 65TH SEASON WITH HEART AND HUMOR

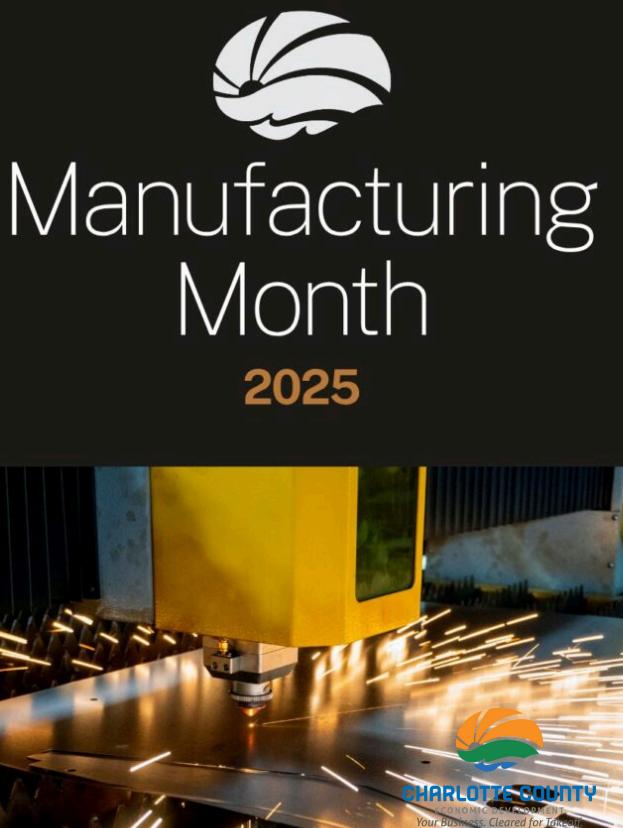
The Charlotte Players kicked off their 65th season at the Langdon Playhouse with 'Looking', a witty romantic comedy by Canadian playwright Norm Foster. Directed by local favorite Jenni Elliott, the production captures the humor and hope of finding love at any age—showcasing the charm of community theater and the vibrant arts scene that makes Charlotte County such a connected, inspiring place to call home.

[Read More](#)

MANUFACTURING MONTH 2025

October is Manufacturing month! From AI-driven production lines to hands-on training at Charlotte Technical College, the county is blending technology, talent, and teamwork to power progress. With its strategic location along the I-75 corridor, strong workforce pipeline, and growing focus on sustainability and smart manufacturing, Charlotte County is proving that the next generation of industry is being built right here on Florida's Gulf Coast.

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Recognition and Community Highlights

CAMBRIDGE TO CHARLOTTE COUNTY: ROTARY CONNECTS COMMUNITIES



The SWFL Rotary Club welcomed Cambridge student Samuel English to Charlotte County, where innovation and community come together. This international Rotary exchange highlights how global connections inspire local impact, linking education, service, and sustainability across borders.

[Read More](#)

BREWING BUSINESS CONNECTIONS IN CHARLOTTE COUNTY

Even when we can't spot him, #MarkOnTheMove is out supporting Charlotte County's business community! The EDO team joined the Charlotte County Chamber of Commerce Quarterly Member Showcase to welcome new members, celebrate partnerships, and share a few laughs (and plenty of coffee). Events like this highlight what makes Charlotte County strong—connection, collaboration, and community spirit.

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Recognition and Community Highlights



THINGS TO DO IN CHARLOTTE COUNTY: WHERE WORK MEETS WATERFRONT LIVING

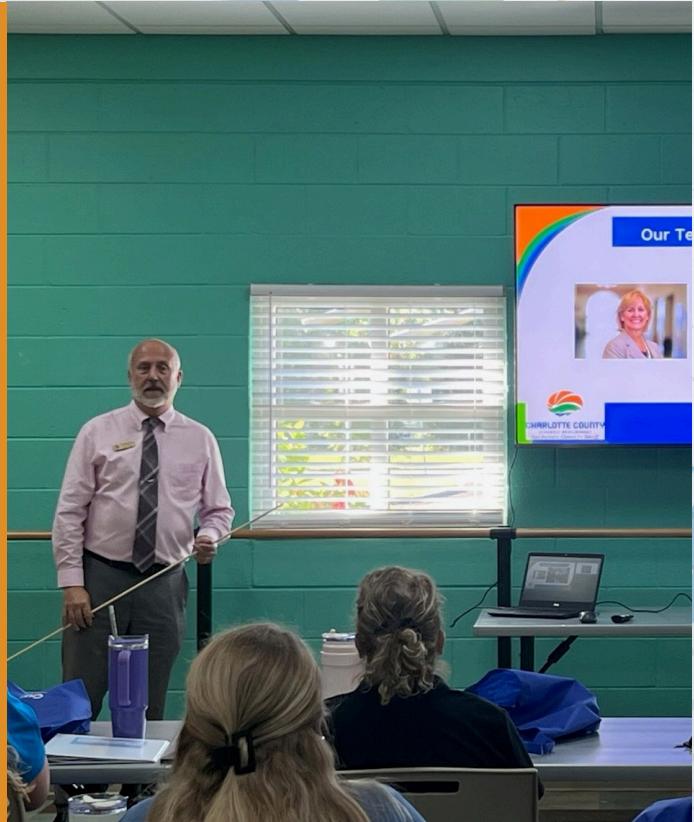
From Iguanaland, the world's largest reptile zoo, to sunset strolls along the Peace River, Charlotte County blends adventure, culture, and community in one unforgettable coastal lifestyle. Explore beaches, art walks, eco-tours, and festivals that make every day feel like vacation — all while building a career in one of Florida's fastest-growing regions.

[Read More](#)

#MARKONTHEMOVE: AMBASSADOR EDITION

Mark Odell jumped in for the Charlotte County Ambassador presentation—mic in hand and ready to roll! 🎤♂💼 From business attraction insights to a few trademark dad jokes, Mark showcased Charlotte County's signature mix of leadership, adaptability, and community spirit. 🌴 Because in Charlotte County, teamwork and quick thinking keep our momentum strong, and our businesses growing.

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SWFL ROTARY CLUB: SERVICE ABOVE SELF IN CHARLOTTE COUNTY

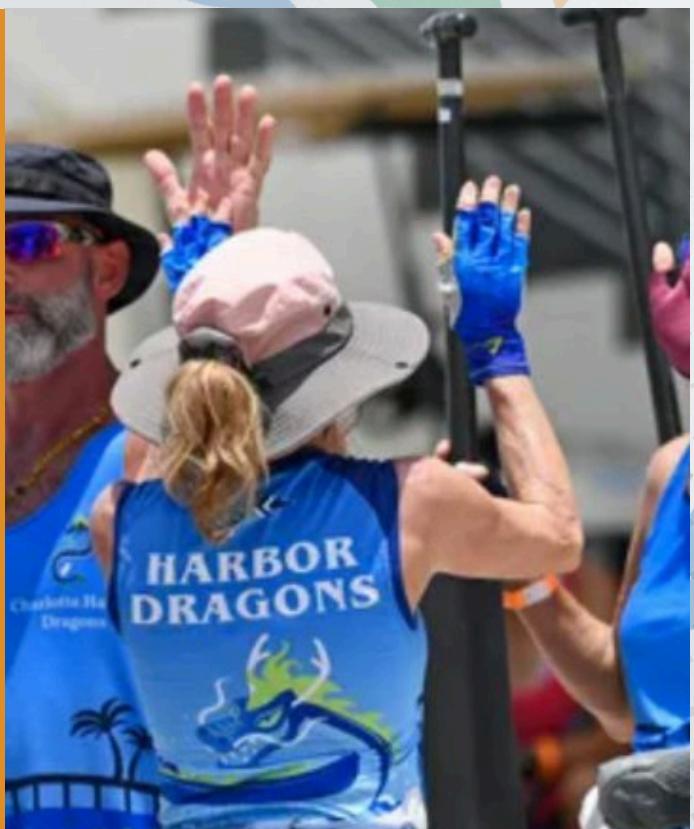
Rooted in Babcock Ranch and serving all of Southwest Florida, the SWFL Rotary Club Charlotte County continues to redefine modern volunteerism through collaboration, mentorship, and community impact. From sponsoring the Babcock Ranch Chamber Expo to celebrating the Charlotte County Chamber's 100th Anniversary, Rotary and its Interact youth chapter are uniting generations under one mission - Service Above Self.

[Read More](#)

CHARLOTTE COUNTY SHINES WITH DRAGON BOAT VICTORY

Charlotte County's spirit was on full display as local paddlers brought home 11 medals from the International Dragon Boat Racing Championship, a triumph that mirrors the county's energy, teamwork, and resilience. 🏊♀️ This victory goes beyond sports; it's a symbol of how Charlotte County blends career growth with quality of life. From wellness to recreation, the community's collaborative spirit makes it a magnet for talent.

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Recognition and Community Highlights



STEM TAKES FLIGHT AT THE FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL AIR SHOW

Innovation soared to new heights at the Florida International Air Show (FIAS) thanks to the Charlotte Community Foundation Sponsored Innovation STEM Tent, a groundbreaking collaboration uniting education, business, and community partners under one shared mission: inspiring the next generation of Charlotte County's workforce.

Students from across the region explored interactive exhibits, hands-on demonstrations, and career pathways in aviation, engineering, manufacturing, and technology. From flight simulators and drone displays to robotics and environmental science activities, the tent showcased how innovation and opportunity take shape right here at home.

Congratulations to everyone who helped make history at this year's Air Show. Your efforts are shaping minds, sparking curiosity, and helping students dream bigger for Charlotte County's future.

UPCOMING EVENTS



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Upcoming Events

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



Franklin Water Treatment Ribbon Cutting – 11 AM to 1 PM



Small Business Saturday



**New Business Networking Event
5–7 PM**



**Entrepreneur Support Organization
2–4 PM**