

**North East Business Association
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Will Messer-Vice President
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Nationwide Insurance
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Peggy Munroe
Mays-Munroe
Ted Thomas
Thomas Appraisals & Real Estate

NEBA News

Editors:
Maureen Thompson- Media Options
Nancy Burns- Leon County Sheriff's Office

The North East Business Association publishes NEBA News bi-monthly. Articles of interest are welcome. Publication of submitted materials is subject to review and space available. Article deadline is the 1st day of the month of publication.

Send articles, letters, photos or suggestions to: NEBA News at the following email addresses: burns@mail.co.leon.fl.us or mo@mediaoptionsinc.com. or FAX-893-4097

For additional information phone Maureen Thompson at 668-0948 or Nancy Burns at 922-3331

President's Corner

From Alan Null:

My primary goal for NEBA in 2003 can be summed up in the following words: "Every member bring a member." The strength of any organization lies within its membership, and if we want to remain a potent political force in Tallahassee, we must recommit ourselves to increasing our member base.

Over the last year, under Ted Thomas' leadership, attendance at our monthly meetings has been at record levels. At these meetings our group has had the opportunity to learn about issues that affect our community, our businesses and our families. We've also had the chance to learn about current elected officials - and individuals who would like to be elected officials. I am committed to continuing to bring great

speakers and important issues to our meetings this year as well.

But did you know that many people who attend these monthly meetings are not paid members of NEBA? An annual membership is only \$35, a small price to pay for your voice to be heard! I'd like to ask all our members to turn to your neighbor at next month's meeting and ask, "Are you a member of NEBA?" If every member of NEBA committed to a goal of recruiting just one new paid member this year, we would double our size in no time.

I'm looking forward to working with all of you this year, and I am honored to serve as President of this great organization. Please feel free to contact me (at 894-9950) with ideas and/or suggestions for improving NEBA - and don't forget to send in those membership dues!

Straw Poll Results-City Commission

Twenty seven people participated in the poll at the 1/14/03 meeting.

Seat 1:

Windford Frazier-0,
Dot Inman-Johnson-4,
Mark Mustian-23,
Drew Postell-0,
Justin Proctor-0.

Seat 2:

Andrew Gillum-1,
Bob Henderson-4,
Joshua Hicks-0,
Norma Parrish-2,

Jack Traylor-5,
Mayo Woodward-15.

Seat 3:

John Byrne-0,
J.R. Harding-11,
Debbie Lightsey-7,
Antony "Dr. V" Viegbesie-9.

Seat 5:

Harrison Arencibian-0,
Merek "America" Jones-1,
Allan Katz-6,
Haynes A. "Dan" Mcdaniel-16,
Travis Potter-4.

**LCSO Welcomes You To
Join Our 911 E-lert E-mail**



The Leon County Sheriff's Office has just introduced a new e-mail system. It is the 911 E-lert. Through this system the citizens of Leon County will be able to go to the Leon County Sheriff's Office website at <http://lcs.leonfl.org/> click on the 911 E-lert button and follow the directions to join the e-mail site.

With the new system the public may customize what e-mails they receive. The choices they may choose from are newsletters, press releases, crime alerts, sexual offender/ predator updates and Citizen's Academy information. They may also specify which area of town they want to receive the updates from.

In the first message from the Sheriff

he states "Welcome to the Leon County Sheriff's Office first edition of our e-mail monthly newsletter. Starting in December we will provide a monthly newsletter addressing crime prevention topics, homeland security issues and messages that I may want to address to the citizens of Leon County.

We are a progressive, community-oriented public service agency. We exist to enhance the quality of life by developing strategies that will reduce the crime and the fear of crime throughout Leon County. With this newsletter our purpose is to keep our citizens informed. Education is a powerful

weapon in our fight against crime.

Your support will help with our continuing efforts of providing a safe community to live in. By enhancing our partnership with the community, to protect life, prevent crime and solve problems, we will be a powerful foe for the criminal element to contend with. I look forward to having the continued support of our citizens as we work against crime together."

The Leon County Sheriff's Office is hoping to get as many citizens on board as possible. It's a free service and a subscriber can opt out from the service at any time. For more information visit the website listed above or contact the LCSO at 922-3331.



**Thanks
To
All**

Thanks to all of you who came to the NEBA Holiday party and brought toy donations for the TOYS FOR TOTS program. We had a great turnout and a lot of toys were donated, even a bicycle!

Thanks also to Ted and Joan Thomas for hosting a delightful Holiday party. We hope everyone had a joyful holiday season.

Homestead Exemption Deadline Nears

If you purchased a home in 2002: Have you applied for your HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION?

Remember: A Homestead Exemption is like money in your pocket! The Florida Constitution grants homeowners a \$25,000 exemption on the appraised value of their home. This year, a full exemption is worth \$537.00 in tax savings.

According to the Florida Constitution: If you've had any change in home ownership in the last year, make sure you have applied for Homestead Exemption.

You must apply for this

exemption no later than **March 1, 2003**. You may do so by visiting the Property Appraiser's Office in Room 111, Leon County Courthouse between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, or one of our remote locations during the month of February.

Please bring the following information with you:

1. Your Florida Driver's License and/or Voter's Registration;
2. Social Security numbers for all owners on the property;
3. Your Florida vehicle tag number.

For further information, call: the Leon County Property Appraiser at 488-6102

Calendar

February 11: Discussion on the permitting process in Thomasville, Georgia by the Thomasville City Manager

March – Tallahassee's new Mayor will be invited to address the group.

April – Newly elected County Commissioners will be invited to address the group.

May – We are considering asking Bill Montford back, to discuss how the Board is handling implementation of Amendment 9 (reduced class size Amendment).

Business Tips....

What legal aspects do I need to consider?

Licenses required, zoning laws and other regulations vary from business to business and from state to state. Your local Small Business Administration (SBA) office and/or chamber of commerce will provide you with general information, but you will need to consult your attorney for advice specific to your enterprise and area. You also must decide about your form of organization (corporation, partnership or sole proprietorship) or tax status (e.g., should you opt for a Subchapter S status?).

What do I need to succeed in a business?

There are four basics of success in small business:

- *Sound management practices.
- *Industry experience.
- *Technical support.
- *Planning ability.

Few people start a business with all of these bases covered. Honestly assess your own experience and skills; then look for partners or key employees to compensate for your deficiencies.

Would a partner(s) make it easier to be successful?

A business partner does not guarantee success. If you require additional management skills or start-up capital, engaging a partner may be your best decision. Personality and character, as well as ability to give technical or financial assistance, determine the ultimate success of a partnership.



North East Business Association
2762 Capital Circle N.E.
Tallahassee, Fl. 32308



NEBA News

January- February 2003

The North East Business Association would like to wish all of our members a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year 2003!



Welcome To Our New NEBA Board

As 2003 commences, we welcome the new Officers and Directors of NEBA. January 14, at our monthly meeting, a new slate was unanimously approved by the membership. Following are the individuals who have agreed to take leadership roles for the coming year:

Serving as Officers are:
President- Alan Null, Waddell & Reed; Vice President- Will

Messer, Messer Insurance;
Secretary - Maureen Thompson, Media Options, Inc.; Treasurer - Barry Ward, AmSouth Bank
Directors: Nancy Burns, Leon County Sheriff's Office; Barbara Clements, Clements & Associates, Inc.; Doug Croley, Nationwide Insurance; Scott Hunt, Hunt Insurance Group; Adam Levinson, Catamount Communications; Don May, Farmers and Merchants

Bank; Peggy Munroe, Mays-Munroe; Kurt Tellers, St. James Certified Property Management; and Ted Thomas, Thomas Appraisals & Real Estate.

Please don't forget to thank these professionals for their hard work, and for making NEBA the vibrant organization that it is today!

Editor's Message

As the New Year begins, we the editors would like to remind all of the members of the North East Business Association that the NEBA NEWS is for your use as a business tool. Please use the newsletter as a forum to address issues, promote a project your business may be involved in or for

other business topics fellow NEBA members might find of interest.

We also encourage all of you to invite your neighboring businesses to attend our meetings and join the North East Business Association. May your business prosper in the coming year.

Nancy and Maureen

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