

# NEBA NEWS

## NETWORK OF ENTREPRENEURS & BUSINESS ADVOCATES

### 2013 OFFICERS

**Mike Schmidt - President**

The Egg Café and Eatery

**Mark Trafton - Past President**

Armor Realty of Tallahassee

**Terry Madigan - President Elect**

Madigan Law Firm, P.L.

**Michelle Lynch - Treasurer**

Sunshine Savings Bank

**Cora Ann Chapman - Secretary**

Chapman Produce

### BOARD MEMBERS

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### NEBA News

**Producer: Miranda Madden**

**Editors: Maureen Thompson**

**Nancy Burns**

NEBA News is published quarterly in January, April, July, and October. Articles of interest are welcome.

Publication of submitted materials is subject to review and space available. Article submission deadline is two weeks prior to the 1st day of the month of publication. Send articles, letters, photos or suggestions to NEBA News at the following email address:

lovingher7881@yahoo.com

## NEBA'S MISSION

To enhance Tallahassee's business climate by advancing the interests of small business owners with state and local government officials and to promote local commerce through networking with other business owners and education of our members.

## ~ PRESIDENT'S CORNER ~

Tallahassee's Network of Entrepreneurs & Business Advocates

NEBA, we are closing out another year as Tallahassee's Business Advocates. It has been a fantastic year! NEBA had a great group of speakers this past year; Peter Schweizer, Ken Stevenson, Ed Murray, and Barney Bishop, just to name a few. They were all very informative about local, state, and national issues. Our membership numbers remain strong with hopes of growing in 2014. NEBA has faced many issues and we continue to stand up for and provide information to our membership. We had our annual Christmas party and I am proud to say that NEBA raised over \$1400.00 for Honor Flight 2014. Great Job!

Our role as the board is to communicate the will of our membership and help our elected officials create a better place to live, work, and play. We are also committed to holding them accountable for their decisions that affect our community. Currently, we are working to make our member's wishes known to the City Commission in relation to the Ethics Advisory Panel recommendations. I encourage all members to let the city commissioners know how you feel about this issue. NEBA Board Member Ted Thomas has also been involved in the Imagine Tallahassee project. We are paying close attention to Blue Print (1/2 cent sales tax), CRA spending, and other local issues. We look forward to another election cycle in 2014 and anticipate some great candidate forums. Watch for the NEBA Newsletter to find out about upcoming meetings.

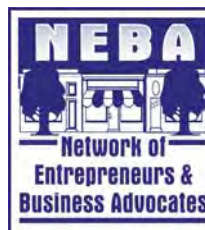
I want to take this opportunity to thank our membership for staying involved in our community and encourage them to get others to do the same. I also want to say thank you to the NEBA Board for all the work they do behind the scenes to pull off the monthly meetings and keep this organization moving in the right direction. I ask everyone to continue to help spread the word about the upcoming meetings.

In the coming months, we must continue to work on membership growth. There is still a lot of work to be done as we prepare for the 2014 election cycle. In order for us to accomplish our goals as "A Voice For All Small Business Owners" we will continue to speak up for this wonderful place we all call home. Personally I would like to say Thank You to all of NEBA for allowing me the privilege of serving as your president in 2013. We are the "Network of Entrepreneurs and Business Advocates." Remember there is always strength in numbers. I again thank everyone for being involved.

- Mike Schmidt

# WELCOME, NEW NEBA MEMBERS!

Eric Sweet, Daktronics, Inc.;  
Ray Burke, Spray Wash Exterior Cleaning;  
Ted Nation, Capstone Financial



## NEBA'S OCTOBER MEETING: BARNEY BISHOP, CONSULTANT/LOBBYIST—UPDATE ON FL ISSUES



NEBA Member Barney Bishop, Consultant/Lobbyist

Our October meeting featured longtime NEBA member Barney Bishop, Lobbyist/Consultant. A Tallahassee native with keen political insight, and the President and CEO of Bishop Consulting, Barney updated NEBA on Florida issues. First item of discussion of the top 5 Florida Legislative Session topics was Context Florida, a statewide opinion network that focuses on Florida politics and public affairs.

Second up for discussion was the 2014 state budget proposed \$500 million tax cut. While Gov. Rick Scott proposed a tax cut the Democrats are firmly against stating its "critical to growth!"

While on the topic of growth, Barney then addressed the next topic of Gambling: where Europeans and South Americans visiting Florida are big on gambling and continually push for approval to invest here.

After a vote Miami-Dade and Broward Counties were for these investors bringing in gambling facilities, yet Florida still won't allow.

Medicaid expansion was Barney's third major topic for discussion as it is part of Affordable Care Act (Obama Care). The Florida Senate is for the expansion while the Florida House is strongly opposed. While Medicaid is the biggest cross driver in the State Budget, it is still highly controversial at this time.

Common Core has been the topic of discussion for some time now. While this well-intentioned effort to develop standardized curriculum of education, the state of Florida still is in opposition as are many stating this would turn the Department of Education into what is effectively known as a national school board. While these standards are not required, but rather suggested, Florida declares if they must adhere to these rigorous standards at least they should be allowed to create our own tests.

The last topic for discussion was Smart Justice. Currently the members of The Smart Justice Alliance are working to develop policies that make communities safer, save taxpayers money, and hold offenders accountable while simultaneously providing them the resources to make the right choices to live honest upstanding lives.

## NEBA'S NOVEMBER MEETING: ED MURRAY, JR., RETAIL DEVELOPER / BROKER ON TALLY

NEBA was joined by guest speaker Ed Murray, Jr., NAI Talcor Director / President / Broker. Discussion was specific to current and future projects and infrastructure for several of Tallahassee's districts. Current Tallahassee projects consist of: West Tennessee Street - big retail growth but has been held up due to the current location of The Shelter; Gaines Street - Gateway Center Downtown office space and Walgreens; FSU campus development - Civic Center, College Town environment: hotels, CVS, America's Backyard live music venue with 230+ live events annually and Urban Outfitters.

Regarding the expanding Public Infrastructure, Ed addressed the following points of interest: Cascades Park, Old City Electric building, S. Monroe pedestrian overpass, N. Monroe business growth, Midtown/Market Street (place making), Downtown/Midtown Trolley "Rhythm", former Fire Station #2 (housing?), Midtown - Caboose (same owner as Monks Bar & Grill), Whole Foods where Miracle Plaza once was, NE Tallahassee new TMH

### Current NEBA Members

Annette McGuffey, A Country Rose Florist & Gifts; Connie Phillips & James Stiles, A Dent in the Attic; Bob Hollan, ABOBCO; Mary Doug Wilgus, Accent Office Interiors; Mark Raciappa, ActionCOACH; Vic Aderhold, Aderhold; Jonathan Keith, Advanced Business Systems; Jeff Keena, Advisors Real Estate Group; Chris Ragan, Aerotech Digital Marketing; James Perry, Air Control Heating & Cooling; Akin Akinyemi, Akin & Associates, Architects; Aletta Shutes, Aletta Shutes & Assoc.; Laurie Jemison, American Classifieds Thrifty Nickel; Tawinga Katsvairo, Arc Horizon LLC; Andy Roberts, Arco Realty; Lance Norris, Arcpoint of Tallahassee; Debbie Kirkland & Mark Trafton IV, Realtor Armor Realty of Tallahassee; James R (Jim) Ashlock; Sam Varn, Awards4U; Brett Bosarge, B B & T Home Mortgage; Billy Van Landingham, B B & T-Landrum Yeager Insurance; Catherine Baer, Baer; Barney Bishop III, Barney Bishop Consulting LLC; Don Pumphrey, Bartlett Tree Experts; Billy Beggs, Beggs Funeral Homes; Bert Bevis, Bert Bevis Realty, Inc.; R J (Rocky) Bevis, Bevis Funeral Home; Bill Reardon, Bill Reardon Insurance Agency, Inc; Bill Sittig, Bill Sittig, CPA, LLC; Bruce Screws, Bill's Signs; Joe Boyd, Boyd, Durant & Sliger, PL; Doug Saunders, Brown & Brown; Gary Fogelman, Budget Blinds; Chris Risalvato, C & A Landscape; Michael Campbell, Campbell Executive Services; Jackye Beasley-Moore, Capital City Bank; Ron Goldstein, Capital City Pedicabs; Ted Nation, Capstone Financial; Lynn Wollschlager, Carpet One Floor & Home; Marshall Cassidy, Cassidy & Company; Patricia Griffin & Kaila Hardee, Centennial Bank; Bill Chandler, Chandler Hospitality Sales; Steve Hourigan, Changing Times Realty Co; Cora Ann & Jack Chapman, Chapman Produce; Rick Minor, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office; Barbara Clements, Clements Financial Services, Inc; Cassandra Harbin, Coldwell Banker Hartung & Noblin; Steve Stewart, Commercial Print & Copy; Millard Noblin, Community Property Mgt; Ashley Trafton, Cotton Colors; Eric Sweet, Daktronics, Inc.; Dan Vollmer, Dan Vollmer, Realtor; Dave Lang; Charles Davis, Davis; Bryan Desloge, Desloge Home Oxygen & Medical Equipment; Kristian Dunn, Dickens & Dunn, PA; Don Bell, Donald L Bell, PA; Will Croley, Doug Croley Insurance; Doug Croley, Douglas M Croley, Inc; Randall Cothren, Eagle Cleaners; Will Messer, Earl Bacon Agency; Jake Gillikin, Electronet; Howard Eisenman, Enhanced Financial Services; Eric Williams, Esposito Gardening; Marty Roberts, Farm Bureau Insurance; Don May, Farmers and Merchants Bank; David Hinton, FIGA; James Hosman, Florida First Capital Finance Corp; Sandra Tate, Fonville, Lewis, Foote & Messer; Bob Franklin, Franklin Employee Solutions; Emily Fritz; Art Jusko, Fun Station; Guy Moore, Garnet & Gold; Kelly Miller, Get Dirty Corp DBA Junk King; Sue Dick, Greater Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce; Irene Haley, Haley Retired; Harry Hooper, Harry Hooper, Atty; Roscoe Hightower, Jr, Hightower Consulting; Phil Swartz, Holiday Cruises & Tours; Mike Kelly, Holiday Inn & Suites, Monroe St Conference Center; Jenny Wells, Imagine That; Gary Stout, Ingram Enterprises; Erwin Jackson, Jackson Properties & Financial Services; Jan Soto, Jan Soto



Realty: Jerrell Lowery, Jerrell Lowery State Farm Insurance; Jim Hart; Ken Walton, Ken Walton & Assoc; Gail Mobley-Loveless, Ketcham Realty Group; Kevin & Kathleen Kelly, Kevin's Guns & Sporting Goods; Ray McCallister, Jr, L. Ray McCallister, Jr, CPA; Allen Turnage, Law Office of Allen Turnage; Bert Hartsfield, Leon County Property Appraiser; Sheriff Larry Campbell, Leon County Sheriff's Office; Leonard Helfand, Leonard Helfand, Esq; Kirk Headley-Perdue, Linkages; Meghan Kelly, Lisa Miller & Assoc; Lew Wilson, Local Senior Discounts.com; Alan Williams, M W Land Investments; Laura Coloros, Mac Business Systems; Terry Madigan, Madigan Law Firm; Deanna Mims, MarketDone; Ray & Peggy Munroe, Mays-Munroe; Grover McKee, McKee, Grover Insurance; Maureen Thompson, Media Options; Park Adams, MFM Sales; Mike Vasalinda, Mike Vasalinda Productions; Mike Lample, Mike's Jewelry Care Center LLC; Dewitt Miller, Miller Glass Co; Dean Minardi, Minardi Investments; Curtis Baynes, Myers Park Lane LLC; Nic Gavalas, Nic's Toggery; David Bauer & Hugh Tomlinson, North Florida Financial; Patrick Barton, Northwestern Mutual; Brett O'Brien, O'Brien's Shamrock Cleaners; Bill Oliver, Oliver Renovation & Construction, Inc; Mike Frieder, On Call Computer Solutions, LLC; Bill Wert, Orkin Pest Control; J Michael Pate, Pate; Mike Ferrie, Prime South Properties; Tom Napier, Pro Bank; Hank Rosen, ProCom Realty; F James Wylie, Professional Consultant, LLC; Tom Crabb, Radey Law Firm; Charles & Mary Rooney, Rainey Cawthon Distributor; Charlie Elder, Ray Gordon Brake Service; Rick Oppenheim, RB Oppenheim Assoc; Gary & Geoff Sprague, Regional Property Services; Christopher Mills, Regions Bank; Rich Blankenship, Richard E Blankenship CPA; Anna Johnson Riedel, Riedel & Associates; Bill Gunter, Rogers, Gunter, Vaughn Ins.; Mark Ryan, Sanders, Holloway & Ryan PA; Fred Saxon, Saxon Real Estate Consulting, LLC; Tom Horner, ServPro of Tallahassee; Shannon Stoutamire, Shannon Stoutamire, CPA; Shawnta Friday-Stroud; Carolyn Pippenger, Sign Printers; Steve Beasley, South Georgia Brick Company; Everitt Drew, Southgroup; Jay Bostwick, Sperry & Assoc; Ray Burke, Spray Wash Exterior Cleaning; Kurt Tellers, St. James Certified Property Mgmt.; Tom Chambasian, Sunshine Car Care DBA Super-Lube; Michele Lynch, Sunshine Savings Bank; Randy Martin, SureGrip Floor Safety Solutions; Steven Loucheim, Tallahassee Board of Realtors; Cari Evans, Tallahassee Democrat; Jay Revell, Tallahassee Downtown Improvement; Lewis Buford, Tallahassee Land, Co.; Ben Graybar, Tallahassee State Bank; Susan Fairbrother, Tallahassee Technology Group Inc/Xerox; Tim Edmond, The Edmond Group, LLC; Mike Schmidt, The Egg Cafe and Eatery; Drs. Dean & Hamilton, The Focal Pointe; Don Vodicka, The Gem Collection; Mike Campbell, The Jim Moran Institute for Global; Lucretia Thomas, Thomas Acquisition & Property Specialists; Ted Thomas, Thomas Mitchell Realty; Matt Ryan, Timberlane Appraisal Assoc; Dennis Scarry, Time Saver Accounting; Richard Yood, Vernon Graphics & Promotions; Alan Null, Waddell & Reed Inc; Jennifer Benners, Whites Plumbing; Scott Hunt, Willis Hunt Insurance Group, Inc.; Rebecca Hale, WTLH Fox 49

Emergency Center, Trader Joe's in Carriage Gate, BassPro Shop, Dick's Sporting Goods, BJ's Brew house, Magnolia Walk: BW3's and McDonalds, Mattress Firm, TMH C.U., Aspen Dental, east of Mom & Dad's a VA cemetery will cover 150 acres between Apalachee Pkwy and St. Augustine, and the soon to come VA Hospital at the intersection of Blairstone and Orange Ave.. Ed expressed that the VA Hospital could be the "greatest economic driver for the next 20 years!"

Ed advised that while he is the current Chamber of Commerce Chairman, he is only 1 seat at the Chamber table and they strive to be the voice of business. With 1500+ business affiliate programs that create partnership within our community the ½ cent sales tax extension could bring in a potential \$800 million; up to 15% of that being allocated for Economic Development (Imagine Tally).



*Ed Murray, Jr., Retail Developer, President and Broker for NAI Talcor*

## NEBA's 2013 CHRISTMAS PARTY

**In lieu of NEBA's annual "Support the Troops" care packages, this year the focus was on Honor Flight Tallahassee with over \$1400 raised for 2014. Honor Flight Tallahassee's mission is to transport war veterans to Washington, D.C. to visit those memorials dedicated to honor their service and sacrifices. Many thanks to fellow NEBA Board member and Honor Flight Tallahassee's Vice-Chairman, Tom Napier.**



**The 2013 NEBA Christmas Party was hosted and catered by The Egg Café and Eatery; many thanks to NEBA President, Mike Schmidt, owner and operator.**

# NEBA's 2014 ELECTIONS

**Elections will be held at the January 14th meeting. There are 5 directors' seats open and 9 people running.**

*Must be a member to vote!!!*

## 2014 Officers in place:

President: Terry Madigan (Madigan Law Firm)  
President elect: Bert Bevis (Bert Bevis Realty, Inc.)  
Treasurer: Michele Lynch (Sunshine Savings Bank)  
Secretary: Cora Ann Chapman (Chapman Produce)  
Past President: Mike Schmidt (The Egg Café)

Directors on ballot: (You can choose only 5)

**Barney Bishop III** (Barney Bishop Consulting)

**Nancy Burns** (LCSO)

**Will Croley** (Doug Croley Insurance)

**Kris Dunn** (Dickens & Dunn, P.L.)

**Ron Goldstein** (Capital City Pedicabs)

**Peggy Munroe** (Mays-Munroe, Inc)

**Mark Raciappa** (ActionCOACH)

**Doug Saunders** (Brown & Brown)

**Bill Sittig** (Bill Sittig CPA, LLC)

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## Calendar

NEBA meetings are held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month from 12:00pm - 1:00pm. Food line opens at 11:30am, \$15 per member, \$18 per guest, cash and check preferred.

### Capital City Country Club

1601 Golf Terrace Drive

Jan. 14 - Steve Stewart, update on City Issues

Feb. 11 - TBA

Mar. 11 - TBA

*\*guest speakers subject to change without notice*

If you have not been receiving email notices for the NEBA meetings, please contact Peggy Munroe at [peggy@talstar.com](mailto:peggy@talstar.com)



Network of Entrepreneurs & Business Advocates  
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