

North East Business Association

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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: burnsn@mail.co.leon.fl.us or maureen@mediaoptionsinc.com. or FAX-850-893-4097

For additional information phone Maureen Thompson at 850-668-0948 or Nancy Burns at 850-922-3331

President's Corner

From Will Messer:

Summer has brought us rain, hot weather and a maze of political issues and campaigns. Through it all, your association has maintained a platform representing small business concerns. Pitching tough questions to commissioners as well as potential office holders helps us identify issues relating to our community and businesses. John F. Kennedy once stated, "There are risks and costs to a program of action. But they are far less than the long-range risks and costs of comfortable inaction." We are beating the drum for all small businesses and your elected officials are taking notice. Issues like consolidated elections, campaign reform and consolidation are only a few items that are being addressed. Your continued participation, ideas and concerns are welcome as we move forth into the political season. Together we can accomplish much.

Adam Levinson resigned from NEBA's board when he moved to Texas. His replacement is Jim Ashlock, who brings to the table a wealth of experience and information that only strengthens our board. Jim is the former President of the Tallahassee Chamber and recently returned to Tallahassee to enjoy

his retirement. We are pleased to have him complete Adam's term and invite each of our members to make him aware of your concerns. Board members serve a year term before the association opens up seats for re-election.

Our board is busy challenging campaign reform brought forward by a citizens committee. By now, Peggy Munroe has emailed all of you illustrating the dangers we believe are set forth by the proposed legislation. Our board held a special meeting discussing this issue and unanimously agreed to fight against the restrictions and limitations proposed. We are carrying our opinions directly to the commission chambers in hopes of defeating this legislation. Just as February elections favored special interest groups, we believe that the proposed "campaign reform" would result in a heavily anti-business climate. If the commission passes this proposal, we hope they will consider term limits too.

NEBA board members and executives from the Tallahassee Chamber met recently to discuss working together on upcoming issues. BluePrint 2000 projects, the Fair Grounds, Consolidation, Permitting, as well as campaign

Please see "WILL" on page 3

Dues Are Due!

NEBA dues were due on July 1. If you have another invoice enclosed with this newsletter, then we have not received your dues.

Please send your \$35 to NEBA, c/o Mays-Munroe, Inc, 2762 Capital Circle NE, Tallahassee, FL 32308. Don't forget to fill in the information at the top so we can make sure our records are correct.

Don't Miss Out On This!

Since Kevin Tuten has activated web links on our website you certainly want us to have your business website! This is a great way to advertise and educate

other members about your business and services. This option is available to members only. Email your web address to Kevin at

ktuten@mobilenets.net

NOTE: On June 18, we received one of our invoices in a postal envelope, the kind you get when something happens to mail. The invoice was blank and what had apparently been a check stapled to the upper left hand corner was gone. There was no way to trace it. If you get an invoice with this newsletter and you mailed a check with a blank invoice, call Peggy at 385-9495.

Winning is Easy!

Come to our monthly NEBA meetings for your chance to win a prize in our free raffle. Drawings for the prize are provided to members only. So join today, enjoy lunch with us, listen to interesting speakers and become part of the fun and camaraderie.



"WILL" from page 2

reform were only a few items of discussion. We encourage open dialogue with the Chamber and hope that we can create a progression of discussions that continue to address concerns brought forth from the business community. Our cause is great, and greater numbers will help our cause. If you recognize a chamber representative at our luncheon, please make

room for them. Together we can accomplish much.

Finally, I am appreciative for the opportunity to serve as your representative. I invite your emails and phone calls so that we can continue to keep our focus on the pulse of local business concerns. Your input is essential for the continuation of our association. Your participation at luncheons is vital. We invite all of you to be heard so that we can continue to be

Straw Poll From Our June Meeting

To support a resolution to be placed on the November 2004 ballot, that specifies that a Charter Commission will be appointed to draft a consolidation charter to be voted on November 2006.-
Unanimous vote

County Commission District 4

Tony Grippa- 20
Bob Hightower-0

County Commission At Large, Group 1

Ed Depuy- 18
Gregg Patterson- 2
John Clark-0
Robert Foushee-0
Kevin Kjellerup-0
Rudy Maloy-0
Daniel Parker-0
Bill Rollins- 0

a strong association. I look forward to seeing each of you at our next business luncheon.



We are always happy to receive articles of interest or suggestions from our members. This is your newsletter too! Please feel free to forward them to:
burnsn@mail.co.leon.fl.us

Calendar

NEBA meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at Lucy Ho's 1700 Halstead Blvd. from 1:00 p.m.- 2:00 p.m. Cost is \$9.00 per person

July 13- Forum- Candidates for Superintendent of Schools, Tax Collector, Supervisor of Elections, County Commission, District 2

August 10- Forum- Candidates for School board District 2 and District 4, City Commission Seat 1 and Seat 2

September 14- TBA

Business Tips....

Is it better to lease or buy the store (plant) and equipment?

This is a good question and needs to be considered carefully. Leasing does not tie up your cash; a disadvantage is that the item then has no resale or salvage value since you do not own it. Careful weighing of alternatives and a cost analysis will help you make the best decision.

Can I operate a business from my home?

Yes. In fact, experts estimate that as many as 20 percent of new small business enterprises are operated out of the owner's home. Local SBA offices and state chambers of commerce can provide pertinent information on how to manage a home-based business.

How do I find out about suppliers/manufacturers/distributors?

Most suppliers want new accounts. A prime source for finding suppliers is the Thomas Register, which lists manufacturers by categories and geographic area. Most libraries have a directory of manufacturers listed by state. If you know the product line manufacturers, a letter or phone call to the companies will get you the local distributor-wholesaler. In some lines, trade shows are good sources of getting suppliers and looking over competing products.



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



NEBA News

WWW.NEBAONLINE.ORG

July- August 2004

SPECIAL ALERT- We Need You!

A citizen's committee has presented a proposed ordinance to the Leon County Commission entitled "Leon County Campaign and Election Reform". We are calling on all of our members to attend the County Commission meeting on July 13 at 6PM to protest this.

The ordinance does the following things:

*Provides taxpayer money for political funding.

*Forbids contributions from LOCAL BUSINESSES; only individuals may contribute.

*Limits contributions to 200 dollars on all county races.

*Requires that every petition card be accompanied by a \$5 contribution, if one wants public funding.

*Does NOT ban taking money from people who do business with Leon County.

*Does NOT ban "soft money" from 527 or CCE's. (These are committees where the contributions are not limited to any dollar amount and can be used for advocacy ads.) For example, a

CCE could spend \$500,000 given by the Sierra Club to malign a commissioner's environmental record and there would be no record of who contributed the money.

*It binds the constitutional officers to this plan, but does not mention the city commission.

If you would like to read the full text of the proposal, it is posted on our website at: www.nebaonline.org

Leon County presently does not have a problem with "dirty" politics. To keep it this way Leon County cannot afford to subsidize political campaigns. This is being presented by a group of local anti-growth, anti-business activists.

Please plan to attend the July 13th Commission Meeting, 6:00 pm, Leon County Court House. WE NEED AT LEAST 100 PEOPLE THERE. (The Committee that proposed this will have the room loaded with proponents.)

CONTACT THE COMMISSIONERS!

Also, please contact the County Commissioners and express your feelings on this proposal. Following is their contact information:

Tony Grippa 487-4747
grippat@leoncountyfl.gov
Rudy Malloy 922-4848
rudy@leoncountyfl.gov
Bill Proctor 922-BILL
proctorb@leoncountyfl.gov
Bob Rackleff 921-5555
rackleffhsd@leoncountyfl.gov
Jane Sauls 922-7190
saulsj@leoncountyfl.gov
Cliff Thael 922-7188
cliff@leoncountyfl.gov
Dan Winchester 410-2223
danw@leoncountyfl.gov

Let us know if you will be there. E-mail peggy@talstar.com, fax 422-2016 or phone 385-9495. Or call Ted Thomas 894-5500 or Will Messer 894-8222.

EXPECTING TO SEE YOU ON THE 13TH!!

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