

March 2014

GREATER LABELLE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE NEWSLETTER

Greetings from Our President:

What a great month February was! There were a lot of events going on and I think they were all successful.

“Night on the Town” is one of the four major events that the Chamber does. We couldn’t have asked for better weather. There were over 40 vendors that signed up and I think only one vendor couldn’t make it. It was a great time to reconnect with old friends, shoot the breeze with our local folks, network with other businesses, and give out information on our local businesses and groups. I want to thank all of the vendors for their involvement. Carmen sent a questionnaire out, please take time to give your opinion on the event (good or not so good) or you can call the office. We value your input!

This month is our Annual Give-A-Way Fundraiser Dinner. You can get your ticket from any board member or stop by the Chamber office. This is a great time for good food, fellowship, and a lot of fun, and even a chance to win \$5,000 dollars. We have a lot of good silent auction items. If you would like to donate an item, please let Carmen know. Get your tickets while they are hot, we only have 250!

Any comments, questions, or concerns you have, please let us know.
We appreciate your involvement in the Chamber.

God Bless You,
Bryan Beer
President

But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and forever and to the day of eternity, Amen.

2 Peter 3:18

March Events:

1 st	LaBelle Little League Opening Ceremonies @10am
1 st	Chalo Nitka Festival
1 st -2 nd	Firehouse Theater-Lend Me a Tenor
8 th	HRMC Foundation Annual Auction Fundraiser
9 th -13 th	Big O Birding Festival
10 th	Movie Night-Barron Library
10 th -12 th	Birding-Riverside Retreat
14 th	Karaoke-Jeni Dyess Don's Steak House
18 th	Arts of Inland Annual Meeting, LaBelle
19 th	Arts of Inland at Keiser University
21 st -23 rd	Firehouse Theater-Thanks for the Memories
28 th -30 th	Firehouse Theater- Thanks for the Memories
22 nd	Annual Chamber Give-A-Way Dinner
22 nd	Bull Pit Outreach Ministry Buck Out @ 7pm
28 th	Karaoke-Jeni Dyess Don's Steak House
29 th	Gulf Citrus Gala

Thank you to Our Renewing Members:

"D" Cake Lady, LLC	Republican Party of Hendry County
Big Smiles Child Care & Early Learning	Ron Zimmerly
Community Harvest Worship Center	Royal Consolidated Properties Inc.
Craig & Mary Bartoshuk	Sally Mae Disc Jockey
Cross Training Ministries	Sherwin-Williams
Darryl Damon, DMD	Sonshine Christian Academy
Dr. Sheri Watkins	Suncoast Schools Federal Credit Union
Ensite	SW Florida Safety Consulting, Inc.
Everglades Harvesting	The Glades
First Christian Church	Three Z Enterprises
Healing Waters Family Life Center	Vision Ace Hardware, LLC
Heartland Building Co.	
Hendry-Glades Audubon	
Hendry County Cattlemen's Association	
Janice Groves	
John Jay Watkins	
K&M Drug	
Karson Turner	
LaBelle Family Florists	
LaBelle Heritage Museum	
Lester Baird	
Lyons Printing & Supply's	
Martha Cowen	
Miss Patty's Formally Yours	
Mary Neely	
Nick & Nancy Smith	
Oakbrook of LaBelle	
One Blood	
Oscar Langford	
Pam's Plumbing	
Paradise Shaved Ice	
Randy's Garage	

New Members:

AVON INDEPENDENT SALES REP

Janet Morman

(812)820-9800

www.youravon.com/jmorman

LORI M. SHULA

Life Counselor

825 E. Cowboy Way Suite 106

LaBelle, Fl.

(239)292-4458

shulacounselor1@comcast.com

RICK SCHOLL

5122 Ft. Denaud Rd.

LaBelle, Fl. 33935

(863)675-0175

rscholl001@comcast.com

ZAC'S FRIENDSHIP HOUSE

P.O. Box 689

LaBelle, FL. 33975

(863)673-1549

www.zacsfriendshiphouse@comcast.com

SWEET & SOUTHERN

30 Hardee St.

LaBelle, Fl. 33935

(863)342-8063

sweetandsouthern12@gmail.com

DANIEL RODRIGUEZ

LaBelle, Fl. 33935

(863)517-1200

rodriguez86.daniel@gmail.com

RENNOLDS AIR CONDITION, INC.

P.O. Box 1380

LaBelle, Fl. 33975

863-674-0388

www.rennoldsair.com

The Roaring 20's

Greater LaBelle Chamber of Commerce
Annual Give-A-Way Dinner & Fundraiser

WHEN: SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 2014
TIME: SOCIAL HOUR 6PM - DINNER 7PM
WHERE: LABELLE CIVIC CENTER
WHAT: DELMONICO STEAK DINNER
PRICE: \$125 FOR 2 DINNERS

Costumes Encouraged

Come as a gangster
or a silent screen
star.

Come as a flapper,
come as you are.

It's going to be fun
no matter the dress.

Just bring yourself,
we'll take care of the
rest!

Costume Contest
Photo Booth
Charleston Contest

~
Open Bar

~
Specialty Drinks

\$5000
Cash Prize

Silent Auction

~
50 / 50 Drawing

Please consider donating an
item for the Silent Auction

For tickets and to donate call
Carmen at 863-675-0125

Night on the Town





Amenities:

First 150 participants receive a fantastic short-sleeve shirt.

Post-Race Refreshments

Fruit, bagels, orange juice and water will be provided. Relax and enjoy the refreshments while you await the awards ceremony.

Chip Timing:

This event will be timed with the NEW ChronoTrack Bib Tag Technology. Your Timing Strip is attached to your race number. Do not remove the tag, fold or wrinkle it or your race number. Do not cover your race number (TAG) with a jacket. Simply pin all four corners to your running shirt.

Team Registration:

Please be sure to include your team name when registering. We will be scoring the top 3 finishers of each team based upon final time - the team with the fastest total time wins. Team examples: fitness groups, church groups, colleagues, friends.

Registration:

Race Day Registration:

Zac's Friendship House located at 140 Jaycee-Lion's Drive from 6:30am-7:15am. **Register by Mail:** Entries must be postmarked by **March 5th** to be accepted. Mail entry form to **Zac's Home Run 5K*PO Box 689, LaBelle, FL 33975**. Make checks payable to **Zac's Friendship House**.

Register in person:

Entries will be accepted Friday, **March 14, 12:00pm - 5:00pm** at **Zac's Friendship House, 140 Jaycee-Lion's Drive**

Online Registration:

www.lin-mark.com

Deadline to register online: Friday, March 14, 2014 by 5:00pm

Entry Fees:

Pre-registration (on or before March 14th)

Adult: **\$25.00**

Youth (under 18): **\$15.00**

Race Day Registration (on March 15th)

Adult: **\$30.00**

Youth (under 18): **\$15.00**

One Mile Fun Run (taking place after 5k award's ceremony): \$10.00

Registration fee is non-refundable and non-transferable. No exceptions please. Zac's Friendship House reserves the right to reject any entry and to offer special invitations.

Registration & Packet Pickup:

Friday, March 14, 2014 Zac's Friendship House

140 Jaycee-Lion's Drive

12:00 noon-5:00pm

Saturday, Mar 15, 2014 Zac's Friendship House

140 Jaycee-Lion's Drive

Mission:

To protect, promote & improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county & community efforts.



Rick Scott
Governor

John H. Armstrong, MD, FACS
State Surgeon General & Secretary

Vision: To be the **Healthiest State** in the Nation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 25, 2014

Contact: Communications

(863) 674-4041

Wildfire Safety by Pat Dobbins

Dry weather conditions can cause grass, plants and trees to turn brown and be really dry. Our dry weather increases the potential for wildfires, and it's important for the community to know what common-sense steps they can take to protect themselves and their families, as well as when to seek medical attention. Smoke from wildfires is a mixture of gases and fine particles from burning trees and other plant materials. Smoke can hurt your eyes, irritate your respiratory system and worsen chronic heart and lung diseases. Fortunately, most persons who are exposed to thick smoke will not have health problems. How much and how long you are exposed to the smoke, as well as your age and degree of susceptibility play a role in determining whether or not someone will experience smoke-related problems. If you are experiencing serious medical problems for any reason, seek medical treatment immediately.

Smoke can cause coughing, scratchy throat, irritated sinuses, shortness of breath, chest pain, headaches, stinging eyes and runny nose. If you have heart or lung disease, smoke might make your symptoms worse. People who have heart disease might experience chest pain, rapid heartbeat, shortness of breath and fatigue. Smoke may worsen symptoms for people who have pre-existing respiratory conditions, such as respiratory allergies, asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) in the following ways:

- Inability to breathe normally
- Cough with or without mucus
- Chest discomfort
- Wheezing and shortness of breath

When smoke levels are high enough, even healthy people may experience some of these symptoms

You can limit your exposure to the smoke by: Staying indoors whenever possible, using air conditioners and keeping windows closed while driving in a vehicle. Individuals can reduce the amount of smoke particles in their vehicles by keeping the windows closed. The car's ventilation systems typically remove a portion of the particle coming in from outside. For best results, individuals may want to use the "re-circulate air" feature found in most cars, which will help keep the particulate levels lower. If you do not have an air conditioner and if it is too warm to stay inside with the windows closed, seek alternative shelter.

How to protect your family from smoke:

- Pay attention to local news coverage or health warnings related to smoke.
- Use common sense when outside conditions are smoky. Avoid prolonged outdoor activities. It is especially important to limit time spent outdoors for children and persons with existing medical conditions.

MORE...

- Stay indoors and run your air conditioner, if you have one. Keep the fresh air intake closed and the filter clean to prevent bringing additional smoke inside. For best results, run the air conditioning with re-circulated air.
- Help keep particle levels lower inside. When smoke levels are high, try to avoid using anything that burns, such as wood fireplaces, gas logs, gas stoves and even candles. Do not vacuum, which stirs up particles already inside your home. Also do not smoke tobacco.
- Follow the advice of your healthcare provider about taking medicines and following your asthma management plan if you have asthma or other lung disease. Call your healthcare provider if your symptoms worsen.

If you are asked to evacuate your home, be sure to bring your important family documents, valuables and your family disaster supply kit. Your disaster supply kit should contain enough food, water and supplies to sustain your family for at least three days. Do not forget any medications or special items such as a first aid kit. It is extremely important for families to create their own disaster plan before a disaster strikes so they are quickly able to determine what valuables they may want to bring, what items need to be stored and how to preserve keepsakes.



**GRAB YOUR PARTNER, ROUND UP YOUR
NEIGHBORS, KICK UP YOUR HEELS & JOIN US FOR
SOME FOOT STOMP'N FUN!**

GULF CITRUS COUNTRY GALA

Saturday, March 29th, 5:00p.m.-'til?

LaBelle Civic Center

(Directly Behind City Hall)

481 State Road 80, LaBelle

\$120 per Ticket (Admits 2)

**There will be a Steak Dinner `n all the Fix-ins
Prepared by : Hendry County Cattlemen's Association
and Peggy Hampton**

\$1,000 CASH PRIZE DRAWING!

Enjoy Auctions & Raffles

Country Casual Attire!

____ TICKET(S) at \$120 EA. (ONE TICKET ADMITS TWO PEOPLE)
TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ ____ (MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO GULF
CITRUS GROWERS ASSOCIATION AND INDICATE "GALA TICKETS")
NAMES FOR BADGES: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY / STATE / ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

RETURN FORM WITH PAYMENT BEFORE March 21, 2014

Gulf Citrus Growers Association
11741 Palm Beach Blvd., Ste 202
Fort Myers, FL 33905



MARCH MOONLIGHT MOVIE



Bring the kids, lawn chairs and/or a blanket.

The LORAX

Monday, March 10 at 7:30 pm

CELEBRATE SPRING BREAK

You are invited to the Annual Meeting of Barron Library

Monday, March 17

@ 6:00 pm

Be a 'Friend of the Library'

Annual Membership - \$10.00

Get involved in your local library.

BARRON LIBRARY

461 Main St., LaBelle, FL

Don's Steak House
93 South Hall Street
LaBelle, FL 33935

Friday, February 28, 2014
7:00 P.M. - 11:00 P.M.

Karaoke

Jeni Davidson Dyess

Come & Enjoy
Jeni's the Best

Karaoke Schedule for the Season

Friday - 7:00 till 11:00 P.M. Jan. 24, 2014
Friday - Feb. 14, 2014 and Feb. 28, 2014 (2nd and 4th Friday of the month)
Friday - Mar. 14, 2014 and Mar. 28, 2014
Friday - Apr. 11, 2014 and May 2nd, 2014

Mark your Calendar





33rd Annual Hendry County City Farm Tour

The Hendry County Farm-City Tour Council will be holding its 33rd annual farm tour of the Hendry County agricultural industry, Saturday, March 8, 2014. Tickets for the tour cost only \$75.00 per person and the participants will be able to catch a modern air conditioned tour bus at the U-Save Supermarket Center on Palm Beach Blvd in Fort Myers or at the Hendry County Extension Office in LaBelle.

You will then be transported with knowledgeable tour guides to various stops around the county where you can get a close up look at some of the most efficient farmers in the world.

Hendry County is one of the largest agricultural counties in the state and is largest producer of oranges in Florida with over 75,000 acres of groves. In addition, Hendry County is the second largest producer of sugarcane, third largest in vegetable production and fifth largest in beef cattle.

This year's tour will feature a variety of interesting stops at some of Florida's most sophisticated agricultural operations including vegetable transplant and ornamental nurseries, citrus, sod, sugarcane and vegetable production as well as one of the largest beef cattle ranches in the state. There will also be fresh Florida orange juice breaks at strategic stops along the way.

As an extra-added attraction, lunch will feature a delicious melt in your mouth steak lunch with all the trimmings served by the Hendry County Cattlemen's Association in a rural country setting.

In addition to the opportunity to see Florida agriculture up close and personal – you will tour some of the most unspoiled wild lands in all of southwest Florida where each turn of the road will reveal natural splendor and a chance to see a variety of wildlife.

Deadline for ticket sales is February 28, 2014. For additional information about the tour and how to purchase tickets for the tour, stop by Hendry County Extension Service Office, which is located at 1085 Pratt Blvd, LaBelle, Florida. You may also contact the office as follows:

Phone: (863) 674-4092
Fax: (863) 674-4637
Email: dcabrera@ufl.edu
Letter: Hendry County Extension Service
PO Box 68
LaBelle, FL 33975-1085

Make checks payable to: H.C.C.A.



Please help us collect
Canned Meat and Soup



The Salvation Army
LaBelle Service Center
133 N. Bridge Street
(863) 674-1441



If you would like to donate, please drop of
any size, new canned meat or soup
to the above address
Or bring back to this location.



Thank you for the support of
our food pantry!
We appreciate your help!



VIP Free Interest Checking

Exclusively for CenterState Bank customers 65 years or older.

Your VIP Free Interest Checking will include:

- Only \$50 to Open
- Free Debit MasterCard
- Free Internet Banking and Bill Payment
- Free Mobile Banking
- Free eStatement or Paper Statement
- No Monthly Maintenance Fee
- Competitive Interest Rate *(Compounds Monthly)*



- No Per-Check Charge
- Unlimited Check Writing
- Free Personalized Checks
- Free Notary Service
- Free Cashier's Checks
- Free Thank You Gift Upon Opening



Caloosahatchee Charter Chapter of ABWA 1st Bingo / Luncheon



Come and join us for Bingo with non-cash prizes!!

WHEN: March 22nd

TIME: 10a.m. - 3p.m.

Door Opens at 9:30a.m.

WHERE: Dallas Townsend Ag. Building, 1085 Pratt Blvd, LaBelle

Included in \$25.00 ticket price is 1 pack of 6 cards for 15 games (Additional packs available for purchase) Salad Bar and Desert with Coffee, Tea and Water

Jackpot game and 50/50 tickets sold separately

For more info Please Call

Joyce McLeod - 239-370-8418

Carol Kraft - 863-885-1339

Roberta Reynolds - 863-675-6369

All proceeds from this event goes specifically toward furthering education



RIVERSIDE RETREAT - It's the nature of the place!

MARCH HAPPENINGS AT RIVERSIDE RETREAT

There are many things going on at Riverside Retreat. We welcome anyone who is interested to come and enjoy our activities and trainings. We DO ask that you let us know you are coming either by phone or email so we can ensure we have enough supplies.

10 miles west of
Labelle on County
Road 78. It's a little
bit of heaven—close
enough to be easy
and far enough to be
a world away!

March 10 2-4 pm March 12 7:30 pm

Birding Hike Owl Hoot

March 11 10-2pm April 4-5 Archery

Basic birding course certification course

Find out all the details on our
website—cost, times, etc.

www.universideretreat.org

April 8 will be our final Day
Apart, 10-2, and focus on Easter.



Riverside Retreat

7181 CR 78
LaBelle, FL 33905
863-675-6834
apw@universideretreat.org



We invite you to --

The Annual Meeting of the Arts of the Inland - Tuesday, March 18, 2014 at 6 p.m. at the Riverbend Clubhouse, 1031 Riverbend Drive, LaBelle. (North on Hwy. 29 across the Caloosahatchee River, take the first right on to Riverbend Drive, follow the road for 1-1/2 miles. The clubhouse is the first building on the right.) There will be a special demonstration by AOI member Donna Thewlis on the Art of Porcelain Painting, using powdered minerals mixed with oil on porcelain tiles some as thin as paper. Her artwork is then fired in a kiln several times, framed and wired for hanging. Donna is a member of local and state Porcelain Painters and has won many awards in various competitions.

Hope to see you there!

Artists at the Gallery

Stop in at Keiser University, 9100 Forum Corporate Parkway, Fort Myers to see artwork from the following AOI artists currently exhibiting/selling at the Arts of the Inland Gallery: Joan Benner, Diane Carmen, Bobbee Cera, June DeVincent, Norma Forbes, Dwayne Harderode, Connie Killebrew, Deborah Kik, Pat Papa, Douglas Patterson, Donna Thewlis, and Olga Wood. We welcome AOI members to hang up to 2 pieces of their original artwork/photos, giclee prints (framed or gallery wrapped and wired for hanging). Contact LaVon Koenig 239-303-5849 or e-mail artsinland@gmail.com for complete information. Details are also available on our website: www.artsoftheinland.com under Events, Keiser.

LaVon Koenig

President, Arts of the Inland

239-303-5849

artsinland@gmail.com

www.artsoftheinland.com

Entrepreneurism & Small Business Development – Proven Strategies for Business Creation, Expansion & Acceleration

March 12, 2014 2:00 – 3:45 PM
F.R.E.E-of-charge ... live & online ... easy to take part

Presenters include:

- Barry Ryan, Assistant Director, **Institute for Rural Entrepreneurship** & North Carolina Rural Economic Development Center – on their comprehensive and innovative approaches in support of 85 statewide rural communities
- Michael W. Myhre, CEO & Network State Director, **Florida Small Business Development Center** (FSBDC) Network State Office – on the roles of small business in local economies, research results on the needs of Florida's small businesses and strategies for use by entrepreneurs and business developers
- Jefferson County **Small Business Development Program** Director interviewing two business owners on strategies for success ... and nightmares to avoid

Sign in here: <http://ouractionplan.org/webinars/>



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- *Learn how to run profitability report by job!
- *Great solution for construction industry and trade business like Electrical contractor and Plumbing
- *Awesome Solution for managing large projects!

Register Now

Please contact me with registration questions or for any additional details by email at mallika@simplifiedtech.biz or by phone at 239-210-9655.

We look forward to seeing you at our Workshop. Thank You!

Sincerely,

Darius Joseph
Simplified Technologies LLC
darius@simplifiedtech.biz



Reserve Your Seat Today

Wednesday, February 26, 2014

11:00 am - 2:00 pm

Location:

Simplified Technologies LLC

6310 Techster Blvd

Suite #2

Fort Myers, FL 33966



This Week in District 80

Greetings!

I am excited to announce that your Florida Legislature is working hard to reduce the amount of money government takes from Floridians! I have filed a bill, House Bill 815, which will make college more affordable by eliminating the sales tax on college meal plans. This legislation will save millions of dollars for Florida's college student population. Watch my brief [video](#) below to learn more about this citizen-driven tax saving proposal.

I would like to thank you for allowing me to be your voice in your government! Your correspondence is vital to my work in the legislature. I welcome your feedback and please feel free to contact [me or my office](#) to share your ideas, concerns, or if I can be of any assistance to you.

Sincerely,

Representative Matt Hudson, District 8

Release Date: February 21, 2014

Contact: Cheryl.Kirby@FloridaSBDC.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Manufacturers, Exporters Drive Florida's Economy

FSBDCN State Office: Florida manufacturers and exporters are critical drivers of the state's economy. According to the [latest data](#) from the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM), the state's manufactured goods exports totaled \$61.8 billion, supporting 14.2 percent of Florida's manufacturing jobs. Ninety-three percent of Florida's exported goods are produced by the state's 18,389 manufacturing firms, of which employ 340,267 workers.

Since 2009, Florida's manufactured goods exports have risen nearly two and a half times faster than the state's overall economy. Small businesses play an integral part, accounting for 95.4 percent of the state's 57,381 exporters and 68 percent of the total state exports.

According to [Building up Florida Manufacturing](#) by the office of Governor Rick Scott, Florida is well-positioned for success. Since 95 percent of the state's manufacturers' potential lies outside of the United States, Florida represents a unique gateway to international economies. Florida's close proximity to countries such as Latin America and the Caribbean make it easier for businesses to build a global clientele. Additionally, the recent signing of a free trade agreement with Panama and Colombia, and the completion of the Panama Canal provide attractive opportunities for businesses to increase trade.

To foster economic growth and allow manufacturers to be more competitive, the Florida Legislature passed a new sales tax exemption law for purchasing machinery and equipment that takes effect April 2014. The law will allow Florida's manufacturers to take advantage of reduced costs to focus on expansion, make additional capital investments and create jobs.

"Manufacturing and exporting are vital to creating jobs and advancing the state's economy," said Michael Myhre, CEO and Network State Director, Florida SBDC Network. "The Florida SBDC Network plays a key role by providing essential services in support of Florida manufacturers seeking to tap into international markets."

According to an independent study, [Economic Impact of SBDC Business Development Activities on the Florida Economy, 2013](#), manufacturing companies who received business consulting from the Florida SBDC Network saw a job growth of 9.20 percent, compared to a 1.70 percent growth for the average Florida manufacturing firm.

What kinds of companies are these?



EzProducts International, Inc. (EzPi), which manufacturers heat-sealing presses used to apply labels or patches of fabrics, needed a place to sell more products. The products invented, developed and manufactured at EzPi as a response to market needs had gained 70 percent coverage of the national dry cleaning industry as customers. While their domestic position was strong, their sales revenue had plateaued. With the assistance of the FSBDC at the University of South Florida and its Export Marketing Plan Service, EzPi has experienced an increase in annual income estimated to have doubled in the past year. The company has also increased its workforce from six to eight employees.

Goodwin Heart Pine Company, a company specializing in river-recovered antique heart pine and heart cypress, produces reclaimed wood flooring, architectural millwork and stairs. Since the company's inception, Goodwin Company has earned the reputation of one of the most highly respected manufacturers of antique heart pine and heart cypress in the world. With the assistance of the FSBDC at the University of North Florida and its Growth Service, the company has grown into a medium-sized enterprise with a significant national presence, and has become the premier company in its industry.

Harry Arnon, President of **Hernon Manufacturing**, a custom formulator of adhesives, sealants, and precision dispensing and curing systems, believed that there was untapped potential in international markets and decided to refocus efforts to make exporting a top priority. Hernon turned to the FSBDC at the University of Central Florida. With the help of the certified business consultant and international trade specialist, the company received assistance in crafting an aggressive growth strategy, and was matched with an opportunity to participate in the FSBDC's Export Marketing Plan Service. Hernon's products are now found in more than 27 countries worldwide and the company has been recognized for its exporting efforts, most recently winning the 2013 SBA Small Business Exporter of the Year Award and the 2012 Exporter of the Year Award by ThinkGlobal, Inc.

To continue to provide opportunities for companies in this industry, FSBDCs assist qualified Florida-based, "new-to-export" manufacturers and service providers with overseas growth strategies through its Export Marketing Plan Service, in partnership with Enterprise Florida and the U.S. Commercial Service. FSBDC consultants develop customized export marketing plans that include a thorough export readiness assessment, industry analysis, market analysis with target market recommendations, a review of overseas trade opportunities, and an action plan that may include trade mission participation.

About the FSBDC Network

For over 35 years, the Florida SBDC Network has nourished a statewide partnership between higher education and economic development organizations, dedicated to providing emerging and established business owners with management and technical assistance, enabling overall growth and increased profitability for the businesses and economic prosperity for the state.

In 2012, the Florida SBDCs served approximately 38,000 entrepreneurs and small business owners through consulting and training, resulting in 47,845 jobs created, retained and saved at a significantly low cost of \$112 per job; \$6.3 billion in sales growth; \$235.2 million in capital accessed; \$588.4 million in government contract awards; and 744 new businesses started. For every \$1 of Florida public and private sector investment in the FSBDC program, \$40 was returned to the state in tax revenue.

A statewide service network of over 40 centers with 60 outreach locations, the Florida SBDC Network is funded in part by the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), Defense Logistics Agency, State of Florida and other private and public partners, with the University of West Florida serving as the Network's designated lead host institution. The Florida SBDC Network is state designated as Florida's principal provider of business assistance and is nationally accredited by the Association of SBDCs.

To learn more about the Florida SBDC Network or to find a FSBDC near you, visit www.FloridaSBDC.org.

State Designated as Florida's Principal Provider of Business Assistance [§ 288.001, Fla. Stat.]

State Office | UWF Office of Economic Development & Engagement
11000 University Pkwy, Bldg. 38 | Pensacola, FL 32514
866.737.7232 or 850.473.7800 | www.FloridaSBDC.org

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505 Hickpochee Ave. 6310 Techster Blvd.
Suite#300 Suite#2
LaBelle, FL 33935 Fort Myers, FL 33966
863.342.8251 239.839.0575
labelle@simplifiedtech.biz fortmyers@simplifiedtech.biz

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TECHNOLOGIES

<http://www.SimplifiedTech.biz>

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Still tracking employee
time on spreadsheets
or punch cards?



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- ✓ Affordable Healthcare Act Compliance
- ✓ Offsite Clocking Capable
- ✓ Multi Companies & Job Costing Report
- ✓ Overtime Reduction
- ✓ Eliminate Buddy Punching



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Pin Punch or
Badge Swipe



Phone



Fingerprints



Computer

*Manage your workforce with electronic time clock
software based & time keeping options*

6310 Techster Blvd. Ste#2
Fort Myers, FL 33966
(Behind Shrimp Shack
/in Daniel's Metro Park of Commerce)
239.210.9645

505 W. Hickpochee Ave.
Ste#300
LaBelle, FL 33935
(Next to UPS store in City Plaza)
863.342.8251

Simplified
TECHNOLOGIES

info@simplifiedtech.biz

239.210.9645

How Can We Help You Today?



To receive an Avon Book, Join My Avon Team (Only \$10 for a Limited time) or just have questions call, text or email me.

Janet

812-820-9800

clarkdjp@aol.com

I will be setup Saturday, March 1st at the Chalo Nitka Festival. Booth #1 and I will be having a drawing for a FREE Gift Basket!

Speckled Perch Okeechobee
(Main Street) March 8-9

10-4

Big "O" Birding Festival

On the Southwest Shores of Lake Okeechobee

SAVE THE DATE

13TH ANNUAL BIG "O" BIRDING FESTIVAL
SUNDAY-THURSDAY
MARCH 9- 13, 2014

Guided Trips and "Birding On Your Own"
Nine Florida Birding Trail Sites
Lake Okeechobee by Boat,
Wildlife Management Areas,
OK Slough State Forest,
Eco-tours: Billie Swamp Safari and
Devils Garden Bird Park
Private Ranches and Farms.
Find "Specialty Birds"
during your visit to rural Florida.
Workshops, Programs, Keynote Dinner

www.bigbirdingfestival.com
(Map and information)

E-mail: bigbirdingfestival@gmail.com * phone: 863-675-0125



Host hotel: Port LaBelle Inn, LaBelle, FL

EWI Design Services



Designing is the art of combining abstract concepts with concrete materials. In applying design techniques to home and commercial space the designer aims to meld those two elements, along with the owner's personal taste and budget, into unique and beautiful living or working environments.

Diann Gibson is one of those talented people who can look at a room and just "see" it's possibilities. EWI Design Services is based on putting those talents to work for her clients.

Diann interweaves her professional skills with her art to create dream projects, both residential and commercial. Give her a color palette and a feel for your personal taste, and she can guide you through the process of turning your home or office into a comfortable work of art.

In fact, she is an expert at taking what can be a very painful experience and making it enjoyable. That's because she takes the stress out of it for a client.



If you are having trouble deciding on a color, a simple trick is to check your wardrobe. The color you find most there is probably a good place to start.

Also remember to take note of the shading in your various rooms; how does the light change from morning to night? Light influences the mood of any room and will affect the color you eventually choose.

When it comes to interior design, this free thinker feels like Tinker Bell. "I make dreams come true!"



EWI provides building construction consultation from floor plans and space planning to the flow of the home based on your life style. EWI provides all aspects of design from project management, managing all facets of construction, critiquing plans, space planning, furniture layouts, window treatments, fabrics, to the final accessorizing. EWI designs make a statement about your lifestyle thus they never go out of style.

Interior Design is the art of arranging things comfortably.

Paint Color selections and faux painting

Select a color palette for you and also decide if there will be any faux work needed and select the appropriate one.

Project Manager

Coordinate all aspects of project from tradesmen to furnishing.

Space Planning

Custom floor plans.

Furniture placement and design

Floor plans of the project and custom designs when needed.

Art and accessories

Placement of art work and accessories.

Custom window treatments

Custom drawings of window treatment designs and fabric selections.

Presentation boards and formal proposals

Can do just the consulting and planning for a project, as per client's needs.



Diann Gibson

Senior Designer
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EWI Design Services
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395 Trader Road
Fort Denard, Florida 33935

Style can make complicated things seem simple and simple things seem complicated.

It's a cinch to not get pinched!

Ward off all of those would be pinchers, by making a green friendship bracelet at Barron Library, Thursday, March 13.

Just in time for St. Patrick's Day.

Happy St. Patrick's Day!

LaBelle Kiwanis Thrift Store

155 S. Bridge Street

LaBelle, FL 33935

(863) 675-4043

March 1-March 29, 2014

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 VHS TAPES 3/\$1.00 DVD's \$1 each CD's \$1 each
3 PURSES \$1.00 Some exclusions	4 SHOES \$1/pr Chairs \$5	5 Senior Discount 25 % off \$ 5.00 purchase Some excl.	6 Books 3/\$1.00	7 ***** 50 % off STORE WIDE Some exclusions	8 Under 55 35% off \$5.00 purchase Some excl.
10 75 % off ALL CHRISTMAS ITEMS	11 BOOKS 3/ \$1.00	12 Senior Discount 25 % off \$ 5.00 purchase Some excl.	13 Jewelry \$1.00	14***** CLOTHES 15/\$10 *****	15 VHS TAPES 3/\$1.00 DVD's \$1 each CD's \$1 each
17 ST PATRICKS DAY Green Clothes \$1.00	18 SHOES \$1/pr Chairs \$5	19 Senior Discount 25 % off \$ 5.00 purchase Some excl.	20 PURSES \$1.00 Some exclusions	21 ***** 50 % off STORE WIDE Some exclusions	22 Under 55 35% off \$5.00 purchase Some excl.
24 PLATES 4 for \$1	25 BOOKS 3/ \$1.00	26 Senior Discount 25 % off \$ 5.00 purchase Some excl.	27 Jewelry \$1.00	28 ***** CLOTHES 15/\$10 *****	29 VHS TAPES 3/\$1.00 DVD's \$1 each CD's \$1 each