

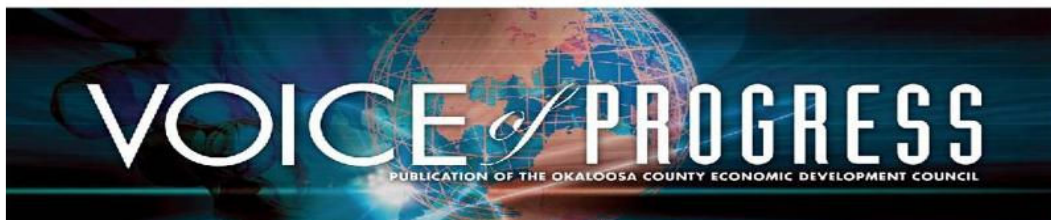
Kay Rasmussen

From: EDC serving Okaloosa County [debbieb@florida-edc.org]
Sent: Wednesday, February 23, 2011 7:20 AM
To: kayr@florida-edc.org
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DEFENSE NEWS

DSI Prepares Legislative Agendas for DC and Tallahassee

The EDC's tri-county Defense Support Initiative is busy wrapping up its legislative agendas for both the U.S. Congress and the Florida Legislature. This annual activity is designed to ensure the area's legislators in both DC and Tallahassee are well aware of the key military and defense issues facing the region as they make future budget and policy decisions.

While the agendas are not yet finalized, issues sure to be ranked high will surely include federal support for



President's Corner

Diversifying the Okaloosa Economy

Diversification is the buzz word today that is catching a lot of attention, especially among political leaders. Sustainability is still a popular term, but now it is being used in the same sentence with the big "D".



Another popular term now being used by the new Administration is "Reform" and like the other two terms, reform linked to economic development. This renewed interest in economic development has come about due to the current state of economy and the April 20 Deepwater Horizon explosion that created the largest accidental marine oil spill in the history of the petroleum industry.

The Economic Development Council (EDC) serving the Okaloosa County area is uniquely qualified to lead sustainable development reform and meet the critical needs of companies seeking to grow or relocate. Yes, our economy is tied tightly to tourism and military that does not mean we will abandon our two greatest economic generators. Absolutely not! So, how do we approach this dilemma and yet achieve our goal of strengthening and diversifying the economy?

Opportunities Arising:

The Oil Spill Recovery Act: Senator Don Gaetz has filed the Oil Spill Recovery Act that offers incentives to attract businesses, create jobs and diversify our economy to further protect our area in the future. Over the past several months economic developers from the Okaloosa county area (Escambia to Bay) have met and conferred in with

weapons Research & Development, Test & Evaluation, and Acquisition at Eglin AFB along with support for the Eglin Ranges and their modernization. State issues will include a call for continued funding for the state's Defense Community Support Grants that the EDC has used for the past dozen years to identify and support projects such as bringing LambdaRail to Okaloosa County and providing funding for a variety of projects aimed at preventing encroachment along Eglin's boundaries.



INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Expo Seguridad Trade Show Mexico City, Mexico April 12 - 14, 2011

Expo Seguridad began in 2003 and is now the largest event of its kind in all of Latin America. Last year, over 450 exhibitors participated from more than 20 countries. Mexico is the number one export country in Latin America for most major security manufacturers. The event's wide scope draws a diverse and unique audience from more than 15 countries and offers you, as a Florida based exporter of security related products/services, the opportunity to expose your company to this vast and lucrative market. **Registration deadline: March 15, 2011**

For more information or to register contact: Andrea Moore at amoore@eflorida.com

Israel Unmanned Systems 2011 Tel Aviv, Israel March 27-April 1, 2011

Airlift Inc. and the United States Embassy in Israel are jointly organizing an international trade mission focusing on unmanned systems (UAV's, land and naval autonomous vessels). The mission's goal is to explore Israel's leadership

Florida Legislators and staff to offer our version of how the state could assist our Northwest Florida region with economic diversification. Incorporated in Senator Gaetz's bill is an initiative to create the Northwest Florida STEM Coast and provisions that offer targeted economic incentives for businesses that relocate to our area from other states.

The Northwest Florida STEM Coast: The concept here is to bring the university system and the private and public sectors together to assist with economic diversification. This is a long-term effort to provide sustainable economic diversification and a vehicle for research and business development. The STEM Coast (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) is a replication of best practices from the High Tech Corridor and the Jeb Bush/Pam Dana era of Life Sciences R & D but tailored to our region's industry sector strengths. Senator Gaetz proposes a \$10 million appropriation to Florida's Great Northwest to be used in the 5 County (perhaps 7 county to include Gulf and Franklin) region to promote such R & D and commercialization.

Economic Development Incentives: The Senator's bill allows the State to waive any programmatic requirements of the various traditional economic development incentives we have been discussing for new, out of State relocations, into our 7 County Northwest Florida region. This waiver would be for a period of 3 years, with up to a cumulative amount of \$10 million [\$5m = \$5m, with a variable tiered approval process]. Senator Gaetz and others sought advice from economic developers as to what would be the most effective competitive business tools, while maximizing the State's return on investment and waivers. For example, this initiative could relax local matching requirements and average wage definitions and allow the State to grant incentives to industries not now under consideration.

With the support of Governor Rick Scott's reform measures to expedite best practices found in the private sector and his economic development process to accelerate incentives approval, coupled with Senator Gaetz's Oil Spill Recover Act, we should begin to see business opportunities on the rise in Okaloosa County and the Greater Northwest Florida region.

Larry Sassano, President
The EDC, serving Okaloosa County, FL.

Larry Sassano, EDC President can be contacted at
larrys@florida-edc.org



mem TECHNOLOGY NEWS



Leon County Brings Presentation to TeCMEN

in the area through business-oriented visits and one-on-one meetings.

For more information or to register, please contact: Ken Cooksey at kcooksey@eflorida.com

**Hospitalar 2011
(International Healthcare
Exhibition)
Sao Paulo, Brazil
May 24-27, 2011**

Join the Florida section of the USA Pavilion at the most important health fair in Brazil and Latin America - Hospitalar 2011. Brazil represents the largest economy in South America with the highest potential in the healthcare market! Over 1,250 exhibitors are anticipated to feature products ranging from state of the art medical technology to disposables.

Registration deadline: March 4, 2011

For further information, please contact Michael Schiffhauer at mschiffhauer@eflorida.com

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For January's meeting TeCMEN brought in a team of FSU researchers to present on the University's large technical research centers.

The Directors from the High-Performance Materials Institute (HPMI), Center for Advanced Power Systems (CAPS) and the Advanced Aero Propulsion Laboratory (AAPL) made the trip and gave presentations on each of their particular centers and areas of expertise. They discussed current innovations and as well as advanced research and experiments they are working on.

The TeCMEN members were interested in the opportunities for collaboration with such advanced facilities for their current and potential research contracting.

Remotely Piloted Aircraft (RPA)

In February, Terry Poulx of ARINC - Fort Walton Beach, gave an interesting briefing on Remotely Piloted Aircraft (RPA), generically referred to as Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV). He shared information on some of the current vehicles being used and how they are being incorporated in both military and commercial applications. Terry impressed upon the group the enormous growth this high tech area has experienced and will continue to experience. He also highlighted how Northwest Florida and TeCMEN are perfectly postured to establish themselves as a Center of Excellence in this area.



MEMBERS IN THE NEWS



C. Kirkwood

For over 25 years, Newman-Dailey's sales teams' and company mission statement has been "To be the #1 Choice for Real Estate Services in the Greater Destin Area." We are excited to announce that **Colin Kirkwood** is our Top Sales agent

for the Fourth Quarter of 2010!

In addition, we are proud to announce that **Kerry**

McNulty is our Top Listing agent for the fourth quarter.



K. McNulty



Certified Manufacturing, Inc. (CMI)

announced that it has received a 2010 **Boeing Performance Excellence Award (BPEA)**. The

Boeing Company issues the award annually to recognize suppliers who have achieved superior performance. **CMI** maintained a Gold composite (Quality/Delivery) performance rating for each month of the twelve month performance period, from Oct. 1, 2009, to Sept. 30, 2010.

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"The Boeing Company is an important customer to CMI. We are very proud to be recognized, for the second time in two years, as a Gold supplier. We are committed to maintaining the same level of Quality and Delivery to the Boeing Company, and all of our customers, in the future." **Pamela Bechtold.**

CMI supplies electronics manufacturing to the **Boeing Company** in support of Aerospace, Defense, and Homeland security programs. **CMI** participated in the Boeing Mentor-Protégé program between 2006 and 2009. **CMI** was the recipient of the Gold Boeing Performance Excellence Award (BPEA) in 2008. **CMI** has supported Boeing, Fort Walton on: the AC-130U Gunship modifications; MC-130 Aerial Refueling System (MCARS); C-130H2 Combat Loss Replacement (CLR); and the Japan Tanker (C-130H) Japan Air Self Defense Force (JASDF) programs. **CMI** has also supported Boeing, St. Louis on AV-8 Thrust Panel builds and Boeing, Huntsville on the Secure Border Initiative Network (SBINet). **CMI** recently received Boeing Digital Product Definition (DPD) approval to support 3-D Model Based Definition (MBD) manufacturing. Contact: Ed Arcemont, Technical Business Director, 850-537-3777(office)

ela@certifiedmanufacturing.com

At the special invitation of Governor Rick Scott's political team, Realtor® leaders with the



Emerald Coast Association of Realtors® (ECAR) attended Governor Scott's Inauguration in Tallahassee. Realtors® played an instrumental role in the orientation of Governor Scott to the panhandle. Realtors® were called on several times during the campaign to host meet-and-greet events throughout Okaloosa and Walton counties.

ECAR President **Jean Floyd**, ECAR President-elect **Judi Rutland**, ECAR Vice President **Jan Hooks**, ECAR Director **Robbie Fenn** and ECAR Government Affairs Director **Cliff Long** attended the Inauguration and other festivities.

Fred Leopold, CEO of **Community Bank, Destin**, announced the recent hiring of Susan Robbins and Jill Cadenhead.



S. Robbins

Susan Robbins joins the company as Vice President and Mortgage Department Manager. She has over 30 years experience in mortgage banking. Robbins will also serve as senior underwriter and holds designations with VA, FHA and USDA. Robbins is a member of the

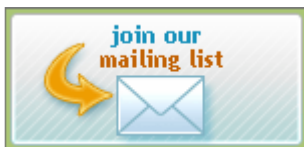
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Community-Wide Information

Over 375,000 hits a month
with over 12,000 unique visitors!

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Contact the EDC 362-6467 or
kayr@florida-edc.org



board of directors of the Okaloosa Community Development Corporation.

Jill Cadenhead joins the company as Vice President/Mortgage Loan Officer. She has over 20 years of mortgage banking experience and is a graduate of Kings College, Briar Manor, New York.



Active in the community, Cadenhead is on the board of directors of the Crestview Area Chamber of Commerce, the Northwest Florida YMCA and a member of the Crestview Rotary Club and the Military Affairs Committee.



Glenn Scharf, CPA, at Saltmarsh, Cleaveland & Gund, has been selected to serve on their Executive Committee effective January 1, 2011.

Scharf is a Shareholder in Saltmarsh's Fort Walton Beach office. He began his career in 1991 after graduating from the University of Florida with a Masters in Tax. Scharf brings to Saltmarsh expertise in a variety of fields including: taxation, accounting, process engineering, business consulting and tax management solutions. He was previously employed by Deloitte & Touche, LLP and Arthur Andersen, LLP in Atlanta. The Executive Committee consists of Ron Jackson, President, Charles Gund, Jr., Shareholder and newly elected Glenn Scharf.



H. Britt Landrum, Jr., President, Landrum Human Resource Companies, Inc.; Dr. Julia J. McNabb, Executive Director, Horizons of Okaloosa County; Vicki Pugh, Professional Development Coordinator, Early Learning Coalition of Escambia County; Ted A. Kirchharr, Vice-President & Chief Operating Officer, Landrum Consulting; Julie Young, Associate Director of Development, Pensacola Museum of Art.

Landrum Consulting Services, a division of **Landrum Human Resource Companies**, announced the winners of the Inaugural 2011 Working a Better Way grants. The Following three grants were awarded: Horizon's of Okaloosa County - Strategic Planning. Landrum will help Horizon's of Okaloosa County outline a Strategic Plan to help them establish and achieve their desired goals and vision. Landrum will help them identify and focus on their goals; establish measurable outcomes for those goals, and establish an accountability system. Early Learning Coalition of Escambia County -

Leadership Training. This Landrum certification series is designed to enhance leadership skills for all levels of experience including those new to the supervisor role, experienced supervisors/managers who have not had formal training in management education, and seasoned managers who want to further develop their leadership skills.

Pensacola Museum of Art - Landrum HR On-call. Landrum On-Call is human resources management consultation and assistance at your fingertips. Landrum will provide 40 hours of Human Resources support by assigning a certified Human Resources Manager to assist the Pensacola Museum of Art with employment related issues.

"Our Working a Better Way grant program is a unique way for us to give back to our community", commented Ted Kirchharr, Vice-President and Chief Operating Officer. "Community Service is one of Landrum's Foundations and the grant program allows us to reach out to more people and organizations in our community."

Florida's Great Northwest welcomes a new president, **Don Kirkman** who will operate out of the organization's Destin corporate office. A seasoned economic developer, Kirkman most recently served as president and CEO of the Piedmont Triad Partnership in North Carolina. He was chosen because of his extensive background in regional economic development including marketing, business recruitment, government relations and fundraising.



Kirkman received his B.A. and J.D. degrees from the University of North Carolina. He practiced law for 10 years in New York City and Morehead City, North Carolina before becoming Executive Director of the Carteret County, North Carolina, Economic Development Council, a position he held for 10 years. He was hired as President and CEO of the Piedmont Triad Partnership in 2000.



The **Mattie Kelly Arts Foundation** will kick off its cultural season with "David Ott & Friends", an evening of jazz, classical music and comedy. David and special

guests will entertain at the Mattie Kelly Performing Arts Center at Northwest Florida State College on February 26th at 7:30 p.m. For more information about this star-studded variety show, visit

www.mattiekellyartsfoundation.org or call 850-650-2226.

Executive Director, **Marcia Hull**, announces the Florida Council on Arts and Culture recently approved funding a \$500,000 grant application for Phase One, Amphitheater & The Village Green of the proposed Mattie Kelly Cultural Arts Village in Destin. **Mattie Kelly Arts Foundation's** grant request represented the only approved applicant from Okaloosa County and all of Northwest Florida. If funding is approved by the state legislature, this \$500,000 grant award would be eligible for matching funds from a \$500,000 Challenge Grant.

Marcia Hull remarks, "Now is the time for everyone to lobby our legislative delegation and elected representatives to be prudent in supporting grant funding for cultural facilities in a coastal community that lacks adequate cultural infrastructure." According to Florida TaxWatch, 74.9% of Florida visitors participate in cultural activities and spend more than tourists not attending cultural events.



Soundside Wellness Consultants (SWC)

provides beneficial individual and family psychological health services to military and civilian members of our community. Psychological services provided include: marital and family counseling, anger management (including tee anger management), depression, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, addiction, eating disorders, stress reduction classes, grief therapy, psychological testing and more. Please be assured that you will receive personalized attention when visiting Soundside Wellness Consultants. Your Point of Contact (POC) for specific business is **Brittany Allen**, Educational Services Supervisor/EAP Coordinator. Brittany is supervised by **Bonnie Rushton**, VP of Safety, Regulatory & Quality and EAP.

In addition to your POCs, Soundside Wellness' Services are further supported by a team of experience professionals and service experts all focused on meeting your unique needs. This team



includes: **Allison Velez**, MA, LMHC, CAP, Clinical Officer, **Amanda Aylsworth**, MS, LMHC, Critical Care Services Manager, and **Larry McFarland**, MA, LMHC, SPHR, Human Resources Officer. SWC welcomes members of the Crestview community to our north location at 351 N. Ferdon Blvd., Crestview FL 32536. SWC continues to welcome members in South Okaloosa County to our supplementary location at 205 Shell Ave, Fort Walton Beach FL 32548. Please phone either location: (850) 689-7844 or (850) 226-8585 for any questions or information.

Sincerely,
EDC serving Okaloosa County

www.florida-edc.org

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