

May 26, 2023



SEBRING CHAMBER LUNCHEON

THURSDAY, JUNE 8TH• 12 PM ISLAND VIEW RESTAURANT AT SUN 'N LAKE DOORS OPEN AT 11:30-PROGRAM STARTS AT 12PM

*PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED ONLINE We look forward to hearing from this month's speaker: Wauchula state bank

LAST DAY TO PRE-REGISTER: Tuesday, June 6th Wauchula State Bank Est. 1929

Register here!



ELECTRONIC BILLBOARD

- LOCATION: US 27 N COMING INTO SEBRING
- 6-MONTH OR 1-YEAR COMMITMENT AVAILABLE

CONTACT PAIGE 863-385-8448 or email events@sebring.org

Contact Paige!



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A service provided by 🔲 QR-Code-Generator



Our <u>High-C To-Go</u> FaceBook Group is growing thanks to our wonderful members! It's a great way for you to post about what's happening, a great experience you had somewhere, ask for recommendations and more! We'd love for you to invite others and use it to promote anything you have going on! You do not have to be a member of the Sebring Chamber to participate, but our members will be recognized in a special way on the page whenever they post! Please continue to invite others to the page! Check it out!



Overview of the CareerSource Heartland Region Not Seasonally Adjusted May 19, 2023

- The unemployment rate in the CareerSource Heartland region (DeSoto, Hardee, Highlands, and Okeechobee counties) was 3.0 percent in April 2023. This rate was 0.3 percentage point lower than the region's year ago rate of 3.3 percent. The region's April 2023 unemployment rate was 0.7 percentage point above the state rate of 2.3 percent. The labor force was 77,932, up 1,648 (+2.2 percent) over the year. There were 2,305 unemployed residents in the region.
- Okeechobee County had the lowest unemployment rate (2.5 percent) in the CareerSource Heartland region followed by DeSoto County (2.6 percent), Hardee County (3.1 percent), and Highlands County (3.3 percent).
- Employment by industry in the CareerSource Heartland region totaled 55,458 jobs in September 2022 (the latest available data). CareerSource Heartland region's employment increased by 1,222 jobs (+2.3 percent) over the year.
- The industries gaining jobs over the year were Education and Health Services (+444 jobs); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+438 jobs); Professional and Business Services (+327 jobs); Leisure and Hospitality (+83 jobs); Financial Activities (+66 jobs); and Other Services (+32 jobs).
- The industries losing jobs over the year were Natural Resources and Mining (-119 jobs); Construction (-45 jobs); Information (-20 jobs); Manufacturing (-17 jobs); and Government (-9 jobs).

Sebring Metro Area

- In April 2023, nonagricultural employment in the Sebring MSA was 27,700, an increase of 600 jobs (+2.2 percent) over the year.
- · The Government industry was unchanged in jobs over the year.

Note: All data are subject to revision. Source: Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, Bureau of Workforce Statistics and Economic Research.



We have placed ALL of our member names into a bowl to draw from every week. New members will be added to the drawing as they join.

On Mondays we will draw

FIVE Members to highlight on Facebook and in the newsletter for the next week!

Your 'highlight' can be ANYTHING you want it to be. It can be promoting a special event, history, a great customer service story you would like to share, etc.

You can send a video (30 sec or less) or flyer (PDF or JPEG format). It must be received no later than the Friday the week before you are set to be highlighted. We will let you know what day you will be highlighted on Facebook

Once everyone has been drawn, we will start over again!

If you are a current member of the Sebring Chamber, you do not need to do anything extra to be included.



Congratulations to this weeks Marvelous Members. We look forward to hearing more from them next week:

- Building Design By Marshall and Marine Inc.
- Sebring Village MHP
- Notarize Genie Inc.
- Peace River Center
- Pelican's Snoballs



Contact: Stacey Dadd Associate Director 813.396.2713 staceyp1@usf.edu



Florida SBDC at USF Announces 2023 Regional Performance Award Winners

TAMPA (May 11, 2023) - The Florida Small Business Development Center (SBDC) at University of South Florida (USF) announced its 2023 Performance Award and small business winners on May 10, during the 2023 Florida SBDC at USF Business Awards Celebration Luncheon. The event was held at USF's Marshall Center. Performance award winners are now eligible for Florida SBDC Network state awards. State award winners will be announced at the Florida SBDC Network's Annual Conference, held in Fort Lauderdale in August.

"We were thrilled to be able to recognize our employees and business owners in person, after having to take a hiatus due to COVID," Carl Hadden, regional director of the Florida SBDC at USF said. "We are proud to be a tireless supporter of entrepreneurship. Entrepreneurship is not a solitary activity. Entrepreneurs need the support system of the Florida SBDC at USF, bankers, attorneys, accountants, insurance agents, and the support of their family, friends, and community to thrive. We are blessed to be one of many contributors to the successes we celebrated today."

Ambassador of the Year: Kristene Manning



Kris Manning's commitment to excellence as the Florida SBDC at USF Fiscal and Business Manager enables the region to deliver on the Florida SBDC Network mission of "Providing businesses the expertise and resources to succeed" as well as the vision of "Creating a better Florida for all by helping businesses grow" by working closely with the regional director to manage the region's finances ensuring seamless service delivery. Kris meets regularly with peers throughout the University of South Florida's Muma College of Business to find solutions to collective challenges while simultaneously sharing best practices. Manning's expertise in her role directly impacts stakeholder return and value as well as commitment to excellence while indirectly helping the region deliver business needs and solutions contributing to the development and economic growth of our

communities, all of which encompass the FSBDCN values. Kris goes above and beyond in her duties every day to make sure the Florida SBDC at USF is properly equipped to help businesses grow.



Performance Excellence Award: Gregory J. Manning

Greg Manning is a Florida SBDC at USF business consultant. Manning joined the Florida SBDC at USF team in August 2020, just three months into the COVID-19 pandemic. He came to us with a wealth of business knowledge, having owned 16 Hallmark stores throughout central and south Florida. Greg was tasked, in April 2022, with covering four counties in our 10-county region. Since these counties are very rural and spread across many miles, they would normally be covered by three consultants. Even with the added coverage area, Greg saw 332 unique clients and maintained his excellent satisfaction rate. Then, in October 2022, Greg worked three Hurricane Ian mobile Business Recovery Centers (BRC) across three counties in Lake Placid, Arcadia, and Wauchula, providing 160.25 hours of disaster capital access consulting to his clients. Manning served 47 BRC walk-ins and converted 85% of them into SBDC clients while accurately following BRC

procedures by streamlining the process for clients in an already stressful time and allowing for timely entry of





Disaster Field Operations Center East

Release Date: May 20, 2023

Contact: Michael Lampton (404) 331-0333 Michael.Lampton@sba.gov Follow us on Twitter, Facebook, Blogs & Instagram

Release Number: 23-435, FL 17926

SBA Working Capital Loans Available in Florida For Secretary of Agriculture Disaster Declaration for Drought

ATLANTA - The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) announced today that federal Economic Injury Disaster Loans are available in **Florida** for small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small businesses engaged in aquaculture, and most private nonprofit organizations with economic losses due to drought that began on March 21, 2023.

The declaration includes the primary counties of Charlotte, DeSoto, Hardee, Highlands, Lake and Manatee, and adjacent counties of Glades, Hendry, Hillsborough, Lee, Marion, Okeechobee, Orange, Osceola, Polk, Sarasota, Seminole, Sumter, and Volusia in **Florida**.

"When the Secretary of Agriculture issues a disaster declaration to help farmers recover from damages and losses to crops, the Small Business Administration issues a declaration to eligible entities, affected by the same disaster," said Kem Fleming, director of SBA's Field Operations Center East.

Under this declaration, the SBA's <u>Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL)</u> program is available to eligible farm-related and nonfarm-related entities that suffered financial losses as a direct result of this disaster. Apart from aquaculture enterprises, SBA cannot provide disaster loans to agricultural producers, farmers, and ranchers. Nurseries are eligible to apply for economic injury disaster loans for losses caused by drought conditions.

The loan amount can be up to \$2 million with interest rates of **4** percent for small businesses and **2.375** percent for private nonprofit organizations, with terms up to 30 years. These working capital loans may be used to pay fixed debts, payroll, accounts payable, and other bills that could have been paid had the disaster not occurred. The loans are not intended to replace lost sales or profits.

Applicants may apply online using the Electronic Loan Application (ELA) via the SBA's secure website at https://disasterloanassistance.sba.gov/ela/s/ and should apply under SBA declaration # 17926.

Disaster loan information and application forms may also be obtained by calling the SBA's Customer Service Center at 800-659-2955 (if you are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability, please dial 7-1-1 to access telecommunications relay services), or sending an email to <u>DisasterCustomerService@sba.gov</u>. Loan applications can be downloaded from the SBA's website at <u>sba.gov/disaster</u>. Completed applications should be mailed to: U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

Submit completed loan applications to the SBA no later than Jan. 16, 2024.

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U.S. Small Business Administration

U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION FACT SHEET - ECONOMIC INJURY DISASTER LOANS

(SBA DISASTER DECLARATION DUE TO DESIGNATION BY THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE)

FLORIDA Declaration #17926 (Disaster: FL-00189) Incident: DROUGHT

occurring: March 21, 2023 and continuing

in the <u>Florida</u> counties of: Charlotte, Desoto, Hardee, Highlands, Lake, and Manatee; and the contiguous <u>Florida</u> counties of: Glades, Hendry, Hillsborough, Lee, Marion, Okeechobee, Orange, Osceola, Polk, Sarasota, Seminole, Sumter, and Volusia

Application Filing Deadline: January 16, 2024

Disaster Loan Assistance Available:

Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) – Working capital loans to help small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, and small businesses engaged in aquaculture, and most private, non-profit organizations of all sizes meet their ordinary and necessary financial obligations that cannot be met as a direct result of the disaster. These loans are intended to assist through the disaster recovery period.

Credit Requirements:

- Credit History Applicants must have a credit history acceptable to SBA.
- · Repayment Applicants must show the ability to repay the loan.
- <u>Collateral</u> Collateral is required for all EIDL loans over \$25,000. SBA takes real estate as collateral when it is available. SBA will not decline a loan for lack of collateral, but SBA will require the borrower to pledge collateral that is available.

Interest Rates:

The interest rate is determined by formulas set by law and is fixed for the life of the loan. The maximum interest rate for this program is 4.000 percent.

Loan Terms:

The law authorizes loan terms up to a maximum of 30 years. SBA will determine an appropriate installment payment based on the financial condition of each borrower, which in turn will determine the loan term.

Loan Amount Limit:

The law limits EIDLs to \$2,000,000 for alleviating economic injury caused by the disaster. The actual amount of each loan is limited to the economic injury determined by SBA, less business interruption insurance, and other recoveries up to the administrative lending limit. SBA also considers potential contributions that are available from the business and/or its owner(s) or affiliates. If a business is a major source of employment, SBA has the authority to waive the \$2,000,000 statutory limit.

Loan Eligibility Restrictions:

- The applicant business must be located in the declared disaster area.
- Only uninsured or otherwise uncompensated disaster losses are eligible.
- The economic injury must have been the direct result of the declared disaster.
- Nurseries are only eligible for economic injury caused by declared drought disasters.
- By law, agricultural enterprises such as farmers and ranchers are not eligible for any type of SBA assistance.
- Applicants who have not complied with the terms of previous SBA loans are not eligible. This includes borrowers
 who did not maintain flood and/or hazard insurance on previous SBA loans.
- Loan assistance is available only to the extent the business and its owners cannot meet necessary financial
 obligations due to the disaster. This determination is made by SBA.

Sign-Up for Texts from Us!

We'll text you about upcoming Chamber events, and we're making it easier to RSVP and buy tickets, right on your cell phone. Sign up now! Text Sebring to 844-754-1261



News from Your Fellow Members

Please see the list of links below to view upcoming events, specials & promotions from your fellow members.

*CLICK ON THE PICTURE OF THE FLIER TO MAKE IT LARGER OR THE LINK PROVIDED FOR MORE INFORMATION

The emails below were submitted by Chamber members and do not represent the views of the Sebring Chamber of Commerce.



Get Your Information Included In Next Week's Email!

To submit your information to be included in the Friday Email Blast, please email a **PDF** flyer to <u>admin@sebring.org</u>. Flyer must be received by Wednesday at 3PM preceding the Friday

blast to be included. The flyer must be in PDF format. If a flyer is sent in another format, we will contact you to re-send.





Highlands Lakesale Theatre For Immediate Release

"Jesus Christ Superstar" to Kick Off the new HLT Season in November 2023

iebring. As Highlands Lakeside Tr e.a. diverse nange of shows and events for the community. The 2023 Stage Series Will keature several exciting productions, including "Ass "A higher Place in Heaven," "We Will Rock You," "Brighton Beach and "Freaky Inday."

IPI. "may be a sensational theatrical experience as "zeros sensation him November 3-19, 2023, "Superstar" is a global plenn of audiences for row 50 years, set against the backtop of an entry. The first musically composed and entry. The first musically composed whether and entry is the trendens rock opera tobs to a set and the set of the trendens rock opera tobs of the trendens of the trendens

1 trists out on the opportunity to see "A Higher Flace in Heaven ser and directed by Tom Stalk, from January 12-28, 2024. This is story of unlikely hierarchitics and family secrets, and is a progue initia, "Second Samuel." You'l discover how Frisky, a privileged using African American boy descended from Sites, tomed a fin revesion era rund Georgia. This tracking story is tilled with laugh forgenerus. and showcame how low and arounce can undo new

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Respect for parent authority. Transparency in the classroom.

Truth logic knowledge, application, mind training to technic

With warm regents and heartfelt gratitude.

Email or Mailey Address

Sun 'N Lake's Summer JUNIOR Golk amp UNE 12-16 JULY 17-21 JUNE 26-30 8:30am -12p LESSONS INCLUDE: Mastering the Colf Grip How to Swing How to Putt



