

business voice

LAS VEGAS METRO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE | LVChamber.com

DECEMBER 2015

THE SMALL BUSINESS SOLUTIONS ISSUE!

Come in We're
OPEN

National
**Disaster
Preparedness
Month** & Your
Business

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What You
**Need
to Know**
About
Cybersecurity

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The
**Affordable
Care
Act**
in 2016

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***NEW Business Resources
from the Metro Chamber***

pg. 14



Introducing an Exclusive New Benefit to Metro Chamber Members

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information boom

**KRISTIN MCMILLAN
PRESIDENT & CEO**

I'm excited to present to you the Business Solutions Issue of the *Business Voice*! As you'll read, the Metro Chamber is proud to introduce Small Business Solutions on LVChamber.com. In this dedicated section of our website, you'll find helpful links and resources on everything from business licensing to local economic data. It's a one-stop shop for business information, and we'll be diligently updating it with new content regularly to help keep you informed, up-to-date and ready to do business.

This month, we are also launching Chamber University, a new webinar series that gives members free expertise and need-to-know business updates. A different topic will be presented every Friday at 10:00 a.m. We're opening up the series with topics on small business marketing, making sure your business is compliant with the new EMV credit card requirements that take effect in October, disaster preparedness for your business, Affordable Care Act updates for 2016, social media tips, and what you need to know about cybersecurity. Each session will be conducted by subject matter experts and available for you to experience without having to leave your office. If you can't make the webinar live, we'll also be placing them in our Members Only Portal for you to view at your convenience.

September is National Disaster Preparedness Month, so in this issue, you'll find timely information on preparing and updating your business' disaster preparedness plan. After a disaster - whether natural, man-made

or technological - up to 60 percent of businesses never reopen their doors. Having a tested and formal continuity plan in place can mean the difference between opening for business or closing for good, so I implore you to take a look at the resources inside to create or update your business' preparedness plans.

"I'm excited to present to you the Business Solutions Issue of the *Business Voice*!"

As part of this information-packed issue, you'll also find an important update on the Affordable Care Act, with changes set to take effect in 2016. This is critical information to know as you undergo business planning for the coming year to ensure your business is compliant and informed of these significant changes.

And as always, if you have ideas or suggestions for a Chamber University webinar or a topic for the Small Business Solutions section, please let us know. We look forward to sharing these resources with you, our members, and hearing your feedback.

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VOLUME 36 NUMBER 9

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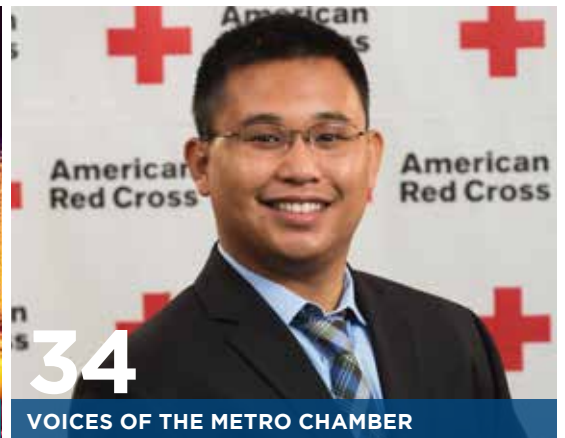
EDITORIAL POLICY:

The *Business Voice* is a member newsletter of the Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce. The Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce welcomes input, ideas and suggestions from our members. As with any periodical, we must adhere to strict deadlines and we reserve the right to edit all materials submitted for publication. Commentaries that are marked as such do not necessarily reflect the opinion or position of the Chamber, its trustees or employees. The Chamber cannot guarantee the validity or accuracy of the contents of paid advertisements. Questions or concerns about content of the *Business Voice* can be addressed to Vice President of Marketing, Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce, 575 Symphony Park Avenue, Suite 100, Las Vegas, NV 89106.

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chamber news



jerry carnahan joins the chamber as executive vice president

Beginning September 7, Jerry Carnahan will join the Metro Chamber as executive vice

President, and will serve as the executive director of the Metro Chamber Foundation, as well. Carnahan comes to the Metro Chamber with an exceptional combination of business and community leadership experience. During his 33+ year career with Farmers Group, Inc., part of Zurich Insurance Services, he served as president and CEO of Farmers New World Life, a leading U.S.-based life insurance product provider, where he directed all aspects of P&L through product development, sales, distribution, finance and public relations. He has been a member of the Board of Directors at Farmers Group Corporate, and also served as Chairman of the Board of Farmers Financial Solutions. In his previous operational role with the company, Carnahan was executive vice president of field operations, where he headed the execution of corporate strategy through a direct staff of 14,500 agents and over 1,000 field leaders. He is very familiar with the role chambers play for both members as well as the communities they serve, as he served on the Board of the California Chamber of Commerce and is a past chairman of the California Business Round Table. Please welcome Jerry Carnahan to the Metro Chamber.

celebrate the best of business at the business excellence awards luncheon

Celebrate the diversity, creativity and ingenuity of the local business community at the Business Excellence Awards Luncheon on Thursday, October 8, at Aria Resort & Casino. This high-energy, dynamic event, sponsored exclusively by Nevada State Bank, will honor the innovative and groundbreaking companies serving the Southern Nevada community. Seats are \$55 each or \$550 for a table of ten. For more information on the Business Excellence Awards or to register for the luncheon and celebrate this year's honorees, visit LVChamber.com or call 702.641.5822.

grow your business, after hours

Create new business opportunities and learn about community resources during a fun and information-packed Business After Hours at Nevada Health Centers. Sip cocktails and enjoy light bites while you grow your network and find out how the Nevada Health Centers care for more than 54,000 Nevadans each year through community programs like the Mammovan and the Ronald McDonald Care Mobile. Business After Hours is Wednesday, September 30, at 5:30 p.m. For more information and to register for this event, visit LVChamber.com or call 702.641.5822.



what's the future of transportation in southern nevada? find out at newsfeed

Hear from top transportation experts on September 22, as they share their perspectives on transit solutions for Las Vegas and potential plans to expand multi-modal transportation to address the needs of our growing metropolitan area. The discussion will be moderated by Glenn Cook, columnist and senior editorial writer for the *Las Vegas Review-Journal*. Panelists include Tina Quigley, general manager of the Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada; Dr. Robert Lang, executive director of Brookings Mountain West, and David Knowles, Northwest Transit Lead for CH2M. Seats are \$40 each, or a table of ten is \$400. For more information or to register, visit LVChamber.com or call 702.641.5822.

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news you need



september is disaster preparedness month: are you ready?

Three out of four companies are at risk of failing to prepare for disaster recovery. Having a plan in place, however, can mean the difference between a hiccup in service and shutting down for good. Throughout September, the Metro Chamber will be keeping members and their employees informed by providing tools, resources and examples of what to do in case of a disaster – and what can constitute a disaster. To get started with writing a disaster preparedness plan, including how to ensure business continuity, data integrity and communications with employees and customers, visit sba.gov and fema.gov. See page 35 for more information on disaster planning.

supplier event to feature opportunities for small businesses

The fourth annual Committed to Our Business Community (CTOBC) supplier event will help local business owners grow their business by securing contracts with public agencies and private industries. The event, hosted by the Regional Business Development Advisory Council, will take place Thursday, September 10, from 7:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at the Las Vegas Convention Center South Hall. It will feature more than 100 exhibitors from government agencies, the hospitality industry, local business resources and more. Information will also be available for the new Nevada Gov eMarketplace, an online database and bidding portal that allows contractors and suppliers to register in one central location. For more information on the program, visit 6degrees.vegas/ctobc.

city of las vegas adds new website portal on facts and stats on the city

The City of Las Vegas has added a new feature to its website that provides the public with real-time data for key economic, fiscal and demographic data within the city, county and Las Vegas metropolitan statistical area. The city is the first municipality in the state to make use of this type of data tracking and reporting, and utilizes data housed by MyResearcher.com, an online repository created by local research firm Applied Analysis. Featured on the portal will be popular economic statistics, including local office, industrial and retail markets. The website is available at lasvegasnevada.gov/business, by clicking on the Downtown Data Portal link.

nevada drug card

Flu season is right around the corner. And with the changing of the seasons also comes more allergens in the air. In fact, the American College of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology estimates that approximately 50 million people in the United States are affected by nasal allergies. But you, your family and your employees can be prepared without draining your wallet.

Whether you're gearing up for flu season by getting your flu shot early, or treating seasonal allergies, the Nevada Drug Card can help. Using the Nevada Drug Card, a free prescription assistance card, can save you – and your employees – up to 75 percent on medications at more than 68,000 national and regional pharmacies. These cards are pre-activated, can be used immediately and regardless of medical history.

Enrolling in the program is easy. You can print out a hard card at NevadaDrugCard.com, and even personalize it. You can also download the free app from NevadaDrugCard.com to keep access to your discounts on your smart phone.

So if you're getting your flu shot or something to help your sinuses, the Nevada Drug Card can help you and your employees stay happy, healthy and productive. Visit NevadaDrugCard.com to get started today.



Save on your back to school Rx essentials!



Save on these back to school prescriptions and much more!

MEDICATION	QTY	RETAIL PRICE	MEMBER PRICE	MEMBER SAVINGS
Adderall Xr 20mg Cap	30	\$294.99	\$221.25	25%
Levaquin (generic) 500mg	40	\$144.99	\$111.65	23%
Azithromycin 250mg Tab	6	\$39.99	\$18.68	53%
Flomax 0.4mg	60	\$447.99	\$351.39	21%
Retin A		\$220.00	\$64.00	71%

Back to school time is no time to be sick! Stock up on the essentials using Nevada Drug Card to save up to 75% on your prescription medications!



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GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC POLICY

government affairs updates at a glance

New Government Affairs Committee Members Appointed

The Metro Chamber is pleased to announce the appointments of two new members to its Government Affairs Committee.

Curt Anderson founded Fair, Anderson & Langerman in 1988 after a 13-year career with a national accounting firm. Highly successful with the national firm, he was promoted to partner and served as a member of the firm's board of directors. Anderson has been active in several civic organizations in Las Vegas, serving as past president of both the Opportunity Village ARC Board of Directors and the Opportunity Village Foundation.

Lisa DeMarigny is the president and CEO of Showtime Tours, an airport shuttle and charter bus company,

and has spent 21 years in the freight transportation business. She serves on the boards of directors of the Livery Operators Association, Young Presidents Organization, Friends of Las Vegas Academy, Green Valley Ranch Community & Commercial Associations, and is president of Carriage Lane Community Association. She is a 2012 Leadership Las Vegas graduate.

Hugh Anderson, chairman of the Government Affairs Committee, is looking forward to working with his new committee members. "Curt and Lisa both have an extensive knowledge of Nevada's political landscape and that skill and know-how will guide them in making decisions for the betterment of the Southern Nevada community," Anderson says.

The Metro Chamber's legislative and policy priorities are developed by its Government Affairs

Committee, a group of Metro Chamber members who analyze issues and make determinations that guide the Metro Chamber's positioning on matters to promote fiscal responsibility at the state and local government levels, improve our education system, and strengthen the business environment and economy in Southern Nevada. The committee also makes decisions regarding endorsements of candidates and political contributions.

For more information on these new appointments, contact the Government Affairs team at 702.641.5822.



Curt Anderson



Lisa DeMarigny

a strong start for children



By: Kathleen Teipner Sandoval,
First Lady of Nevada and
Strong Start for Children in
Nevada Ambassador

D

uring the 2015 legislative session, business leaders took significant steps towards building a stronger Nevada. The expansion of Zoom and Victory Schools, the approval of the Read by Three Act, and securing more than \$6.4 million in pre-school development grants has allowed us to provide at-risk children an opportunity to attend quality early childhood education programs.

Data and research show that children who attend high-quality early learning programs are 49 percent less likely to be placed in special education; 50 percent less likely to repeat grades; 31 percent more likely to graduate high school; and 80 percent more likely to attend post-secondary schooling. Yet, just 3 percent of three- and four-year-olds in Nevada are enrolled in a public

Pre-K or federally funded Head Start program. And only 30 percent of three- and four-year-olds attend any type of preschool program at all.

Nevada cannot afford to wait until our students are in middle or high school to begin preparing them for the realities of a competitive global economy. The dynamics of our job market are based on rapidly changing technologies and require diverse skills. To prepare our children to lead our businesses and our communities in the future, we need to ensure that we provide them with the strongest start possible now. As Ambassador for the Strong Start for Children in Nevada Campaign, please join me in support of high-quality early childhood education. To learn more, please visit StrongStartNevada.org.

your scene | you're seen

business
power
luncheon
featuring
u.s. senate
minority
leader
harry
reid



U.S. Senator Harry Reid spoke to Metro Chamber members about the political climate in Washington, D.C. and other important business and policy issues. Senator Reid followed his remarks with a Q & A session with Bob Brown, chairman of the board of trustees for the Metro Chamber. The Ambassador of the Quarter Award was also presented to David Allen with Roseman University of Health Sciences.

business
after hours
at the
copa room



Metro Chamber members mixed, mingled and enjoyed Italian hospitality at the Copa Room inside the Bootlegger Bistro, a mainstay in Las Vegas hospitality, culture and entertainment.

open enrollment is coming!

IS YOUR BUSINESS READY?

The open enrollment period for 2016 begins November 1, 2015, and runs through January 31, 2016. Now is the time to meet with your insurance professional, or engage the services of one, to explore your options for coverage and ensure the coverage you are receiving for you and your employees makes sense for your needs. Some things to consider as you discuss open enrollment with your insurance professional, financial planner and key staff members:

- As of January 1, 2016, all groups with 2-99 FTEs will be subject to Adjusted Community Rating.
- According to the National Business Group on Health, about 70 percent of businesses are expanding wellness programs for potential rewards from the Affordable Care Act. Many health plans now include workplace wellness programs and initiatives, so it may be something to ask about.
- Telehealth services are growing. 74 percent of employers will offer some form of telehealth services in state where those services are legal (up from 48 percent in 2015). Many health plans now offer telehealth options, which can help keep costs down by diagnosing common ailments without having to physically go to a doctor's office or medical facility.

For individuals, small, medium and large groups, the Metro Chamber has several options for quality health coverage that helps you stay compliant with the mandates of the Affordable Care Act, as well as keep your business competitive for employee retention. For more information on the health plans available to you and your employees, contact Chamber Insurance & Benefits at 702.586.3889 or info@chamberib.com.

Jingle into the Holidays!

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For more information
Contact: Marsha Irvin
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METRO CHAMBER MEMBERS:

NEW Ways to Get the Business Information and Know-How You Need to Run Your Business!

SMALL BUSINESS SOLUTIONS

Whether you're looking for local economic data, where to go for business licensing or how to obtain your D-U-N-S number to begin contracting with the federal government, the Metro Chamber has just made it easier to find the need-to-know business information members need to do business. Visit LVChamber.com and click on the Small Business Solutions tab to access content on business licensing, procurement and purchasing, economic trends and data, funding and credit, disaster preparedness, relevant how-tos, and general business knowledge.

Content will be updated often, so be sure to check in frequently to see new articles, links and other ways to keep ahead of trends and information.

CHAMBER UNIVERSITY

The Metro Chamber is launching a new free webinar series called Chamber University, which gives members and their employees the business resources and know-how they need to stay informed and ahead of trends, new regulations and need-to-know business information. Each week will focus on a different topic and will have an industry expert presenter. Chamber University launches on Friday, September 11, at 10:00 a.m. Here's a class schedule of the first few Chamber University webinars:

- **Friday, September 11**
Making Sweet Marketing Music: The Rhythm of Your Business Brand, presented by Shaundell Newsome, Founder/Visionary, Sumnu Marketing
- **Friday, September 18**
Just Charge It! Changes You Need to Know About Processing Credit Cards, presented by Julio Rendon, Vice President of Operations, Cornerstone Merchant Services
- **Friday, September 25**
Protect Your Business: Planning to Keep Your Doors Open
- **Friday, October 2**
The Affordable Care Act in 2016: What You Need to Know, presented by Bill Wright, President, Chamber Insurance & Benefits

If you can't make a webinar, be sure to check in the Members Only section of LVChamber.com, as the Metro Chamber will be posting the recordings of each webinar for members to view and revisit at their convenience.

For more information about Chamber University or to view upcoming webinars, visit LVChamber.com or see page 21.

CHAMBER UNIVERSITY

Have an idea for a Chamber University webinar or content for the Small Business Solutions area of LVChamber.com? The Metro Chamber wants to hear from you! Email Greta Seidman at gseidman@lvchamber.com with your suggestions.

the aca in 2016: what you need to know



Open enrollment for 2016 starts November 1, and that means taking a long look at your health insurance offerings for you and your employees and making sure it's a good fit for your healthcare needs. In addition to this important time for your company,

it is also time to take a look ahead and see what new updates to the Affordable Care Act may impact your business for the coming year.

As a business owner, there are several critical considerations regarding the Affordable Care Act (ACA) that come into effect on January 1. The major piece of this is the extension of the Employer Care Mandate, which has gradually impacted different sized employers. In 2015, businesses with 50 or more FTEs were required to comply with the ACA's shared responsibility mandate to offer minimum essential coverage or pay penalties. Now, beginning January 1, 2016, companies with 100 or more FTEs are considered applicable large employers who must comply with the ACA's shared responsibility mandate. All groups with 2-99 employees will be subject to Adjusted Community Rating.

Engaging an insurance professional to help navigate these choices is highly recommended, as

Pricewaterhouse Coopers' Health Research Institute is estimating that medical costs for U.S. employers will increase 6.5 percent for 2016. As business owners embark on the budgeting process for 2016, these considerations are imperative to ensure that health care costs are accounted for and documented. An insurance professional can explain the benefits and detriments to different types of health plans and help business owners make informed decisions regarding their health care options.

For companies now falling under the umbrella of applicable large employers, there are also filing requirements to consider. The first Form 1095-C (first statements for 2015) must be provided to each FTE by February 1, 2016. Employers must also file new reports with the IRS (Form 1094-C and Form 1095-C for each employee) for the 2015 calendar year by February 29, 2016, or March 31, 2016, if filed electronically. Extensions may be granted. These forms contain month-to-month reporting on employees' hours worked, as well as access to employer-provided health care and employee contributions to that employer-provided health care. Companies with 100 or more FTEs will be assessed penalties for non-compliance in 2016 based on 2015 reporting. Businesses with 50-99 FTEs will be assessed penalties in 2017, based on 2016 data.

Although this data will not have to be filed until early 2016, it is strongly recommended that employers take steps to ensure they are compliant. These steps include:

- Reviewing the forms and instructions for both
- Auditing recordkeeping to ensure that the information needed for these forms is able to be provided
- Working with payroll or other internal staff members to establish processes for employee distribution of the necessary forms, as well as filing with the IRS
- Determining whether it is prudent to engage a third-party vendor to complete the required reporting.

In the meanwhile, employers can also engage their financial planning professional or CPA to get ready for ACA requirements in 2016.

Controlling health care costs as a business owner can seem impossible at times. There are some things to implement that can help curb health care costs and keep employees healthy and productive, as well as retain quality employees. Many health plans now incorporate wellness initiatives to keep employees healthier and out of doctors' offices, quick care centers and emergency rooms. Options such as telemedicine, where patients with routine medical needs (such as allergies or the flu) can meet with a medical practitioner over the phone or through a video chat, are becoming more mainstream. Patients are diagnosed and prescribed a course of treatment without having to set foot in a doctor's office. Health programs that support healthy diets, regular exercise, healthy choices in employee breakrooms and smoking cessation are growing in popularity, both in an effort to curb costs and boost morale and camaraderie in the workplace. The ACA also rewards employers who implement workplace wellness programs in their businesses. For more information on these programs and potential rebates, visit the U.S. Department of Labor website at dol.gov.

Doing due diligence, researching and engaging an insurance professional to guide a business owner through the open enrollment process and ensuring their plans and processes are compliant with these new mandates is key. Understanding options available, plan designs and the true cost of these new mandates will help keep businesses afloat and prepared. Business owners need to take care that they account for not only premium cost, but the cost of staff time to enroll employees and their dependents, distribute the necessary forms, and the cost of potentially engaging outside help or additional hours for internal staff to file and ensure compliance.

Getting educated and engaging your business planning professionals is the key to staying ahead of these high-impact changes to health care law. Be sure your business is ready.

Chamber Insurance & Benefits offers a wide range of plans through ChamberHealthOptions.com, including plans through Prominence (formerly St. Mary's Health Plan), Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield, Aetna and more, as well as self-funded options through the Chamber Group Captive for larger businesses. Call 702-586-3889 or visit ChamberIB.com to explore your options today.

southern nevada forum!

GET INVOLVED IN THE ISSUES THROUGH SOUTHERN NEVADA FORUM!

W

ith the conclusion of the 2015 Legislature, the time has come to begin identifying priorities for the 2017 Legislature. Be a part of the process and help move Southern Nevada forward by participating in the Southern Nevada Forum.

The Southern Nevada Forum emerged two years ago as a collaborative effort by Southern Nevada legislators, local government officials, business leaders and other community members. For two legislative sessions thereafter, the Forum has helped identify, discuss and advocate on issues that are important to the employers, employees and residents of Southern Nevada. Prior to the beginning of the 2013 legislative session, the community gathered to discuss legislative bill drafts that were being introduced by Southern Nevada legislators and helped focus areas of high priority for Southern Nevadans.

Since that initial meeting in January 2013, the Southern Nevada Forum has been successful because of the united efforts of the Southern Nevada community to come together and work collectively on issues. It has taken time, resources, community engagement and legislative leadership to move these policy priorities forward. During the 2013 and 2015 legislative sessions, Republican and Democratic legislators from Southern Nevada have worked together with business leaders and community supporters to address the needs of Southern Nevada.

In the 2015 legislature, the community saw success on several Southern Nevada Forum priorities, such as the full funding of the UNLV School of Medicine, reforming the governance structure of the Southern Nevada Health District, reducing K-12 classroom size, revising the state business portal, providing tax abatements for business expansion, and supporting fuel tax indexing. These milestones represented the collaborative work of the Southern Nevada community and reflected the power of invested and engaged citizens.

However, with these successes, the work is not done. It is only the first step in Southern Nevada transforming itself to a robust, diversified economy. There are still several areas of priority that will need to be discussed



and identified for the 2017 legislative session. Points of discussion may include economic development initiatives, workforce training needs, K-12 education reform, higher education funding, transportation infrastructure investment and healthcare needs. Your engagement is vital to the continued success of Southern Nevada.

Watch for an announcement on the date of the Southern Nevada Forum. This meeting will focus on possible areas of topics for the 2017 legislative session. Please plan on attending this important gathering and be engaged in the process to make Southern Nevada a better place to work and live. This is open to all members of the community.

Business Excellence AWARDS

LUNCHEON

Celebrate the
**CULTIVATORS,
TRAILBLAZERS,
GROUNDBREAKERS,
INNOVATORS
AND PACESETTERS!**

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8

11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
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what's happening

PLACES TO BE. PEOPLE TO MEET. THINGS TO KNOW. IN **SEPTEMBER**

september chamber connections

Join this established dedicated leads group made up of professionals from a variety of industries. Limited openings available; call 702.641.5822 for space availability.

5:30 – 7:00 p.m.
See website for details on locations.

Tuesday, September 1
Tuesday, September 15

how to register:

Visit LVChamber.com and
click on the Events Calendar.

Call 702.641.5822.

1

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1 CHAMBER VOICES TOASTMASTERS

Become a better speaker and a more effective presenter by joining Chamber Voices Toastmasters. Open to all members.

10:45 a.m. – Noon

**Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce
575 Symphony Park Ave., Ste. 100**

\$54 every six months. Guests always complimentary.

14

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14 VEGAS YOUNG PROFESSIONALS TOASTMASTERS

Great communication skills are important keys to success. VYP has created a Toastmasters group for all VYP members and their guests to help learn these key speaking, presentation and leadership skills.

6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

**Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce
575 Symphony Park Ave., Ste. 100
Complimentary for guests**

\$60 to join, \$36 every six months.

Presenting Sponsors: Chamber Insurance & Benefits, Cox Communications, UnitedHealthcare and Wells Fargo

15

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 CHAMBER VOICES TOASTMASTERS

See September 1.

16

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16 CUSTOMER SERVICE EXCELLENCE RECOGNITION CEREMONY

The Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce and the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority will honor employees from across the Valley for their dedication to great customer service. For more information on this free turnkey employee recognition program, visit LVChamber.com.

7:00 – 8:00 a.m. Registration & Networking

8:00 – 9:00 a.m. Program

Cashman Center

850 Las Vegas Blvd. North

Complimentary for nominees and their guests.

Platinum Sponsors: Boyd Gaming, Chamber Insurance & Benefits, Wells Fargo

Gold Sponsors: Cox Communications, Office Depot, Southwest Gas, Sunrise Hospital, Southwest Airlines

Media Partner: KTNV Channel 13

Program Partner: Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority

17

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 VEGAS YOUNG PROFESSIONALS FUSION MIXER

Connect with fellow Vegas Young Professionals as you enjoy panoramic views of the world's most breathtaking skylines at VISTA Cocktail Lounge, inside Caesars Palace. This visual experience gives you the opportunity to view the skyline in Dubai or watch the sunset over New York City and gives you a great conversation starter to build new business connections.

6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

**VISTA Cocktail Lounge, inside Caesars Palace
3570 Las Vegas Blvd. South**

Online: \$10 for members, \$15 for non-members

At the door: \$15 for members, \$20 for non-members

Presenting Sponsors: Chamber Insurance & Benefits, Cox Communications, UnitedHealthcare and Wells Fargo

Mixer Sponsor: VegasSeven

00 - CHAMBER EVENT

00 - VYP EVENT



the future of
transportation
in las vegas

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

september sponsors:



22

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22
NEWSFEED BREAKFAST: THE FUTURE OF
TRANSPORTATION IN LAS VEGAS**

Hear from top transportation experts as they share their perspectives on transit solutions for Las Vegas and potential plans to expand multi-modal transportation to address the needs of our growing metropolitan area. The discussion will be moderated by Glenn Cook, columnist and senior editorial writer for the *Las Vegas Review-Journal*. Panelists include Tina Quigley, general manager of the Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada; Dr. Robert Lang, executive director of Brookings Mountain West, and David Knowles, Northwest Transit Lead for CH2M.

7:30 – 8:00 a.m. Registration & Networking

8:00 – 9:00 a.m. Program

**Four Seasons Las Vegas
3960 Las Vegas Blvd. South**

\$40 per person
\$400 for a table of 10

Partner: *Las Vegas Review-Journal*

28

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28
VYP TOASTMASTERS**

See September 14.

29

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29
OFFICE DEPOT BREAKFAST**

This interactive networking event will give you an opportunity to meet new business contacts and keep you up-to-date on the latest additions to the Chamber's Office Depot and other savings programs.

7:30 – 8:00 a.m. Registration & Networking

8:00 – 9:00 a.m. Program

**Office Depot
5915 S. Eastern Ave.**

Complimentary for members.

30

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30
BUSINESS AFTER HOURS**

Create new business opportunities and learn about community resources during a fun and information-packed Business After Hours at Nevada Health Centers. Sip cocktails and enjoy flavorful bites while you grow your network and explore how the Nevada Health Centers care for more than 54,000 Nevadans each year through community programs like the Mammovan and the Ronald McDonald Care Mobile.

5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

**Nevada Health Centers, Inc.
1799 Mt. Mariah Dr. 2nd Fl.**

Complimentary for members and their guests.

CHAMBER UNIVERSITY - FREE WEBINARS

Hear from experts and industry leaders on business topics and updates you need to know through these brand-new webinars, exclusively for Metro Chamber members! For more information or to register, contact Danica Torchin at dtorchin@lvchamber.com or visit LVChamber.com.

Friday, September 11

Making Sweet Marketing Music: The Rhythm of Your Business Brand, presented by Shaundell Newsome, Founder/Visionary, Sumnu Marketing

Friday, September 18

Just Charge It! Changes You Need to Know About Processing Credit Cards, presented by Julio Rendon, Vice President of Operations, Cornerstone Merchant Services

Friday, September 25

Protect Your Business: Planning to Keep Your Doors Open

in the know

MAKE DISASTER RECOVERY PLANNING PART OF YOUR BUSINESS OPERATIONS



By Jeff Grace
CEO, NetEffect
neteffect-it.com

S

eptember is National Preparedness Month. It's a reminder to make plans to protect your family and yourself in the event of a disaster. But don't forget your business.

According to a study conducted by Forrester Research in 2014, the majority of small and medium-sized businesses (SMBs) take this seriously. Globally, 63 percent consider purchasing or upgrading their disaster recovery or business continuity capabilities to be a high or critical priority, according to Cisco. Don't wait for disaster to strike to figure out how to stay in business because it'll be too late.

What's the Worst that Can Happen?

While flood, fire and natural disaster are the most common threats, don't overlook the human element. The theft of equipment, data breaches, system hacks, viruses, employee accidents and malicious behavior can all put your hardware and data at risk. Also, it's possible your hardware or software may fail.

Without a disaster recovery plan, you may be jeopardizing the future of your business. The National Archives & Records Administration reports 93 percent of businesses that lose their data center for at least ten days end up filing for bankruptcy within a year.

What You Can Do to Prepare for the Worst

In the event of a disaster, your number one task (after seeing to the personal safety of your employees and yourself) is to reestablish business operations. And for that, you need a plan. Here are some simple steps you can take to successfully recover from a disaster:

- **Disaster Recovery Plan:** Create a written plan outlining the key aspects of your business operations. While it doesn't have to be highly detailed and complex, to act quickly, you must know what you're going to do.

Ask yourself: Where will you set up business? Where will you get

SAVE THE DATE TO *Celebrate*



CUSTOMER
SERVICE
EXCELLENCE

Friday, November 13

11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. | The Orleans Hotel & Casino

For more information on getting your company involved in this free turnkey program, visit LVChamber.com or call 702.641.5822.



replacement computers, servers, software and network equipment, and how long will that take? What is critical for doing business, and what can you do without for days or even weeks? Can you operate for a week with just the essentials, such as email, phones and contact management software, until you can restore all services and data? Will you be able to bill customers and make payroll?

- **Back up Data in the Cloud:** Understand your options for offsite data backups. Your business and customer records are incredibly important assets, and with data backed up and stored in a secure data center, you're assured quick access to it in the event of a disaster. Most cloud backups allow you to create a virtual server in the data center or onsite, restoring some (or even all) of your vital IT resources in a matter of hours.

Whether you have one employee or several hundred, make September the month you commit to creating a business continuity plan that keeps you in business regardless of a disaster. Discuss your disaster recovery options with your IT service provider and your key employees, and find the solution that balances costs against business continuity. Then, regularly test your plan's effectiveness. These steps will help ensure you won't have to close your business temporarily or, worst case, permanently.

“First ask yourself: What is the worst that can happen? Then prepare to accept it. Then proceed to improve on the worst.”

- Dale Carnegie



GOOD MORNING LAS VEGAS

4:30-7:00AM WEEKDAYS

UP TO THE MINUTE
THE MINUTE YOU GET UP!

BREAKING NEWS · REAL TIME TRAFFIC · WEATHER

@KTNV

KTNV.COM

/KTNVLasVegas



president's club

(B) Kathy Beavers

Managing Director - Resources Global Professionals

Kathy Beavers is managing director of RGP's Las Vegas practice, and has more than 18 years' experience in public accounting, SEC reporting, finance, internal audit, SOX, compliance and project consulting. She joined RGP in 2010, and prior to joining the company, spent three years with Deloitte's Assurance and Advisory Services' Las Vegas practice, where she conducted financial statement audits of internal control over financial reporting as required by the Sarbanes-Oxley Act. Beavers is a licensed Certified Public Accountant (Nevada).

(A) Douglas Cooper **President & Founder -** **Trubelo Development**

Douglas Cooper is the founder of Trubelo Development and author of the coming-of-age novel *Outside In*, winner of the 2014 International Book Award and USA Book News Award for Literary Fiction. In addition to his creative success, Cooper is a resilient business developer, innovative supply chain manager and certified Project Management Professional (PMP®) with over 15 years of experience in developing and executing value-based selling strategies and initiatives in the Americas, Europe, Asia and Oceania.



(D) Parker Elmore

President & CEO - Odyssey Advisors

Parker Elmore is president and CEO of the financial consulting firm Odyssey Advisors. In 1998, he founded Primoris Benefit Advisors, Inc. which, in 2013, transitioned to Odyssey Advisors and expanded to the Las Vegas area. With a Bachelor of Science in mathematics and more than 25 years of industry experience, Elmore is a member of the American Academy of Actuaries, an Associate in the Society of Actuaries, a Fellow in the Conference of Consulting Actuaries, and is enrolled by the Joint Board for the Enrollment of Actuaries.

(C) Jesse Bethke

COO - Smart Software Solutions

Jesse Bethke is a dynamic software technologist. As the COO and major shareholder in Smart Software Solutions, his vision and leadership have helped catapult the company's expansion into multiple locations across the country. Bethke holds two degrees and over a decade of experience leading robust and complicated software development projects for federal, state and commercial clients domestically and abroad. He also spearheaded the expansion into the Las Vegas Metro area and leads a team of 60 engineers building great software.

spotlights

(E) Eric Lloyd

Chief Operating Officer – Amerigroup Community Care

In his position, Eric Lloyd is responsible for all aspects of the company's health plan operations in the state. Joining Amerigroup in 2008, Lloyd also held positions of vice president, government markets and transition officer before becoming chief operating officer. With more than 20 years' experience in the healthcare field, Lloyd also held leadership positions with several insurers, including InterValley Health Plan in California, and national plans Humana and PacifiCare Health Systems, now UnitedHealthcare. His expertise includes business development, sales, new program start-up, operations and network development.



(F) Brian W. Cruden

CEO – Brown & Brown Insurance of Nevada, Inc.

Over a three decade career, Brian Cruden has dedicated himself to the employee benefits industry while pioneering many of the philosophies used in the large group sector today. He served most notably as vice president of Nevada's largest insurance company and founded Insurcorp, which later merged to become Brown & Brown Insurance of Nevada, Inc. Cruden has served prominently on a variety of boards, including Nevada's largest community bank and the Nevada Community Foundation. He was the founder and past president of Las Vegas West Rotary.

(G) London Jane

CEO – NV Jets

London Jane is the CEO of NV Jets, the only ARG/US platinum operator in Nevada. She has an extensive educational background and has held several leadership positions throughout her career, including roles in major asset repossession for large European financial institutions. In 2010, Jane founded NV Jets, and has helped numerous aviation companies achieve platinum status. Jane shares her love of aviation with her husband and young daughter.



(H) Suzy Saline

Owner – Suzy's Productions and Media

Suzy Saline is the owner of Suzy's Productions and Media, an advertising, consulting and placement firm. Saline also owns several businesses based in Las Vegas, from Diamond Travel and Safari Interiors to Suzy's Las Vegas Lifestyles TV Magazine show and her most recent venture, "The Suzy Saline Show." Saline serves as a President's Club member of the Las Vegas Metro Chamber and serves as member of the Canyon Gate Country Club and the Henderson Chamber of Commerce.

In Case You Missed It...

Conn

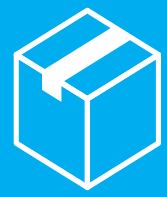
SAVING

Your Metro Chamber Members Have Access to These Cost Savings

Up to 60% on everyday office supplies, copy/print services, technology, promotional products and more from **Office Depot**



Up to 30% on everyday shipping needs from **UPS**, including international, overnight and ground services



Savings on legal fees and services through **LegalShield**



Special pricing and equipment rates for credit card processing through **Cornerstone Merchant Services**



Save up to 70% on prescriptions with **Nevada Drug Card**



Significant savings and flexibility with **Enterprise and National Rental Cars**



Discounted email, event planning and social media integration tools with **Constant Contact**



Competitive pricing on small group health insurance through **Prominence Health Plan**



Exclusive member pricing on a simple way to make your website mobile-friendly with **bMobilized**



See how your membership can benefit your bottom line! Check out the Metro Chamber's ROI Calculator at LVChamber.com today.

ect to

NGS

Membership Gives You Best-Savings Benefits!

Up to 30% on computer
products and accessories
from **Dell**



Savings on bundled Business
Internet and VoiceManager
services for new customers of
Cox Communications



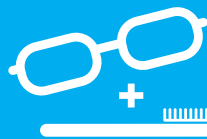
A 5% discount on workers'
compensation insurance from
AmTrust North America



Access to **H2U Health
Centers**, providing affordable,
personalized healthcare
services to employees and
their dependents



Attractive, exclusive pricing
on **Anthem Balanced Funding**
for group health insurance



Cost-advantaged group
dental and vision coverage
and stand-alone dental
plans from **SecureCare
Dental & Vision**



A 10% discount on
Acumatica through Acuity
Solutions, a scalable cloud-
based business management
software perfect for
financials, distribution and
project accounting



Turnkey insurance solutions
for large groups through the
Chamber Group Captive

For more information on how you can take advantage of the benefits of membership, contact your Member Engagement Liaison at 702.641.5822 or visit LVChamber.com to log in to the Members Only Portal.

LAS
VEGAS
METRO
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

member news

RED - PRESIDENT'S CLUB MEMBER



announcements



JW Advisors announced the promotion of William Hinsdale to assurance services manager and John Hansen to senior associate.



Dress for Success Southern Nevada appointed two new members to its board of directors, Shari Sutton, president of Sutton Watkins Advertising and Marketing, and

Dominica Anderson, partner at **Duane Morris**.



Millennium Staffing Solutions appointed Scott Hickman to senior staffing specialist. Hickman brings experience in recruiting, interviewing and placement on various client assignments as well as special projects.



Burke Construction Group appointed Marvin Chandler as the firm's project manager. Chandler is a LEED-accredited professional and attained specialized training as a Naval construction force advanced builder, construction planner and estimator.

KMJ Web Design promoted Franisha Hines to director of new business.

The CPA firm of **Johnson Advisors** announced the promotion of Amber Beason, CPA, to director.

The Shade Tree Shelter hired Suzey Sligh Van Ness as director of development. Van Ness brings more than 20 years of experience to this position and was part of the team that launched **Springs Preserve**.

United Way of Southern Nevada appointed Bob Morgan as president and CEO.

wheeling and dealing

The Concrete Protector opened its new 5,000-square-foot distribution/training center in Las Vegas.

NV Energy launched its Business Solutions Center, staffed with a team of specialized contact center agents dedicated to meeting the unique needs of these customers.

Commercial Executives Real Estate Services represented Red Twig, LLC in the sale of a medical office building located at 2501 W. Charleston. The lease is valued at \$479,000.

The Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce is proud to provide members with a place to publish their current announcements as a benefit of membership. Email news items to pr@lvchamber.com or fax to Public Relations at 702.735.0320.

congratulations



Cynthia Alexander, a partner at **Snell & Wilmer** and Trustee of the Nevada Bar Foundation, was honored with the Medal of Justice award at the State Bar of Nevada's annual meeting in Seattle.



Patti Stewart of **Damsel in Defense** obtained three more self-defense certifications, including Girls on Guard, Guarding Our Girls, and Defense Against Weapons.



Nevada Department of Transportation public information officer Tony Illia won a 2015 Abzee Award of Excellence from the American Society of Business Publication Editors.



Laura Thalacker of **Hartwell Thalacker, Ltd.** was named 2016 Best Lawyers Lawyer of the Year for litigation - labor and employment in the Las Vegas area.

Summerlin marked the first half of 2015 with strong new home sales, topping last year's numbers through June 2014 by 32 percent.

Vegas PBS was honored with a national PBS Development Award in the "Special Achievement" category for its workforce training program at the Public Media Development & Marketing Conference in Washington, D.C.

Holland & Hart LLP received Chevron Law Function's 2015 Law Firm Diversity Recognition Award. Chevron annually recognizes their law firm partners who have distinguished themselves by demonstrating commitment to diversity.

Dallas Haun, chairman and CEO of **Nevada State Bank**, received a Lifetime Achievement Award for his contributions to the March of Dimes Foundation.

Bombard Renewable Energy was named No. 47 on Solar Power World's 2015 Top 500 Solar Contractors list.

community service

President Obama announced the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) ConnectHome initiative to address the challenges of broadband adoption among residents of public housing. The President recognized **CenturyLink** for making home Internet service available to low-income HUD households via the **CenturyLink** Internet Basics program.

upcoming events

The 18th annual Advertising Community Talent Show benefitting **Safe Nest** will be a night of music, fun and great times. The event is Friday, September 11, in the Chrome Room at **Santa Fe Station**, at 6:00 p.m. For more information, visit actslv.org.

The 11th annual **Las Vegas' Largest Mixer**, The Ultimate Business Networking Event, will be September 16 from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Tuscan Suites & Casino with 150 exhibitors and 1500 attendees. For exhibitor or ticket information visit lvmixer.com or call 702-769-7799.

University of Nevada Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners will offer free classes at Acacia Park during September. The classes are offered in partnership with the City of Henderson Parks and Recreation Department.

21st Century Oncology hosts the fifth annual This One's for the Boys & Girls! Prostate and Ovarian Cancer Awareness Walk/Run Event to raise awareness and funds for the 21st Century C.A.R.E Foundation. The event is Saturday, September 19, in the **UNLV** track & field stadium at 8:30 a.m. For more information, visit 21stcenturycare.org.

**BRIDGING THE GAP
FOR ENTREPRENEURS**

catapult groups®

www.catapultgroups.com

ribbon cuttings

CELEBRATING BUSINESS GROWTH

To arrange your ribbon cutting, contact Georgia Allen at 702.586.3838 or email gallen@lvchamber.com



PINK BOX DOUGHNUTS

Pink Box Doughnuts celebrated its partnership with Bacon Boys, its Metro Chamber membership and multiple locations, including Henderson and Summerlin. Call 702.478.7465 for the 7531 W. Lake Mead Blvd. location, 702.410.9799 for the 10251 S. Eastern Ave. location or follow on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.



PC SHELBY AMERICAN

Shelby American executives cut the ribbon to celebrate Shelby American's participation in the Metro Chamber's Business Expo. Shelby American is located at 6405 Ensworth St., where it offers tours, merchandise and some of its world-renowned vehicles on display. Call 702.942.7325 or visit shelby.com.



PC SMART SOFTWARE SOLUTIONS

Smart Software Solutions executives hosted their first booth at Business Expo. Smart Software Solutions, Inc. is located at 4675 W. Teco Ave., Ste. 205. It offers innovative software development, intelligent business consulting and first-class server infrastructure administration and hosting services. Call 702.475.5674 or visit smartsoftwareinc.com.



ZIPLOCAL

ZipLocal celebrated its new membership with the Metro Chamber. ZipLocal showcased its social media, SEO, SEM and other digital products at Business Expo 2015. Call 800.443.0801 or visit ziplocal.com.



OFFICE PRIDE LAS VEGAS

Office Pride Las Vegas is a commercial cleaning service company that specializes in small to medium building size market. It uses green seal products, customized cleaning specifications, and is licensed, fully insured and bonded. Call 702.350.0714, email LasVegas@OPLasVegas.com or visit officepridelasvegas.com.



TELEPACIFIC COMMUNICATIONS

TelePacific Communications, located at 1181 Grier Dr., Ste. F., celebrated its five-year anniversary. It provides complete communications solutions for businesses, backed by industry-leading customer service. Call 702.851.6072 or visit telepacific.com.

PC - President's Club **\$** - Chamber Member Discount



STORAGE WEST

Storage West, located at 7485 S. Eastern Ave. commemorated more than 35 years in business. Call 702.454.3700, email community_relations@storagewest.net or visit storagewest.com.



PC ARTTEC

ARTTEC held its ribbon cutting at Business Expo 2015. ARTTEC is the first of its kind career training program that pairs high school students with highly acclaimed entertainment industry professionals for hands-on job experience on world-class productions in film, television and music. Call 844.4-ARTTEC or visit arttecusa.com.



FORTUNEDNA

FortuneDNA celebrated its Chamber membership. It is a 12 year old culmination of experts in a variety of business-related fields coming together to assist clients by providing the products, services and expertise necessary for success. FortuneDNA encompasses legal, tax, financial and business consulting professionals. Call 702.637.4040 or visit fortunednainc.com.



PC WEINBERG PARTNERS, LTD

Weinberg Partners, LTD, Certified Public Accountants, located at 1180 N. Town Center Dr., Ste. 100, announced its Metro Chamber President's Club membership with a ribbon cutting. Weinberg Partners, Ltd. has been serving businesses and individuals in all 50 states, Canada, Asia, Europe and South America since 1986. Call 702.761.6800 or visit weinbergpartners.com.



MANGO VOICE

Mango Voice attended Business Expo 2015 as a new Metro Chamber member. Mango Voice makes business phones simple with mobility, multi-office phone systems and cloud-call centers. Visit mangovoice.com.



PC RIMINI STREET, INC.

Rimini Street, Inc. celebrated the expansion of its headquarters office in Las Vegas, located at 3993 Howard Hughes Parkway, Suite 500. The new space represents Phase II of the company's expansion plans, and will support 60 newly created jobs in Las Vegas.

ribbon cuttings

CELEBRATING BUSINESS GROWTH

To arrange your ribbon cutting, contact Georgia Allen at 702.586.3838 or email gallen@lvchamber.com



ABSOLUTE LIFE HOMECARE SERVICES

Absolute Life Homecare Services, located at 3750 S. Jones Blvd., Ste. 110, announced its Metro Chamber membership with a ribbon cutting. Its mission is to maintain dignity, promote quality of life and provide optimum care. Call 702.800.8969 or visit absolutelifehomecare.com.



GOURMET COFFEE WAREHOUSE

Gourmet Coffee Warehouse celebrated more than 25 years in business. It sources organic coffee beans and pioneered a new method for a stronger and smoother iced coffee taste to provide 100% organic coffees from the finest ingredients. Call 702.331.3888 or visit gcwcoffee.com for more information.



GREEN-GOES SOUP & SALAD

Green-Goes Soup & Salad announced its grand opening at Business Expo 2015. Green-Goes is a food truck that provides healthy, balanced meals on the go for anyone who wants to improve their eating habits, lose weight or explore new foods. Call 702.900.6997 or visit green-goes.com.



MP PRODUCTIONS

MP Productions announced its Metro Chamber membership. It is a full-service production company for television and film. Visit mpproductions.tv or visit FB.



.VEGAS

.Vegas celebrated its Metro Chamber membership at Business Expo 2015. .Vegas is the operator of the .Vegas top level domain, and is committed to making .Vegas one of the most exciting brands and places in cyberspace. Call or visit nic.vegas.



LAS VEGAS RESCUE MISSION

Las Vegas Rescue Mission, located at 480 W. Bonanza Rd., commemorated years of serving the Las Vegas homeless community by offering redemption, recovery and restoration. Call 702.382.1766 or visit vegasrescue.org.

PC - President's Club **\$** - Chamber Member Discount



PURE PLUMBING

Pure Plumbing celebrated Business Expo 2015 and its Metro Chamber membership with a ribbon cutting. It is a family-owned business that provides full plumbing services using innovative technology and top notch customer service. Call 855.702.PURE or visit pureplumbinglv.com.



SOUTHERN NEVADA GOLF ASSOCIATION

Southern Nevada Golf Association (SNGA) exhibited at Business Expo 2015. SNGA is located at 8010 W. Sahara Ave., Ste. 160. It represents, promotes and serves the best interests of golf in Nevada. Call 702.458.4653 or visit snga.org for more information.



ALESSI KOENIG

Alessi Koenig commemorated its Metro Chamber membership. It is a multijurisdictional law firm, located at 9500 W. Flamingo Rd., Ste. 205, that provides HOA assessment collections, bankruptcy, personal injury and general counsel law practice. Call 702.222.4033 or visit alessikoenig.com.



PC EXPRESS EMPLOYMENT PROS

Express Employment Pros, located at 101 S. Rainbow Blvd., Ste. 17, celebrated its President's Club membership and one-year anniversary. Express Employment Professionals is one of the top staffing companies in the U.S. and Canada. Call 702.476.6262 or visit expresspros.com/wlasvegasnv/.



APCON CAPITAL GROUP

APCON Capital Group is proud to announce the grand opening of its new location at 6655 W. Sahara Ave., Ste. A-210 in Las Vegas. Apcon Capital Group specializes in financial planning and innovative marketing through Print2Life and insurance services. Call 702.675.5669 or visit apconcapitalgroup.com.

FEATURED BROKER:



WAYMARK INSURANCE SERVICES

As a leading broker representative of Chamber Insurance & Benefits LLC, Waymark Insurance Services helps Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce business owners provide excellent health benefits to their employees. For more than 35 years, Waymark Insurance Services, headquartered in Las Vegas, has been a leading employee benefits consulting firm and broker serving companies of all sizes and industries in Nevada and throughout the United States.

Phone: 702-873-1003
Website: waymarkins.com

voices of the metro chamber

AMERICAN RED CROSS: A PARTNER TO LAS VEGAS BUSINESSES

F

or nearly 100 years, the American Red Cross has been a partner to Las Vegas businesses. As a non-profit charity, the Red Cross has endured because of the evolution to meet contemporary needs.

Construction, manufacturing and other businesses find value in Red Cross CPR and First Aid training to ensure compliance with OSHA requirements offering a number of highly sought-after preparedness programs such as Team First Aid Exercises, OSHA 10, OSHA 30, and the ReadyRating.org program for small businesses.

Virtually every resort has a long history with using Red Cross-trained lifeguards to keep visitors safe. Every municipal and county pool has Red Cross lifeguards watching over our working families while they enjoy a summer splash.

Red Cross is a natural partner for employee engagement. The fundamental principles of the Red Cross ensure an uncomplicated relationship. One popular activity is hosting a blood drive – giving employees an opportunity to save lives. The Red Cross is the primary provider of blood for nine of our 13 major hospitals, working to keep health care costs down.

Free family preparedness presentations ensure employees are resilient at home resulting in a faster return to work during times of emergencies.

Business leaders align with the Red Cross to give back to military families and veterans. Most recently, NV Energy and MGM Resorts International have supported the “Boots to Business” veteran hiring initiative putting veterans to work in our community with any employer.

Unlike most organizations who have one or two lines of service, the American Red Cross has five: Disaster Services, Service to Armed Forces, International Services, Blood Services and Preparedness Health & Safety. 97% of the staff are volunteers allowing significant efficiency and return on investment of donor dollars.

“The Board of Directors and leadership team of our local Red Cross is vibrant and strong,” said Katie Fellows, Red Cross Board Chair and General Counsel at the Hard Rock Casino & Hotel. “This dynamic organization needs dynamic leaders and we have them.”

The Red Cross is that trusted symbol in the community. It runs continuously, often unnoticed. Locally in the Las Vegas area:

- Every 19 hours, a local family is left homeless due to a house fire and Red Cross volunteers are there.



Frank Rutkowski,
**American Red Cross
- Nevada Region**

- More than 14,000 people are trained in CPR/First Aid/Aquatics every year.
- Nearly 67,000 blood products are provided to save lives.
- Every 16 hours, a military family is helped as they deal with a crisis.
- Last year, we reunited 17 families separated by war or conflict on the other side of the world.

We do this effectively through a vast network of partners in all sectors of the community. Collaboration is our strength.

“Our chamber membership helps build our community network. We are particularly fond of the community initiatives like the Leadership Las Vegas program,” says Scott Emerson, Regional CEO for the American Red Cross and Leadership Las Vegas Alum. “We see alignment in our commitment to make this the best place to live, work and play.”

“To say it succinctly...the American Red Cross may go around the world or across the country to help, but many times we only need to cross the street.”

stay alert and ready:

SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL DISASTER PREPAREDNESS MONTH

Long gone are the days when a hurricane or a tornado encompassed all of the disasters for which a business owner had to be ready. Nowadays, anything from a data breach (happening more and more frequently) to a breakdown of your office's technology infrastructure can constitute a disaster. How fast you recover – and if you recover at all – depends on how you prepare for such a situation.

Disasters, both natural and human-caused, can happen anytime and anywhere. It could be a natural disaster, such as a wildfire, flood, earthquake or extreme heat. It could include situational disasters, such as a hazardous chemical spill, a nuclear incident or a major and sustained power outage. Terrorist attacks, such as an explosion, biological or chemical threat or a cyber attack are also classified as disasters. With the rising occurrences of data breaches and hacks, it is more important than ever to include technological infrastructure in your business continuity plans and efforts.

There are several resources available for businesses to prepare their disaster recovery plans. Ready.gov (from the Federal Emergency Management Agency) and the U.S. Small Business Administration's website (sba.gov or preparemybusiness.org) offer step-by-step tools and templates to begin your disaster preparedness plans. Ready.gov also offers the Business Continuity Planning Suite, as well as a risk assessment tool to develop individual plans for different circumstances, as well as contingency efforts. Preparemybusiness.org provides helpful PDFs on everything from a crisis communications checklist to a tool to identify critical business processes.

Your plan should be consistent with the mission of your business, define roles and responsibilities, and should be developed and updated by more than one individual. Goals of a preparedness plan include protecting the safety of employees and customers; maintaining customer service by minimizing interruptions or disruptions of regular operations; protecting facilities, physical assets and electronic information; and preventing environmental contamination.



Implementation of the plan goes beyond springing into action, should a disaster strike. It includes identifying and utilizing resources, establishing a crisis communication plan for employees, customers, vendors, stakeholders and the media, and devising an information technology plan to recover hardware, connectivity and data to support your business' critical functions and processes. If you run a web-based store, for instance, you would want to ensure that your site disruption was minimized and you were still able to take payments. Finally, training from your designated disaster preparedness "experts" to other staff, as well as communicating your contingency plans with key vendors, is a proactive and necessary step to ensuring that your disaster preparedness plans are current, practical, tactical and able to be implemented without issue.

According to the Insurance Information Institute, 40-60 percent of businesses affected by a natural or human-caused disaster never reopen. Even a delay of your services could cost your business customers as they seek out a competitor that may have recovered faster. September is a great time to take advantage of free and low-cost resources available to you for developing and implementing your disaster preparedness plan. It could mean the difference between turning the lights back on or shuttering for good.

vegas young professionals

presenting
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fusion mixer
at vista

Connect with fellow Vegas Young Professionals as you enjoy panoramic views of the world's most breathtaking skylines at VISTA Cocktail Lounge, inside Caesars Palace.

Thursday, September 17
6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

In advance:
\$10 – members
\$15 – non-members
At the door:
\$15 – members
\$20 – non-members

Mixer Sponsor:



vyp 10 kicks off celebrations, new programs and more

In August, Vegas Young Professionals welcomed more than 200 guests to its tenth annual White Hot Fusion Mixer. The event gave attendees the chance to meet new contacts, foster business relationships and create new opportunities – what VYP is all about. To celebrate VYP's tenth year, the organization is launching VYP 10 to spotlight members and how they used VYP to build their business and their personal brand, as well as provide new ways to connect with other young professionals and develop skills and expertise. Here's how to engage with VYP 10:

Tell us your success story!

How did you use VYP to further your career or professional development? What VYP program helped get you to that next level? Contact Danica Torchin, VYP coordinator, at dtorchin@lvchamber.com or 702.586.3834, and you could be featured in an upcoming VYP newsletter or in a future issue of the *Business Voice*.

Keep an eye out.

In the upcoming weeks, VYP will be announcing some new programs and special events for the fall calendar. There will be exciting new venues for monthly fusion mixers and a Business Blend in October,

as well as new programming coming soon. Be sure to check your inbox and VegasYP.com for more information as it is announced.

Spread the word.

Ten years and going strong! Tell your friends and colleagues about VYP. Joining the largest group of young professionals in Nevada is free and simple to do. Visit VegasYP.com and click "Join" to get started. Members receive special pricing and access to exclusive events and programs with some of the Valley's biggest names in business.

Get involved.

VYP has several ways for you to get involved. Join the community outreach committee to help with community projects. Become an Ambassador to help welcome new VYP members. Lend a hand to the marketing committee to get the word out about VYP. For more information on committee opportunities, contact Danica Torchin at dtorchin@lvchamber.com.

It's a great time to be involved with VYP. Help celebrate VYP 10, grow your network and gain the skills and expertise to advance your career and professional development.



Vegas Young Professionals members kicked off VYP 10 in style at Hakkasan inside MGM Grand for White Hot 10. Guests were treated to specialty cocktails, a photo booth and great networking opportunities as they donned their coolest summer whites and celebrated ten years of White Hot. *Photo credit: Thomas Tran.*

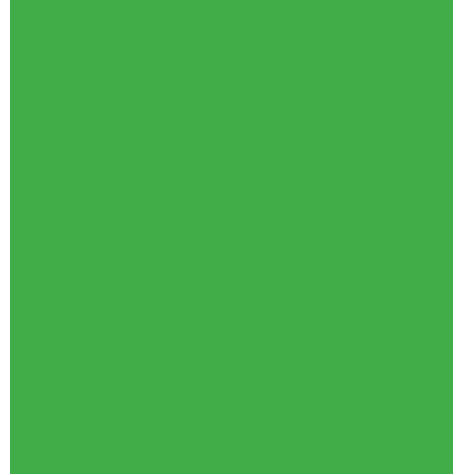
the final word

AUGUST ACCOMPLISHMENTS

T

he Summer of Small Business' window may have closed, but another door opened... to the classroom. August marked the start of a new school year and the Metro Chamber spent time championing for the students and teachers in Southern Nevada. The Metro Chamber also celebrated ten years of Vegas Young Professionals and welcomed several elected officials to speak to members. Here are just a few of the things the Metro Chamber accomplished in August:

- Introduced members to the We Care program, aimed at recruiting teachers to Clark County, and encouraged their involvement in becoming a community volunteer.
- Celebrated 10 years of Vegas Young Professionals by building connections and enjoying conversation with more than 200 young professionals during the annual White Hot Fusion Mixer at Hakkasan, inside MGM Grand.
- Welcomed Metro Chamber members to the Copa Room inside the Bootlegger Bistro for an evening of networking and Italian hospitality during Business After Hours.
- Discussed important federal issues that impact the Southern Nevada business community at the Business Power Luncheon featuring U.S. Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid.
- Engaged with community leaders and received policy highlights and updates from U.S. Congressman Joe Heck during Eggs & Issues.
- Hosted two Member Benefits 101 webinars, showing members how to utilize bMobilized's mobile-friendly platform and take advantage of LegalShield's legal and identity theft protection services.
- Held eight ribbon cuttings for members, celebrating new store openings, Metro Chamber memberships and anniversaries.
- Cultivated new relationships with new and existing Metro Chamber members at Morning Mingle at the SpringHill Suites by Marriott.



Save on your back to school Rx essentials!



Save on these back to school prescriptions and much more!

MEDICATION	QTY	RETAIL PRICE	MEMBER PRICE	MEMBER SAVINGS
Adderall Xr 20mg Cap	30	\$294.99	\$221.25	25%
Levaquin (generic) 500mg	40	\$144.99	\$111.65	23%
Azithromycin 250mg Tab	6	\$39.99	\$18.68	53%
Flomax 0.4mg	60	\$447.99	\$351.39	21%
Retin A		\$220.00	\$64.00	71%

NOTE: Our price is the average price members paid on that prescription during the month of January, 2015. Retail price was obtained by calling CVS/pharmacy. Pricing varies by pharmacy and by region. Prices are subject to change.

Back to school time is no time to be sick! Stock up on the essentials using Nevada Drug Card to save up to 75% on your prescription medications!

Compliments of:



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For more information or to order hard cards please contact:

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LUNCHEON

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**CULTIVATORS,
TRAILBLAZERS,
GROUNDBREAKERS,
INNOVATORS
AND PACESETTERS!**

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8

11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. | Aria Resort & Casino
To purchase your seats or table, visit
LVChamber.com or call 702.641.5822.

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SEPTEMBER 2015

NewsFeed

**FUTURE OF
TRANSPORTATION
IN SOUTHERN
NEVADA**

**Tuesday,
September 22**

7:30 - 9:00 a.m.

**\$40 Per Person
\$400 for a Table of Ten**

**Four Seasons Hotel
3960 Las Vegas Blvd. South**

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or table, visit
LVChamber.com or call
702.641.5822.