

**NEWS YOU CAN USE!****Let's Network**

Are you a small business owner, future entrepreneur, stakeholder, supporter or friend of the CSRA Business League, then join us and tell a friend about our upcoming "Let's Network" event which will take place on Thursday, 18 August 2011, 5:30 - 7:00 pm, Augusta Marriott Hotel & Suites. There is no admission fee to attend the event, however tables to advertise your products and services are \$50.00. Join and take advantage of the opportunity to advertise your business or products and network with Entrepreneurs and Executives. Please RSVP your attendance and/or reserve your table by contacting Ms. Shirmaine Ivey at the League at 706 722 - 0994 or by email at shirmaineivey@business-league.org no later than 17 August 2011.

Moving Your Business Forward

The Atlanta Tribune will sponsor Part II of its **Annual Moving Your Business Forward Conference series** on Tuesday, July 19, 2011, at the Georgia Technology Resource Institute Conference Center. Workshop themes will include: What you need to know now about how to Maximize your Online Marketing with Today's Technology Tools, how to Utilize Cloud Computing for a small business and what New Gadgets are the best to move your business forward. **Registration is FREE!** To sign up <http://atmybf-july11.eventbrite.com/> ****Use A-Suite promo code ATMYBF-711-AS**

Veterans Information

Veterans Often Choose Entrepreneurship Military service is highly correlated with self-employment, according to an Office of Advocacy study, *Factors Affecting Entrepreneurship among Veterans*, released today. The study by John Hope, Brian Oh, and Patrick Mackin of SAG Corporation uses three data sources to explore how military service is related to veteran entrepreneurship. In the private sector workforce, the study found that veterans are at least 45 percent more likely than those with no active-duty military experience to be self-employed in the general population. "Entrepreneurship is a choice made by many of our men and women in uniform when

they move into civilian life," said Chief Counsel for Advocacy Winslow Sargeant. "Knowing more about the factors behind veterans' self-employment offers opportunities to lay the groundwork for successful ventures." *Factors Affecting Entrepreneurship among Veterans* and the research summary may be found at www.sba.gov/content/factors-affecting-entrepreneurship-among-veterans

Toastmasters

The **Capitol City Legacy Toastmasters Club** is recruiting you. Toastmasters is a world leader, with more than 260,000 members around the globe, membership dues is **\$30.00** per year, purchase a CSRA Business League membership for one year, and your first year is free, so join the League and join Toastmasters where you can hone your speaking and leadership skills in a friendly atmosphere.

Obama Administration Launches Strong Cities, Strong Communities to Support Local Development

The Obama Administration launched Strong Cities, Strong Communities (SC2), a new and customized pilot initiative to strengthen local capacity and spark economic growth in local communities while ensuring taxpayer dollars are used wisely and efficiently. To accomplish this, federal agencies will provide experienced staff to work directly with six cities: Chester, PA; Cleveland, OH; Detroit, MI; Fresno, CA; Memphis, TN; and New Orleans, LA. These teams will work with local governments, the private sector, and other institutions to leverage federal dollars and support the work being done at the local level to encourage economic growth and community development. Additionally, communities nationwide will be eligible to compete for comprehensive economic planning assistance through a grant competition designed to spark local innovation. By integrating government investments and partnering with local communities, SC2 channels the resources of the federal government to help empower cities as they develop and implement their vision for economic growth. Through this pilot, the Obama Administration will focus on three key goals.

SBA News

Small Loan Advantage and Community Advantage 7(a) Loan Initiatives are the SBA's newest attempt to expand access to capital for small businesses and entrepreneurs in underserved communities to assist in growing the US Economy and creating jobs. In line with that, the SBA's newest initiatives, aimed at increasing the number of loans in these communities.

SBA and U.S. Department of Commerce studies have shown the importance of lower dollar loans to small business formation and growth in underserved communities. With that in mind, and building on the agency's "Advantage" platform, both Small Loan Advantage and Community Advantage will offer a streamlined application process for SBA 7(a) loans up to \$250,000.

You can follow the SBA and/or visit the Small Business Administration website for information in regards to minority, women and veteran owned businesses at www.sba.gov.



Small businesses seeking to grow their businesses and create jobs through exporting can turn to new, free educational videos created through a partnership between the U.S. Small Business Administration, Inc. Magazine and AT&T. The videos were developed to inspire and encourage small businesses to actively pursue exporting and educate them on how to do so. "Winning the future means supporting small businesses that want to grow and create jobs through exporting," said SBA Administrator Karen Mills.

Other resources include "how-to" take your business global posted at www.inc.com/exporting.

Office of Advocacy Small Business States and Territories Supply Data please click [here](#) for national-level data and limited data on the U.S. territories, detailed information on small businesses at the state level and covers the following topics: the number of firms, demographics of business ownership, small business income, banking, business turnover, industry composition, and employment gains and losses by size of business, you can click this link or cut and paste in your browser. <http://www.sba.gov/content/2010-small-business-profiles-states-and-territories>



The University of Georgia

Visit the SBA Georgia District office website at <http://www.sba.gov/localresources/district/ga/index.html> and the University of Georgia Small Business Development Center website at <http://www.georgiasbdc.org>. The UGA SBDC is located at 1180 East Broad St., Athens, GA 30602, their contact number is 706 542 - 6791 and utilize the SBDC newest initiative entitled SmallBizU located at <http://www.smallbizu.org/georgiasbdc/>.

Access Essential News for Entrepreneurs the bimonthly newsletter published by the Georgia SBDC To download your electronic copy of **Essential News for Entrepreneurs**, [CLICK HERE](#).

The SBDC Office in Augusta is located at 1450 Greene Street, Suite 3500. The phone number is 706-721-4545 and their website is located at www.georgiasbdc.org/ce/augusta.

Augusta Event Schedule

Starting A Business	Jul 28	6:00 PM	\$69.00
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Contact the **Disadvantaged Business Office** at 706 821 - 2406 for information on their 2010 Workshop Schedule. The workshops are free, open to the public and normally held on Wednesday's from 1:00 - 3:00 pm, in the Hatcher Building Conference Room on the Third Floor, Room 304.

For **State of Georgia** small businesses information visit <http://www.georgia.org/BusinessInGeorgia/SmallBusiness/Pages/default.aspx>, Find Minority Business Enterprises (MBE), Women (WBE) and Youth Entrepreneurial opportunities at <http://www.georgia.org/BusinessInGeorgia/smallBusinessWomenMinoritiesYouth/Pages/default.aspx>.. Georgia businesses can find up to date information in regards to doing business with and within the State of Georgia by clicking this link http://www.georgia.gov/00/channel_title/0,2094,4802_5033,00.html. Stay up to date by visiting and using available tools on the site.



From the Office of Congressman John Barrow, The Commerce Department has unveiled a new online tool to help small and medium - sized businesses tap into the global marketplace and start exporting. In partnership with the Small Business Administration, the Commerce Department introduced *Six Steps to Begin Exporting* at <http://www.export.gov/begin>. The site enhances the Export.gov portal, which was re-launched under the National Export Initiative at the beginning of this year. Contact the District Director of the Congressman Barrow's office, **Mrs. Lynthia Ross**, at lynthia.ross@mail.house.gov. or on the 3rd floor of the ANIC Building located at

925 Laney—Walker Blvd and the Senior Legislative Assistant **Mr. Brandon Webb**, at brandon.webb@mail.house.gov, or by mail at 213 Cannon House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515 for additional information.

HEALTH REFORM INFORMATION - <http://www.whitehouse.gov/healthreform>

PRESIDENT OBAMA'S ECONOMIC FORUM information - <http://www.whitehouse.gov/issues/economy/jobsforum>.

Having a Business mentor is a great way to grow your business, find out how by clicking http://community2.business.gov/t5/Small-Business-Matters/5-Tips-for-Finding-and-Working-with-a-Business-Mentor/ba-p/33687?cm_mmc=GovDelivery_-090110_-weekly_-community



Stories from [Black Enterprise.com](http://BlackEnterprise.com)

The Truth About Bankruptcy: Why All Your Debts WON'T Go Away

In the News: Obama Moves Forward with Debt Talks; Small Business Hiring Is at a Standstill and More

5 Black Toy Companies That Embrace Multiculturalism

7 Signs It's Time to Quit Your Job

B.E. Exclusive: New Era for Johnson Publishing with Outside Investment

MBDA News



Visit the Minority Business Development Web Portal at <http://www.mbda.gov> to sign up for email updates click [here](#)

The [Startup America Partnership](#) is an alliance of top entrepreneurs, venture capitalists, angel investors, corporations, universities, foundations, and other leaders, joining together to grow the entrepreneurial ecosystems that support innovative, high-growth U.S. startups, additionally, an Entrepreneurship Action Summit will be convened to bring together entrepreneurs and innovators to accelerate startup success and job creation.



The Georgia MBEC is now the Minority Business Center and is located at 75 5th Street, NW, Suite 700, in Atlanta. Contact the Director Ms. Donna Ennis can be reached at 404-894-2096 or by email at donna.ennis@innovate.gatech.edu or visit the website at www.innovate.gatech.edu

Minority Business Development Events

The U.S. Department of Commerce’s Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) and the U.S. Census Bureau announced that African American-owned firms increased by 60.5 percent from 2002 - 2007 to 1.9 million firms, with a 22 percent increase in employees from 754,000 to 921,000 workers, significantly higher than non-minority-owned firms between 2002 and 2007.

MED WEEK Atlanta, August 11, 2011, 3rd Annual Business Summit, Make plans to attend this event geared toward Women and Minority Owned Business, Location, AT&T Building, 725 W. Peachtree Street, Atlanta, GA 30375, Midtown II Auditorium, www.medweekatlanta.com

The 29th Annual National Minority Enterprise Development Week has been scheduled for Tuesday, **27 September - Friday 30 September 2011** at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel in Washington, D.C. Additional information is forthcoming, **Ms. Joann J. Hill** is the conference planner.



Follow the MBDA on and sign up for RSS updates.



Thought for the Month

A leader takes people where they want to go. A great leader takes people where they don't necessarily want to go, but ought to be..... Former First Lady Roslyn Carter

Business League News

The League is presently recruiting youth between the ages of 12 - 17 for year 2 of our Youth Entrepreneur Program. The program meets for about two hours on one or two Saturday's out of the month. If you have a young person or know of a young person interested in becoming an entrepreneur please contact program coordinator Ms. Shirmaine Ivey at 706 722 - 0994 or at shirmaineivey@business-league.org, for additional information. Spaces are limited so call today!

Taking charge of your future, as a small business owner what are you doing as President Obama has said "working to win the future". Do you read books and articles to enhance your business knowledge, do you attend business seminars and workshops to increase your awareness of business techniques, do you build relationships and network with those in the same field or work to improve your speaking, presentation and technology skills? If not then you are not "working to win the future" to be in business and to be successful, you must be about business, not just talk or think about being in business. The League is here to assist you in becoming successful, however, we cannot make a difference or assist you if you are not willing to help yourself. Below are items we believe will assist you in achieving your goals, below your starting point on the road to success;

- ⇒ Purchase a League Membership
- ⇒ Join the Capitol City Bank Toastmasters Club.
- ⇒ Attend more seminars, workshops and events
- ⇒ Network & Market, Network & Market, Network & Market
- ⇒ Become technologically savvy

For the past three months we have been requesting Business owners to let us know what workshops and seminars we can provide to assist you in being successful. We are need your feedback so contact us at 706 722 - 0994, email us your thoughts, visit our website at www.business-league.org or visit us on Facebook and become a fan at www.facebook.com/CSRA-Business-League.



However you contact us, just take the time to contact us.

The CSRA Small Business of the Month: PrePaid Legal

Did you know that your employees simply do not perform well when troubled, distracted, or under stress? Your employee's legal problems cost you money in terms of *Absenteeism - Reduced productivity - and Increased Health insurance costs!!* Would you like to *Decrease Absenteeism, Insurance Costs and Stress and Increase Employee Productivity and your Bottom line*. PrePaid Legal can help you!!! A quality, comprehensive legal services plan can help you recruit and retain good employees.

Using Pre-Paid Legal Service plans as employee benefits makes good sense for your business and your employees. They have benefit plans designed to meet the most common legal needs encountered by you, your business, and your employees and their families at an affordable monthly membership fee. Your employees will benefit and so will you. Think a moment... what do your employees' legal problems mean to your bottom line? The savings on lost work time alone could more than pay for the Pre-Paid Legal Services program. Almost half of the employees who take time off from work do so to deal with problems that are either legal or legal-related. Prepaid Legal can help!!!!!! They have family plans to protect you and your employees, and business plans to protect your legal rights as a business owner.

• Easy administration • On site enrollment • One rate for any size family • payroll deduction for employees

Please contact: Sue Pellerin ---- 803-640-7491

To schedule your on site presentation

For more detailed information go to my website: www.prepaidlegal.com/hub/smpellerin

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The CSRA Business League, Inc. has been “Serving our Community with Pride” since its founding in 1970. Our mission is to support and assist small, minority and disadvantaged businesses in their efforts to become successful and prosperous. Our goal is to serve as an information clearinghouse and referral source, in addition to providing networking opportunities and technology training for small, disadvantaged and minority owned businesses.

As a 501© 3 not for profit organization, we are dedicated to providing those we serve with modern strategies and services that gives the business owner the tools to maintain a thriving and successful small business.

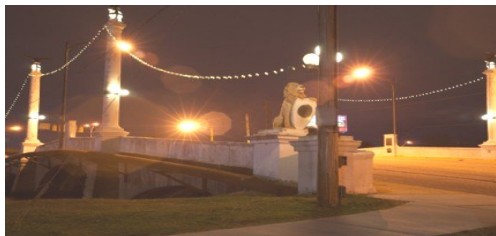
Membership Corner

Are you or have you ever been a member of the CSRA Business League, Inc.? The League is having a Membership Drive, please assist us by purchasing a League membership. Please contact us for the benefits of a League membership and take a moment to visit our revamped website at www.business-league.org.

Our Newest Member's

MEMBERSHIP FEES

STUDENT	\$ 25.00	NON-PROFIT	\$ 75.00
INDIVIDUAL/LLC	\$150.00	CORPORATE	\$500.00



**SINCE 1970
 THE
 CSRA BUSINESS
 LEAGUE HAS SERVED AS
 A
 BRIDGE TO
 SMALL BUSINESS
 SUCCESS IN THE
 CSRA!**

**PURCHASE A LEAGUE
 MEMBERSHIP
 TODAY!!**

SERVICES

Application Assistance
 Business Plan Development Assistance
 Business Incorporation
 Business Networking Meetings and Seminars
 Computer Lab
 Computer Training for Business Owners
 Copying, Fax and Mail Services
 Partnership Facilitation
 Educational Business Seminars
 Grant Research and Recommendations
 Marketing & Advertising Assistance
 Technology Assistance and Resources

UPCOMING EVENTS

Youth Entrepreneur Program
 16 July 2011
 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
 New Bethlehem Com. Center

Lets Network
 18 August 2011
 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.
 Augusta Marriott Hotel & Suites