



THE LEAGUE

JUNE 2010

NEWS YOU CAN USE!

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) and Google's "Tools for Online Success," located at <http://www.google.com/help/places/partners/sba/index.html>, has an array of online resources and training designed to help small business owners harness technology to grow their businesses. The site features tutorials, video testimonials, and tips from savvy small business people who have leveraged the web to become more efficient, more cost-effective, and more successful.

Please sign up to receive the latest in business news from the Federal Government at www.business.gov, the website for business owners.

Urban unemployment continues to plague our communities and hamper our progress. The National Urban League State of Urban Jobs site at iamempowered.com provides information about jobs, including monthly employment reports and job stats for Blacks, Whites and Latinos, the latest news on employment, resume writing tips, job listings and the National Urban League's response to the current crisis. Stay abreast of the latest developments by clicking <http://iamempowered.com/get-empowered/employment-entrepreneurship/the-state-of-urban-jobs/>

Real gross domestic product increased at an annualized 3.2 percent in the first quarter of 2010, the third quarter of positive growth and a sign of continued economic recovery. Mirroring broad economic trends, overall optimism was higher, with small businesses remaining cautious, though unemployment remained high at 9.7 percent in March, nonfarm payrolls increased by a net 283,000 jobs in the first quarter, interest rates remained low, and overall inflation appears to be in check. These and other trends are discussed in the latest update of the Quarterly Indicators: The Economy and Small Business. Quarterly Indicators: The Economy and Small Business is located at: <http://www.sba.gov/advo/research/sbqei1001.pdf>.

Please visit http://osdbu.dot.gov/bap/bep_main.cfm and <http://osdbu.dot.gov/bap/bep.cfm> to get information on the Bonding Education Program and related workshops sponsored by the US Department of Transportation in partnership with the Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization and The Surety and

Fidelity Association of America (SFAA). The Bonding Education Program (BEP) is composed of two interrelated components: a set of ten (10) Educational Workshops; 1) an introductory workshop on intake and logistics; 2) eight (8) comprehensive workshops, each of which is designed to provide information to the contractors related to improving their company's operations and thereby making it easier to be bonded or to increase their bonding capacity; and 3) a closing workshop focused on networking and next steps.

The Georgia DBE Association's mission is to improve relationships and work alongside federal, state and local government agencies and prime contractors to educate its members in successful business strategies involving minority owned corporations, and to help those DBE businesses operate at their optimum levels. The acronym DBE, short for Disadvantaged Business Enterprise, is a Federal certification administered by State DOT's to minority owned businesses who meet certain eligibility requirements. Georgia DBE members serve their communities and bring a variety of expertise in a variety of industries and they encourage Airports and Transit authorities as well as privately held corporations to utilize DBE's to compete and meet goals set forth under 49 CFR 23 and 26. The association seeks to work with all private and public entities, paving a path to success for its member organizations and helping them to reach their goals. We have created a member directory designed to help all interested parties to locate our members and we assist any minority own enterprise to the path of certification.

You can become certified as a DBE with the State of Georgia, activate your company contact information, link your company website to the membership directory, take advantage of networking opportunities, and to receive month Newsletters and E-Alerts in regards to state and national issues affecting your DBE business by clicking this link <http://www.georgiadbe.com/join-us.php> and following the instructions. To access the Events Calendar, please click the below link, where you can also sign up for training opportunities beneficial to your business <http://events.constantcontact.com/calendar/monthview?eso=001c--NxbwXjXYJwJZEnPUHQ==>.

Keeping you Informed

MBDA News

The Minority Business program of the U. S. Government is administered by the Commerce Department, under the direction of St. Louis, MO native David Hinson. The website for the agency is <http://www.mbda.gov>.



Save the Date - The U. S. Department of Commerce, Minority Business Diversity Agency, Minority Enterprise Development Week Atlanta, August 12 - 14, 2010. The conference theme is "Strategies for Growth and Competitiveness in the Global Economy". The tentative agenda for the conference includes a Business Summit and Workshops from 9AM - 12:30PM, at AT & T and a Awards Banquet, 7PM - 9PM at Georgia Power (*Semi-Formal Attire*). Registration Information is forthcoming at www.medweekatlanta.com for general information: contact Sandra Sanders, Project Coordinator: 404-730-3307 or ssanders@mbda.gov.

Please visit <http://www.sbdc.uga.edu/pdfs/mbsd.pdf> to view the statewide minority supplier directory. Please take time to be a part of the 2011 directory by completing the form on the final page and returning it the center.

The National Minority Business Week Conference will take place 23—27 August at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington D.C.



Quote of the Month

"We must have a theme, a goal, a purpose in our lives. If you don't know where you're aiming, you don't have a goal. My goal is to live my life in such a way that when I die, someone can say, she cared.....Mary Kay Ash

SBA News

Visit the Small Business Administration website to find valuable information in regards minority, women and veteran owned businesses at www.sba.gov and the SBA Georgia District office website at <http://www.sba.gov/localresources/district/ga/index.html>.

After years of zero growth, job creation numbers finally trended upward as Recovery Act programs continued to help small businesses reclaim access to much-needed business credit. In March the SBA reported that small business loan approvals had climbed by 86 percent compared to the weekly average before passage of the Recovery Act. Almost \$23 billion in loans have been given to small business owners and more than 1,100 lenders added to provide SBA loans. For information on the various programs visit the SBA Loan Guide at Business.gov which includes a Loans and Grants Search Tool that matches your specific needs with available loan programs. If you are worried about your eligibility for a business loan or have a poor credit score, be sure to read "Loans for Business Owners with Poor Credit Scores" to understand your options

University of Georgia Small Business Development Center

Starting A Business Series in Augusta

Starting A Business - 29 Jun 2010, 6:00 PM, 3hrs, \$69.00

Starting A Business - Military Only, 12 Jul 2010, 11:30 AM 1.5hrs
\$0.00

SBDC Office of Minority Business Development

Events

How to effectively use search engines for Business Opportunities - Thursday, 10 June 2010, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
\$0.00

All about Certifications - 17 June 2010, 8:30 AM - 2:30 PM \$30.00

Location - 1180 East Broad St., Athens, GA 30602

Contact Information - 706 542 - 6791

If you have not done so already, please return your *Census form and encourage others you know to complete and return their form as well. We cannot move forward, until the form is mailed back.* Visit <http://2010.census.gov/2010census/> for information.



Disadvantaged Business Office 2010 Workshop Schedule - The Purpose of the workshops are to provide attendees with information about the registration process of Augusta-Richmond County. The workshops are held on Wednesday's from 1:00 - 3:00 pm, at 501 Greene St in the Hatcher Building Conference Room on the Third Floor, Room 304. Workshops are free and open to the public, however participants are asked to register by contacting the DBE office at 706 821 - 2406, below is the 2010 Workshop Schedule.

| | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| January 20, 2010 | July 21, 2010 |
| February 17, 2010 | August 18, 2010 |
| March 17, 2010 | September 15, 2010 |
| April 21, 2010 | October 20, 2010 |
| May 19, 2010 | November 17, 2010 |
| June 16, 2010 | December 16, 2010 |

There will be a HomeFirst Augusta Homebuyer Workshop on 12 June 2010, from 9:00 am - 5:00 pm at 961 Broad Street, Augusta, GA at 706 823 - 5809

Read the U.S. Small Business Administration Open Government Plan 2010 - 2012 Version 1.0, April 2010 at http://www.sba.gov/idc/groups/public/documents/sba_homepage/sba_open_gov_plan.html



To find out what the State of Georgia is doing in regards to small businesses please click this link <http://www.georgia.org/BusinessInGeorgia/SmallBusiness/Pages/default.aspx>. Georgia Minority Business Enterprises (MBE) are the fastest-growing business segment; Women Business Enterprises (WBE) are the second-fastest-growing segment according to (GMSBD 2/08). Also critical is the importance of planting the seed of entrepreneurship in Georgia's youth by exposing them to the opportunities of creative thinking and starting their own business. To find out additional information on all three groups please click this link <http://www.georgia.org/BusinessInGeorgia/SmallBusiness/WomenMinoritiesYouth/Pages/default.aspx>. The Georgia DBE Association Inc., a privately held trade association formed to assist and represent DBE certified businesses in the State of Georgia., provides a variety of goods and services to prime contractors for highway, aviation and rail projects as well as local municipal projects. For additional information and to register your business, please click this link <http://www.georgiadbe.com/index.php>,

Other Related News & Events

Business League News & Views

The Youth Entrepreneur Program of the CSRA Business League will hold its next meeting on Saturday, 26 June 2010 at the New Bethlehem Community Center from 11:00 to 1:00 pm. The program is designed to encourage and inspire youth ages 12 - 17 to think about starting and owning a business on their path to be successful in life, as well as teach leadership and social skills.. Ms. Shirmaine Ivey, YPE coordinator can be reached at shirmaineivey@business-league.org. The program will feature sessions on Business Communication, Social Etiquette and a presentation by Mrs. Colis Ivey of the Georgia Department of Labor. Contact Ms. Ivey by email or by phone at 706 722 - 0994 to register your child or children. Up coming meeting dates are 17 July 2010, and 21 August 2010.

Are you a Women, Minority or Disadvantaged Business owner or a supporter, if you are, please consider purchasing a League membership. The League will Celebrate its 40th Anniversary this year and your support is vital to our mission of assisting Small Business owners in the CSRA. Join the League in 2010.

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

**CSRA Business League
Board of Directors and Staff**

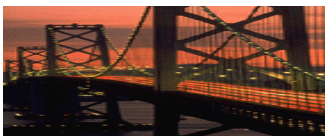
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SERVICES

Application Assistance
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 Technology Assistance and Resources



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
** Norman Tiles****

MEMBERSHIP FEES

| | | | |
|-----------------------|----------|-------------------|----------|
| STUDENT | \$ 25.00 | NON-PROFIT | \$ 50.00 |
| INDIVIDUAL/LLC | \$100.00 | CORPORATE | \$150.00 |

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

**Youth Entrepreneur
Program Meeting
26 June 2010, 11:00 - 1:00
New Bethlehem
Community Center**

UPCOMING EVENTS

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS AT
 CLUB NIGHTLIFE WITH
 CHER BEST
 6:30 - 8:30 P.M.
 NETWORKING EVENT

40TH ANNIVERSARY
 CELEBRATION OF THE
 FOUNDING OF THE CSRA
 BUSINESS LEAGUE