

## CAREERSOURCE CLM CORNER: LEVERAGING PANOPLY OF PARTNERS TO BENEFIT COMMUNITY

BY LAURA BYRNES, APR  
PHOTOS PROVIDED BY CAREERSOURCE CLM



Last month I introduced you to the basic nuts and bolts of who we are and what we do as CareerSource Citrus Levy Marion and our affiliate Talent Center at the College of Central Florida.

I also touched briefly on our business-led board of directors and how those who serve are inextricably tied to the health and welfare of our community. Leveraging the strength of community partners to benefit this place we call home is key to how we operate.

Here are two recent examples:

In 2012, in collaboration with community partners including CF, we commissioned a series of forums that resulted in recommendations to help close the gap in critical skills needed for advanced manufacturing, information technology and other key local industries.

One of the initiatives, launched in partnership with the Mid-Florida Manufacturers Association (MRMA) and which we underwrite, is a Career Awareness-Talent Pipeline video project designed to educate future and existing members of the workforce, parents, educators and businesses about local career and training opportunities. This past year, powered by grants from Duke Energy, we began adding videos highlighting public school career programs.

One such program is the Advanced Manufacturing's Robotics, Automation, and Design Academy (RAD) now based at Belleview High School. One of its instructors, Dale Toney, recently received a Grand Prize in The Henry Ford's Innovation Nation Teacher Innovator Awards, presented on national television, which recognizes educators who are using the classroom to inspire innovation, creativity, problem solving and critical thinking among their students.

Of course, we don't claim credit for Mr. Toney's recognition; my point is that it takes a panoply of partners to move this community forward. In this example, we work with CF, MRMA, Duke Energy and Marion County Public Schools to identify and promote opportunities right here at home that rise to national prominence.

When Charles Harris came to town in 2013 as CEO of Central Florida Community Action Agency, he met with numerous organizations. One of his "most memorable" visits, he said, was a "warm, sincere conversation" with our executive vice president, Kathleen Woodring.

Because CFCAA emphasizes the importance of educational pursuits and job training as the best way out of poverty, Harris

said the organization was "very happy to forge a strong partnership" with CareerSource CLM.

Moreover, he said, CareerSource CLM reached out to CFCAA with the opportunity to move the agency's Ocala office to our Career Center "resulting in substantial financial savings to the agency and more importantly, providing convenience (and one-stop services) for our shared clients."

When Harris was invited to serve on our board of directors, he said, "I considered it an honor to be involved with what I see as a well-run organization that cares about the entire community."

It was because of that care, Harris said, and partnering to "reach individuals who desire employment and providing employment support," that the agency recognized CareerSource CLM as its Marion County Partner of the Year.



Rusty Skinner, CEO of CareerSource Citrus Levy Marion (second from left), along with CFCAA's CEO Charles Harris (left) and fellow honorees from Wells Fargo (Alachua County Partner of the Year) and the Chiefland Police Department (Levy County Partner of the Year) as well as CFCAA Chair Alena Lawson and Para Olympian Regas Woods of Dunnellon.

Laura Byrnes, APR, CPRC, communications manager at CareerSource Citrus Levy Marion, is Accredited in Public Relations, a Certified Public Relations Counselor and a Florida Certified Workforce Professional. She would love to hear from you and learn what kind of information you'd like to see each month. Please contact her at (352) 291-9559, (800) 434-5627, ext. 1234 or lbyrnes@careersourceclm.com.



Rusty Skinner, CEO of CareerSource Citrus Levy Marion (center), along with CFCAA Chair Alena Lawson and CFCAA CEO Charles Harris.

# WHERE CONNECTIONS ARE MADE

Talent Center at the College of Central Florida is a joint venture between CareerSource Citrus Levy Marion and CF, your go-to sources for higher education and hire education. Talent Center connects Businesses with qualified, professional and highly-skilled candidates and professional-level Candidates and college students/graduates with employment and career-development opportunities. All at no charge.

**HEAD TO TALENT CENTER** CF Ocala Campus Building 42, Suite 101 352.840.5762

Talent Center at the College of Central Florida is an affiliate of CareerSource Citrus Levy Marion, an equal opportunity employer/program, and CF, an equal opportunity college. Auxiliary aids/services are available upon request to persons with disabilities and in Spanish. Phone numbers may be reached using TTY/TDD equipment via Florida Relay at 711. For accommodations, please call 844-364-9859, ext. 7879 or email [tcaccommodations@talentcenter.org](mailto:tcaccommodations@talentcenter.org) at least 72 business hours in advance. CareerSource Citrus Levy Marion is a proud partner of the American Job Center network and member of CareerSource Florida.

## OPEN YEAR ROUND

Monday - Friday  
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

# TALENT CENTER

At the College of Central Florida

## The F-Word: Ladies night out

**Date:** 2nd Tuesday of the month | **Time:** 6:30 pm  
**Location:** Thrive Chiropractic 2011 SW 20th Place, Ste 103, Ocala, FL 34471  
**More info:** [thrivewithchiro@gmail.com](mailto:thrivewithchiro@gmail.com)  
[facebook.com/thrivechiropracticocala/events](https://www.facebook.com/thrivechiropracticocala/events)

Are you exhausted? Do you juggle absolutely everything in your household -- from your job to that one extra "big" kid in the family (you know who I mean)? REJOICE! This group is just for you--the ones that take life seriously...but not too seriously. The ones who embrace The F-Word(s) -- fun, family, fashion, friends, fitness, and feelings...even fermented fruit juice (ahem..wine). Come enjoy a night out with us, and celebrate The F-Words of life.

## ITALIAN TILE IMPORTS

TILE  
WOOD LAMINATE  
CARPET  
MARBLE  
TRAVERTINE  
GLASS

TRICE DeWolf-STUDIO  
INTERIOR DESIGN

352.368.2838  
2400 NW 10TH ST