A&F Shuttle Transportation With Class LLC is excited to be celebrating our third anniversary in the limo transportation business on January 17, 2020. Frank Gailer, owner of A&F Shuttle Transportation With Class LLC, holds over 33 years and 2 million miles of driving professionally and providing our customers with door to door service to all airports, cruise ports, doctors appointments and special events.

We provided VIP and VALET service for your special events. We also provide vehicle transport. We are very excited to announce our new Division coming the end of this summer - Wheelchair Transport Division.

I feel I have the best drivers and team in the business and that’s why we are so successful. Our fleet consists of SUVs, minivans, luxury vehicles and even a sports car. We have access to 10 passenger Limousines and a Party Bus. We are able to transport up to 15 passengers at one time for special events. For more information call us at 941-662-6409.

‘REMEMBER WE GO THE EXTRA MILE FOR YOU’
Calendar of Events January

1st
Chamber Closed for New Years Day

3rd
9:00 am
Marketing & Communication Committee (Charlotte State Bank, 4300 Aiden Lane, North Port)

6th
9:00 am
Breakfast Club Networking (Olde World Restaurant, 4415 S. Tamiami Trail, North Port)

7th
8:30 am
Business & Economic Development Committee (Room 244 - North Port City Hall)

7th
12 Noon
Ribbon Cutting - Tommy’s Express Car Wash (1141 Front Place, North Port)

7th
4:00 pm
Professional Development & Education Committee (Goodwill Job & Career Center, 14879 S. Tamiami Trail, North Port)

8th
8:30 am
Resource Development Committee (Busey Bank, 14803 Tamiami Trail, North Port)

10th
Leadership North Port - Government Day

14th
8:30 am
Member Services Committee (Perkins, 6001 S. Salford Boulevard, North Port)

14th
5:30 pm
Business After Hours - North Port Meals on Wheels (13600 Tamiami Trail, North Port)

16th
5:30 pm
A Night of Networking - MultiChamber Event (Tampa Bay Rays, Charlotte Sports Park, 2300 El Jobean Rd, Port Charlotte)

17th
4:00 pm
Ribbon Cutting - We Insure (2457 S. Tamiami Trail, Ste 2-OFC, North Port)

20th
Chamber Closed for Martin Luther King Day

22nd
11:30 am
Annual Meeting/State of the City Luncheon (Suncoast Technical College, 4445 Career Lane, North Port)

22nd
5:00 pm
Leadership North Port - Art & Culture Night

29th
8:30 am
Chamber Orientation (Sarasota Memorial Hospital ER Community Room, 2nd Flr, 2345 Bobcat Village Center Rd., North Port)

29th
5:30 pm
North Port Young Professionals Mix & Mingle (Atlanta Braves Stadium Tiki Bar, 18800 S. West Villages Pkwy, Venice)

30th
8:30 am
Government Relations Committee (Sarasota Memorial Hospital ER Community Room, 2nd Flr, 2345 Bobcat Village Center Rd., North Port)

Like us on Facebook

www.NorthPortAreaChamber.com
Thank You To Our
Chamber Champions 2019 - 2020

PLATINUM

GOLD

SILVER

BRONZE

A&F Shuttle Transportation With Class LLC
Allstate Insurance - Steve Matthews Agency
Carol St. Germain - Re/Max Anchor Realty
ClikWiz
Cruiser’s Travel & Tours, LLC
CUBIC Advisors
Debbie Snowden - Coldwell Banker Sunstar Realty
Dream Vacations - Ed & Robin Rinkewich
Economic Development Corporation of Sarasota County

epiphany Health
Evolve Chiropractic
Gale West - Your Health Consultant
Gelmitree Advertising
Great Florida Insurance of North Port - Heather Reichle
Heron Creek Animal Hospital
Linda L. Zick, IBC - Mary Kay
North Port Art Center
Olde World Restaurant & Sherwood Forest Lounge
Paul Patterson Handyman Service

Security Alarm Corporation
SeePort Optometry
Solaris Healthcare
State Farm Insurance - Dean McConville Agency
Stellar Web Production
Ted & Linda Curran - Coldwell Banker Sunstar Realty
Valerie LaBoy - Weichert, Realtors Gulf Coast Group
Wendy Namack, CFP® - Namack Portfolio Investment Professionals, LLC

COMMUNITY PARTNERS
A Message from the Executive Director

Annual Meeting/State of the City Address/Business Advocate Hall of Fame Induction Luncheon
The North Port Area Chamber of Commerce will hold the Annual Meeting/State of the City Address/Business Advocate Hall of Fame Induction Luncheon on Wednesday, January 22, 2020 from 11:30 am – 1:30 pm at Suncoast Technical College in North Port. The Chamber will be inducting the recipient of the “2020 Business Advocate” Hall of Fame at this Luncheon. This award is designed to recognize and honor an individual that has dedicated their time and efforts in support of the Business Community. The recipient’s name will be included on a plaque that will be displayed at the Chamber office and will receive a recognition award at the Luncheon. This year, we are honored to announce that the recipient of the “2020 Business Advocate” Hall of Fame is John Zagrobelny, Co-Owner & Co-Founder of the Olde World Restaurant & Sherwood Forest Lounge. Accepting the award on behalf of John Zagrobelny will be his wife, Christine Zagrobelny. City of North Port City Manager Peter Lear will provide the State of the City Address Report and the Chamber will present their Annual Report to the Chamber membership. Tickets for this event sell out every year. Cost is $35.00 per person for Chamber members and guests. Table sponsorships are available for $350.00 (includes seating for table of eight, listing in the program, name at table and verbal recognition at the event) and 1/2 table sponsorships are available for $200.00 (includes seating for four people, listing in the program, name at table and verbal recognition at the event). The deadline to make reservations is Friday, January 17, 2020.

Lunch & Learn Workshops
The North Port Area Chamber of Commerce will seek input from Chamber members and the public in selecting topics for the 2020 Lunch & Learn Workshop Series. The Lunch & Learn Workshop Series is held monthly and provides free training on various topics of interest to business professionals at no cost to the participants. Each workshop is conducted by professionals in the field of the topics that are selected. The workshops are open to the business community and to the public and participants are provided with a complimentary lunch sponsored by local businesses. The Chamber is inviting all Chamber members and individuals from the public to attend the next Breakfast Club Networking, to be held on Monday, January 6, 2020 at 7:30 am at the Olde World Restaurant, located at 14415 Tamiami Trail in North Port. There is no cost to attend unless you wish to order a meal off their delicious breakfast menu.

Happy Holidays
On behalf of the North Port Area Chamber of Commerce, I would like to wish everyone a safe and prosperous New Year and encourage each business to make a “Resolution” to expand their efforts
and make a commitment to help their business grow and be more successful. The North Port Area Chamber of Commerce will continue to make every effort to help make this “Resolution” come true for you and help make 2020 the best year ever!

William J. Gunnin

William J. Gunnin
Executive Director
North Port Area Chamber of Commerce

Happy New Year!

We had a fantastic Year End Membership Drive in December; many new Members joined our Chamber family and I’m anxious to see who the winner will be of the 55-inch smart TV. The winner will be drawn at the Annual Meeting & State of the City Address Luncheon on Wednesday, January 22. If you would like to attend, please register online or call the Chamber office to make your reservation.

As we enter 2020, I’d like you to think about who you can share the opportunity of becoming a Member of the Chamber with. Think outside the box, if may not be another business, it could be someone who can join as a friend of the Chamber or even a Non-profit Organization. For every referral that joins, your membership account receives a credit of $25.00. Those credits can be applied to advertising opportunities or event tickets. I know 2020 is going to be a fantastic year! I look forward to working with all of you.

Sue Schultz
Membership Coordinator
The North Port Chamber of Commerce is pleased to have these partners renew their annual investment in the community:

- Atlanta Braves Spring Training Facility
- Boca Beacon/Gasparilla Magazine
- Buffalo Graffix
- Charles McCollum
- CUBIC Advisors, LLC
- Do-Well Painting, LLC
- Englewood Innovation Center
- Gelmtree Advertising
- Habitat for Humanity South Sarasota County
- Harbor at Lemon Bay
- Heron Creek animal Hospital
- Island Life Real Estate
- John S. Wood
- LongHorn Steakhouse
- MarineMax East, Inc.
- Mosaic Fertilizer
- North Port Performing Arts Association, Inc.
- Rob Christy Photography
- South County Tiger Bay
- Sweet Scoops Gourmet Ice Cream
- The Homeless Coalition
- Total Martial Arts & Fitness
- Valerie LaBoy - Weichert, Realtors
- Gulf Coast Group
- Wharton-Smith
Veteran Visits - December

SeePort 10 Years

Rhonda Gustitus Team, Keller Williams 20 Years

North Port Art Center 30 Years

Go Team Visit - December

Solorzaro Pizzeria of North Port
Chamber Networking Breakfast

Put your morning to work!

Location: The Olde World Restaurant
14415 Tamiami Trail
North Port

Day/Date/Time: Monday
January 6, 2020
7:30 am

New Day of the Week this Month ONLY!

We will be discussing topics for 2020 Lunch & Learn Workshops

**There is no cost to attend unless you wish to order breakfast off their delicious breakfast menu**

You may register ahead of time online at www.NorthPortAreaChamber.com

For more information, please call the Chamber Office at 941-564-3040.
Join North Port Area Chamber of Commerce in a Ribbon Cutting and Grand Opening for

TOMMY'S EXPRESS CAR WASH

Tuesday, January 7, 12 Noon
1141 Front Place, North Port

Refreshments will be available.
North Port Meals on Wheels

Business After Hours

Tuesday, January 14, 2020
Sponsored & Hosted by:

Meals on Wheels

13600 Tamiami Trail, North Port
5:30 pm – 7:00 pm
Thursday, January 16th
5:30pm-7:30pm
A NIGHT OF NETWORKING

Join us at the Charlotte Sports Park for an evening of networking and light food & refreshment

Truex Preferred Construction will be hosting a wine-tasting to benefit:

Thank you to our sponsors:
Join North Port Area Chamber of Commerce
In a Ribbon Cutting and Grand Opening for

Friday, January 17, 4-6 pm
12457 S. Tamiami Trail, Ste 2-OFC, North Port

Refreshments will be available.
The North Port Area Chamber cordially invites you to attend our
34th Annual Meeting & State of the City Address Luncheon

Wednesday, January 22, 2020
11:30 am - 1:30 pm
Suncoast Technical College
4445 Career Lane, North Port

Join us at the Chamber’s Annual Meeting/Report and
to hear City Manager Peter Lear give the Annual State of the City Address
and share in the presentation of the 2020 Business Advocate Award to:

John Zagrobelny
Co-owner & Co-founder
Olde World Restaurant
& Sherwood Forest Lounge

Cost: Individual $35.00 per person
Full Table (seats 8) $350 (includes premiere seating table sign, name listed in program and recognition at luncheon)
1/2 Table (seats 4) $200 (includes premiere seating table sign, name listed in program and recognition at luncheon)

Meal catered by LongHorn Steakhouse: Choice of steak with mashed potatoes and green beans, salad & bread
or salmon over rice with green beans, salad & bread

Name: ______________________________________  Company: ______________________________________
Email: ______________________________________  Phone: ________________________________
Please reserve ____ ticket(s) or ____ table at $________________     Platinum or Gold Chamber Champion Benefit ____
The following people will be attending:
1. _______________________________  steak/salmon  2. _______________________________  steak/salmon
3. _______________________________  steak/salmon  4. _______________________________  steak/salmon
5. _______________________________  steak/salmon  6. _______________________________  steak/salmon
7. _______________________________  steak/salmon  8. _______________________________  steak/salmon

___ check enclosed     ____invoice me     ____below is my credit card information
Card type: Visa/MasterCard/Discover/AMEX  Number: ____________________________________________
Expiration date: ________  CVV: ________  Zipcode: _________  Signature: ___________________________

**Reservations are required and payment must be received by Friday, January 17, 2020
North Port Area Chamber of Commerce, 1337 N. Sumter Boulevard, North Port, FL 34286
Phone (941)564-3040  Fax (941)200-5713
The North Port Area Chamber of Commerce will be hosting a Chamber Orientation and Web Training for prospective, new or current Chamber members who wish to learn more about the Chamber of Commerce and how to use the tools the Chamber offers to help make their business be successful.

The **Orientation** will take place at the Sarasota Memorial Hospital ER - Community Room, located at 2345 Bobcat Village Center Rd., 2nd Floor, North Port, January 29; March 25, May 27; July 29; and September 30 from 8:30 am—9:30 am.

Followed by a **Web Training** from 9:45—10:45 am. *Please bring your laptop or tablet to follow along.*

Attend one or both! There is no cost to attend the Orientation and donuts, coffee & water will be provided.

To reserve a spot for the Orientation and or Web Training, please register online, call the Chamber Office at (941) 564-3040, or e-mail info@northportareachamber.com
NORTH PORT YOUNG PROFESSIONALS MEET THE 4TH WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH!

JOIN US ON JANUARY 29TH AT 5:30PM TO

MIX & MINGLE AT THE ATLANTA BRAVES STADIUM TIKI BAR
18800 S. West Villages Pkwy, Venice

Our Membership has spots open for the upcoming 2020 year.

ANYONE AGES 21-40 IS WELCOME TO JOIN US IN THE NORTH PORT AND SURROUNDING AREAS. THERE IS NO COST TO BE A MEMBER.

Contact John Colligan from The Rhonda Gustitus Team at Keller Williams Realty at 941-451-0653
ARE YOU READY?

The NPYP is a group of like minded individuals looking to grow their skills & building their businesses through networking. If you are interested in growing your business and meeting other young professionals we hope to see you at our next event!

For more information please call John Colligan from The Rhonda Gustitus Team at Keller Williams Realty at 941-451-0653!
Be a Leadership Sponsor!

2020 Leadership North Port is seeking sponsors for Leadership Day Sessions (maximum of 2 per day)

$250 Donation

Benefits to Donor:
• Thank You in front of Leadership participants
• Opportunity to address the Leadership participants at Day Session
• Provide business cards, flyers or handouts for Leadership participants
• Recognition in Chamber newsletter and at Leadership Graduation
• Opportunity to attend part or all of the Day Session sponsored
• PLUS a ticket to the Leadership Graduation

Purpose of Donation:
Your donation will help defray the cost of transportation required to transport the Leadership participants, as a group, to various locations during their Day Sessions. Leadership North Port is not subsidized by the North Port Area Chamber of Commerce. It is a self-supporting program which educates current and future leaders on a variety of topics designed to create a greater awareness and understanding of the community, its issues and its needs.

Day Sessions .. 8am-5pm
November 1, 2019 .. Community Growth & Transportation
December 13, 2019 .. Human Services (FGB)
January 10, 2020 .. Government (Rothco Signs)
January 22, 2020 .. Arts & Culture (evening session at North Port Art Center)
February 14, 2020 .. Media & Justice (Gale West, Your Health Consultant)
March 13, 2020 .. Environment & Tourism
April 10, 2020 .. Manufacturing & Commerce (Buffalo Graffix)
May 8, 2020 .. Education
June 12, 2020 .. Healthcare

Graduation
June 26, 2020 .. Heron Creek (evening)

Please contact:
North Port Area Chamber of Commerce
1337 N. Sumter Boulevard
North Port, FL 34286
941-564-3040
info@northportareachamber.com

Leadership North Port is a program of North Port Area Chamber of Commerce.
Giving Tree 2019
Annual Awards & Frosty Lunch
Annual Awards & Frosty Lunch
Ribbon Cutting - DLP/Brite Homes
Ribbon Cutting - MonarchDirect
6th Annual
A Night At The Races

PRESENTED BY

Key Agency, Inc.
INSURANCE Since 1952

HORSE RACING - CASINO GAMES - FOOD & BEVERAGES - VALET PARKING
HAT CONTEST - PHOTO BOOTH - 50/50 - LIVE AUCTION - RAFFLE PRIZES

HORSE RACING
Saturday May 16th, 2020
George Mullen Activity Center
5PM - 10PM

$40 Individual Ticket - $75 Couples Ticket
(each ticket includes Food, Beverages & $10 in Play Money!)

ANY WINNINGS WILL BE REDEEMED IN PLAY MONEY AND CAN BE USED TO BET, PLAY CASINO GAMES, OR BUY RAFFLE TICKETS & AUCTION ITEMS. YOU MUST BE 21 TO ATTEND THIS EVENT.

ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT NORTH PORT Area Chamber of Commerce

SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE CALL 941-564-3040
North Port Area Chamber of Commerce 1337 N. Sumter Boulevard, North Port, FL 34286 - 941. 564.3040
BUSINESS & COMMUNITY GROWING TOGETHER

The Communicator is a monthly publication of the North Port Area Chamber of Commerce:

1337 N. Sumter Boulevard
North Port, FL 33986
Phone: 941-564-3040
Fax: 941-200-5713

Email:
info@northportareachamber.com

Web:
www.northportareachamber.com

CHAMBER STATISTICS

December 2019 YTD 2019

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Your Chamber Working For You

2019-2020

Executive Committee:
President: Matt Dill (Stellar Web Production)
Immediate Past President: Bill Werdell (Achieva Credit Union)
Incoming President: David Roth (Rothco Signs & Design)
Treasurer: Jackie Normand (Busey Bank)
Secretary: Gale West (Your Health Consultant)

Directors:
Frank Gailer (A&F Shuttle Transportation With Class LLC)
Tony Gustitus (Keller Williams Peace River Partners, Rhonda Gustitus Team)
Mike Juaire (Security Alarm Corporation)
Valerie LaBoy (Weichert, Realtors Gulf Coast Group)
Kelly Louke (Charlotte State Bank & Trust)
Jamie Lovern (Lolablue)
Sharon Matthews (Allstate Insurance - Steve Matthews Agency)
Ed Rinkewich (Dream Vactaions)
Amy Schuldt (Kyle Kurtis Salon & Spa)
Ray Witkowski (Key Agency, Inc.)
Linda Zick, IBC (Mary Kay)

AARP Volunteers: Debbie Nichols and Terry Baker

The mission of the North Port Area Chamber of Commerce is to promote and encourage business prosperity and to enhance economic development through advocacy, engagement and cooperation.