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THE SANTA ROSAN

January 2025

Publication of the Santa Rosa County Chamber of Commerce

www.srcchamber.com

(850) 623-2339

4315 Avalon Blvd., Milton, Florida

****Leading ~ Connecting ~ Supporting Our Community****

Kelley Handyman Services LLC

Honest Service with a Smile

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Celebrating three – 3 years in business!

Kelley Handyman Services, LLC: Your Trusted Local Handyman Expert A Legacy of Craftsmanship and Dedication from humble beginnings as a bricklayer, John Kelley's journey to becoming the proud owner of Kelley Handyman Services, LLC is a testament to his unwavering commitment to craftsmanship and customer satisfaction.

Home - Kelley Handyman Services LLC –
<https://kelleyhandyman.com>



What is new with Your Chamber?

2025 is a new year and exciting things are going on at the Santa Rosa County Chamber! This year will bring a new Board Chair, newsletter, events and board members. We are excited to see this change and we hope our members are as well.



2025 Board Members

Executive Committee

Chairman–Mike Johnson, Individual Member

Vice Chair-Elect–Erin Vaughn, Sunbelt Title

Ambassador Chair– Lee Irving, Landrum Workforce Solutions

Treasurer– Jennfer Micklos, The First

Secretary– Lechia Froman, United Bank

Chamber Board Members

Tracy Allen, Goosehead Insurance

Rhett Fendley, Premier Wealth Management Partners

Frank Hoskins, Owen Hoskins Consulting, LLC

Pastor Jeremy Holley, Immanuel Baptist Church

Debbie Kemp, Pen Air Credit Union

Pete Morgan, Service Matters Realty & Property Management

Mirella Savage, United Way of West Florida

Larry Strain, Individual Member

Bailee Stewart, Lamar Advertising

Robin Vickers, University of Florida, WFREC

Anna Weaver, United Bank

Ex Officio Members

Ed Spears, City of Milton

Captain Ted Elkins, NAS Whiting Field Commanding Officer

Bridgette Price & Shannon Ogletree, SRC Economic Development Office

Jennifer Hines, SRC School District

January

Chamber Calendar

- January 6.....**Jay Chamber Meeting**, 11:30 a.m.
Jay Community Center, 5259 Booker St., Jay
- January 7.....**Ribbon Cutting for Ridge Back Renovations**, 9:00 a.m.
SRC Chamber of Commerce, 4315 Avalon Blvd., Milton
- January 8.....**Ribbon Cutting for C.H. Trees**, 9:00 a.m.
SRC Chamber of Commerce, 4315 Avalon Blvd., Milton
- January 10 & 11..**LSR Class 38 & Facilitators ONLY** –SimSoc
SpringHill Suites, Navarre Beach
- January 14.....**SRC Legislative Coalition**, 8:30 a.m.
SRC Chamber of Commerce, 4315 Avalon Blvd., Milton
- January 17.....**88th Community Leadership Awards & Luncheon**, 11:30 a.m.
SRC Auditorium, 4530 Spikes Way, Milton
- January 20.....**MLK Day, Chamber Closed**
- January 24.....**A.M. Network, Sailor of the Quarter**, 7:30 a.m.
The Cutting Board, 5701 Highway 90, Milton
- January 27.....**SRC CoC Board of Directors Planning Workshop**, 3:00 p.m.
SRC Chamber of Commerce, 4315 Avalon Blvd., Milton

January

Community Calendar

January 2...**Empowering Women in Business Networking Lunch**, 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
Registration is REQUIRED!

SRC Chamber of Commerce, 4315 Avalon Blvd., Milton

January 4...**USS Harry Mudd Star Trek & SF Club Meeting**, 4:00 p.m.
SRC Chamber of Commerce, 4315 Avalon Blvd., Milton

January 8...**Kiwanis of Milton Sunrise Meeting**, 12 Noon-1:00 p.m.
SRC Chamber of Commerce, 4315 Avalon Blvd., Milton

January 14...**Milton Garden Club Meeting**, 9:00 a.m.
Magnolia Hall, 5256 Alabama St., Milton

January 14...**Networking 101**, 11:30 a.m.
SRC Chamber of Commerce, 4315 Avalon Blvd., Milton

January 14...**Navy League Santa Rosa Council Meeting**, 1:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.
Milton PD, 5451 Alabama St., Milton

January 14...**Adulting 101: Family Wealth & Legacy Planning**, 5:30 p.m.
For more info contact Joiner Law Firm at info@ehjoiner.com
SRC Chamber of Commerce, 4315 Avalon Blvd., Milton

January 14...**City of Milton Council Meeting**, 5:45 p.m.
City Hall, 6738 Dixon St., Milton

January 14...**Compassionate Friends Meeting**, 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.
7979 N. 9th Ave., Pensacola

January 15...**S.N.A.P.**, 4:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m.
Rosie O'Grady's, Seville Quarter, Pensacola

January 16...**Milton Dementia Support Group**, 1:00 p.m.–2:30 p.m.
Clyde L. Gracey Community Center, 5629 Byrom St, Room 113, Milton

January 21...**Dementia Caregiver Support Group**, 1:00 p.m.
The Beacon at Gulf Breeze, 4410 Gulf Breeze Pkwy., Gulf Breeze

January 21...**Milton Amateur Radio Club Meeting**, 5:00 p.m.
SRC Chamber of Commerce, 4315 Avalon Blvd., Milton

January 23...**Blackwater Pyrates Meeting**, 6:30 p.m.
SRC Chamber of Commerce, 4315 Avalon Blvd., Milton

January 25...**First Presbyterian Church's Knotty Prayers Ministry**, 10:00 a.m.
Call (850)623-2510 to confirm and for location.

January 25...**Redneck Riviera Smokers Backyard BBQ School**, 11:00 am.
SRC Chamber of Commerce, 4315 Avalon Blvd., Milton

January 28...**Kennedy Financial Services Meeting**, 5:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m.
Contact Kevin at kevink82@gmail.com for more info.
SRC Chamber of Commerce, 4315 Avalon Blvd., Milton

January Membership Milestones

20 Years

United Bank

10 Years

Joe Baker Construction, Inc.

Please support these businesses, individuals, and organizations that support our community!

Be an Ambassador!

Consider joining an elite group of Chamber members that volunteer and support the functions of our Chamber. The Ambassadors represent the Chamber at events, ribbon cuttings and help when needed. They are the first impressions to new members and they love to mentor new members and show them the ropes. If you are interested in becoming a Chamber Ambassador, contact us at (850)623-2339.



December lunch was sponsored by Juan and Margarita Vazquez, of Primerica.



Let's welcome our newest members!

Welcome to YOUR Chamber!

- ***Adrian Woods Homeowners Association (850) 407-8122***
www.adrianwoodshoa.com
- ***C.H. Trees LLC (850) 542-8787***
www.facebook.com/C.H.Trees
- ***Coastal Pix Photo Booth (334) 531-7570***
www.facebook.com/CoastalPixPhotoBooth
- ***Critter Control (334) 531-7570***
www.crittercontrol.com
- ***H&H Residential Plans, LLC (850) 910-5610***
www.handhresidential.com
- ***Hidden Oak Farm (850) 932-0067***
www.hiddenoakfarmvenue.com
- ***LegalShield (205) 451-6848***
andyentrekin08@gmail.com
- ***Ridge Back Renovations (850) 712-3805***
www.ridgebackrenovations.com
- ***Schuyler Field-Individual Member***
- ***West Florida Area Health Education Center (850) 682-2552***
www.westfloridaahec.org



Santa Rosa Leadership Class 37 wrapped up their curriculum year on November 21st with Health & Safety Day.

The class started the day with breakfast and presentations by our local Health Department led by Matt Dobson. Next, we had a tour of the Santa Rosa Kids' House and learned of all the services they provide to the kids in our community. We then traveled over to the Santa Rosa Emergency Operations Center and saw firsthand how our 911 operations center works. We took a break for lunch at Santa Rosa Medical Center and got to hear from their CEO and Assistant CEO of how our local community hospital is making a difference, along with all the amazing medical services that they are now offering to the community. We heard from Tammy Ward about organ and tissue donation and how you can save many lives if you choose to donate. Lastly, we wrapped up our day with a Stop The Bleed Training class provided by BRACE.

Pictured here you can see how Escambia County and Santa Rosa County work together by making each county stronger by combining our resources and knowledge.



Congratulations to Leadership Santa Rosa Class 37!



A special thank you to our sponsors:



Bill Brock, Class 25



31st Annual Chamber Golf Tournament

Sponsored By:



TEAM BRUCE BAKER, MBA

RE/MAX INFINITY

Thanks to all of our sponsors, players and volunteers that make this event a success!



Our annual Dirty Santa Christmas Luncheon was held on Friday, December 13th at Ace's Hangar. We had a full house and enjoyed an exciting game of Dirty Santa! Thanks to our sponsor Harvesters Credit Union for graciously sponsoring the lunch! Congratulations to Trace Seib on winning the Storm Package Grand Prize for our RISE raffle fundraiser organized by the LSR Alumni Association.



**THANK YOU,
HARVESTERS CREDIT UNION!**



50/50 WINNER-LEE IRVING



**THANK YOU, BLACKWATER BAY TOURS FOR THE GIFT
CERTIFICATES!**



CHEERS!



The annual Chamber Christmas Breakfast was held at Locklin Technical College where a delish meal was prepared by the culinary students. Thanks to everyone who came and enjoyed each other's company. Special thanks to A Joyful Noise for the beautiful Christmas music they performed for everyone and thanks to our sponsor Santa Rosa County Schools.



Thanks to everyone who brought door prizes:

- **Express Employment-Brenda Kay Hammel**
- **ESCAPE LOL-Tracey Johnson**
- **Eglin Federal Credit Union**
- **The Penton House Salon & Day Spa**





Leadership Santa Rosa Class 38!



"Oh the places you will go." - Dr. Seuss



EXPLORE FUTURE RING 2025



88TH COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP AWARDS &
INSTALLATION LUNCHEON
JANUARY 17TH, 2025 AT 11:30 A.M.
SANTA ROSA COUNTY AUDITORIUM

DIAMOND SPONSORS



REGISTER WITH THE QR CODE OR LINK:



<https://tinyurl.com/COCAIL25>



CALL THE CHAMBER AT (850) 623-2339 FOR MORE INFO!

Emerald Coast Wildlife Refuge presents:

Martini Gras

Martini Shake-Off & Cajun Food Competition

Tickets on sale now!

When: Feb. 1st 2025, 6-10pm

Where: St. Sylvesters Catholic Church in Navarre

What: Wear your mardi-gras best and join us for an evening of festivities and sampling the finest martini's and cajun dishes!



Scan the QR code to purchase your tickets or learn more on our website!



Enter as a competitor!



HELP REVITALIZE OUR COMMUNITY



If you have a desire to give back to the community in a meaningful way, we invite you to become a volunteer for United Way of West Florida's VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) Program!

The VITA Program provides tax preparation assistance to hardworking individuals and families in Escambia and Santa Rosa counties. This service is **100% free** to those who come to our sites for income tax preparation.



We are in need of bilingual volunteers! Help expand VITA services to more individuals and families in our area.

BENEFITS TO VOLUNTEERING

- Flexible volunteer hours
- Local tax preparing sites
- Rewarding experience directly assisting our neighbors in need.
- Learn a new skill that will serve you for a lifetime
- Receive IRS certification as a volunteer tax preparer
- Resume builder

DID YOU KNOW?

Last year VITA Volunteers:

852 tax returns filed by VITA volunteers for FREE!	\$200,000 saved by individuals and families in tax return fees
\$850,000	in refunds brought back into our community!

GET STARTED

Learn more and sign up to be a VITA volunteer at uwwf.org/vita.
Join us Tuesdays for virtual informational sessions.
If you have any questions about VITA please contact mike.eveland@uwwf.org.



Redneck Riviera Smokers Backyard BBQ School



In my 30+ years of cooking award winning Texas style BBQ for my family, friends and competition judges, I've had many people ask me if I had ever considered offering a "school" that would help everyone from beginners to backyard pit masters tackle some of the challenges unique to grilling and smoking meats, especially brisket, pork butt, spare ribs and chicken.

Well, it always sounded like a fun thing to do, so I've decided to give it a try.

Join us for this 1 day class, where you will learn the art and science of barbecue. This class is great for any level of experience – from the first time backyarder, to the seasoned competitor. During our time together I'll share my techniques and tips I have learned over the past 30 years of cooking, teaching you how to make the best food in the neighborhood or for the judges. The tips & recipes that have helped me win local competitions and run a successful BBQ business.

We'll start the day at 11:00am with a lunch featuring our Texas Style Smoked Brisket, Jack Daniel's Brown Sugar Pulled Pork and Boneless Smoked Chicken Thighs. Complimented by the best BBQ baked beans I've ever eaten, (recipe created by my Son) and my Wife's Cajun creamy potato salad.

Next we'll discuss a brief history of BBQ in the America's. The four types of BBQ in the United States. We will cover both low and slow as well as hot and fast styles of cooking. We'll discuss seasonings and rubs. Meat selection, trimming tips and the types of equipment you will need. This class on techniques and methods is NOT specific to any one type of cooking device, it is adaptable for all. We'll wrap-up around 5:00pm.

The cost for the class is only \$295! Class will be held at Santa Rosa Chamber of Commerce, 4315 Avalon Blvd, Milton, FL on Jan.25th 2025. For more information and registration contact me at chuck@redneckrivierasokers.com or 850.525.0017. Spaces will be limited to 20 attendees.

FaceBook: <https://www.facebook.com/Pacechuck2023/>

Mobile: 850.525.0017



BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU Foundation serving Northwest Florida Upcoming Events

STUDENT ETHICS SCHOLARSHIP



Apply today!

The Better Business Bureau Foundation serving Northwest Florida awards scholarships to graduating high school students residing within our service area who have demonstrated character, leadership, and ethical values. Applications are scored by an independent, volunteer panel of judges. Selected students will each receive \$1000 scholarships, sent on their behalf to any accredited college or trade school of their choice. Scholarships must be used within three years of receiving the award and will be distributed to the student's college or trade school upon verification of enrollment provided by recipients. Since 2006, the BBB Foundation of Northwest Florida has distributed over \$150,000 in scholarships to area graduating seniors.

For more information and scholarship criteria, please scan the QR code to the right, or visit bbb.org/local-bbb/bbb-of-northwest-florida.

TORCH AWARD for ETHICS



Nominate today!

Shine a Light on Your Ethics with the Better Business Bureau Torch Award for Ethics

The BBB Torch Awards honors businesses and non-profit organizations that maintain a solid commitment to conducting their business practices in an ethical fashion, and exemplify the BBB's mission to promote trust in the marketplace. Winners are selected by an independent panel of volunteer judges, who select winners based on criteria established by the BBB.

Key areas of evaluation:

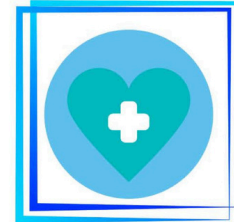
Leadership character | Positive company culture | Customer satisfaction | Community Engagement

Apply today to showcase your commitment to ethical business practices.

For more information and award criteria, please scan the QR code to the right, or visit bbb.org/local-bbb/bbb-of-northwest-florida.

BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU serving Northwest Florida
850.429.0002 | 800.729.9226 | bbb.org

Need Healthcare Coverage?
Enroll November 1st - January 15th
on Healthcare.gov



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to help.
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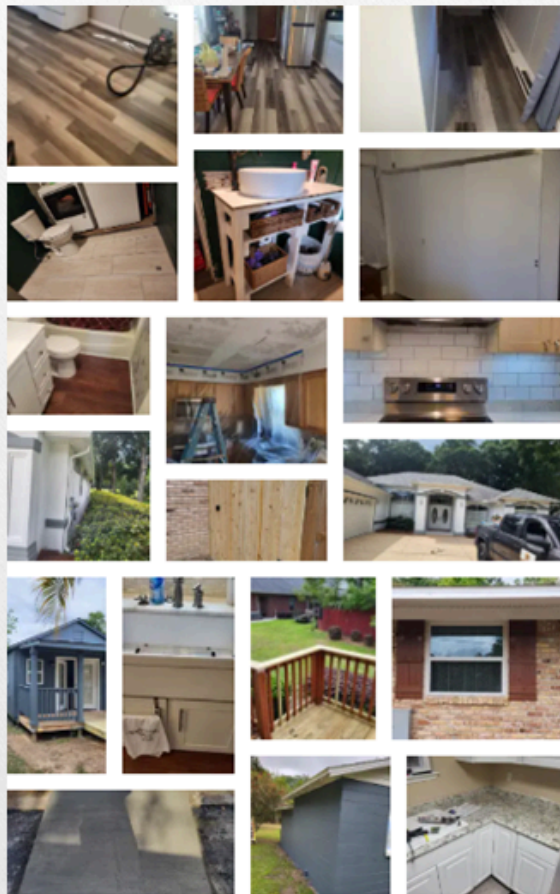


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Thanks to Kelley Handyman Services for sponsoring the January Santa Rosan!



Examples of work
www.kelleyhandyman.com



**Kelley
Handyman
Services LLC**
Honest Service
with a Smile
850-378-6262