

HONORING LOCAL SMALL BUSINESSES AND INDIVIDUALS
FOR THEIR EXCELLENCE IN OUR COMMUNITY



2017 FRANK G. BERLIN, SR.
SMALL BUSINESS
AWARDS

FRIDAY, JUNE 2, 2017

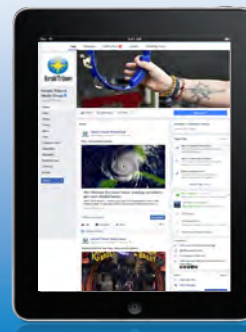
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media group



Sarasota is open for business.

The Herald-Tribune Media Group celebrates the outstanding accomplishments and achievements made by all of the small businesses throughout the Sarasota area.

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HATS OFF TO OUR COMMUNITY'S SMALL BUSINESSES!



SMALL BUSINESS IS BIG BUSINESS IN OUR COMMUNITY. No doubt, Sarasota wouldn't be what it is today without the contributions of countless trailblazing entrepreneurs who had the courage and foresight to go into businesses and almost always take big risks by starting small. Not only do small businesses meet our daily needs for virtually all types of goods and services, but they are one of the largest contributors to private sector job growth here and across the United States.

Your Chamber of Commerce can certainly feel the aggregate impact of small businesses. More than 80 percent of your membership has no more than 20 employees; a full 90 percent have staffs of 50 or less. For these and many other reasons, it is appropriate that The Greater Sarasota Chamber of Commerce honors extraordinary entrepreneurs, and salutes all small businesses, through our annual Small Business Awards.

The Frank G. Berlin, Sr. Small Business Awards, presented by the Herald-Tribune Media Group, was established to honor small business entrepreneurs throughout the greater Sarasota area. Mr. Berlin, in many ways, symbolizes the spirit of the award. He saw the enormous potential of having his own small business in the 1930s and succeeded in a number of ventures. Mr. Berlin also epitomizes the hopes and dreams of contemporary businesspeople, and actively supported and encouraged many of them. He became chairman of The Sarasota Chamber of Commerce in 1946 and was the driving force behind the formation of the Sarasota YMCA. The Chamber is grateful to Mr. Berlin for lending his name to our annual awards program, which began in 1991.

The Chamber honors its member small businesses in six categories:

- Health Care & Wellness Organization of the Year
- Hospitality & Tourism Business of the Year
- Non-Profit Organization of the Year
- Products & Services Business of the Year
- Professional Services Business of the Year
- Retail Business of the Year

Nominees complete a written application and the top scoring nominees in each category are selected as finalists. Each finalist is invited for an interview with a panel of judges comprised of their peers, including past winners. Amongst the winners in each category, one will ultimately be recognized as The Greater Sarasota Chamber of Commerce Top Honor Small Business of the Year.

The awards luncheon, held each June, wouldn't be possible without the generous support of key sponsors. These include the following:



Thanks also goes out to our volunteers, independent judges, and those who nominated such deserving companies and individuals. We celebrate all small businesses and want to particularly salute those being recognized as finalists or winners in this year's award process.

Kevin Cooper, Chamber President and CEO

2017 FRANK G. BERLIN, SR. SMALL BUSINESS AWARDS

TOP HONOR SMALL BUSINESS OF THE YEAR AWARD

Sponsored by: *Herald-Tribune Media Group*

HEALTH CARE & WELLNESS ORGANIZATION OF THE YEAR

Sponsored by: *Lakewood Ranch Medical Center*

The nominees are:

Gulfcoast South Area Health Education Center, Inc.
Hearing Loss Association of America
Dr. Thomas A. Bowles D.D.S., P.A.

HOSPITALITY & TOURISM ORGANIZATION OF THE YEAR

Sponsored by: *Sarasota-Bradenton
International Airport*

The nominees are:

Marina Jack – Marina Operations
Mixon Fruit Farms
Tableside Restaurant Group

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION OF THE YEAR

Sponsored by: *Kerkering, Barberio & Co.*

The nominees are:

Safe Place and Rape Crisis Center (SPARCC)
SunCoast Blood Bank
Van Wezel Foundation

PRODUCTS & SERVICES BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

The nominees are:

Canada Med Services/Discount Prescription Services
Coast to Coast Pools
Gilbert Design Build

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

Sponsored by: *Hyatt Regency Sarasota*

The nominees are:

Caldwell Trust Company
J.E. Charlotte Construction Corp.
Hall Architects

RETAIL BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

Sponsored by: *Shumaker, Loop & Kendrick, LLP*

The nominees are:

DutchCrafters
Millennium Shutters
Sunshine Baskets

HEALTH CARE & WELLNESS ORGANIZATION OF THE YEAR

The 2017 finalists in the Health Care & Wellness category share a mission that is about improving our area's wellbeing. Health care businesses are predicted to have the fastest growth of all industries between 2014 and 2024, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.



GULF COAST SOUTH AREA HEALTH EDUCATION CENTER

The Gulfcoast South Area Health Education Center (GSAHEC) has provided health education to improve the well being of the communities it serves for more than 20 years. That includes developing, implementing, and evaluating health education and awareness programs and facilitating access to quality health care in Sarasota, Charlotte, Desoto, and Manatee Counties.

GSAHEC runs health career camps and mentoring programs for youth, medical interpreting training for local healthcare providers, and works to improve the access and quality of health care for medically underserved individuals. Since 2007, GSAHEC has also provided tobacco cessation services. The organization's mandate is to use the resources of academic medicine to address local community health needs, help correct healthcare inequities, and strengthen the community's health care safety net.



HEARING LOSS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA – SARASOTA MANATEE

The mission of the Hearing Loss Association (HLAA) of Sarasota Manatee is to expand communication for the 145,000 local people with hearing loss by providing information, education, advocacy, and support. The nonprofit, launched locally in 1988, teaches members how to self-help and self-advocate for their hearing needs.

The HLAA's impact has been significant. Its promotional

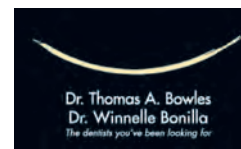


and financial support efforts, including securing underwriting grants, has resulted in the installation of more hearing loop systems in Sarasota than any other city in the U.S. More than 120 local venues – theatres, meeting places, houses of worship, and more – have acquired these 'access technology' systems thanks to HLAA. Loop systems work by sending a voice from a microphone on stage, directly into the hearing aid of audience members, significantly improving their clarity and understanding of communication.

DR. THOMAS A. BOWLES, D.D.S., P.A.

Innovation, education and state-of-the-art dentistry, in a relaxing and inviting atmosphere, are the hallmarks of the offices of Dr. Thomas A. Bowles, D.D.S., P.A. The priority here is to alleviate stress or anxiety so patients are able to better focus on improving their dental health and make informed decisions about their esthetic, comprehensive, or general dentistry needs.

Reducing stress financially, so that patients can get the dentistry services they need, is a part of this effort. Its in-office program, Dental Savings Plan, offers reduced fees and elimi-



HEALTH CARE & WELLNESS ORGANIZATION OF THE YEAR

Sponsored by: Lakewood Ranch Medical Center

FINALISTS

Gulfcoast South Area Health Education Center, Inc.

Darlene Sparks, Executive Director
2201 Cantu Ct., Suite 220, Sarasota
941-361-6602 | gsahec.org

Hearing Loss Association of America – Sarasota-Manatee Chapter

JoAnne DeVries, President
P.O. Box 48643, Sarasota
941-320-8825 | hlaa.org

Dr. Thomas A. Bowles D.D.S., P.A.

Dr. Thomas A. Bowles, Owner
5677 S. Beneva Rd., Sarasota
941-923-3545 | srqsmile.com



nates various insurance restrictions. Community involvement is also big at the practice. Dr. Bowles has sponsored groups that range from athletic, such as Riverview Rams and the Sarasota Shock Baseball teams to social services like SPARCC, Forty Carrots Parenting Programs, and more.

2017 FRANK G. BERLIN, SR.
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HOSPITALITY & TOURISM ORGANIZATION OF THE YEAR

Our area is well known for its hotels, restaurants, attractions, and resorts. These 2017 finalists in the Hospitality & Tourism Business category – a sector that is slated to increase nationally, particularly in Florida – are top models for business success.

MARINA JACK – MARINA OPERATIONS

Marina Jack's Marina Operations have served our community for nearly 40 years. The facility is an all-service, waterfront marina set in one of the most visible landmarks and hospitality centers in the area. It boasts 316 wet and dry slips, fuel dock, fully appointed ship's store, and on-site yacht services department, with generous upland amenities for daily, weekly, seasonal, monthly, and annual guests.

While Marina Jack is city-owned, the Marina is privately operated. The entire campus covers 23 acres of water and uplands in the heart of downtown Sarasota. Launched in 1969, Marina Jack continues to prosper and set an example of how public and private sectors can work together. It maintains its original goals of serving as a first class marina for Sarasota's residents and establishing a landmark in which the community can be proud of.



MIXON FRUIT FARMS

Mixon Fruit Farms has been a family-run company for more than 75 years. In that time it has consistently and boldly diversified into tourism and hospitality areas in order to meet the changing economy. Citrus is still a major portion of the business, but the property now offers tropical fruit and grapes for the summer, a 14,000 sq. ft. gift shop, and deli. It provides its juice and famous orange swirl ice cream to more than 50 local businesses including the Baltimore Orioles and the Pittsburgh Pirates.

There is a tram tour through the grove to learn about the Mixon family, the history of citrus and to get an up-close look at critters like crocodiles, alligators, hawks, owls, and pythons. The company also hosts many private and corporate events – so much so that it has launched a wedding website at www.ThePavillionatMixonFarms.com, and will release one soon for birthday parties and play.



2017 FRANK G. BERLIN, SR.
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HOSPITALITY & TOURISM ORGANIZATION OF THE YEAR

TABLESEIDE RESTAURANT GROUP

Tableside Restaurant Group is the corporate identity behind Libby's Cafe + Bar, Lbar, The Francis, Louie's Modern, Muse, Banyan Cafe, Modern Events (catering), and Oak & Stone. Its concepts offer unique dining and catering experiences focused on refined, yet approachable cuisine and atmosphere.

Tableside offers support to all those restaurants and hospitality-based entities, with a focus on human resources, recruiting, training, accounting, sales, and marketing. It is a family-owned and operated group that thrives on attention to quality, service consistency, and genuine hospitality. Tableside's management style is influenced by more than thirty years in hospitality management and a passion for the world of culinary arts.



HOSPITALITY & TOURISM ORGANIZATION OF THE YEAR

Sponsored by: Sarasota-Bradenton International Airport

FINALISTS

Marina Jack – Marina Operations

Sam Chavers, VP Marina Operations
2 Marina Plaza, Sarasota
941-955-9488 | marinajacks.com

Mixon Fruit Farms

Janet Mixon, Vice President
2525 27th St. E., Bradenton
941-748-5829 | mixon.com

Tableside Restaurant Group

Joe Seidensticker, CEO
1235 Gulfstream Ave., Sarasota
941-538-7330 | tableside.com

We Are Proud To Be Recognized As A Finalists For The Sarasota Chamber Of Commerce 2017 Frank G. Berlin, Sr. Small Business Awards, This Honor Supports Our Commitment To Being The Best For Our Community And The Customers We Serve.

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NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION OF THE YEAR

The finalists in the Non-Profit Organization of the Year category are dedicated to providing social, cultural and health services vital to our communities.

SAFE PLACE AND RAPE CRISIS CENTER (SPARCC)

The Safe Place and Rape Crisis Center's (SPARCC) mission is "to lead, inform and inspire the people of our communities to create and maintain an environment free of domestic and sexual abuse and violence." Starting as a non-profit battered women's shelter in 1979 with one staff member and a few volunteers, SPARCC is now an agency with a 24-bed shelter, an outreach center, five transitional housing apartments, satellite outreach offices, onsite advocacy services in area courthouses, and an educational/prevention program.

As the only state-certified center for domestic violence and sexual assault services for Sarasota and DeSoto counties, all of SPARCC's services are free and confidential.

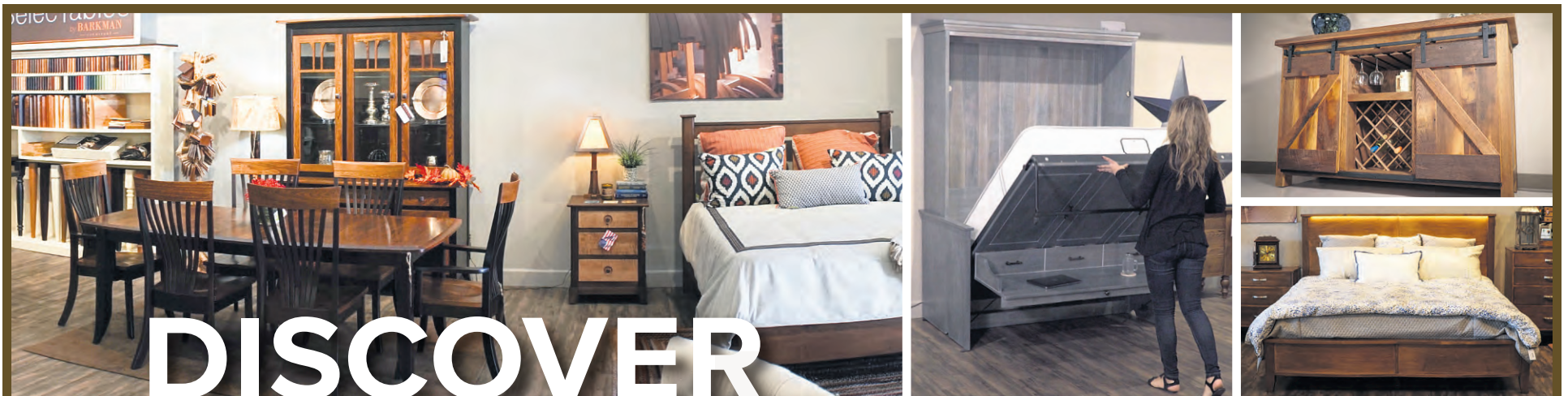
The agency provides a 24-hour hotline service for victims, safety planning, emergency shelter, counseling, information, referrals, and more.



SUNCOAST BLOOD BANK

The singular purpose of the non-profit SunCoast Blood Bank is to collect, test, process, match, store and distribute all the blood products required to serve our community. When it began, in 1949, 551 pints (or units) of blood were collected. Now more than 38,000 units of blood are collected. The organization exclusively serves 10 crucial area hospitals and health centers annually, including the Sarasota Memorial Healthcare System (SMH) and Doctors Hospital of Sarasota.

SunCoast Blood Bank is recognized by its peers as forward thinking and cutting edge. It maintains a proactive stance that, for example, reacted quickly to the threat of Zika; so much so, that they were ready to test for the virus in advance of the federal mandate and many other blood banks in Florida. SunCoast Blood Bank also distinguishes itself through outstanding customer service, demonstrated through personalized and sincere interactions with every donor and guest.



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NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION OF THE YEAR

VAN WEZEL FOUNDATION

The mission of the Van Wezel Foundation is to enrich the lives of members of the Gulf Coast community



through the performing arts, with an emphasis on children. The Foundation helps underwrite community access programs and support some capital needs of the performing arts hall. Established in 1987, the Van Wezel Foundation is an independent non-profit that operates separately from the city owned performance space.

The Van Wezel Foundation's commitment to education and the community is paramount. In the 2015-16 fiscal year, it contributed \$532,000 that went to education, beautification, community outreach, veterans, and tickets for seniors. Grants also help educators from Sarasota, Manatee, Charlotte, and DeSoto counties by providing busing reimbursement and Schooltime Performance Program support.



NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION OF THE YEAR

Sponsored by: Kerkering, Barberio & Co.

FINALISTS

Safe Place and Rape Crisis Center (SPARCC)

Jessica Hays, President & CEO
2139 Main Street, Sarasota
941-365-0208 | sparcc.net

SunCoast Blood Bank

Jayne Giroux, Director of Community Development
1760 Mound St., Sarasota
941-954-1600 | scbb.org

Van Wezel Foundation

Monica Van Buskirk, President & CEO
777 North Tamiami Trail, Sarasota
941-953-3368 (box office)
941-955-7676 (admin.) | vwfoundation.org



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www.millenniumshutters.com



PRODUCTS & SERVICES BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

Current economic outlooks show that business owner optimism is the highest it's been for years. That includes small business owners – two thirds of whom report to the National Small Business Association (NSBA) that they anticipate revenue growth in 2017. These finalists are sure to agree.

CANADA MED SERVICES/DISCOUNT PRESCRIPTION SERVICES

Canada Med Services/Discount Prescription Services has been providing safe, reliable, and affordable prescription medications to clients in Sarasota and Manatee counties since 2003. Although the business works via a mail-order service, the company is rooted in the communities it serves.

Its founder, Dulcy Kushmore, launched the company with the intention of helping those without the means to pay for medication find ways to do so. Today it is family-owned-and-operated with daughter Samantha Hobbs and Samantha's husband J.R. Hobbs. The team personally serves its local customers by helping them obtain affordable medications, and by offering information and strategies about other ways to save. At the same time, its "Charity of Choice" program gives a donation to each client's selection of 32 local organizations with each order it receives.



COAST TO COAST POOLS

Coast to Coast Pools has been designing and building high-quality, custom pools locally for more than 35 years. Owner and president, Dustin Pointer, attributes the company's longevity, growth and success to a number of factors including providing outstanding customer service, and its partnerships with phenomenal home builder companies.

The company stays up-to-date in the latest innovations in pool design and craftsmanship: not just for building new pools but also for remodeling existing pools and for its pool service and repair service. Coast to Coast Pools has won many awards and accolades including the annual design awards of the Florida Swimming Pool Association and from the Manatee-Sarasota Parade of Homes.



2017 FRANK G. BERLIN, SR.
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PRODUCTS & SERVICES BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

GILBERT DESIGN BUILD

Gilbert Design Build is a full-service design/build firm specializing in



kitchen, bath and other interior remodeling. It has been offering complete, seamless remodeling services to homeowners in Manatee and Sarasota for 16 years. The ability to complete projects all in one place – through in-house designers, carpenters and contractors – is key to Gilbert Design Build's success.

The Gilbert Build Design team is trained to take clients from their initial consultation through design, space planning, product selection, permitting, planning, and construction. It adheres to a code of values that emphasizes integrity and customer service, even providing free educational seminars to the community to help customers make better decisions, and avoid common mistakes, regarding home remodeling.



PRODUCTS & SERVICES BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

FINALISTS

Canada Med Services/Discount Prescription Services

Samantha Hobbs,
Vice President, Marketing
4119 Bee Ridge Rd., Sarasota
941-927-3600

Coast to Coast Pools

Dustin Pointer, Owner & President
1890 Porter Lake Dr., Sarasota
941-377-5133
coasttocoastpools.com

Gilbert Design Build

Ernest Gilbert, President
4049 Clark Rd., Sarasota
941-404-4830
bathkitchenremodels.com

We are honored to be selected as a *Best Non-Profit of the Year* finalist for the 2017 Frank G. Berlin, Sr. Small Business Awards by the Sarasota Chamber of Commerce.

A *perfect* PARTNERSHIP

WHEN TWO COME TOGETHER TO CREATE SOMETHING GREAT.

The Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall and the Van Wezel Foundation, continuing to work together to deliver first class children's educational programming for our community. With the Foundation's support, more than 30,000 students from four counties are provided with programs and access to the theatre each season to experience the arts through the Schooltime Program.

Won't you show your support and help us continue to keep the children coming?



To learn more, please contact us at (941) 366-5578 or visit us at vwfoundation.org.



PROFESSIONAL SERVICES BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

Just as small businesses are the backbone of the U.S. economy, the 2017 finalists in the Professional Services Business category are adding jobs and contributing to our local economy.

CALDWELL TRUST COMPANY

It's not just the word 'trust' in its name. With Caldwell Trust Company it is the feeling of trust – resulting from the company's commitment to core values and community – that inspires confidence. Since 1993, this Venice-based firm has provided personal, traditional, and independent trust services tailored to the individual needs of each client.

Caldwell Trust's family and community connections run deep. Its founder Roland G. Caldwell and current CEO and President R. G. "Kelly" Caldwell Jr. are father and son and are personally invested in helping Venice thrive. The firm currently manages more than \$875 million in assets for clients throughout the United States, offering a full range of fiduciary services to individuals. Caldwell Trust is also involved in community service with organizations such as the Boys and Girls Club of Sarasota, Mote Marine Laboratory and the Venice Theatre.



J.E. CHARLOTTE CONSTRUCTION CORP.

Venice-based J.E. Charlotte Construction Corp. (JEC) provides a full range of construction management services backed by more than 30 years of experience in the commercial building industry. With a portfolio of successful and distinctive buildings, JEC's specialties span a range of commercial applications: including the healthcare, retail, country club, and recreational industries.

JEC president and CEO, Jeff Charlotte, and his team are committed to being formidable leaders in our communities: literally and figuratively. First, the company is dedicated to providing efficient and sustainable construction products and practices with an environmentally conscious outlook. Also, JEC's corporate culture is one of giving back to the community by means of resources, services or time.



2017 FRANK G. BERLIN, SR.
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PROFESSIONAL SERVICES BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

HALL ARCHITECTS

Hall Architects is an award-winning, full-service firm that provides architecture, design, historic preservation and planning



services to commercial, residential and institutional clients in Sarasota and throughout the region. Launched in 2004, the firm's goals are to create meaningful architecture that enriches clients' lives, create a sense of place, promote organizational culture, and foster civic pride.

In its 13 years of business, Hall Architects has built a respected roster of clients including local county governments and school boards in Sarasota County, large manufacturing businesses including Tervis and PGT Industries, and public institutions such as Ringling/FSU and Mote Marine. Its many smaller clients are crucial as well, and have a great impact on our community.



PROFESSIONAL SERVICES BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

Sponsored by: Hyatt Regency Sarasota

FINALISTS

Caldwell Trust Company

Kelly Caldwell, President & CEO
1400 Center Rd., Venice
941-493-3600
ctrust.com

J.E. Charlotte Construction Corp.

Jeffrey E. Charlotte, President
1500 E. Venice Ave. Suite 101, Venice
941-445-4045
jecharlotte.com

Hall Architects

Gregory Hall, President
513 Central Ave., Sarasota
941-917-0883
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SF-1774999

RETAIL BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

The 2017 finalists in the Retail Business category are all dedicated and savvy small business owners. They believe in their brand and products, and excel in the business expertise it takes to succeed - including harnessing the power of online commerce.

DUTHCRAFTERS

Founded in 2003, DutchCrafters combines ecommerce with brick-and-mortar sales with spectacular success. Its online presence at www.DutchCrafters.com focuses on distinct niche-markets for individual and business consumers including a mix of luxury and affordable goods for the home or office. DutchCrafters' flagship store in Sarasota showcases fine quality Amish and American furniture.

DutchCrafters' success can be attributed to its innovative business model, fast growth, and savvy use of new technology. As a result the company has been named to a number of "top" lists including Inc. Magazine's annual "Fastest Growing Companies 5000" (four times in the category of independent small businesses), Furniture Today's "Top Furniture eTailers," Internet Retailer's "Second 500," and GrowFL's "Companies to Watch."

dutchcrafters
Amish Handcrafted in America



MILLENNIUM SHUTTERS

Millennium Shutters operates out of a Sarasota facility, producing high quality custom-made plantation shutters. The company is expert at specifying, designing, and installing its products. Millennium Shutters has been providing products and services for 20 years, and the current husband and wife team, Gary and Noella Peters, acquired it in 2012. The Peters formerly oversaw the development of large commercial projects like House of Blues, Smith & Wollensky Restaurants, and more.

Millennium Shutters fabricates a full line of custom-made hardwood and poly resin plantation shutters that meet the most discriminating of interior design tastes. All products are made locally - either in Sarasota or in facilities in Tampa and Palm Harbor, FL.



2017 FRANK G. BERLIN, SR.
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RETAIL BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

SUNSHINE BASKETS

Eleven years ago, Tamara Davis launched her dream company, Sunshine Baskets, while still working full time. As success took hold she moved to a warehouse location and eventually to the retail storefront it maintains in Sarasota today.

The gift basket company specializes in unique, gourmet food products and offers baskets for all occasions including new babies, get well gifts, birthdays, weddings, sympathy, holidays, thank you gifts, and more.

From handmade baskets, to the huge variety of things to put in them, every arrangement at Sunshine Baskets is personally made to order and can be customized to meet the client's budget, needs, and preferences. The business also seeks out quality products from local companies for the baskets that it delivers locally and ships throughout the US.



RETAIL BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

Sponsored by: Shumaker, Loop & Kendrick, LLP

FINALISTS

DutchCrafters

Jim Miller, CEO
3709 N. Lockwood Ridge Rd., Sarasota
941-377-5112
DutchCrafters.com

Millennium Shutters

Gary Peters, President
2225 A Industrial Blvd., Sarasota
941-351-4332
millenniumshutters.com

Sunshine Baskets

Tamara Davis, Owner
2916 Hyde Park Street, Sarasota
941-320-7219
sunshinebaskets.org

THANK YOU FOR CHOOSING US AS FINALIST FOR
HEALTH & WELLNESS ORGANIZATION OF THE YEAR IN
THE SMALL BUSINESS AWARDS 2017



QUIT YOUR WAY

Quitting tobacco isn't easy. Finding help should be.

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CALDWELL TRUST COMPANY IS HONORED TO BE A FINALIST IN THE 2017 SMALL BUSINESS OF THE YEAR AWARDS