FLORIDA FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION – AUGUST BUSINESS EVENT

Indo-US Chamber will hold its monthly business and networking event on August 20th at 6:30 pm. This month's speaker will be Ned Pope, President of FloridaNEXT Foundation – a Tampa non-profit organization that focuses on increasing innovation, opportunities for entrepreneurship and funding opportunities across the state of Florida.

Ned will speak in detail about FloridaNEXT's Foundation's signature program, the Impact Forum series. An idea and 90-seconds is all it takes to change an ENTIRE COMMUNITY during a Florida NEXT Impact Forum. Once an idea is pitched, professional facilitators and project managers help the group unite around the best ideas to get something started. It doesn't stop there - FloridaNEXT continues to serve as mentors and advisors for the next 12 months with a goal of turning these ideas into tangible projects that serve our community in an creative and productive way. Florida NEXT's Impact Forums are the catalyst for innovation, changing the paradigm for social entrepreneurs.

This event will be a perfect forum for entrepreneurs, investors and anyone looking to be in either of those categories to attend and get a better idea of what processes exist as well as network with likeminded people. As always, Indo-US Chamber provides a great opportunity for networking and the event is completely free.

Dinner will be served, No RSVP required.
Location: HCI Ballroom. 5300 W. Cypress St, Tampa, FL 33607

About the Speaker

Ned Pope is a fifth generation Floridian with a long track record of success in project management and implementation. In his time at the FloridaNEXT Foundation, he has implemented programs such as Give Day Tampa Bay and Impact Forums. Pope previously served as the vice president of Alternative Dispute Resolution and Project Management for the Collins Center for Public Policy, where he directed and administered six court-ordered mediation programs and a statewide mediation program sponsored by Fannie Mae.

July Business Meeting And Networking Event Recap

The chamber event on Wednesday, July 16th welcomed the Tampa Mayor Bob Buckhorn to a packed auditorium. The evening started off with networking and a delicious dinner served by Saffron Indian cuisine of Tampa. Attendees got to meet and speak with the Mayor during the dinner and after the presentation.

Mayor Buckhorn gave an inspiring presentation on how Tampa as a city is emerging as an economic engine that drives the southeast United States. He emphasized that the development that has been happening around the city is to build the city for future and to make sure that the young people of the area stay in Tampa instead of moving to other cities and also attract more talent to this area. The planned development will help raise the city as one of the top places to be in the US. As a mid-sized American city, Tampa has taken on major events and attractions including IIFA, RNC convention, several super bowls and many other events. This shows the ability and capability of the city and the people. He urged people to stay focused, disciplined and to work together to raise Tampa as a city second to none.

It was great to see that he connected so well with the people as a long line of people waited after the event to speak with him personally and he stayed to speak to each one of them.

The Indo-US Chamber of Commerce Business Awards – Call for Nominations

Be Recognized!

The Indo-US Chamber will recognize businesspersons that are emerging as dynamic forces in this new economic environment, whether you are growing or changing strategy. We are currently accepting nominations from the community for the following categories:

- Businessman of the year
- Businesswomen of the year
- Young businessperson of the year (35 and under)
- Community Service Person of the year

All information provided below will go directly to the Board of directors of the Indo-US Chamber of Commerce.

CRITERIA: The businessperson and / or principal owners of the business should be a resident(s) of the Greater Tampa Bay area including Hillsborough, Pinellas, Pasco, Manatee, Sarasota, Polk, and Hernando Counties (neighboring counties will be considered).

SUBMISSION: Please submit the following relating to your nominations:

- Nomination Category (one or more of the above 4 award categories)
- Name of Company
- Name of Individual
- Brief Description of Company's Business
- Brief Description of Individual's Background including education, past businesses /employment history, and what brought him / her to this company and the Tampa Bay area.
- Reason for Award – why do you believe this company or individual should receive this award. How have they made a difference and how do they inspire others?

Please submit the above via email to info@indo-us.org or online at http://www.indo-us.org/business-community-nomination-form/
All submissions must be received by August 28th, 2014

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GET AHEAD OF YOUR DREAMS TO GET AHEAD IN BUSINESS

By Harvey Mackay

I am constantly asked the question, "What does it take to get ahead?" Sure you have to work hard, but there are a lot of other factors.

Investor's Business Daily identified 10 traits for turning your dreams into reality. Here they are with my take on each, plus a few bonus thoughts.

A positive attitude. I have never met a successful pessimist. It is absolutely essential that you have a positive mental attitude in every aspect of life. Where your mind goes, you go. If you think you'll fail, chances are good that you will. If you believe you'll succeed – you're halfway home.

A definitive goal. Winners set goals. Losers make excuses. A goal is a dream with a deadline that is measurable, identifiable, obtainable, specific and in writing. Goals give you more than a reason to get up in the morning; they are an incentive to keep you going all day. Goals tend to tap the deeper resources and draw the best out of life. Achieving goals produces significant accomplishments.

A courageous spirit. Courage is what sets you apart from the crowd. Courage is ordinary people doing extraordinary things. Courage is regarded as one of the major human virtues. Courage is bravery, valor, standing up to danger, guts and nerves all rolled into one. So what does courage have to do with running a business? Plenty. I admit that most folks' daily lives are not filled with such dramatic challenges. We all face situations that require us to reach down deep within ourselves to do what is right and brave and occasionally difficult. Courage can involve making decisions that are unpopular or time-consuming or even expensive.

An inquisitive mind. I'm a big believer in lifelong learning. You don't go to school once for a lifetime; you are in school all of your life. Pursue learning in all its forms – reading books, returning to school, attending seminars and training classes, listening to those who are wiser and more experienced.

A strong heart. What makes a champion? Is it attitude, confidence, courage, desire, determination, discipline, endurance, mental toughness, perseverance, physical ability, self-discipline or visualization? Yes. It's probably a little bit of all these characteristics, but it's also a lot of heart. In addition, it takes a strong heart to be a successful businessperson. Use your head, to be sure, but don't ignore what your heart is telling you.

An analytical brain. Do your homework; get the facts. Learn to analyze details. Often the best ideas stem from little seeds everyone else overlooked.

A focused eye. How many times have you heard an athlete talk about focus? It's a topic I also hear about frequently in business. The most common complaints? Too many irons in the fire. Too many projects spinning at one time. Too many interruptions. Too many phone calls. Too many emails. Too many things to do. Too little time. Stay focused as best you can, and don't let things happen to you – not when you can make things happen.

A fearless approach. Innovate. Be different. Those who are content to follow the crowd never get the chance to stand out. Believe in yourself even when no one else does.

If you believe in what you are doing, your confidence will win over skeptics. Confidence doesn't come naturally to most people. Even the most successful people have struggled with it in their careers. The good news is that you can develop confidence, just like any muscle or character trait, if you're willing to work hard.

A disciplined tongue. He or she who burns bridges better be a very good swimmer. You must learn the art of communicating effectively with others. Clear communications prevent miscommunications. When you say what you mean, mean what you say and you keep your word, you foster trust. Stick to the subject at hand, and avoid the temptation to dredge up old issues.

A clear conscience. Always act like your mother is watching. Don't forget those rules you learned in kindergarten: Play nice. Be dependable. Tell the truth. If you can't get to the top by being true to yourself and straight with everyone around you, your success will be hollow—and probably short-lived.

Dreams can come true. These traits, coupled with hard work and perseverance, will keep your dreams from becoming just wishful thinking.

Mackay's Moral: *You can't get ahead if you don't get started.*

SAVE THE DATE

THE 2014 BANYAN BALL

SEPTEMBER 6TH, 2014 HILTON TAMPA DOWNTOWN

Reserve your seat today!

Indo-US will hold its annual gala and awards banquet, The Banyan Ball, on September 6, 2014 6:30pm at the Hilton Tampa Downtown. This black tie affair, the signature event of the organization, will feature a keynote speaker, entertainment and include business leaders and dignitaries.

In the old days, villagers in India came together under a banyan tree, to discuss matters, gather and strengthen the community. The Banyan Ball is aptly named for the event that brings together the community to celebrate successes, plan for future, share the joy and build a stronger community.

The event is looked forward to and attended by leaders in the Indian and non-Indian community, dignitaries, entrepreneurs and seasoned business people. The Banyan Ball has been a sold out event in the past 8 years and is expected to be the sold out this year as well.

2014 is a special year for the chamber as it celebrates the 15th year anniversary. The prestigious Indo-US Business Awards are also presented at the Banyan Ball.

We welcome you all to act quickly to reserve your spot at the Banyan Ball. Ticket prizes are $175/person or $1500/table of 10. Various sponsorship opportunities are also available. You may purchase your tickets online at https://www.indo-us.org/pay-online/ , by calling 813-451-8229 or emailing info@indo-us.org

INDO US Chamber of Commerce "Together, the future is ours."

Upcoming Indo-US Chamber Events:

Business & Networking Event
Date: Wednesday, August 20th, 2014
Time: 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM
Location: HCI Ballroom,
5300 W. Cypress St, Tampa FL 33607
Speaker: Ned Pope, President FloridaNEXT Foundation.
This is a FREE event. No RSVP required.

The Banyan Ball
Date: Saturday, September 6th 2014
Time: 6pm
Location: The Hilton Downtown Tampa
Visit www.indo-us.org to purchase tickets

INDO-US CHAMBER MISSION

"To provide an active forum in which Asian American professionals and business owners, through an exchange of ideas, with a unified voice, can communicate, interact, and secure a position within the business industry and become a source of inspiration by promoting professionalism and excellence through education and community involvement."

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P.O. Box 20232, Tampa, FL 33622
Phone: (813) 358-8384
Email: info@indo-us.org

WWW.INDO-US.ORG