

Jan 17th 2023

Busy Calendar – Season Is Here!

Coming up this weekend is our January (aka Winter) Sullivan Street Arts and Craft Fair, taking place in downtown Punta Gorda on Saturday and Sunday – 10 am-5 pm both days. This is an ideal time to visit the show while dropping by the brick-and-mortar businesses of our city to see what is new and exciting, not just in downtown but in Fishermen's Village, the 41 corridors and beyond.

From February 2-March 30 every Tuesday and Thursday from 9.30-11.30 am, we are offering our very popular Walking Tours of the Punta Gorda Murals. Tickets are limited to 12 people per tour so advance reservations are required by calling 941.639.3720 during office hours. Tickets are \$25 per person.

Also, back by popular demand, Whitney Grace, winner of our Chamber's Got Talent Show, will be returning to the Charlotte Harbor Event Center in Punta Gorda on Wednesday April 5 for an encore dinner show, including her high-energy Broadway review and an Italian Buffet. Tickets can be purchased on www.puntagordachamber.com in the Shop Chamber link or by calling us on 941.639.3720. \$50 per person – dinner and show. Cash bar.

Short Film Festival Tickets are also on sale at the office (\$20) for Wednesday March 1 at 7 pm at the Charlotte Harbor Event Center.

2023 CHAMBER GUIDE IS HERE

Our brand-new 2023 Member and Visitors Guide is now available. Grab a copy at 252 W. Marion Avenue, Punta Gorda or visit www.puntagordachamber.com and flip through the online version. You can also request a hard copy to be mailed to you and then don't forget to subscribe to our weekly e-newsletter, keeping you posted of everything related to our members.

RIBBON CUTTINGS

Saturday January 21 at noon, join us at Paradise Golf Course, 8135 SW Sunnybreeze Road in Arcadia, for their Ribbon Cutting on the new course, under new management.

On January 26 at 5.30 pm at the Military Heritage Museum, 900 W. Marion Ave, Punta Gorda, you are invited to join in the festivities surrounding the permanent location of the Huey helicopter and the following day, we visit our friends at the Punta Gorda Marina, 25096 E. Marion Avenue, Punta Gorda to celebrate their 40th Anniversary, with the Ribbon Cutting taking place at 5.30npm.

Also scheduled is the Ribbon Cutting for Persnickety, located at 258 W. Marion Avenue, Punta Gorda, right next door to the PG Chamber. Kindly RSVP at 941.639.3720 for any of these events so the hosts are aware of how many folks to expect.

MEMBERSHIP

Give your business or a friend's business the gift of membership this year. Be part of a vibrant and effective group of entrepreneurs, whose purpose is to support, advocate and assist you in all aspects of your business operation, regardless of location.

Memberships are very affordable and they give you opportunity to promote your business to a very large in-person as well as online customer base. Call Tara on 941.639.3720 for the simple process of becoming our newest member and see where the path takes you!

NETWORKING

Tonight, we gather at Harbor Social starting at 5.30 pm for our January Business After Hours. Bring along a small gift to share in

the drawing as well. An RSVP before 2 pm would be appreciated to 941.639.3720.

Our Networking Luncheon will be the annual State of the City address by the Mayor on January 25 at the PGI Civic Association. This is a \$20 charge for lunch at this event, payable online or by calling us on 941.639.3720.

We continue to send emails to our database groups, alerting them with valuable information about resources, progress and which businesses are open for business. If you want to be added to receive this list, please send your email address to chamber@puntagorda-chamber.com. We'll also be happy to direct you to additional assistance that we are aware of that is being offered to our community residents and businesses.

John R. Wright is President of the Punta Gorda Chamber of Commerce jrwright@puntagorda-chamber.com