

Free introductory class!

Learn Spanish for the workplace through Chamber

In a continuing effort to assist companies with the increasingly diverse workforce in Cobb County, the Cobb Chamber will offer its popular Spanish for the workplace class again in September.

To get a taste for what it's all about, the Chamber is offering a free Introductory Conversational Spanish Hour from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Aug. 17.

Continue your education by signing up for Beginning Conversational Business Spanish classes, which start Sept. 28. The class meets from 6 to 8 p.m. on Tuesday nights for 7 weeks at the Cobb Chamber of Commerce. Learn basic conversational phrases, pleasantries and workplace questions; numbers, days, months, time, colors and family terms; and how to give and receive directions, instructions and request information.

A seven-week session of Intermediate Conversational Business Spanish will be Monday nights from 6 to 8 p.m. beginning Sept. 27. Participants will review beginning class materials and learn how to interview, make business phone calls, arrange a meeting and extend conversation with questions. The class also will learn current cultural information for a business setting and appropriate conversations with Latinos.

Cost for each series is \$150 for Cobb Chamber members and \$200 for non-members. Patty Smitherman of Communicata Language Services will teach the classes. Course activities are fun and interactive.

The Chamber also offers customized Spanish classes to companies interested in training a large group of employees. Instructors will travel to business sites or other locations to teach the classes.

For more information on the Spanish series, contact Jessica Cruze at 770-859-2360 or jcruze@cobbchamber.org, or register online at www.cobbchamber.org.

Chamber offering training on OSHA, new overtime requirements

The Cobb Chamber of Commerce is tackling several seminar topics in August aimed at making your business better:

New Overtime Requirements

Learn about the new regulations on white collar overtime exemptions that take affect in August. Find out how they affect your business and the recommended steps for compliance from attorneys David Grigereit and John Anderson of Haynsworth Baldwin Johnson & Greaves. The seminar will be from 8 to 10:30 a.m. Aug. 5 at the Cobb Chamber of Commerce. Cost is \$40 (\$60 non-members).

Free OSHA Safety and Health Management Systems 2-Day Workshop

OSHA authorized trainers will provide safety education and assistance in developing safety and health strategic implementation plans for small and medium-sized companies. Presented by Gadsden State Community College and Priority Two, this free, two-day seminar will be from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Aug. 23 and 24 at the Cobb Chamber of Commerce.

To register for the overtime seminar, call 770-980-2008 ext. 409 or visit www.cobbchamber.org. To register for the OSHA workshop, contact Mari Chandler, Paula Watkins or Richard Harper at 888-284-8958 or mari@prioritytwo.com.

New Member Campaign

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conclusion of the campaign. All campaign producers were rewarded with prizes such as trips, savings bonds and gift certificates. Top achievers took a 5-day western Caribbean cruise in July.

Mary Karras of Riverside Bank, Sam Kelly of Cobb Energy, O'Brien and Jung, were the division leaders for this year's campaign, while Tony Britton of Wachovia Bank serves as chairman of the membership department and was the overall chairman of the drive.

While the 2004 New Member Campaign has concluded, members always are encouraged to recommend new businesses to the Chamber. To recommend a prospective member, call the Membership Department at 770-980-2000.