

SOUTHWEST REGIONAL MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION

## Shaw Development honored

Bonita Springs-based company engineers niche solutions for heavy-duty vehicles

By Andrea Rumbaugh  
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After an action-packed day, the Southwest Regional Manufacturers Association concluded its "Made in SWFL" event with a dinner and awards banquet.

About 80 people attended the Southwest Regional Manufacturers Association Recognition of Excellence Awards Banquet Wednesday night. The ceremony was at Harborside Event Center to recognize the 2013 Manufacturer of the Year and 2013 Manufacturing Employees of the Year.

Shaw Development, a Bonita Springs-based company that engineers niche solutions for heavy-duty vehicles such as Caterpillar and John Deere, was announced as Manufacturer of the Year.

"It is just an honor to receive such an award," said Lane Morlock, COO for Shaw Development, who added that this honor is a reflection of the company's employees.

The company was chosen from 35 nominees. Betsy Allen, president and CEO of the Southwest Regional Manufacturers Association, said Shaw Development was well deserving

and met all of the award's criteria.

Another focus of the event was manufacturing companies' employees.

Allen said these awards, in their second year, are a public way to recognize the best of the best.

"I believe it's best practice to recognize not just the company as a whole," she said.

There were 12 people nominated for Manufacturing Employee of the Year. Of these, six were announced as winners of special mention: Joanna Dansby, general manager for Bougainvillea Growers International USA; William "Brinson" White, special projects engineer for Pelican Wire Co.; Cecil Scotland, metal service department leader and trainer for Pelican Wire Co.; Gregory Silverthorn, machinist at Polygon Solutions Inc.; Mike Schmidt, production supervisor/manufacturing engineer with Shaw Development; and Dan Lock, naval architect with JRL Ventures/Marine Concepts.

Scotland, with Pelican Wire Co., said it was exciting to be recognized by his company.

"It's great," he said. "It's an exciting moment."

And Dansby, with Bougainvillea Growers International USA, said it was an honor — especially since she started in the company's transportation department and is now running it.

"I'm honored, and I look forward to the challenges that will

give me an opportunity to do it again," she said.

Also at the dinner was keynote speaker Dave Power. Power is president of Power Strategy Inc., an instructor at the Harvard Extension School and the author of soon-to-be published "The Curve Ahead: Discovering the Path to Unlimited Growth." At the event, he discussed why growth companies stop growing and what can be done about it.

And an announcement was made at the event about the Margaret and David Barton Rising Senior Manufacturing Scholarship.

The scholarship award will be \$2,000 and will be for 11th-graders entering their senior year.

# Made in SW Florida

Manufacturers tout industry jobs to high school, tech students

By Tim Engstrom  
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Manuel Pereira hopes to study computer science or electrical engineering after graduating this spring from Cape Coral High School, but he said he never really appreciated how many careers he could find in those fields in Southwest Florida.

"I had no idea there was such a variety of jobs right here," said Pereira, 17. "There could be a future job for me here whether or not I go to college."

At the inaugural "Made in SWFL" event at Harborside Event Center in Fort Myers, manufacturers worked together Wednesday to build better awareness of their industries and the career opportunities available for young workers. A manufacturing trade show opened to the public at noon and the day concluded with Southwest Regional Manufacturers Associations awards banquet in the evening.

The day-long event began with a focus on students as 325 high school and tech center students embarked on a "digital scavenger hunt" to find River District landmarks such as the Uncommon Friends fountain and the Franklin Shops and take pictures with them.

Back at Harborside, Brian Rist, president of the Smart Companies, said it was appropriate that the day begin with students enrolled in science, technology, engineering and math programs.

"Those of us in business



Xeaira Burkett of Cypress Lake High School takes a close-up photo of the banyan tree in front of the old Lee County Courthouse on Wednesday during a scavenger hunt that is part of the "Made in SWFL" event. Students were using their smartphones to navigate downtown Fort Myers while visiting historic sites. PHOTOS BY JACK HARDMAN/THE NEWS-PRESS

learned the old ways of doing things and we are looking for you guys to show us how to use all of the new technology in our businesses," Rist told the students. "That is the way manufacturing is going to move on to the next generation."

Rist told the students that technology and manufacturing have always worked hand-in-hand, dating back to the cotton gin and Henry Ford's assembly lines. He said his companies, which produce hurricane protection and energy efficiency products, are no exception. The company develops its own manufacturing software and uses computer-aided design.

"Half the people who work for us sit behind a computer,"



Rist said. "Even though we are a manufacturing business, there is a huge amount of technology involved."

Kaitlyn Abrams, a senior

from Fort Myers High, said the event was eye-opening.

"I've lived in Florida for my entire life and kind of thought the state was all about tour-

### GROWING SECTOR

There were about 8,600 manufacturing jobs in Lee, Collier and Charlotte counties in February, according to Florida's Department of Economic Opportunity. That's up about 5 percent from the same month a year ago.

ism," Abrams, 19, said. "But there are a lot of other things going on."

There were about 8,600 manufacturing jobs in Lee, Collier and Charlotte counties in February, the most recent data available, according to Florida's Department of Economic Opportunity. That's up about 5 percent from the same month a year ago.

Gary McKinley, owner of Craters and Freighters of Southwest Florida and chairman of the Southwest Regional Manufacturers Association, said it is essential for students to understand the options available to them locally. The company designs custom shipping solutions.

"We need to keep them in Southwest Florida and open their eyes to what is here," McKinley said. "We have diverse industries here."

Antonella Valencia, 17, a junior from Estero High, said she never really considered that every small part of a device or tool had to be manufactured for that purpose.

"There are a lot of different parts that are used to make anything and you don't always think of the companies that make those," Valencia said.

Kevin Frenot, 18, a senior at Fort Myers High, said it isn't just the students who don't appreciate the value of local manufacturing companies.

"The public should really be more aware, not just the STEM kids," Frenot said. "There are a lot of opportunities."

### LOCAL PUBLIC COMPANIES

N = NYSE, O = Nasdaq

52-week High	Low	Issue	Mkt Div	PE	Sales (Hum.)	High	Low	Last	Chg	
47.60	34.22	Alico	O	.24m	14	159	35.80	34.87	35.19	+11
52.35	41.83	AEP	N	2.00	17	25101	52.50	52.02	52.50	+18
10.00	5.96	BeasleyB	O	.18	17	32	8.57	8.29	8.49	+02
19.95	15.27	Chicos	N	.30	20	38906	16.31	15.82	15.89	-18
27.75	21.76	ColumPT n	N	1.20	15	4857	27.35	26.98	27.14	+03
16.89	11.83	Crestwdeq	N	.55f	15	3382	13.75	13.13	13.75	+64
124.59	84.40	DunBrad	N	1.76f	15	5147	103.89	102.47	103.24	+1.02
103.30	56.03	EOG Res s	N	.50f	25	35995	102.20	100.43	101.01	-10
83.57	66.55	Erieldnd	O	2.54	23	313	70.65	69.70	69.97	+37
40.99	30.01	GlobPtrs	N	2.45f	18	112	38.08	37.61	38.07	+30
70.22	33.35	HelenTroy	O	.20	20	815	67.12	65.18	65.66	+48
149.77	66.25	Icahn Ent	O	6.00f	11	3285	99.47	91.67	98.29	+7.53

### TORONTO EXCHANGE

Stock	Last	Chg	Stock	Last	Chg
ManulifeFin	20.37	+31	TransCdaCorp	51.47	+58
AgnicoEagle	30.71	-2.74	CIBC	95.66	+18
EnCanaCorp	25.64	+1.11	BCE Inc	48.73	+28
BarrickGold	20.19	-18	ImperialOil	52.01	+01
RoyalBank	73.31	+40	Magnalnt I	107.72	+2.20
SunLifeFin	36.30	+55	IndAlliance	43.74	+87
T D Bank	51.65	+42	AgriumInc	103.41	+1.26
CdnNatRes	44.08	+31	BombardrAMV	4.10	+01
Bk NS	65.15	+52	Hydrogenics	21.99	+1.04
BkMontreal	76.08	+66	WestJetAirVr	25.05	-63
EnbridgeInc	51.68	+1.00			

### CHICAGO BOARD OF TRADE

Corn			Soybeans			Wheat		
Settle	Chg		Settle	Chg		Settle	Chg	
May 14	497.50	-6.25	May 14	1518.75	+17.50	May 14	688	-13.75
Jul 14	503.50	-6.25	Jul 14	1508.75	+21.25	Jul 14	695.25	-14.50
Sep 14	500.75	-5.50	Aug 14	1424	+14.50	Sep 14	704.50	-14.25
Dec 14	499	-4.25	Sep 14	1299.75	+9.25	Dec 14	716.75	-14.75
Mar 15	506.50	-4	Nov 14	1237.25	+8.25	Mar 15	729	-14.50
May 15	512	-3.75	Jan 15	1242.25	+8.25	May 15	734.50	-14.50
Jul 15	516.25	-4.25	Mar 15	1246	+7.75	Jul 15	718.25	-15.50
Prev. sales:333,839			Prev. sales:241,654			Prev. sales:154,155		
Prev. open int:1,412,403			Prev. open int:669,796			Prev. open int:370,600		

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