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Dr. Luke Pittaway contributes to Business in Savannah website

October 15, 2012



His first article, entitled, "Free enterprise: Sharing and caring toward entrepreneurial success," focuses on different ways to grow in entrepreneurial success through more community activities. Pittaway writes, "The more you look for examples, the more evident it becomes that this is a wider phenomenon that offers a host of entrepreneurial opportunities and is set to become a trend that will grow."

His second article, "Can pop-up shops help downtown," tackles the shift in community activity from the city to the suburbs. Pittaway questions if new businesses in the downtown area can jumpstart community activity. He writes, "It's evident they can help fill vacant spaces, assisting downtowns to look and feel more vibrant, and they can allow entrepreneurs to test retail and other concepts before they commit to helping to promote downtown locations to prospective new businesses."

To take a closer look at Pittaway's articles click here:

"Free enterprise: Sharing and caring toward entrepreneurial success"

"Can pop-up shops help downtown"

Luke Pittaway is the William A. Freeman Distinguished Chair in Free Enterprise and a professor of management at Georgia Southern University. He also is director of the Center for Entrepreneurial Learning and Leadership and can be contacted at lukepittaway@georgiasouthern.edu.

[slideshow]

Entrepreneurs speak to students about their small businesses

October 15, 2012



Bradley Taylor, a computing company owner turned farmer, visited Georgia Southern University to answer questions from Dr. Chris Welter's entrepreneur class about being an entrepreneur and owning a small business. Chris Graham, an audio mastering engineer, also spoke to students via Skype.

Graham, who started out as a record producer, decided in 2007 to take a different entrepreneurial route and began his own audio mastering company. With this, he knew he would be able to make more money, run his business remotely, as well as spend more time with his family. Graham built a website and started advertising on Google and other websites to help push his business and get the word out to musicians.

"There a ton of small businesses that are [advertising on Google] because you can own a very small niche on Google," Graham said.

Taylor raises endangered goats, sheep, pigs, and cows. He also runs a subsidiary food distribution business. Taylor still runs his cloud computing company which focuses on application management and hosting services for software services and web applications.

"Around a year and a half ago, I decided I wanted to do something else with my life instead of being behind a computer for 12 hours a day, or 16, or 20 some days and decided to start a farm," Taylor said.

During the class, Welter opened up the floor for discussion. The following are questions asked by students that encouraged the most discussion among the entrepreneurs.

Bradley Taylor

Q: What actually caused you to go from owning a software company to being a farmer?

A: A free puppy. Taylor had gotten involved with bird dogs and had taken his dog to a trainer. His dog wasn't competitive and the trainer offered him a puppy. From there, Taylor purchased a horse, a new truck, a horse trailer and eventually decided to buy a farm.

Q: Did you take out any grants when you first started your business?

A: Taylor did not take any grants when he started his farm. The programs aren't necessarily bad but Taylor said he isn't going to take advantage of them when he's capable of paying for the business himself.

Chris Graham

Q: How long had you been tinkering around with music before you decided to make money off it? And at what age did you start tinkering with music.

A: Graham, starting around age 13, spent around a decade tinkering with music.

Q: Have you ever downloaded music illegally?

A: Graham shook his head yes, but then explained that once he got into the music industry understood how much money that took away from the artists and encourages others to not download music illegally.

[slideshow]

The following is a link to Chris Graham's audio mastering

website: http://www.chrisgrahammastering.com/