



January 2011

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## Success Story

Each month we take pride in spotlighting an SBDC client that demonstrates exemplary achievements. This month's success story is "Ekam Yoga Center" Houston's first "Green" yoga and wellness center located in Atascocita, Texas which is owned and operated by Maggie Grueskin. To learn more about Maggie and her successful business [click here](#).

## Lone Star College SBDC Small Business Awards Banquet

The Lone Star College SBDC held its 24<sup>th</sup> annual Small Business of the Year Banquet on November 18, 2010 at The Woodlands Waterway Marriott to honor the five Small Business of the Year winners for 2010. To learn who they are please [click here](#).

## Houston Economy at a Glance

The Greater Houston Partnership has just released its economic forecast for the Greater Houston metropolitan area in such categories as energy, employment,

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### Free Consultation

The success of your business is our only priority. Contact a Senior Consultant in your area today:

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**Don Ball**

construction, cost of living and trade. To get a review of the complete report [click here](#).

## CEO Roundtable

The Lone Star College System SBDC is preparing to offer a unique business training opportunity to existing business owners and/or CEO's looking to become a part of once a month group meetings with up to 16 of their peers in non-competing industries. These confidential meetings are intended to allow members to confront issues that can make or break a business as well provide a foundation for training by experts in a wide array of subject matter. Before launching this exciting new program the SBDC plans to convene a focus group of interested business owners to explore the details of this roundtable and thus allow us to finalize the concept and terms of operation. The focus group is intended to last for about one hour starting at noon, with lunch provided, on Thursday February 17, 2011 at SBDC headquarters in The Woodlands. If interested in becoming a part of the focus group please contact Maria Partida at either 832 813 6674 or by email at [Maria.N.Partida@lonestar.edu](mailto:Maria.N.Partida@lonestar.edu). For more information on the CEO Roundtable please.....[read more](#).

## Improving Your Business and Information Technology

Over the next few months the LSCS SBDC newsletters will include a special feature to help you understand how your computer system can make your business run more efficiently, increase sales and improve profitability. The first in this series is written by John King, Director of Digital Services with Lone Star College and deals with Finding your Customers online....[click here](#) for the full article.

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## Subsidized Training Skills

Lone Star College is pleased to announce a grant opportunity designed by the Texas Workforce Commission to offer skills training to your new and existing workforce at no cost to you. To learn more about this exceptional opportunity [click here](#).

## Finance and Tax Information You need to Know.

Through our affiliation with Karlins/Ramey, LLC CPA's we are pleased to provide a special feature in our newsletters which will acquaint you with new and current finance and tax information that can have a direct bearing on your bottom-line. This month's news deals with tax law updates and suggestions on how to detect fraud in your business. Click the links below to learn more:

[Tax Law Update](#)

[Fraud Prevention](#)

## Texas Community Development Institute

Texas Community Development Institute is part of a national network of community development institutes endorsed by the Community Development Council. CDI sessions are scheduled to begin in February.... [more](#).

## Training

For a complete update on our upcoming training over the next quarter [click here](#).