

**American**  
CARPET CARE

**3 Rooms \$75**  
For More Discounts Visit Us Online at [www.accrestored.com](http://www.accrestored.com)  
Beach 230-0080 Insured/Licensed Locally Owned and Operated Since 1989 Town 784-2555

Subscribe to Paper Online Edition

Publish your Stuff  
Log in | Become a Member

Need Help? Click Here  
Sign Up for Newsletters/Alerts/Mobile



Search:  Site Web Search powered by Google™

- Home
- News
- Sports
- Health
- Obits
- Opinion
- Photos
- Military
- Customer Service
- Squall Live
- Games
- NIE

- Jobs
- Autos
- Real Estate
- Classifieds
- Buy Stuff
- Sell Your Stuff
- Announcements
- Browse Ads

Home > [News](#)

# Kottkamp speaks in Panama City Beach

Comments | Recommend

April 23, 2009 06:52:00 PM

By DANIEL CARSON / News Herald Writer

PANAMA CITY - Florida State University-Panama City got an endorsement from one of the state's highest ranking officials Thursday, as Lt. Gov. Jeff Kottkamp called the idea of closing the campus "a huge mistake."

"I can't imagine that would be a serious consideration," Kottkamp said, as he delivered the keynote address at the Florida Restaurant & Lodging Association's inaugural Bay Chapter meeting in Panama City Beach.

The hospitality trade association represents more than 10,000 members statewide, and Thursday's meeting included representatives from both Bay County chambers of commerce, as well as several area hotels and restaurants.

FRLA president and CEO Carol Dover said that Bay County's hospitality industry has more than 450 restaurants and employs nearly 10,000 people.

Panama City Beach Chamber of Commerce president and CEO Beth Oltman said her organization's bylaws require that the majority of it members be involved with the hospitality industry.

"We feel very connected to this organization," Oltman said before Thursday's meeting.

Thursday's inaugural meeting was held at the Majestic Beach Resort.

In addition to voicing his support for the local FSU campus, Kottkamp also addressed the state of Florida's economy and his optimism for the future.

The lieutenant governor pointed out the importance of restaurant and lodging to Bay County and said that being a part of the trade association would be beneficial in dealing with the Florida Legislature.

"There is strength in numbers," Kottkamp said.

Kottkamp said that, in spite of the economic downturn, he saw glimmers of positive news statewide with increased home sales and growth in industries like aerospace, life sciences, and renewable energy.

Right before he declared his support for Panama City's FSU

Print Story | E-Mail Story | Font Size



enlarge

ANDREW WARDLOW / The News Herald  
Kottkamp delivered the keynote address at the Florida Restaurant & Lodging Association's inaugural Bay Chapter meeting in Panama City Beach.

### Other Articles in this Category

- [Military is attractive option in bad economy](#)
- [To our customers](#)
- [UPDATE: Motive probed in death of couple who adopted 12 \(see VIDEO\)](#)  
28 minutes ago
- [Not locking your boat can be a good way to lose it](#)  
46 minutes ago
- [442 lb. swordfish caught off Destin](#)  
1 hour & 48 minutes ago

### Most Viewed Stories

- [To our customers](#)
- [Bay fourth biggest county polluter in the state](#)
- [Bay City anglers land leviathan grouper](#)
- [Authorities: Man beaten for 'accidently' touching woman's breast, suspect arrested](#)
- [UPDATE: Three suspects charged in slayings of couple who adopted 12 children \(see VIDEO\)](#)

### Most Commented Stories

- [VIEWPOINTS: Start saving America from the state level](#)
- [CAZ: Is Boyd losing touch with Bay?](#)
- [Reed 'conspirators' diverse cast of characters](#)
- [VIEWPOINTS: Avoid the fallacies of the 'save the environment' trap](#)
- [Newsom re-applies for old job](#)

### Most Recommended Stories

- [RON HART: Talented performer, tragic life](#)
- [UPDATE: Suspect arrested in slayings of](#)

Traffic Weather Yellow Pages

Check out live traffic on the Hathaway Bridge. [Click here](#)

ADVERTISEMENT

PanhandleVarsity.com:

**Your source for high school sports**

- NFHS officially moves softball pitching distance to 43 feet
- NFHS baseball rules changes include bat standards
- Combine on the Coast set for footballers July 25

High School Sports Coverage  
Home Page | Football | Baseball | Softball

High School Sports Photos/Slideshows/Videos  
Photos | Slideshows | Videos

Varsity Special Sections  
FHSA state title history | Area college signings

Attention Area Coaches  
Request Login To Input Stats

Things to do in Panama City

Events | Movies | Venues | Dining

Featured Events  
Loading events...

campus, Kottkamp said that the first question businesses ask before they move to the state is "where will I get the workers?"

The lieutenant governor said he and Gov. Charlie Crist understood the importance of public education, both K-12 and higher education, and would do what they could to limit the impact of state budget cuts.

[couple who adopted 12 children \(see VIDEO\)](#)

- [Jury rejects wrongful death claim in triathlon trial](#)
- [Murder suspects due in court in death of couple who adopted 12 \(see VIDEO\)](#)
- [To our customers](#)

Save & Share this Article [What is this?](#)

- |                             |                             |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <a href="#">Digg</a>        | <a href="#">Google</a>      |
| <a href="#">StumbleUpon</a> | <a href="#">del.icio.us</a> |
| <a href="#">Facebook</a>    | <a href="#">Newsvine</a>    |
| <a href="#">Reddit</a>      | <a href="#">Slashdot</a>    |

[See archived 'News' stories »](#)

Ads by Google

[Local Newspapers](#)

Find Phoenix area newspapers - dailies, weeklies, tabloids.  
[News.YellowPages.com/Phoenix](#)

[Revant Academy of Dance](#)

Providing the Highest Quality Dance Instruction in the Panama City Area  
[www.revantpanamacitydance.com](#)

[Free FL Arrest Records](#)

Lookup Free Arrest Records On Anyone In FL. Official Service  
[Florida.GovArrestRecords.com](#)

[Holiday Inn Official Site](#)

Hotels in Panama City, FL. Call 800-261-9168 or book online.  
[www.HolidayInn.com](#)

Reader Comments

From the editor: Many of you have expressed concerns about some of the harsh anonymous comments from readers. To remedy that, we are introducing new features. You can create your own blog, publish your news and share your photos with the community. Once you fill out a simple form and leave a verifiable e-mail address, you can set up your profile page. It will display all of your contributions and allow you to track issues and easily connect with others.

We want our site to be a place where people discuss and debate ideas that foster stronger communities. We built this for you. Please take care of it. Tolerate broad thinking, but take action against obscene or hateful material. Make it a credible and safe place worth preserving and sharing.

[Oldest First](#) | [Newest First](#)

POWERED BY Pluck

You must be logged in to leave a comment. [Login](#) | [Register](#)

Submit

Ads by Google

[Local Newspapers](#)

Find Phoenix area newspapers - dailies, weeklies, tabloids.  
[News.YellowPages.com/Phoenix](#)

[Revant Academy of Dance](#)

Providing the Highest Quality Dance Instruction in the Panama City Area  
[www.revantpanamacitydance.com](#)

[Free FL Arrest Records](#)

Lookup Free Arrest Records On Anyone In FL. Official Service  
[Florida.GovArrestRecords.com](#)

Click for More Events Add Your Events

Find an Event

what  when  where

Publish Your Stuff

[Log In](#) [Join Now](#) [Explore](#)



you photos blogs forums explore

Now Open

and serving supremely satisfying specialties.

Fresh, flavorful salads. Tasty, toasted sandwiches.  
California-style pizzas. It's all here, made just for you.



NEWK'S

Panama City 676 W. 23rd Street (850) 640-0186  
[www.newks.com](#)

ADVERTISEMENT

Poll

viewpoints poll

Did Sarah Palin help or hurt her political career by resigning as governor of Alaska?

- Help
- Hurt

Enter The Code To Vote

60200

Search:

powered by

[Nwfdailynews.com](#)  
[NewsHerald.com](#)  
[TheDestinLog.com](#)

[WaltonSun.com](#)  
[SRPressGazette.com](#)  
[CrestViewBulletin.com](#)

[ChIPLEYPaper.com](#)  
[ApalachTimes.com](#)  
[StarFL.com](#)

[EmeraldCoast.com](#)  
[Destin.com](#)  
[PanamaCity.com](#)

[Newsletters/Alerts](#)  
[Archives](#)  
[Yellow Pages](#)

Copyright © 2009 Freedom Communications

[Contact Us](#) | [Subscribe](#) | [Advertising Info](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [User Agreement](#) | [Local Business Listings](#) | [Site Map](#) | [RSS Feeds](#) **RSS**

[Autos](#) | [Homes](#) | [Jobs](#) | [Classifieds](#)



Freedom Communications, Inc.