



SEARCH!

Access to the Electronic Edition

Log-in — Email Address:
 Password:
 Enhanced Edition Standard Edition
 Forgot Your Password?

TFP Today/Home

TFP Quick Headlines

- Front Page
- Metro/Region
- Nation/World
- Sports
- Business
- Life

TFP Featured Information

- Public Schools
- 278th Update
- Sports EXTRA
- City Guide
- Waterfront
- Blogs
- Community News in the City

TFP Quicklinks

- Place An Ad
- Email Updates
- Events/Announcements
- Archives
- Photo Gallery
- Photo Archives
- Lottery Results

News & Business

- Weather
- Stock Market Update
- National Business

Women business owners find networking helpful

By Jason M.

Reynolds
Staff Writer

An information technology consultant has set herself the goal of helping other women business owners succeed through networking.

"I wonder if we are being as connected as we can be," said Tekelia C. Kelly, owner of Sisters in Business. "There are innovative women doing things independently. Networking is the key."

Ms. Kelly started Sisters in Business four months ago to bring women business owners together for monthly networking meetings. She has worked as an industrial engineer in addition to serving as a computer trainer and manager.

Sisters in Business also conducts marketing. On Thursday, the company held the first of what will be an annual trade show. Nearly a dozen of Ms. Kelly's clients displayed their products and services to local officials and members of the public at the Bessie Smith Performance Hall.

The Thomas family participated in the trade show. Kimberly Thomas said her sister, Lugenia, and their mother, Cindy, distribute health care products, plus operate the House of Restoration International Ministries, a spiritual bookstore, and Restoration Travels, a travel agency for ministries. The health care products, made by Melaleuca Wellness Co., cater to people who want all-natural hygienic products, vitamins and health bars, Cindy Thomas said.

Dorothea Johnson was another vendor. The owner of Inner Glow Skin Care Services said getting the word out about her services has been her main challenge for the one-and-a-half years she's been in business. Inner Glow does facials, bodywraps and waxing, and specializes in weddings and women's night out parties, the licensed skin therapist said.

Owning a company comes with benefits as well as challenges, said Virginia P. Yarbrough. The owner of Massage Plus said she has flexibility to set her schedule. She works in the afternoon during the week at The Chattanooga Hotel, but does not work Sundays.

Mrs. Johnson said she agreed scheduling was the major benefit of running a business. Like Ms. Yarbrough, she doesn't work on Sundays. Instead, she works during the day and often into the night at parties.

"You've got to give your time to God," Mrs. Johnson said.
E-mail Jason M. Reynolds at jreynolds@timesfreepress.com

This story was published Friday, June 16, 2006

AFFILIATE



For the latest updates,

- News
- National News
- International News
- Sports**
- National Sports
- Report
- NHL Update
- NBA Update
- NFL Update
- NCAA Update
- Baseball Update
- Golf Update
- Tennis Report
- Soccer Report
- Motor Sports Update
- Entertainment**
- Hollywood Update
- Music News
- TFP Site Services**
- Contact Us
- Subscribe
- Media Kits
- User Account
- FAQ
- Feedback

[Top of page](#)

Copyright Â© , Chattanooga Times Free Press, Inc. All rights reserved.

This document may not be reprinted without the express written permission of Chattanooga Times Free Press, Inc.

Material from the Associated Press is Copyright Â© , Associated Press and may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed. Associated Press text, photo, graphic, audio and/or video material shall not be published, broadcast, rewritten for broadcast or publication or redistributed directly or indirectly in any medium. Neither these AP materials nor any portion thereof may be stored in a computer except for personal and noncommercial use. The AP will not be held liable for any delays, inaccuracies, errors or omissions therefrom or in the transmission or delivery of all or any part thereof or for any damages arising from any of the foregoing. All rights reserved.

