

From: Main Street Monday - U.S. Chamber of Commerce <mainstreetmonday@uschamber.com>
To: Kevin L. BryantKevinBryant@scstatehouse.gov
Date: 12/24/2018 2:47:15 PM
Subject: Death of the 9-5, Rise of the Aging Entrepreneurs, Ridiculous Lawsuits and more...

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“Go get a real job!”

That's what Elizabeth Chan heard from her family after she'd spent much of her savings and years writing and recording a Christmas song a day. But Chan got the last **"Ho Ho Ho."** She's become America's most successful and perhaps only, full-time Christmas-song singer-slash-composer entrepreneur. She's even landed on Billboard charts, next to Kelly Clarkson.

Quick Note: *Main Street Monday* will take a break for the holidays, but we'll be back in your inboxes Monday, Jan. 7. Feel free to *stay in touch via email*. Wishing you a wonderful holiday season, and a Happy New Year. See you in 2019!

They left the mortgage business, spent a night testing food, and bought a food truck two weeks later. The lives of [Akash Kapoor](#), his wife [Rana Kapoor](#), and co-founder [Amir Hosseini](#) haven't been the same since.

1. DMing your baker? Check out these scrappy businesses that only exist on Instagram—where you can order bread, furniture, and much more without ever leaving the platform.

2. Future workforce: Why Richard Branson thinks [the 9-5 work week is going the way of the dinosaurs](#).

3. Toy story: In 2015, New York City lost a truly iconic landmark: the legendary toy store FAO. [Here's how the brand has come back to life](#).

4. Culture advantage: Companies are [dealing with tight labor markets by transforming their culture](#).

5. Holiday giving: Here's why small businesses [should not forgo their opportunity to be charitable just because they're small](#).

6. Age is more than a number: Here's an interesting take on [why older entrepreneurs might be our economy's greatest resource](#).

7. Ridiculous lawsuits: A lawsuit against Ginger Ale for not including real ginger? A man suing to legally change his age for online dating apps? [These are just a couple of the 10 Most Ridiculous Lawsuits of 2018](#) – released by the Institute of Legal Reform.

Bonus: [Never forget](#).

3 Q's with Fred Wellman, CEO and Founder of [ScoutComms Inc.](#) in Fredricksburg, VA

Q: What gets you up in the morning?

A: I love leading an impact company that is making a difference for my fellow veteran. We aren't just trying to make money...we are trying to make a difference.

Q: What words of advice do you have for the small business community?

A: Go big or don't go. Too often I see companies fail or never take off because they haven't done their homework and gone all in to make it happen. I often say to entrepreneurs I teach that you have to be hungry...to be hungry. Having to succeed drives you to do so.

Q: What song gets you pumped up?

A: [Tom Sawyer](#) by Rush.

You can find [ScoutComms](#) [here](#), on [Twitter](#), and on [Facebook](#).

P.S. We'd love to feature your small business too! Hit us up at MainStreetMonday@uschamber

- 1. A cure for procrastination:** Don't beat yourself, [just make a plan and follow it](#).
 - 2. Getting referrals without cold calling:** Relationships are still the key to getting the best referrals. [Here is a strategy to foster the right relationships and generate business](#).
 - 3. Holiday marketing:** The holiday season is a critical money-making time for many small businesses. [Here are nine holiday marketing tips that won't blow up your wallet](#).
 - 4. Cybersecurity:** [Here's why hackers target small business owners](#) and what you can do about it.
 - 5. Is it in the cloud?** In 2019 small businesses are going to rely more and more on cloud computing. Here's [what small businesses need to know](#).
 - 6. New year, new you:** Here are [15 things to top your business checklist for the New Year](#).
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It's official: the government is now in a partial shutdown. [And it may last awhile](#).

The December 21 deadline for funding a portion of the government, including the State Department, the Justice Department, the Transportation Department, the Agriculture Department, and the Department of the Interior, has come and gone — and lawmakers are still trying to figure out some kind of deal. [Stay tuned](#).

And if you have some downtime this week, consider applying for the [Small Business Administration's National Small Business Week contest](#). Many household names were previous National Small Business Week award winners including Chobani, Callaway Golf, and more. Submit your nomination by Jan. 9, 2019! <http://ow.ly/sOkt30mNbjH>

P.S. Want to get more involved in additional efforts to support and defend America's small business community? Consider joining the Chamber's Main Street Leaders program.

Visit <https://www.uschamber.com/main-street-leaders> for more information.

What did we miss? Don't be shy. Let us know at MainStreetMonday@uschamber.com

More than **1/2 (53%)** of small business owners **be working on Christmas Day**. During the holiday season never forget all of the things small business owners do for our country and economy.

Have your own hot tips, stories or thoughts to share? Reaching out is super easy! We're at MainStreetMonday@uschamber.com. We can't wait to hear from you.

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