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ONLINE VERSION AT FLORIDABUSINESS.ORG

REBUILD FLORIDA'S HURRICANE IRMA ASSISTANCE DEADLINE EXTENDED – To help as many Floridians as possible repair and rebuild homes damaged by Hurricane Irma, the deadline to register for assistance from Rebuild Florida was just extended to March 29. Rebuild Florida is a program of the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity in partnership with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The program helps Florida families in the hardest-hit communities repair, rebuild or replace their homes damaged by Hurricane Irma. To register, Florida residents can visit www.RebuildFlorida.gov or call 844-833-1010. To learn more, visit <https://tinyurl.com/yancd3u6>.

2019 CAIRNS FOUNDATION INNOVATION CHALLENGE – The Cairns Foundation and the Volusia County Business Incubator – Powered by the UCF Business Incubation Program jointly present the Sixth Annual Cairns Foundation Innovation Challenge. The first prize is \$10,000 plus one-year resident enrollment at the Volusia County Business Incubator. The goal of the challenge is to promote the commercialization of innovations spawned by local students. The challenge spotlights commercially viable technologies generated by the finest student minds at colleges and universities in our area. Applications for participation in the Innovation Challenge must be received by Feb. 1. For information on deadlines, judging and other Innovation Challenge features, visit <http://cairnsfoundation.com/innovationchallenge>.

MAXIMIZING AFTER-TAX PROFITS WEBINAR – On Jan. 10, SCORE will present a training webinar for small business owners. Barbara Weltman, attorney and founder of Big Ideas for Small Business, will lead the webinar, which begins at 1 p.m. This live session will help you maximize your after-tax profit for 2018. After all, your real bottom line isn't just profit; it's what you get to keep after taxes that matters. Although 2018 has ended, there is still time to favorably impact your tax return. Webinar participants will learn about: What's new on your 2018 return? What tax elections can be made to favorably impact your return? What can you still do to lower your tax bill? Is filing early or choosing an extension better this year? What questions should you ask your CPA or other tax adviser? To register, go to <https://tinyurl.com/yab7zjvy>.

EFI EXPORT SALES MISSION TO MOROCCO – Enterprise Florida (EFI) will lead a delegation of Florida manufacturers and services providers to Casablanca, Morocco, to facilitate business cooperation between the Florida delegates and their counterparts in North Africa. The mission is scheduled from April 14 to 18, and Enterprise Florida is collaborating with the U.S. Commercial Service in Casablanca to coordinate the mission and facilitate one-on-one meetings with potential clients. Mission participants will also benefit from networking events and meeting contacts outside of the scheduled B2B appointments. The U.S.-Moroccan Free Trade Agreement, signed in 2006, eliminated tariffs on 95 percent of currently traded consumer and industrial goods exported to Morocco; provides enhanced protection for U.S. intellectual property rights, expanded protection for patents and product approval information; and enforces stricter penalties for piracy and counterfeiting. For more information, contact Virgil Kimball at vkimball@volusia.org or 386-248-8048.

FLORIDA SUPPLY CHAIN SUMMIT – The Florida Supply Chain summit is open to retailers, wholesalers, distributors, manufacturers, 3PLs, transportation, logistics providers, and all economic education and government entities interested in growing this key statewide industry sector. The summit will be held Feb. 6 and 7 Orlando. For information and registration, visit www.floridasupplychainsummit.com.

SOUTHEAST VOLUSIA FIBERGLASS FABRICATION BOOT CAMP – This four-day class will be held at the new Daytona State College – Fiberglass Fabrication Lab, 1601 Tionia Road, New Smyrna Beach. Students will be introduced to fiberglass manufacturing, including safety, manufacturing processes and standards, tools and equipment, lamination techniques, and finish and inspection. Instructional techniques will include lecture, demonstration and lab methods. This boot camp will be held from 6 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, Jan. 18, 19, 25 and 26, for a fee of \$595. For assistance with training costs, contact CareerSource Flagler Volusia at [386-561-9750](tel:386-561-9750) or Training@CareerSourceFV.com. Tuition assistance is subject to eligibility requirements. To register, e-mail Joanne.Parker@DaytonaState.edu or call 386-506-4224. For additional program information, e-mail Frank.Mercer@DaytonaState.edu or call 386-506-4461.

FLORIDA POPULATION GROWTH – The U.S. Census Bureau has just released the 2018 national and state population estimates, and once again Florida is at or near the top in growth. Florida is first in the nation for net domestic migration (132,602), second in total population growth (322,513) and tied for third in percent annual population growth (1.5 percent). As a whole, the U.S. population continues to grow through natural increase (1,041,487) and international migration (978,826). If you would like to learn more about the nation's population statistics, go to <https://tinyurl.com/y86leb8t>.

NEWS ITEMS WANTED! – Please send your business news items to Joanne Magley, Volusia County Community Information director, at jmagley@volusia.org. If you wish to be removed from this weekly broadcast, please let us know.