



On the Economic Scene Make it Volusia

A weekly economic development briefing from the Volusia County Division of Economic Development

October 9, 2017

ONLINE VERSION AT FLORIDABUSINESS.ORG

FLORIDA SMALL BUSINESS EMERGENCY BRIDGE LOAN PROGRAM – The Florida Small Business Emergency Bridge Loan Program is active and available to Volusia County businesses that were established before Sept. 4, 2017, have two to 100 employees, and can demonstrate economic injury or physical damage as a result of Hurricane Irma. Emergency Bridge Loans are interest free for the term of the loan and are now available for application in amounts ranging from \$1,000 to \$50,000, for terms of either 90 or 180 days. Applications made through the Florida SBDC Network will be accepted through Oct. 31, 2017, contingent upon fund availability. Loans totaling \$125,000 have already been awarded to area businesses. To learn more, go to: <http://www.floridadisasterloan.org>.

HURRICANE IRMA IMPACTS FLORIDA AGRICULTURE – Florida Commissioner of Agriculture Adam H. Putnam announced that the preliminary agricultural damages caused by Hurricane Irma in Florida total more than \$2.5 billion. According to the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, preliminary estimated economic agricultural damages are: citrus, \$760,816,600; beef cattle, \$237,476,562; dairy, \$11,811,695; aquaculture, \$36,850,000; fruits and vegetables (excluding citrus), \$180,193,096; greenhouse, nursery and floriculture, \$624,819,895; sugar, \$382,603,397; field crops, \$62,747,058; and forestry, \$261,280,000. To review the report, visit <http://tinyurl.com/y7hlunxd>.

KICKSTART WEEKEND RETURNS! – Entrepreneurship culture takes a step further with the 3rd Annual Kickstart Weekend powered by Innovate Daytona Nov. 3 – 5 at the Embry-Riddle MicaPlex in Daytona Beach. Kickstart Weekend is a hands-on experience where groups of participants take their best ideas and create a new business in one weekend. To learn more about the event or to sign up, visit www.kickstartweekend.com, call Michael Zaharios at 386-341-9868 or email David Spitzer at spitzed1@erau.edu.

7TH ANNUAL FLORIDA COMPANIES TO WATCH AWARDS – Join GrowFL on Saturday, Feb. 10, 2018, for the seventh annual Florida Companies to Watch awards program. Tickets are now available. Over the last six years, 300 companies from throughout Florida have been recognized at this elite event, which will be held at the Straz Center for the Performing Arts in Tampa. Florida Companies to Watch celebrates growing second-stage companies headquartered in Florida. It was developed by the Edward Lowe Foundation as a unique way to recognize and honor second-stage companies that demonstrate high performance in the marketplace with innovative strategies and processes, making them “worth watching”. For program and ticket information, visit: <http://www.growfl.com/flctw17/about-flctw/>.

FDOT DISTRICT FIVE WORK PROGRAM ONLINE PUBLIC HEARING – Beginning Oct. 9, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) District Five will hold a week-long online public hearing Oct. 9 – 13 at www.D5WPPH.com for its Tentative Five Year Work Program for Fiscal Years 2018/2019 through 2022/2023. The program is used to forecast funds needed for transportation system improvements. The online hearing provides information on projects across nine counties in east-central Florida. Material will be available 24 hours a day, and can be reviewed any time during the hearing dates. For more information, contact Jamie Kersey at 386-943-5338, or jamie.kersey@dot.state.fl.us.

HOW TO SUCCEED & GET YOUR PRODUCT TO MARKET – SCORE is offering a free workshop from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 12 at Daytona State College in the UCF Building 150, Room 100, Daytona Beach. The workshop features speaker Nancy Tedeschi, Inventor of the Snap-it Screw for Fixing Glasses. To register, go to <https://volusiaflagler.score.org/> or call SCORE at 386-255-6889.

BUSINESS CLIMATE SURVEY RESULTS – Florida came in second among all 50 states for having the best business climate, according to a new survey of U.S. corporate executives released at the International Economic Development Council Annual Conference in Toronto. Texas ranked first. Georgia ranked third, followed by South Carolina and North Carolina, respectively. Conducted every three years, the “Winning Strategies in Economic Development Marketing” survey has tracked trends in economic development since its inception in 1996. For the first time, the survey also includes findings about how the current political climate affects business perceptions. Visit <http://aboutdci.com/winning-strategies/> to download the full 2017 Winning Strategies report.

FIELD TO VASE DINNER TOUR – The American Grown Field to Vase Dinner Tour has chosen Seville and West Volusia to be part of its 2017 tour. The exclusive three-hour dining event is scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 18, at FernTrust, a Florida Fern Farm made up of a group of 13 family farms in Seville. The choice of Seville is very significant, as the American Grown Field to Vase Dinner Tour is limited to only seven flower and foliage farms across the country. Tickets for this one-of-a-kind event can be purchased online at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/american-grown-field-to-vase-dinner-seville-fl-tickets-30908716804>.

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.