



March 19, 2018

ONLINE VERSION AT [FLORIDABUSINESS.ORG](http://FLORIDABUSINESS.ORG)

**SBDC DAY** – The Florida Small Business Development Center (SBDC) Network will celebrate the second annual SBDC Day on Wednesday, March 21. SBDC Day is a national movement to help raise awareness about the service offering and impact of America's SBDCs, the U.S. Small Business Administration's (SBA) largest business assistance program. SBDCs provide assistance to small businesses and aspiring entrepreneurs throughout the United States and its territories. National job growth for SBDC clients is nearly 10 times greater than job growth for average businesses, and SBDC clients' sales growth is nearly four times greater than sales growth for businesses in general. The SBDC at Daytona State College is available to support businesses located anywhere in Volusia County. The staff can be contacted through [www.sbdcdaytona.com](http://www.sbdcdaytona.com). Further SBDC Day information can be accessed at <https://tinyurl.com/ydfpygrm>.

**AFRICA HEALTH 2018** – Africa Health is the largest platform in the African continent for international and local companies to meet, network and do business with the ever-growing African health care market. The 2018 exhibition will take place from May 29 to 31 in Johannesburg, South Africa. It will attract more than 10,000 health care professionals and host over 500 leading international and regional health care and pharmaceutical suppliers, manufacturers and service providers. Enterprise Florida Target Sector Trade Show Grants are available to help local companies offset exhibition costs in this show. For information regarding pricing in the USA Pavilion or to learn more about this exhibition, contact Virgil Kimball at [386-248-8048](tel:386-248-8048) or [Vkimball@volusia.org](mailto:Vkimball@volusia.org).

**BEST IN THE NATION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION** – As reported, U.S. News & World Report has again ranked Florida as the best state in the nation for higher education. Utah and Washington ranked No. 2 and No. 3, and Pennsylvania was 50th. The rankings were based on several factors, including the time it takes students to complete two- and four-year higher education programs, the cost of tuition and fees, educational attainment, and the burden of debt for college graduates. For more details, visit <https://tinyurl.com/hnvxq3j>.

**COMMUNICATION ACADEMY** – The Communication Academy at DeLand High School provides students with rigorous, hands-on experiences to prepare them for careers in the information technology industry. Through program pathways in web design, digital design, digital video production and journalism, students are engaged in comprehensive, real-world projects, have opportunities to participate in program-specific internships, and are provided with industry certification opportunities. Contact Academy Director Vickie Perri at [vlperri@volusia.k12.fl.us](mailto:vlperri@volusia.k12.fl.us).

**SBDC WORKSHOP ON THE DEFENSE CONTRACT AUDIT AGENCY** – The SBDC at Daytona State College will offer a free workshop on the Defense Contract Audit Agency (DCAA) from noon to 5 p.m. March 22. It will be held at Daytona State College, 1200 W. International Speedway Blvd., Building 150, Room 305, in Daytona Beach. This is an informative session with topics to include DCAA Introduction and Overview, Accounting System Requirements, Contract Briefs, and Proposal Adequacy. The DCAA provides audit and financial advisory services to the Department of Defense and other federal entities responsible for acquisition and contract administration. For further information, contact Leticia Clark at [leticia.clark@sba.gov](mailto:leticia.clark@sba.gov).

**SEARCHING FOR EMPLOYMENT CANDIDATES?** – Businesses searching for employment candidates are encouraged to register for the upcoming Daytona State College Job Fair. The job fair will be held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday, March 28, at the Lemerand Center, Building 310, 1200 W. International Speedway Blvd., Daytona Beach. Openings are limited. For more information, contact DSC Career Services at [386-506-3073](tel:386-506-3073) or [CareerServices@DaytonaState.edu](mailto:CareerServices@DaytonaState.edu).

**WOMEN INVESTOR RETREAT** – The NEXUS Inaugural Women Investor Retreat is scheduled to take place at the Confidante Hotel in Miami Beach on April 21 and 22. The agenda includes discussions on personal connections and angel investing, strategies to minimize risk and drive portfolio returns, and what to look for in companies. Pitches of early-stage ventures will occur along with a session on collaborative coaching and due diligence. The Florida Angel Nexus is a statewide network of investors and investment groups whose mission is to connect qualified companies with aggressive growth plans to investors from the Florida community. To register or learn more, visit [www.poweredbynexus.com/womensretreat](http://www.poweredbynexus.com/womensretreat).

**FLORIDA RANKS FIFTH** – The annual study, "Economic Impacts of Commercial Real Estate," published by the NAIOP Research Foundation, measures the contributions to GDP, salaries and wages generated, and jobs created and supported from the development and operations of commercial real estate. The report estimates that new development and the ongoing operations of existing commercial real estate buildings in the United States – including office, industrial, warehouse and retail – supported 7.6 million American jobs and contributed \$935.1 billion to the U.S. GDP in 2017. Florida ranked fifth in commercial real estate development behind Texas, California, Pennsylvania and New York. Visit <https://tinyurl.com/y97sjkhj> to access the full report.

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